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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(2011 - 2012)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2011-12) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

TWENTIETH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2012/Chaitra, 1934 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 21.3.2012

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 21.3.2012



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2012/Chaitra, 1934 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2011-2012)**

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Kameshwar Baitha
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Shri Devidhan Besra
5. Smt. Rama Devi
6. Shri Premchand Guddu
7. Dr. Manda Jagannath
8. Shri Mohan Jena
9. Shri Dinesh Kashyap
10. Shri G.V. Harsha Kumar
11. Shri H.D. Kumaraswamy
12. Shri Basori Singh Masram
13. Shri R. Dhruva Narayana
14. Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar
15. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh
16. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
17. Shri Kabir Suman
- *18. Smt. Usha Verma
19. Vacant
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
23. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
24. Shri Narayan Singh Kesari
25. Shri Mahmood A. Madani
26. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
- **27. Dr. Ram Dayal Munda
28. Shri Baishnab Parida
29. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
30. Shri Shivpratap Singh
31. Shri Nandi Yelliah

* Smt. Usha Verma ceased to be a Member of Committee w.e.f. 3.1.2012.

** Dr. Ram Dayal Munda was expired on 30.9.2011.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Deepak Mahna - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Shri P.C. Choulda - Deputy Secretary
4. Smt. Shashi Bisht - Executive Assistant

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twentieth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2011-12) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

2. The Seventeenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 2011. The Ministry of Minority Affairs furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 30.11.2011. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 5.3.2012.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix.

4. For facility of reference observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

5. The Committee place on record their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI:

05 March, 2012
15 Phalguna, 1933 (Saka)

DARA SINGH CHAUHAN

Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and Empowerment

CHAPTER - I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2011-12 relating to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

1.2 The Seventeenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 2011. It contained 15 observations/recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the observations/recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under: -

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Paragraph Nos. 2.4, 3.25, 3.30, 4.20, 4.21, 6.16 and 7.20

(Total 7 -Chapter II)

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:

Paragraph No. 5.12.

(Total 1 - Chapter III)

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which need to be reiterated in Chapter I:

Paragraph Nos. 3.26, 3.27 and 3.29.

(Total 3 - Chapter IV)

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are of interim in nature:

Paragraph Nos. 3.28, 4.19, 6.17 and 8.8.

(Total 4 - Chapter V)

1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken replies in respect of the recommendations contained in Chapter -V of this Report may be furnished to them at the earliest and in any case not later than three months of the presentation of the Report.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with some of the replies received from the Government which need reiteration or merit comments.

A. Utilization of funds under various schemes

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 3.26)

1.5 The Committee were unhappy to note that funds to the tune of Rs. 587.70 crore were surrendered by the Ministry during the year 2010-11 which far exceed the amounts surrendered by the Ministry during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 i.e. Rs. 33.63 crore and Rs. 31.50 crore respectively. While the Committee understood that the Ministry had to surrender funds under four new schemes which could not be launched and implemented during the year 2010-11 due to non-approval of these schemes by the Planning Commission, the Committee had failed to understand as to why huge amount of funds were surrendered under several ongoing schemes such as Multi-sectoral Development Programme for Minority Concentration Districts – Rs. 462.2680, Pre-matric scholarship scheme – Rs. 33.5695, Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme - Rs. 26.3272, Post-matric scholarship scheme – Rs. 24.1529 and Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards – Rs. 9.3800 etc. The Committee were not convinced by the routine reasons cited by the Ministry in this regard that adequate/viable/complete proposals were not received from some of the States/UTs including North-Eastern States because the Committee felt that MsDP being the flagship programme of the Ministry every effort should have been made to utilize the funds by approving the plans of all the districts on time. Similarly, since the popularity of the scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship, Post-matric Scholarship and Merit-cum-means Scholarship had picked up and these schemes were doing better during the last two financial years, the slow progress of the implementation of these schemes during the year 2010-11 should have been avoided by taking up special steps and addressing the

issue of non-utilization well on time. In view of the fact that a still higher allocation has been projected under each of above schemes, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to review the status of fund utilization by States at regular interval, persuade the slow performing States to utilize the funds, guide and urge the States to send the proposals well on time for full utilization of scholarship slots and also fix some accountability on States/UTs so that surrender of funds could be avoided.

1.6 The Ministry in their Action Taken reply have informed that the recommendations of the Committee have been noted for compliance. The scheme-wise details are given below:-

(a) Multi-sectoral Development Programme for Minority Concentration Districts –

All efforts were made to avoid under utilization of funds under various schemes, but there was a shortfall in expenditure under MsDP. It was envisaged that districts plans for the entire allocation of Rs.3780 crore would be approved during 2010-11. However, district plans amounting to Rs.3111.55 crore only could be approved as adequate and viable proposals were not received from States/UTs. In view of the shortfall of approval by Rs.669 crore and non-receipt of proposals for release of second instalments, an amount of Rs.913.23 crore could be released during 2010-11.

(b) Scholarship schemes:-

The physical and financial allocation under the three scholarship- schemes of this Ministry during 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given below:-

Schemes	Physical achievement			Financial achievement		
	2009-10 (In lakhs)	2010-11 (In lakhs)	% of increase	2009-10 (Rs. In crores)	2010-11 (Rs. In crores)	% of increase
Pre matric Scholarship	17.29	44.21	156	202.94	446.27	119
Post matric Scholarship	3.64	5.25	44	148.74	228.97	54
Merit-cum-Means Based Scholarship	0.36	0.41	14	97.52	108.76	11.53

It may be noted that both the physical and financial achievement during 2010-11 are substantially higher than that of 2009-10 and the momentum picked up by the schemes during 2009-10, has sustained during 2010-11. As a matter of fact, under the Pre-matric scheme expenditure in 2010-11 was more than twice the expenditure of 2009-10, whereas in Post-matric scheme, the increase was 55% over the previous year.

The shortfalls of Rs. 33.57 crore in Pre-matric and Rs. 24.15 crore in Post-matric Scholarship in funds utilization was mainly due non-receipt of adequate proposals from some States/UTs and non-receipt of adequate/complete proposals from North-Eastern States, although utmost efforts were made to obtain proposals from such States/UTs and also the North-Eastern States. The shortfall of Rs. 26.32 crore in fund utilization in Merit-cum-means Based Scholarship was because of lesser number of renewals received from States/UTs during 2010-11 despite our best efforts. Against a target of 35000 renewals this Ministry could award only 21538 renewals.

With the introduction of Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) for Merit-cum-Means Based Scholarship from this year, it is hoped that number of the

renewal proposals would increase considerably thereby ensuring maximum utilization of funds. Further, the last date for applying in case of renewals for all scholarship schemes has been extended to 31st December, 2011 for the year 2011-12. Similarly, the last dates for applying for first scholarships have also been extended during 2011-12. These changes are expected to generate more applications for the scholarship thereby leading to better utilization of funds. The Ministry is also periodically reviewing and following up with States for better progress. Meetings with Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of the Minority Welfare Departments of all States / UTs were organized on 04.04.2011, 26.07.2011 and 22.09.2011 for this purpose.

(c) Computerisation of records of State Waqf Boards:-

The Committee has shown their displeasure on the surrender of Rs. 9.38 crore under the ongoing scheme of Computerization of records of State Wakf Board. In this regards, it is stated that the scheme was launched in Dec, 09 i.e. at the fag end of the financial year 2009-10. The Ministry convened meetings with all the States before launching of the scheme. After launching of the scheme, all the States were requested to send proposals as per the scheme after completing all the formalities for release of funds. The Ministry also convened regular meetings/conference with concerned Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the State Governments, Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of State Wakf Boards for early implementation of the scheme. Despite all efforts by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, no viable/complete proposals from 5 states/ UT Wakf Boards were received during the year 2010-11. Apart from this, the scheme envisages handholding cost of Rs.8 crore for 2nd year and 3rd year for meeting the cost for hiring of personnel for general maintenance/support etc of the software and

this was to be released after setting up of Centralized Computing Facility (CCF) by the State Waqf Boards. As the scheme started at the fag end of the financial year i.e. 2009-10, the handholding cost could not be released as the establishment of CCF had not been completed in most of the Waqf Boards. As such there was a saving of Rs.9.38 crore under the scheme.

1.7 The Committee were unhappy to note that huge funds to the tune of Rs. 587.70 crore were surrendered by the Ministry during the year 2010-2011 under several ongoing schemes such as Multi-sectoral Development programme, Pre-matric scholarship scheme and Post-matric scholarship scheme, Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme and Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards. The Committee had therefore, recommended the Ministry to review the status of fund utilization by States at regular interval, persuade the slow performing States to send the proposals well on time for full utilization of scholarship slots and also fix some accountability on States/UTs so that surrender of funds could be avoided. Explaining the reason for the shortfall in expenditure, the Ministry in their Action Taken note has stated that the shortfall in expenditure under MsDP, Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship schemes was due to non-receipt of adequate proposals from States/UTs including North-Eastern States. The shortfall in utilization of funds in merit-cum-means based scholarship was because of lesser number of renewals received from States/UTs during 2010-11. In regard to the scheme of Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards, the scheme started only at the fag end of the financial year i.e. 2009-10, the land holding cost could not be released as the establishment of CCF

had not been completed in most of the Wakf Boards. The Committee are not convinced by the reasons furnished by Ministry for shortfall in utilization and are of the view that with better coordination and follow up with States these can be adequately addressed. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendations and recommend that the Ministry to take effective steps to sensitize the States about the importance of these schemes so as to achieve 100% utilization of funds.

B. Filling up of vacant posts in the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 3.27)

1.8 The Committee were dismayed to note that in spite of their earlier recommendation relating to filling up all the vacant posts of the Ministry urgently, the Ministry had filled up only 70 posts and 23 posts were still lying vacant which includes important posts in Urdu. The Committee were unhappy at the routine and often repeated reasons cited by the Ministry in this regard. The Ministry had informed that despite efforts and advertisements inviting applications from prospective candidates no response is forthcoming against two Senior Research Investigators and three Senior Investigators; no suitable candidates were found against one Assistant Director (Urdu), one Translator (Urdu) and one Typist (Urdu) and the Ministry again propose to advertize the same. The Committee failed to understand as to why the Ministry's efforts in filling up the above posts are not materializing while there is no dearth of linguistic talent in the country as far as the Urdu posts are concerned. The Committee had strongly felt that the efforts of the Ministry in the direction of filling up of the above vacant posts were not enough and, therefore, had recommended the Ministry to advertize and publicize

the above posts more vigorously and widely through visual and print media all over the country and also relax the eligibility criteria in some cases so that these posts are filled up without any further delay. The Committee had also recommended the Ministry to take up the matter of filling up of vacant posts with the DoPT and UPSC as per need so that the vacant posts are filled up immediately and the work of the Ministry do not suffer due to shortage of staff. The Committee had asked the Ministry to apprise it of the steps taken and the status of vacancy of posts within three months of presentation of this Report.

1.9 The Ministry in their Action Taken reply furnished to the Committee have informed that out of the 93 sanctioned posts 61 posts are filled up as on 16th November ,2011. There are 32 vacant posts in the Ministry. The status of vacancy of posts as on date and steps being taken by the Ministry to fill up the vacant posts is given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Posts	No. of vacant posts	Status
1	Joint Secretary	1	One post has been vacated on 16.10.2011 on completion of tenure of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of the post.
2.	Director/ Deputy Secretary	2	One post each of Deputy Secretary/Director have been vacated on 1.06.2011/02.11.2011 The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of these posts.
3.	Under Secretary	1	The post has been vacated on 29.04.2011 on promotion of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
4.	Section Officer	1	One post has been vacated on 1.08.2011 on retirement of the incumbent. The matter is being

			pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
5.	Assistant Director	2	UPSC has recommended the names of two incumbents and appointment letters have been issued.
6.	Senior Principal Private Secretary	1	One post has been vacated on 1.11.2011 on retirement of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
7.	Principal Private Secretary	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
8.	Assistant	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
9.	Sr. Research Investigators	2	Advertisement for filling up this post was issued thrice in January,2008, May,2009 and March,2010. Despite repeated efforts, no response is forthcoming. Now the Grade Pay has been upgraded. The post is being re-advertised
10.	Senior Investigators	3	Advertisement for filling up this post was issued thrice in January,2008, May,2009 and March,2010. Despite repeated efforts, no response is forthcoming. The post is being re-advertised.
11.	Steno Grade C	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
12.	Steno Grade D	2	Two posts have been vacated in June, 2011 on promotion/transfer of the incumbents. DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
13.	UDC	1	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant post.
14.	Multi Tasking Staff	5**	SSC is being requested to send the dossiers for filling up the vacant posts.
15.	Staff Car Driver	2	One post has been vacated in June,2011. The process of filling up of the posts is underway.
16.	Assistant Director (Urdu)	1	The advertisement for filling up the post on short-term ad-hoc deputation basis was last published in the Employment News dated 29 th January – 4 th February 2011. The post will have to be re-advertised as no application from an eligible candidate was received.

17.	Translator (Urdu)	1	-do-
18.	Typist (Urdu)	1	-do-
Total		32	

** 4 person outsourced.

Based on the Honorable Committee's recommendation, the matter was taken up by the Ministry requesting the Department of Personnel & Training to post the following personnel vide OM/DO indicated against the posts:-

S.No.	Name of Posts	O.M. /D.O. No. and date
1.	Section Officers, Assistants and UDC	O.M. A-32014/1/2010-Estt. Dated 4 th August, 2011
2.	Deputy Secretary/Director	O.M. No. A-20012/2/2006-Estt. Dated 4 th August, 2011 and D.No. A-20012/1/2006-Estt. Dated 27 th September, 2011.
3.	Sr. PPS, PPS, Stenographer Grade 'C' and Stenographers Grade 'D'	O.M. No. A-12022/2/2010-Estt. Dated 5 th Aug, 2011
4.	Under Secretary	O.M. A-22012/3/2006-Estt. Dated 3 rd Nov, 2011
5.	Under Secretary, Section Officers, Assistants, UDC, Sr. PPS, PPS, Stenographer Grade 'C' and Stenographers Grade 'D'	D.O.No.A-20012/3/2006-Estt.Dated 2 nd November, 2011

Continuous efforts are being made to impress upon the DoPT to expedite the posting of the above-mentioned officers/officials through letters and meetings so that the vacancies are filled up at the earliest.

1.10 In view of the delay in filling up all the vacant posts in the Ministry of Minority Affairs due to lack of response from candidates, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to advertize and publicize the vacant posts more vigorously and widely through print media all over the country as also relaxing the eligibility criteria in some cases. The Committee are, however, constrained to note from the Action Taken Reply that there has been no new appointments in the Ministry rather the number of vacant posts which was 23 in March, 2011 has gone up to 32 as on 16.11.2011 due to vacancies arises due to retirement of officers. The Committee take a serious view of the matter and while reiterating their earlier recommendation, desire the Ministry should take up the matter urgently with DoPT and UPSC for filling up the vacant posts expeditiously so that work of the Ministry does not suffer due to shortage of staff.

C. Implementation of Sachar Committee recommendations and Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 3.29)

1.11 On the implementation of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, the Committee had been informed that the decisions taken by the Central Government on the follow-up action on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee was based on a process of examination and inter-ministerial consultations and are being implemented by various Ministries/Department of the Central Government. The Government has been according high priority to the implementation of the decisions taken on the

recommendations of Sachar Committee and its implementation is being monitored regularly. However, the Committee had observed that except for some of the initiatives of the Government in implementing certain schemes like the scholarship schemes and the scheme of grants-in aid through Maulana Azad Foundation, the Ministry are not attending to the crux of the problems as it has been brought out in the Sachar Committee Report and all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee are not being implemented seriously. Sachar Committee Report which has highlighted the deplorable socio-economic condition of Muslim Community, has made specific recommendations which, if implemented, in letter and spirit would go a long way in uplifting the minority community. Therefore, the Committee had recommended to the Ministry to take urgent necessary steps to implement all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee in a time bound manner. The Committee had also felt that the recommendations would be implemented more forcefully if there is a legal force behind implementing these recommendations. Therefore, the Committee had desired that the Ministry should work towards bringing in a legislation in Parliament in this regard.

The Committee had also observed that the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme has not been satisfactory as it is at the mercy of other Ministries/Departments and these are not working in coordination with each other with regard to developmental initiatives for the minorities. The monitoring and review of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme has not been regular as the Committees which are supposed to meet at regular intervals are not meeting for the purpose. Even if these meetings are held occasionally, the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha who are also Members of the review Committee are not being intimated about these

meetings. The Secretary also admitted during the evidence that he is aware of many such complaints from Members. Therefore, the Committee had recommended that Ministry should pursue the matter at inter-Ministerial and inter-departmental levels, coordinate with Prime Minister's Office and ensure that the Committees constituted to review the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme definitely meet at regular intervals, Members are intimated about these meetings well on time and the progress of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is reviewed on a continuous basis so that there is steady implementation of all the schemes outlined under Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme and the minorities really benefit from these schemes.

1.12 The Ministry in their Action Taken reply have stated as under :-

(A) Sachar Committee:

Government has been implementing the decisions on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee with all seriousness. The status of implementation is reviewed in the Ministry on quarterly basis. It has now been decided to place the status in this regard on half yearly basis alongwith the status of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities before a Committee of Secretaries and then to the Cabinet. In respect of one of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee for setting up Equal Opportunity Commission, the process for bringing legislation in Parliament has already been initiated.

(B) Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme:

At the Centre, the Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme is reviewed in the Ministry of Minority Affairs every quarter with the nodal officers of the

Ministries/Departments concerned. Half yearly progress reports are submitted to Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and thereafter to the Cabinet. This has been done regularly eleven times by the CoS and seven times by the Cabinet since the announcement of the new 15 Point Programme in June, 2006. So far as State and district level committees for monitoring the implementation of the new 15 Point Programme is concerned, the States/UTs have been advised regularly to hold such meetings and also ensure that the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are invited to the meetings. States/UTs have been once again advised to ensure that the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha nominated by the Central Government are invited to the meetings.

1.13 On the implementation of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, the Committee had observed that except for some of the initiatives of the Government in way implementing certain schemes like the scholarship schemes and the scheme of Grants-in-aid through Maulana Azad Education Foundation, the Ministry are not attending to the crux of the problem as has been brought out in the Sachar Committee Report and all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee are not being implemented seriously. Therefore, the Committee had recommended to the Ministry to take urgent necessary steps to implement all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee in a time bound manner. The Committee also felt that the recommendations would be implemented more forcefully if there is a legal force behind implementing these recommendations. The Committee note with concern from the action taken reply that although the Government has been implementing the recommendations of the Sachar

Committee with all seriousness, but one of the recommendation of the Sachar Committee for setting up Equal Opportunity Commission is still under process for bringing legislation in Parliament. The Committee hope that the Government would take appropriate steps expeditiously for bringing up legislation in Parliament for setting up Equal Opportunity Commission.

On implementation of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme, the Committee had recommended that Ministry should pursue the matter at inter-Ministerial and inter-departmental levels, co-ordinate with Prime Minister's Office and ensure that the Committees constituted to review the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme definitely meets at regular intervals, Members are invited well on time and the progress of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is reviewed on a continuous basis. The Ministry have informed in their action taken reply that at the Centre, the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is reviewed in the Ministry of Minority Affairs every quarter with nodal officers of the Ministries/Departments concerned. Half yearly progress reports are submitted to Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and thereafter the Cabinet. This has been done regularly eleven times by the CoS and seven times by the Cabinet since the announcement of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme in June, 2006. The Committee observed that regarding State and District level Committees for monitoring the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme, the States/UTs have been advised to hold such meetings regularly. Therefore, the Committee once again recommend that States/UTs level Committee should definitely meet regularly, Members are

intimated about these meetings well on time. The Committee also recommend that the names of Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and schedule fixed for meetings of these States/UTs level Committees should be uploaded on the website.

CHAPTER-II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para No. 2.4)

2.1 The Committee are not satisfied with the implementation aspect of the recommendations contained in their Sixth Report on Demands for Grants, 2010-11. The Committee desire that the Government should implement all the remaining recommendations of the Committee contained in their Sixth Report expeditiously and they should be apprised of the action taken by the Government in implementation of the specific recommendations which are yet to be implemented.

Reply of the Government

2.2 All the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been noted for compliance and guidance.

All new schemes were considered by the "Working Group on Empowerment of Minorities". It would now be considered by the Steering Committee that has been constituted for formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan by the Planning Commission.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 3.25)

2.3 The committee note with concern that as against the budgetary allocation of Rs. 2600.00 crore under the Plan 'head', the Ministry could incur an expenditure of only Rs. 2015.54 crore (77%). The committee are unhappy to note that four important

schemes of the Ministry namely, (a) Interest subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas studies, (b) Promotional Activities for Linguistic Minorities, (c) Scheme for containing population decline of small minorities and (d) Strengthening of State Wakf Boards could not be implemented for want of in-principle approval of the Planning Commission resulting in substantial under-utilization of funds allocated during 2010-11. The Committee are given to understand that despite substantial efforts made by the Ministry, the Planning Commission has declined the request to grant in-principle approval to these schemes. After going through the information furnished by the Ministry, the Committee feel that while on the one hand the Ministry need to review the conceptualization of schemes such as Promotional Activities for Linguistic Minorities and the Scheme for containing population decline of small minorities, on the other hand the Ministry need to convince the Planning Commission of the inevitable need for approval of other two schemes i.e. Interest subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas studies and Strengthening of State Wakf Boards. Now that the matter is proposed to be placed before the Working Group on Empowerment of Minorities and then to the Steering Committee constituted for formulation of Twelfth Plan, the Committee recommend the Ministry to review all the above schemes in the light of Planning Commission's arguments/objections, dovetail and reformulate the above schemes before taking up the matter with the Planning Commission for their suitable launching with adequate funding during the 12th Five Year Plan.

Reply of the Government

2.4 Consequent upon inclusion of these schemes in Annual Plan 2010-11, the concept papers with regard to these schemes were prepared and forwarded to the Planning Commission for seeking “in-principle” approval. Despite substantial efforts made by the Ministry, including taking up the matter with the Planning Commission and discussions at various levels, the Planning Commission declined the request to grant in-principle approval to these schemes.

These schemes were considered by the “Working Group on Empowerment of Minorities”. It would now be considered by the Steering Committee that has been constituted for formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan by the Planning Commission.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 3.30)

2.5 The Ministry have informed that financial assistance has been released to 25 State Wakf Boards, NICS and Central Wakf Council for the scheme of computerization of records of Wakf Boards. The committee find that out of the 25 State Wakf Boards to whom funds have been released, 7 State Wakf boards have set up their Central Computing Facilities (CCF) and started the work of computerization of records of the Wakfs. The work regarding setting up of CCF is in progress in the remaining 18 State Wakf Boards and is nearing completion. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed the software Wakf Management System of India (WAMSI) for this scheme and all the 4 modules of the software have been launched. Keeping in view the urgent need for computerization of records and inventories of Wakf properties, the Committee

recommend that Ministry should make special efforts for completion of remaining 18 state Wakf Boards as soon as possible so that encroachment of Wakf property can be monitored and regulated and action can be taken against the invaders.

The Committee further note that the Wakf Act Amendment Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha has sent the Bill to the select Committee for consideration and report. The Committee hope that the Wakf Act Amendment Bill will be passed soon which will take care of the problems and issues relating to encroachment of Wakf properties.

Reply of the Government

2.6 The Committee has observed that CCF has been set up in 7 State Wakf Boards (SWBs) only out of 25 SWBs to whom the grant was released. The Committee has recommended that special efforts for completion of the same in the remaining 18 SWBs be made so that the encroachment of wakf property can be monitored and regulated and action can be taken against the invaders. In this regards, it is stated that after launching of the scheme, the Ministry has been pursuing the matter at the highest level through letters and telephonically. Apart from this, the Ministry has been holding regular meetings with the concerned Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the State Governments, Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of State Wakf Boards for early implementation of the scheme as well as to review the progress of implementation of the schemes. This was also discussed in the most recent meeting held on 16th June 2011. As on date, the Centralized Computing Facility (CCF) has been set up in 14 (fourteen) SWBs and the data entry in different modules of the software developed for

this purpose has started in these SWBs. The setting up of CCF in the remaining SWBs, where funds have been released, is at various stages of completion.

The Committee expressed hope that the Wakf Amendment Bill be passed soon which will take care of the problems and issues relating to encroachments of Wakf properties. The Wakf Amendment Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 7th May 2010 and has been referred to a Select Committee of Rajya Sabha. The Bill is presently being considered by the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No.9, Para No. 4.20)

2.7 The Committee have been informed that MAEF releases grant-in-aid to NGOs and most of time the NGOs utilize the grants for the purpose for which it is granted to them as per UCs submitted by these NGOs. However, the Committee find that during the period 2010-11 there were eleven such cases where grants were released to NGOs and these NGOs did not utilize the grants for the specific purpose for which it was released. The Committee also observe that even though lakhs of Rupees have been sanctioned to these NGOs, the Foundation has been successful in recovering the released grant from only one NGO i.e. a recovery of Rs. 7,50,000/- and suit for recovery of interest is still pending for decision. The Committee feel that misappropriation of funds by NGOs is a very serious matter and merely blacklisting these NGOs or filing cases against them will not suffice. Keeping in view that grants are meant for the benefit of minority population, funds/grants should be released to only genuine NGOs working for their cause. Therefore, the Committee desire the Ministry should enforce

stringent guidelines for release and monitoring of funds given to NGOs for specific purpose and make them accountable so that there is no misuse of Government grants. The Committee recommend that while enquiry/cases in respect of above nine NGOs may be expedited and efforts be made to recover the funds released to them alongwith interest, the names of all the blacklisted NGOs should also be notified on Government websites/Ministry website so that they do not try to get grants-in-aid for other programmes from the Ministry/State Governments/other departments.

Reply of the Government

2.8 There are specific guidelines for each particular scheme / programme of the Foundation. The compendium of guidelines issued by the General Body / Governing Body are also available on its web-site. Eligibility criteria laid down by the MAEF for providing financial assistance to NGOs, *inter alia*, provide that Societies / Trusts seeking assistance should:

- (i) be registered under the Central or State Government Acts for the last three years and have proper Constitution, Memorandum & Articles of Association/ Trust Deed etc.,
- (ii) have properly constituted managing body with its powers and duties clearly defined, and
- (iii) have recognized institutes / own premises for seeking grants-in- aid for vocational / technical institutions.

2. There is a monitoring system in place to check proper utilization of funds. The grants-in-aid sanctioned by the Foundation are released in two installments in the ratio of 70:30. The second installment is released only after utilization

certificate for the first release is received. Further, spot inspections are carried out before release of subsequent installments in order to ensure proper utilization of funds for the purpose it was sanctioned.

3. The NGOs assisted by the Foundation are inspected twice i.e., the first spot inspection is carried out before sanctioning of the grant-in-aid and the second spot inspection is carried out when the NGO submits the utilization certificate against the first installment.

4. The MAEF is making efforts to recover the released grant alongwith interest thereon from the defaulting NGOs. As informed by the MAEF in the case of Alpsankhyak Mridul Girls Inter College, Bisalpur, Pilibhit (UP) a case has been filed for recovery of released grant. The case was last listed on 05.7.2011 and the same was adjourned to 12.9.2011 as the service report was awaited. Similarly in the case of Janta Fibre Glass Prashikshan Sansthan, Pilibhit (UP), the I.O. has informed that the Manager of the NGO has reportedly lost his mental balance and he is missing since long. Other cases where recovery is required are also being pursued vigorously.

5. This matter is being constantly reviewed by the Ministry and the MAEF has been instructed to expedite the process of recovery of funds in this regard and also to keep updating the Ministry the progress made on all such cases from time to time. The list of blacklisted NGOs has been uploaded in the website of the Foundation and the same has also been forward to other Ministries and Departments of Government of India.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 4.21)

2.9 The Committee observe that the Scheme of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy Award used to be given to those institutions, who have done commendable work to promote education amongst educationally backward minorities. This award was discontinued from the year 2005-06 because of poor response to the scheme in terms of receiving recommendations. During the examination of Demands for Grants, 2009-10, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to advise the MAEF to finalize the eligibility parameters for the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy Award urgently so that there is no delay in resuming the award and it is conferred from the next year (2010-11) itself. However, the Committee are disappointed to see that the conferment of the award could not resume even during the year 2010-11 as assured by the Ministry and it has taken full one year for the Ministry/MAEF to work out a mechanism for conferment of the award. The Ministry have informed that the award would be resumed from 2011-12 and an allocation of Rs. 25 lakh has been made for the purpose during the year. Keeping in view that the award is a means of recognizing the work/efforts of institutions in the field of promoting education among the minorities and that more and more institutions/individuals are working for the cause of development of minorities, there is a need to encourage, recognize and acknowledge their efforts by honoring them with awards. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry, in coordination with MAEF, should resume the conferment of the award this financial year positively and efforts should be made for full utilization of funds allocated for the purpose by honoring and awarding more and more individuals and institutions.

Reply of the Government

2.10 The MAEF has informed that the revised criteria for inviting proposals for literacy award have been finalized and the same will be placed before the Governing Body/General Body for its approval. Thereafter the proposals will be invited from eligible sources. All efforts are being made to confer literacy award from the current financial year 2011-12.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No.12, Para No. 6.16)

2.11 The Committee note that the Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) aims at improving the socio-economic Parameters of basic amenities for improving the quality of life of people and reducing imbalances in the Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs). The development deficits are to be made up through district specific plan for provision of better infrastructure for schools and secondary education, sanitation, pucca housing, drinking water and electricity supply besides beneficiary oriented schemes for creating income generating activities. The Committee find that under the above flagship programme of development of minorities against the Budgetary Allocation of Rs. 1400 crore in the year 2010-11 only 919.27 crore could be utilized resulting in massive surrender of funds to the tune of about Rs. 500 crore. The Ministry have explained that there were non-submission of district plans to the tune of Rs. 431.77 crore, non-submission of proposals for release of 2nd installment by States/UTs amounting to Rs. 187.35 crore for funds released in 2009-10, non-submission of Detailed Project Report (DPR)/revised DPRs by States/UTs amounting to Rs. 237.07 crore and non release of

Rs. 50.80 crore owing to non-submission of commitments required under MsDP. The Committee are unhappy to note that such an important scheme for the development of minorities is suffering due to lack of sensitivity and poor response from States. The Committee are of the view that preparation of District Plans and Detailed Project reports and submission of UCs for earlier allocations being the prerequisites for implementation of the scheme unless States/UTs come forward and take up these issues seriously the scheme will not do better. The Ministry on its part need to sensitize the States/UTs, guide them in preparation of DPRs and insist them on full utilization of funds by taking up the matter at Chief Secretary level. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry apart from working on the above should urgently review the progress of all the approved projects with the respective States/UTs.

Reply of the Government

2.12 The recommendation of the Hon'ble Committee has been noted for compliance. The Ministry has been making concerted efforts by taking up the matter at the level of the Chief Secretary level and the Chief Minister, wherever, warranted. Meetings to review the progress and accelerate the implementation of the programme have been taken on 04.04.2011, 06.06.2011, 17.06.2011 and 22.9.2011 with State Secretaries/Principal Secretaries. Four meetings of the Empowered Committee have been held in 2011-12 and district plans amounting Rs. 235 crore have been approved. The balance now left for approval is Rs.489 crore only. All efforts will be made to have the entire balance allocation approved.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No.7.20)

2.13 The Committee understand that the merit-cum-means scholarship scheme is a Centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2007 being implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. The scholarships are available for pursuing professional and technical courses at graduate and post graduate levels. Rs. 135 crore were allocated under the scheme during 2010-11 and about 22 crore were surrendered during the year. A still higher allocation of Rs. 140 crore has been allocated during 2011-12. Under the scheme the 30% allocations are marked specifically for female students. The decreasing number of renewal proposals is the main reason for non achievement of target. The Ministry have informed that the renewal cases are less in number when ideally such cases should outnumber the fresh cases. The main reason for this is that students fail to submit applications on time and many States are having the same last date for submission of renewal applications as for fresh applications. Moreover some States like Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal did not give any scholarship to girl students as eligible girl students were not available. Also the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Dadar & Nagar Haveli did not admit any students with/without competitive examination. The Committee recommend that the Ministry draw up an action plan to work in three key areas (i) to impress upon the States to increase the number of renewable proposals (ii) to motivate the States to encourage girls to apply for the scholarship so as to fill in 30% seats allocated to them and (iii) motivating the State Governments who are not availing funds under the scheme to avail grants available.

The Committee hope that targets and achievements under the scheme show marked improvement in the year 2011-12.

Reply of the Government

2.14 The recommendations of the committee have been noted for compliance.

2. However, it needs to be emphasized that renewal proposals have been increasing steadily every year. In the year 2008-09 there were only 9095 renewals, which went up to 16697 in the year 2009-10 and 21538 in the year 2010-11. With the introduction of Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) from this year, it is expected the renewal proposals would increase considerably thereby ensuring maximum utilization of funds. Moreover, the last date for applying in case of renewals has been extended to 31st December, 2011 for the year 2011-12 so as to generate maximum number of applications.

3. Similarly, the achievement graph under this scheme indicates that the percentage of female beneficiaries has increased over the years. From 29.02% female recipients in the year 2007-08, we have now reached figures of 34.29% during the year 2010-11.

4. In order to encourage all States/UTs to participate in our scheme steps have been taken to create awareness about these schemes and brought transparency in its implementation. Wide publicity, involving print and electronic media, is being given to all the schemes/programmes, launched for the welfare of minority communities. Basic information about all these schemes/programmes, are available on the Government website, on URL www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. Periodic advice is given to State Governments/UT Administrations, through

discussions/meetings with their Principal Secretaries/Secretaries dealing with minority welfare, to give publicity to all welfare schemes for the minority communities in their respective States/UTs, and also to advertise the schemes in local languages.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

CHAPTER – III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 5.12)

3.1 The Committee have been informed that the Central sector scheme of research/studies, monitoring and evaluation of development schemes including publicity, launched in November, 2007 provides for professional charges to institutions/organization to undertake purposeful studies on the problems and requirement of minorities including surveys and current monitoring of the schemes. Funds for the scheme which was mere Rs. 5 crore in 2008-09 have been increased over the years and a provision of Rs. 36 crore have been made for the year 2011-12 under the scheme. The Committee also note that out of this Rs. 36 crore while Rs. 4 crore has been earmarked for research and evaluation purpose, Rs. 32 crore has been allocated for media and publicity purpose. The Committee recommend the Ministry to effectively carry out vigorous and extensive media campaign for generating greater awareness among the masses, more importantly about the schemes such as Multi-sectoral Development Programme, Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship schemes, Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme, Free Coaching and Allied Scheme, Prime Minister's New 15 Point programme etc. so that funds allocated for these individual schemes as well as funds earmarked for media activity are optimally utilized.

The Committee also observe that the Ministry have paid professional charges to institutions and organizations to undertake purposeful studies on the problems of the

minorities and during the last two years i.e. 2009-10 and 2010-11 professional charges have been paid to seven organizations/institutes such as NPC, New Delhi, IIPA, New Delhi, Manvadhikar Samajik Manch, New Delhi, ICSSR, New Delhi etc. In this regard the Committee observe that though the Manvadhikar Samajik Manch, entrusted with an impact study on implementation of the Maulana Azad National Scholarship scheme for meritorious girl students belonging to Minorities in July, 2009 has submitted their report well on time, the Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), entrusted with a special study of low representation of minorities in Ministry of Railways and Department of Posts have submitted only the draft report within the scheduled time. Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) which has been entrusted with the work of evaluation of MsDP, Scholarship and Coaching schemes in December, 2010 is likely to complete their evaluation study by December, 2011. While endorsing the view that evaluation/research studies are important for bringing in improvement in the schemes, the committee recommend that the Ministry should keep a check on these Institutes/Organizations and ensure that the final evaluation Reports of the studies carried out by them are useful and submitted on time for which they are being paid professional charges.

Reply of the Government

3.2 To generate awareness among the minority communities about the welfare schemes of the Ministry, Media campaigns are being launched through Doordarshan, All India Radio and Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity (DAVP). The Ministry has developed Audio- Video spots on its various schemes i.e. Pre-matric, Post-matric, Merit-cum Means scholarship schemes, Free Coaching and Allied Schemes, Over

Arching (Prime Minister's New 15 PP), Maulana Azad National Fellowship and Leadership Development of Minority Women scheme through National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). Audio-video spots are being telecasted/broadcasted over various channels of Doordarshan/All India Radio to generate awareness among the masses. The Ministry has also got prepared Documentary film on Over Arching on the schemes. The Ministry is also taking steps to develop audio–video spots on MsDP, NMDFC and Wakf matter alongwith some documentary films on various schemes of the Ministry. Apart from electronic media campaign, the Ministry is also launching Print Media campaign by releasing advertisements on its schemes in newspapers through DAVP.

The details of newspapers in which the advertisements of the Ministry have been released since 2006-07 are given below:

Years	Hindi	English	Urdu	Other Language	Total
2006-07	90	47	65	122	324
2007-08	206	234	785	414	1639
2008-09	357	410	250	404	1421
2009-10	536	172	320	353	1381
2010-11	1002	345	1031	941	3319
2011-12 (Up to 15.10.2011)	241	110	285	298	934
Total	2432	1318	2736	2532	9018

The details of expenditure incurred on implementation Media campaign through Doordarshan, AIR and DAVP are as below:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No	Financial Year	Expenditure on Media Campaign
1	2006-07	0.7936
2	2007-08	7.9897
3	2008-09	5.9424
4	2009-10	11.5154
5	2010-11	16.2773
6	2011-12 (upto 15 th October, 2011)	21.50 *

* Sanctioned amount

The final report on special study of low representation of minorities in Ministry of Railways and Department of Posts has been received from IIPA.

The Ministry has entrusted the work of monitoring of the schemes to National Productivity Council, since December, 2009. The first phase of the monitoring has been completed, under which 122 districts have been covered throughout the country. The second phase of the monitoring has been started since August 2011 and likely to be completed in December, 2011. In this regard, an Orientation cum Training programme for NLMs has been conducted by NPC on 8th and 9th July, 2011 at New Delhi.

The evaluation of MsDP, Scholarship schemes and Free Coaching scheme is under progress and it is assumed that the report will be received from ICSSR by December, 2011. For inviting online application for Merit cum Means scholarship, the Ministry has developed the Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS). The

Ministry is also under progress for developing a web based system for monitoring of Free Coaching scheme through NICS.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

CHAPTER – IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED AND HAVE BEEN COMMENTED UPON IN CHAPTER-I

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 3.26)

4.1 The Committee are unhappy to note that funds to the tune of Rs. 587.70 crore were surrendered by the Ministry during the year 2010-11 which far exceed the amounts surrendered by the Ministry during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 i.e. Rs. 33.63 crore and Rs. 31.50 crore respectively. While the Committee understand that the Ministry had to surrender funds under four new schemes which could not be launched and implemented during the year 2010-11 due to non-approval of these schemes by the Planning Commission, the Committee fail to understand as to why huge amount of funds were surrendered under several ongoing schemes such as Multi-sectoral Development Programme for Minority Concentration Districts – Rs. 462.2680, Pre-matric scholarship scheme – Rs. 33.5695, Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme - Rs. 26.3272, Post-matric scholarship scheme – Rs. 24.1529 and Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards – Rs. 9.3800 etc. The Committee are not convinced by the routine reasons cited by the Ministry in this regard that adequate/viable/complete proposals were not received from some of the States/UTs including North-Eastern States because the Committee feel that MsDP being the flagship programme of the Ministry every effort should have been made to utilize the funds by approving the plans of all the districts on time. Similarly, since the popularity of the scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship, Post-matric Scholarship and Merit-cum-means Scholarship had picked up

and these schemes were doing better during the last two financial years, the slow progress of the implementation of these schemes during the year 2010-11 should have been avoided by taking up special steps and addressing the issue of non-utilization well on time. In view of the fact that a still higher allocation has been projected under each of above schemes, the Committee recommend the Ministry to review the status of fund utilization by States at regular interval, persuade the slow performing States to utilize the funds, guide and urge the States to send the proposals well on time for full utilization of scholarship slots and also fix some accountability on States/UTs so that surrender of funds could be avoided.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The recommendations of the Committee have been noted for compliance. The scheme-wise details are given below:-

(a) Multi-sectoral Development Programme for Minority Concentration Districts –

All efforts were made to avoid under utilization of funds under various schemes, but there was a shortfall in expenditure under MsDP. It was envisaged that districts plans for the entire allocation of Rs.3780 crore would be approved during 2010-11. However, district plans amounting to Rs.3111.55 crore only could be approved as adequate and viable proposals were not received from States/UTs. In view of the shortfall of approval by Rs.669 crore and non-receipt of proposals for release of second instalments, an amount of Rs.913.23 crore could be released during 2010-11.

(b) Scholarship schemes:-

The physical and financial allocation under the three scholarship- schemes of this Ministry during 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given below:-

Schemes	Physical achievement			Financial achievement		
	2009-10 (In lakhs)	2010-11 (In lakhs)	% of increase	2009-10 (Rs. In crores)	2010-11 (Rs. In crores)	% of increase
Pre matric Scholarship	17.29	44.21	156	202.94	446.27	119
Post matric Scholarship	3.64	5.25	44	148.74	228.97	54
Merit-cum-Means Based Scholarship	0.36	0.41	14	97.52	108.76	11.53

It may be noted that both the physical and financial achievement during 2010-11 are substantially higher than that of 2009-10 and the momentum picked up by the schemes during 2009-10, has sustained during 2010-11. As a matter of fact, under the Pre-matric scheme expenditure in 2010-11 was more than twice the expenditure of 2009-10, whereas in Post-matric sceme, the increase was 55% over the previous year.

The shortfalls of Rs. 33.57 crore in Pre-matric and Rs. 24.15 crore in Post-matric Scholarship in funds utilization was mainly due non-receipt of adequate proposals from some States/UTs and non-receipt of adequate/complete proposals from North-Eastern States, although utmost efforts were made to obtain proposals from such States/UTs and also the North-Eastern States. The shortfall of Rs. 26.32 crore in fund utilization in Merit-cum-means Based Scholarship was because of lesser number of renewals

received from States/UTs during 2010-11 despite our best efforts. Against a target of 35000 renewals this Ministry could award only 21538 renewals.

With the introduction of Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) for Merit-cum-Means Based Scholarship from this year, it is hoped that number of the renewal proposals would increase considerably thereby ensuring maximum utilization of funds. Further, the last date for applying in case of renewals for all scholarship schemes has been extended to 31st December, 2011 for the year 2011-12. Similarly, the last dates for applying for first scholarships have also been extended during 2011-12. These changes are expected to generate more applications for the scholarship thereby leading to better utilization of funds. The Ministry is also periodically reviewing and following up with States for better progress. Meetings with Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of the Minority Welfare Departments of all States / UTs were organized on 04.04.2011, 26.07.2011 and 22.09.2011 for this purpose.

(c) Computerisation of records of State Waqf Boards:-

The Committee has shown their displeasure on the surrender of Rs. 9.38 crore under the ongoing scheme of Computerization of records of State Wakf Board. In this regards, it is stated that the scheme was launched in Dec, 09 i.e. at the fag end of the financial year 2009-10. The Ministry convened meetings with all the States before launching of the scheme. After launching of the scheme, all the States were requested to send proposals as per the scheme after completing all the formalities for release of funds. The Ministry also convened regular meetings/conference with concerned Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the State Governments, Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of State Wakf Boards for early implementation of the scheme.

Despite all efforts by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, no viable/complete proposals from 5 states/ UT Wakf Boards were received during the year 2010-11. Apart from this, the scheme envisages handholding cost of Rs.8 crore for 2nd year and 3rd year for meeting the cost for hiring of personnel for general maintenance/support etc of the software and this was to be released after setting up of Centralized Computing Facility (CCF) by the State Waqf Boards. As the scheme started at the fag end of the financial year i.e. 2009-10, the handholding cost could not be released as the establishment of CCF had not been completed in most of the Waqf Boards. As such there was a saving of Rs.9.38 crore under the scheme.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.7 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 3.27)

4.3 The Committee are dismayed to note that in spite of their earlier recommendation relating to filling up all the vacant posts of the Ministry urgently, the Ministry have filled up only 70 posts and 23 posts are still lying vacant which includes important posts in Urdu. The Committee are unhappy at the routine and often repeated reasons cited by the Ministry in this regard that despite efforts and advertisements inviting applications from prospective candidates no response is forthcoming against two Senior Research Investigators and three Senior Investigators; no suitable candidates were found against one Assistant Director (Urdu), one Translator (Urdu) and one Typist (Urdu) and the

Ministry again propose to advertize the same. The Committee fail to understand as to why the Ministry's efforts in filling up the above posts are not materializing while there is no dearth of linguistic talent in the country as far as the Urdu posts are concerned. The Committee strongly feel that the efforts of the Ministry in the direction of filling up of the above vacant posts have not been enough and therefore recommend the Ministry to advertize and publicize the above posts more vigorously and widely through visual and print media all over the country and also relax the eligibility criteria in some cases so that these posts are filled up without any further delay. The committee also recommend the Ministry to take up the matter of filling up of vacant posts with the DoPT and UPSC as per need so that the vacant posts are filled up immediately and the work of the Ministry do not suffer due to shortage of staff. The Committee may be apprised of the steps taken and the status of vacancy of posts within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

4.4 Out of the 93 sanctioned posts 61 posts are filled up as on 16th November ,2011. There are 32 vacant posts in the Ministry. The status of vacancy of posts as on date and steps being taken by the Ministry to fill up the vacant posts is given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Posts	No. of vacant posts	Status
1	Joint Secretary	1	One post has been vacated on 16.10.2011 on completion of tenure of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of the post.
2.	Director/ Deputy Secretary	2	One post each of Deputy Secretary/Director have been vacated on 1.06.2011/02.11.2011 The matter is

			being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of these posts.
3.	Under Secretary	1	The post has been vacated on 29.04.2011 on promotion of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
4.	Section Officer	1	One post has been vacated on 1.08.2011 on retirement of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
5.	Assistant Director	2	UPSC has recommended the names of two incumbents and appointment letters have been issued.
6.	Senior Principal Private Secretary	1	One post has been vacated on 1.11.2011 on retirement of the incumbent. The matter is being pursued with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) for filling up of this post.
7.	Principal Private Secretary	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
8.	Assistant	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
9.	Sr. Research Investigators	2	Advertisement for filling up this post was issued thrice in January,2008, May,2009 and March,2010. Despite repeated efforts, no response is forthcoming. Now the Grade Pay has been upgraded. The post is being re-advertised
10.	Senior Investigators	3	Advertisement for filling up this post was issued thrice in January,2008, May,2009 and March,2010. Despite repeated efforts, no response is forthcoming. The post is being re-advertised.
11.	Steno Grade C	2	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
12.	Steno Grade D	2	Two posts have been vacated in June, 2011 on promotion/transfer of the incumbents. DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant posts.
13.	UDC	1	DoPT has been requested to fill up the vacant post.

14.	Multi Tasking Staff	5**	SSC is being requested to send the dossiers for filling up the vacant posts.
15.	Staff Car Driver	2	One post has been vacated in June,2011. The process of filling up of the posts is underway.
16.	Assistant Director (Urdu)	1	The advertisement for filling up the post on short-term ad-hoc deputation basis was last published in the Employment News dated 29 th January – 4 th February 2011. The post will have to be re-advertised as no application from an eligible candidate was received.
17.	Translator (Urdu)	1	-do-
18.	Typist (Urdu)	1	-do-
Total		32	

** 4 person outsourced.

Based on the Honorable Committee's recommendation, the matter was taken up by the Ministry requesting the Department of Personnel & Training to post the following personnel vide OM/DO indicated against the posts:-

S.No.	Name of Posts	O.M. /D.O. No. and date
1.	Section Officers, Assistants and UDC	O.M. A-32014/1/2010-Estt. Dated 4 th August, 2011
2.	Deputy Secretary/Director	O.M. No. A-20012/2/2006-Estt. Dated 4 th August, 2011 and D.No. A-20012/1/2006-Estt. Dated 27 th September,2011.
3.	Sr. PPS, PPS, Stenographer Grade 'C' and Stenographers Grade 'D'	O.M. No. A-12022/2/2010-Estt. Dated 5 th Aug, 2011
4.	Under Secretary	O.M. A-22012/3/2006-Estt. Dated 3 rd Nov, 2011
5.	Under Secretary, Section Officers, Assistants, UDC, Sr.	D.O.No.A-20012/3/2006-Estt.Dated2 nd

	PPS, PPS, Stenographer Grade 'C' and Stenographers Grade 'D'	November, 2011
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Continuous efforts are being made to impress upon the DoPT to expedite the posting of the above-mentioned officers/officials through letters and meetings so that the vacancies are filled up at the earliest.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.10 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 3.29)

4.5 On the implementation of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, the Committee have been informed that the decisions taken by the Central Government on the follow-up action on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee was based on a process of examination and inter-ministerial consultations and are being implemented by various Ministries/Department of the Central Government. The Government has been according high priority to the implementation of the decisions taken on the recommendations of Sachar Committee and its implementation is being monitored regularly. However, the Committee observe that except for some of the initiatives of the Government in way implementing certain schemes like the scholarship schemes and the scheme of grants-in aid through Maulana Azad Foundation, the Ministry are not attending to the crux of the problems as has been brought out in the Sachar Committee Report and all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee are not being

implemented seriously. Sachar Committee Report which has highlighted the deplorable socio-economic condition of Muslim Community, has made specific recommendations which if implemented in letter and spirit would go a long way in uplifting the minority community. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry to take urgent necessary steps to implement all the recommendations of the Sachar Committee in a time bound manner. The Committee also feel that the recommendations would be implemented more forcefully if there is a legal force behind implementing these recommendations. Therefore, the Committee desire that the Ministry should work towards bringing in a legislation in Parliament in this regard.

The Committee also observe that the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme has not been satisfactory as it is at the mercy of other Ministries/Departments and these are not working in coordination with each other with regard to developmental initiatives for the minorities. The monitoring and review of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme has not been regular as the Committees which are supposed to meet at regular intervals are not meeting for the purpose. Even if these meetings are held occasionally, the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha who are also Members of the review Committee are not being intimated about these meetings. The Secretary also admitted during the evidence that he is aware of many such complaints from Members. Therefore, the Committee recommend that Ministry should pursue the matter at inter-Ministerial and inter-departmental levels, coordinate with Prime Minister's Office and ensure that the Committees constituted to review the implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme definitely meet at regular intervals, Members are intimated about these meetings well on time and the

progress of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is reviewed on a continuous basis so that there is steady implementation of all the schemes outlined under Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme and the minorities really benefit from these schemes.

Reply of the Government

4.6 (A) Sachar Committee:

Government has been implementing the decisions on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee with all seriousness. The status of implementation is reviewed in the Ministry on quarterly basis. It has now been decided to place the status in this regard on half yearly basis alongwith the status of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities before a Committee of Secretaries and then to the Cabinet. In respect of one of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee for setting up Equal Opportunity Commission, the process for bringing legislation in Parliament has already been initiated.

(B) Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme:

At the Centre, the Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme is reviewed in the Ministry of Minority Affairs every quarter with the nodal officers of the Ministries/Departments concerned. Half yearly progress reports are submitted to Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and thereafter to the Cabinet. This has been done regularly eleven times by the CoS and seven times by the Cabinet since the announcement of the new 15 Point Programme in June, 2006. So far as State and district level committees for monitoring the implementation of the new 15 Point

Programme is concerned, the States/UTs have been advised regularly to hold such meetings and also ensure that the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are invited to the meetings. States/UTs have been once again advised to ensure that the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha nominated by the Central Government are invited to the meetings.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.13 of Chapter – I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE INTERIM IN NATURE

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 3.28)

5.1 The committee are given to understand that the Government has accorded 'in principle' approval for restructuring of NMDFC by converting it from a Section 25 Company to a non-deposit taking Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC), which would be a holding company for Minority Partnership (MP) and National Wakf Development Agency (NWDA), both of which will also be registered as NBFCs. A consultancy firm has been appointed to carry out a detailed study. Although the draft reports had been submitted by the consultancy firm, the final reports are yet to be submitted by this firm. The Committee feel that though there is a need to restructure NMDFC to make it more efficient in promoting the economic activities amongst the backward sections of notified minorities, yet the modalities of its restructuring needs to be worked out with utmost care keeping in mind the sentiments of the minority community so that there is no sense of resentment among the community. Therefore, while appreciating the steps taken by the Government to restructure the Corporation, the Committee recommend the Ministry to hold wide consultations with various Minority groups on the proposed restructuring before taking any decision in the matter. The committee also recommend the Ministry to keep a watch on the developments and pursue the matter regularly with NMDFC as well as consultancy firm for submitting its final report within a definite time frame so that a suitable proposal for restructuring of NMDFC is worked out for improving the strategies

and operational performance of the NMDFC and increasing the coverage of beneficiaries.

Reply of the Government

5.2 The final Reports have been submitted by the Consultancy Firm on 21.7.2011 to the Ministry. These reports are currently under examination. No final decision has yet been taken by the Ministry either on the shape of the restructuring of NMDFC or whether as a holding company it would look after the NWDA. The final view will be taken after consultations with all concerned.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 4.19)

5.3 The Committee note that the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) was registered in the year 1989 as a voluntary, non-political, non profit making society registered under the Societies Act, 1860. The main objectives of MAEF are to formulate and impart educational schemes and plans for the benefit of the educationally backward minorities in particular and weaker sections in general. The Foundation implements its schemes out of interest earned on its corpus fund which is its main source of income. Grant-in-Aid is also provided to the Foundation. Whereas Rs. 125 crore was provided as BE in the year 2010-11, a higher amount of Rs. 200.00 crore has been earmarked for the year 2011-12. The Committee understand that the interest earned on the corpus fund is quite insufficient to meet the requirements keeping in view, the rate of interest and increasing number of applications both for grants-in-aid and for scholarships. The Committee find that as many as 885 applications, complete in all respect for grant-in-aid

were pending with the Foundation as on 30.9.2010. The Committee feel that when adequate funds will be made available to the Foundation, the Foundation will be in a better position to meet the increasing demand/applications for grant-in-aid and scholarships by the Foundation. The Committee have been informed that the Ministry has already approached the Finance Ministry to double the corpus fund of MAEF from Rs. 700 crore to Rs. 1400 crore. The matter is being pursued with the Planning Commission and would be taken up during the Working Group Meetings on Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Committee hope that the matter of increasing the corpus fund of the MAEF will be adequately taken up by the Ministry in the Working Group Meetings and subsequently with the Planning Commission and every effort will be made for doubling the corpus fund of the MAEF during the 12th Five Year Plan period.

Reply of the Government

5.4 The recommendations of the committee have been noted for compliance, accordingly the matter with regard to enhancement of the corpus of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) has been considered by the "WORKING GROUP ON EMPOWERMENT OF MINORITIES". It would now be considered by the Steering Committee that has been constituted for formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan by the Planning Commission.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 6.17)

5.5 The Committee note with concern that as far as the approval of projects under MsDP are concerned, these have not been uniformly approved in all States/UTs. Thus,

the Committee find that while in total 49 projects have been approved for construction of inter-colleges, 47 of these are to be constructed in the State of Uttar Pradesh alone. Other States have not been sanctioned any project for construction of inter colleges. Similarly whereas approval has been given for construction of 8 model schools in the State of Haryana, none of the other States have been sanctioned any project for construction of model schools. The Committee also observe that while 20 ITI buildings and 18 polytechnic institutes have been approved for the State of Uttar Pradesh in other States the approved projects for construction of ITIs and polytechnics are very less in number. Further, the Committee note with concern that though in total 28 ITIs and 23 polytechnics have been approved, not a single project has been completed as yet. Though the Ministry have tried to justify the delay by saying that such projects have a long construction period, the Committee feel that the pace of construction of these projects have been rather slow and need to be expedited. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter with the concerned State Governments, review the stages of construction of each of the projects and direct the States to complete the construction of all the approved projects within a defined time frame. Efforts should also be made to approve projects uniformly by persuading all the State/UT Governments to send viable proposals.

Reply of the Government

5.6 The scheme of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) envisages preparation of district plans in such a manner that the development deficits of a district, identified by a baseline survey, are addressed for improvement of backwardness parameters of MCDs to bring them at par with the national average. Further, MsDP

Guidelines provide that all recurring expenditure including providing land would need to borne by the State/UT concerned and cannot be charged from the programme. States/UTs having own resources have proposed for creation of new assets like polytechnic institutions, Industrial Training Institutions (ITI), inter-colleges, model schools etc. involving recurring expenditure including staff salary, operational costs and maintenance. Since the district plans are required to be prepared in such a manner that it addresses the identified development deficits of the district concerned to improve their socio-economic and basic amenities parameters the proposals will vary from district to district depending on their backwardness parameters and the commitment of the State Government/UT administration to meet the recurring expenditure. Besides UP, construction of new polytechnics and ITIs has been sanctioned for West Bengal and one new ITI each for Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Following persistent persuasion by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, the States of Assam and Jharkhand are sending Detailed Project Reports containing all details of the proposal including time frame for construction of ITIs under MsDP in MCDs of their State.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para No. 8.8)

5.7 The Committee note that a scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women was launched on 27.1.2010 with the objective of developing leadership in Minority Women as also to instill confidence in Minority Women by providing tools, techniques and knowledge for interacting with Government systems, banks etc. The scheme is envisaged to reach out to women through Non-Governmental

Organizations/institutes by providing them financial support for conducting leadership development training. Funds for the scheme were earmarked in the Budget Estimates and Revised Estimates in the year 2009-10 and 2010-11 (i.e. Rs. 8 crore and Rs. 15 crore). However, utilization of the same has been 'nil'. The Committee find it very disturbing that even after two financial years, the scheme has shown no progress after its launch. The reasons explained by the Ministry are very un-substantive, first the organization who would take up the scheme could not be shortlisted in time. Secondly the sanctioning Committee could not approve the proposals for financial assistance and sought the assistance of Ministry of Law and Justice on the same. The Ministry of Law and Justice further concurred to the proposal to cancel the entire process and scrap the action in terms of the advertising involving Expression of the Interest (EOI) of this scheme. The Committee fail to understand why the efforts made by the Ministry could not materialize and the scheme got further delayed. The Ministry should have worked out the modules of the scheme before its approval rather than starting work in a casual manner, as adequate funds were available for the scheme. The Committee recommend that the scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women being an important scheme to uplift the Minority Women in the country, the Ministry should work out the modalities of the scheme and implement it without further delay.

Reply of the Government

5.8 This Ministry had launched a scheme for leadership development of minority women on 27.01.2010 with the objective of developing leadership in minority women as also to instill confidence in minority women. The scheme could not be implemented in 2010-11 as there was some delay in short listing of organizations. Later, it was noticed

that there were some infirmity and ambiguity in the process of Expression of Interest and the entire process of the Expression of Interest was scrapped in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice and after the approval of the competent authority. The scheme has been revised and the infirmities and ambiguities has been removed. Based on the revised scheme, fresh Expression of Interest (EOI) would be called for.

[F. No. G-20011/2/2011-12-Budget, Dated November 29, 2011]

NEW DELHI:

05 March, 2012
15 Phalguna, 1933 (Saka)

DARA SINGH CHAUHAN

**Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and Empowerment**

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON MONDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2012

The Committee met from 1100 hrs. to 1200 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', PHA, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS
LOK SABHA

2. Shri Kameshwar Baitha
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Smt. Rama Devi
5. Shri Premchand Guddu
6. Dr. Manda Jagannath
7. Shri Mohan Jena
8. Shri G. V. Harsha Kumar
9. Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar
10. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh
11. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA

12. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
13. Shri Narayan Singh Kesari
14. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
15. Shri Nandi Yelliah

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Deepak Mahna - Joint Secretary
2. Shri P.C. Choulda - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting had been convened for consideration and adoption of the draft Reports of the Committee i.e. Nineteenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Scholarship Schemes for SCs/OBCs" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and three Action Taken Reports (Twentieth, Twenty-First and Twenty-Second) on Demands for Grants (2011-12) of the Ministries of Minority Affairs, Tribal Affairs and Social Justice and Empowerment respectively.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration all the draft Reports and adopted the same with some additions in the 19th Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Scholarship Schemes for SCs/OBCs" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalize the draft Reports and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE SEVENTEENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	15	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (Paragraph Nos. 2.4, 3.25, 3.30, 4.20, 4.21, 6.16 and 7.20)	7	46.67
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies (Paragraph No. 5.12).	1	6.67
IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter –I (Paragraph Nos. 3.26, 3.27 and 3.29)	3	20.00
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature (Paragraph Nos. 3.28, 4.19, 6.17 and 8.8).	4	26.66