

22

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

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

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

TWENTY – SECOND REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 2012/Chaitra, 1934 (Saka)

TWENTY - SECOND REPORT

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

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

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

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)

CONTENTS

PAGE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

- CHAPTER I** Report
- CHAPTER II** Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government.
- CHAPTER III** Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.
- CHAPTER 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.
- CHAPTER V** Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature.

ANNEXURES

- ANNEXURE I** Details of the present status of the 14 recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ANNEXURE II** SCSP Outlay/Expenditure during Eleventh Plan during the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- ANNEXURE III** State/UTs-wise BPL Families assisted and crossed the Poverty Line during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08.
- ANNEXURE IV** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment letter dated 11.8.2011.
- ANNEXURE V** Minutes of the Sixth Sitting of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment held on 5.3.2012.

APPENDIX

Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

**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. Neena Juneja - Executive Officer

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

2. The Fifteenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 2011. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 31.1.2012. 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 Fifteenth 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 Phalgun, 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 Fifteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants, 2011-12 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

1.2 The Fifteenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 2011. It contained 21 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. 2.3, 3.25, 3.28, 3.29, 3.32, 4.20, 4.37, 5.6, 6.9, 6.10 and 7.18.
(Total 11 - Chapter II)
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:
Paragraph Nos. 3.27 and 3.31.
(Total 2 - 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. 3.24, 3.26, 6.11 and 7.9.
(Total 4 - Chapter IV)
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are of interim in nature:
Paragraph Nos. 3.30, 4.12, 4.13 and 4.28.
(Total 4 - Chapter V)

1.3 The Committee desire that action taken replies 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. Steps Taken in improving performance of Disability and Social Defence Sectors.

Recommendation (S.No.2, Para No. 3.24)

1.5 The Committee noted that against the plan allocation of Rs. 4524.04 crore (BE) which was reduced to Rs. 4300 crore, at RE stage, the Ministry has achieved an expenditure of Rs. 4185.93 crore. The Committee had found that two important divisions of the Ministry i.e. the Disability Division and the Social Defence Division could not utilize full funds allocated to them (utilization of Rs. 314.19 crore out of Rs. 450.01 crore and 76.12 crore out of Rs. 222.01 crore respectively). Also there was a saving due to non-receipt of sufficient proposals from State Governments/voluntary organizations located in the North Eastern region. The budgetary allocation of the Ministry for the year 2011-12 had been enhanced to Rs. 5375 crore and the Committee were given to understand that the additionality of fund requirement in 2011-12 is mainly for post-matric scholarship for SCs and OBCs and a new scheme on pre-matric scholarship for SCs. The Committee while expressing their unhappiness over the Ministry's not-so-satisfactory performance in various schemes due to which there was underutilization and surrender of funds during the year 2010-2011 recommended that the Ministry should make maximum efforts to utilize the entire funds allocated to them for the year 2011-12. Adequate precautionary steps in way of review of utilization of funds at suitable intervals, tight monitoring of various

schemes and persuading the States to send the proposals well in advance etc. should be undertaken so as to avoid surrender of funds. The Committee strongly recommended that the Ministry should focus itself in key areas like Disability sector and Social Defence sector where the financial and physical performance has been slow in the past. The Ministry while allocating funds to various NGOs should also intimate about the same to concerned MPs in whose constituency the NGO is working so that they can also monitor the implementation of the scheme and utilization of funds.

1.6 The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated :-

"The Ministry is continuously making efforts to further improve its utilization of Plan outlay especially in the Disability and Social Defence sectors. As a step in that direction, sanctioning powers delegated to Joint Secretary/Special Secretary/Secretary of the Ministry have been doubled in November, 2011.

As regards the involvement of MPs in whose constituency an NGO is working, in monitoring its progress and utilization of funds, a proposal for constitution of Vigilance-cum-Monitoring Committees at the State and district levels is under active consideration, in consultation with the Planning Commission. These Committees would be expected to keep a regular watch on the implementation of the Programmes as per the prescribed procedures and guidelines. These Committees would, *inter alia*, include Members of Parliament, State Legislatures and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

The suggestion of the Committee to endorse a copy of the sanction letters of Grant in aid released to NGO(s), to the concerned MPs, in whose constituency the particular NGO is working, is being examined".

1.7 The Committee had recommended that the Ministry focus on key areas like Disability Sector and Social Defence Sector where the financial and physical performance has been slow in the past. The Ministry have informed that as a step in the direction, sanctioning power delegated to Joint Secretary/Special Secretary/Secretary of the Ministry has been doubled. However, the Committee feel that this is not enough and steps such as review of utilization of funds at suitable intervals, tight monitoring of various schemes and other concrete steps need to be taken up so that funds are utilized properly in these two key areas. The Committee are happy to learn that there is a proposal for constitution of Vigilance-cum-

Monitoring Committees at the State and District levels and the same is under active consideration in consultation with the Planning Commission. These would include Members of Parliament, State legislatures and Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Ministry have further stated that the suggestion that a copy of the sanctioned letters of Grants-in-aid released to NGOs may be forwarded to the concerned MPs is also being examined. The Committee while reiterating their original recommendation desire that the setting up of Vigilance-cum-Monitoring Committee be expedited and urgent action be taken on their suggestion of endorsing a copy of sanction letter to concerned MPs.

B. Revision of Scholarships for OBCs

Recommendations (S.No.4, Para No. 3.26)

1.8 The Committee noted that the scheme for Post-matric Scholarship to students belonging to SCs had been revised with effect from 1st July, 2010 which had raised the parental income ceiling for eligibility from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 2.00 lakh and also there was a proposal to increase the income ceiling and scholarship rates under the scheme of Post-matric scholarship for OBCs. The Committee desired that parental income ceiling for availing the scholarships in both the schemes of Post-matric Scholarship for SCs and Post-matric Scholarship for OBCs should be revised upwardly to Rs. 3.00 lakh so that more students can avail the scholarships.

1.9 The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated :-

"Parental income ceiling under the scheme of PMS for OBCs has been revised from Rs.44,500/- to Rs.1.0 lakh p.a. w.e.f. 1.7.2011. Further revision of the Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for SC & OBC students would be undertaken in the XII Plan".

1.10 The Committee have been informed that the income ceiling of parents for awarding scholarship to students belonging to SCs under the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme has been revised from 1.7.2010 and the parental income

ceiling for eligibility has been raised from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh per annum. However, the income ceiling of Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for OBCs has been revised from Rs. 44,500 to Rs. 1 lakh per annum w.e.f. 1.7.2011. The Committee are not satisfied with the parental income ceiling of the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for OBCs and recommend it should at least be brought at par with the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs.

C. Setting up of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs)

Recommendation (S.No.19, Para No. 6.11)

1.11 The Committee noted that the setting up of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) was one of the areas where funds have been earmarked under the scheme of SIPDA. In pursuance with the Finance Minister's Budget speech (2010-11), 50 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and 2 Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) were proposed to be set up during the year, however against the above target only 21 DDRCs could be sanctioned. Apart from non-receipt of proposals from State Governments non-availability of rent free accommodation have been cited as problems for DDRCs. Also, the District Management Team headed by the District Collector found it difficult to identify the implementing agency suitable for such work as also non-availability of skilled manpower. The Committee were given to understand that some of the guidelines for assistance to DDRCs had been revised to address the above problems. However, the Committee felt that the Ministry needed to find a solution to other major concerns like finding implementing agencies and skilled manpower for setting up DDRCs. The Committee recommended that a specific team/task force should be appointed for the purpose so that it can help to resolve the local issues and the requisite number of DDRCs as per target were set up and made functional

with all infrastructure and manpower facilities covering maximum number of districts in the States.

1.12 The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated :-

"Setting up of DDRCs involves a number of steps, including identification of suitable implementing agency possessing requisite expertise, at the District level, which is to be done by the concerned State Government, and as such, appointment of a task force at the Central level may not serve much purpose. However, the concerned State Governments are being regularly pursued to expeditiously send their complete proposals.

21 DDRCs were sanctioned in 2010-11 and 5 more DDRCs have been sanctioned till date in 2011-12. Proposals have been received in respect of another 62 DDRCs but have been found on scrutiny to be deficient. The Ministry has taken up the matter with the concerned States to remove the deficiencies".

1.13 The Committee are dismayed to note that proposals for setting up 66 DDRCs could not go through as they were found to be deficient on scrutiny. The Ministry have stated that finding a suitable implementing agency with requisite expertise for setting up of DDRC is to be done by the State Governments and therefore setting up a task force at the Centre level does not serve the purpose. However, taking view of the fact that setting up of DDRCs is an enormous and important task, the Committee feel that the Ministry needs to play a proactive role so as to guide the States in sending complete proposals so that the District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) can be set up at the earliest.

D. Welfare of Senior Citizens.

Recommendation (S.No.20, Para No. 7.9)

1.14 The Committee observed that the Ministry had been running Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons since 1992 under which grants-in-aid was given to Non-Government organizations for running of Old Age Homes (OAH), Day Care Centres (DCC) and Mobile Medicare Units (MMU). The scheme was revised in 2008 to include new projects like maintenance of Respite Care Homes and Continuous Care Homes, running

of Multi Service Centres for older persons, running of Day Care Centres for Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons, training of care givers etc. However, the Committee observed that despite the revision of the scheme widening its scope, only 50% of the funds released could be utilized during the year 2010-11 the reason being non-receipt of adequate number of proposals, incomplete proposals and late proposals. The Committee desired that matters concerning the older persons need to be given proper attention in India as Governments in other countries of the world have taken a step forward to provide basic facilities to older persons as the responsibility of the State and implementation of programmes concerning older persons in States should be addressed with utmost priority. The Committee were dismayed to note that an important scheme of the Ministry i.e. the scheme of Construction of Old Age Homes for Senior Citizens could not be launched during 2010-11, even though an allocation of Rs. 100 crore had been made specifically for the purpose during 2010-11. It is more disheartening to note that the scheme had been pushed to further uncertainty as no funds have been kept for the scheme during 2011-12. With the Rs. 100 crore allocation during the year 2010-11, the Ministry should have taken up the matter with Planning Commission for launching of the scheme at least on a pilot basis with smaller targets. Under Section 19 of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, the care of older persons and senior citizens was the primary responsibility of the Government and hence their basic needs can be catered to a great extent by construction of Old Age Homes in each district. Therefore, the Committee desired early and expeditious action in the matter. Now that the preparations for 12th plan allocations were under way, the Committee recommended that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment will appropriately take up the matter with the Planning Commission and work on a viable proposal to be launched during the 12th plan.

1.15 The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply have stated :-

"(i) Integrated Programme for Older Persons

The scheme was revised in 2008 to include new projects like maintenance of Respite Care Homes and Continuous Care Homes, running of Multi Service Centres for older persons, running of Day Care Centres for Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons, training of care givers etc. However, the pace of expenditure under the Scheme continues to be unsatisfactory, though concerted efforts are being made by the Ministry to get adequate number of project proposals from the State Governments. Financial norms prescribed under the Scheme are also not attractive enough for the NGOs to submit proposals for financial assistance under it. Therefore, keeping in view the rise in cost of the living index, a Committee has been constituted to recommend revision in the financial norms under the scheme.

(ii) Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens:

Sub section (i) of Section 19 ("Establishment of old age Home") of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 reads as follows:-

"The State Government may establish and maintain such number of old age homes at accessible places, as it may deem necessary, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate in such homes a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent"

To assist State Governments in the discharge of the above statutory responsibility, the Ministry had initially formulated a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens for construction of old age homes for indigent senior citizens in 300 districts of the country during the XI Plan, at a cost of Rs 635 crore so as to cover at least 50% of the districts in the country during the XI Plan. The Ministry's XI Plan, however, had a provision of only Rs. 60 crore for this new Scheme. On the advice of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure, the scheme was then recast to fit within the allocation of Rs. 60 crore with a physical target of only 100 old age homes in the 11th Plan, and a reduced pattern of central assistance. Although the Ministry did so as per the advice given by the Planning Commission, when the revised scheme was sent for the Commission's approval, it conveyed vide its letter dated 30th July, 2009, that the scheme has not been approved on the ground that a token approach for setting up old age homes would not serve any purpose and the position would be reviewed during mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Plan. As a result, the plan outlay of Rs. 13 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 15 crore in 2009-10 could not be utilized.

Pursuant to a substantial increase in the Ministry's overall Plan outlay in 2010-11, Rs.100 crore was allowed for the above Scheme in that year's budget, and a fresh proposal for introducing it was sent for the approval of the Planning Commission on 9.8.2010. The Commission however again rejected the proposal saying that it would be conducting a zero base budgeting exercise in the terminal year of XI plan and advised this

Ministry to take up the proposal before the XII Five Year Plan Working Group. The allocation for the Scheme was therefore reduced to Rs1.00 crore at R.E. stage due to non-approval by Planning Commission.

The XII Plan Working Group on Social Welfare, constituted by the Planning Commission, has also recommended introduction of the above scheme, and its Report is under consideration of the Planning Commission".

1.16 The Committee are dismayed at the fact that as of now, the Construction of Old Age Homes for Senior Citizens could not be taken up in the Eleventh Plan. The Committee felt that this was not in conjunction with the provisions of Sub section (i) of Section 19 of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 which provides for the establishment and maintenance of old age homes. The Committee have been informed that the Twelfth Plan Working Group on social welfare constituted by the Planning Commission has also recommended introduction of the above scheme and its Report is under consideration of the Planning Commission. The Committee desire that the Ministry pursue the matter with the Planning Commission for expeditious action so that the scheme can be launched in the beginning of Twelfth Plan period.

CHAPTER – II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (S.No.1, Para No. 2.3)

2.1 The Committee are deeply displeased with the ineffective implementation aspect of the Recommendations contained in their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants, 2010-11 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as only 6 out of 21 recommendations have been implemented. The Committee advise expeditious implementation of the remaining recommendations already accepted by the Government.

Reply of the Government

2.2 Category wise break-up of the 21 recommendations, as reported by the Committee, is as under:

Sl. No.	Category of recommendation	Number	Paragraph no of the recommendation in 4 th Report of the Committee
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	6	2.22,2.24,2.28,3.33,3.42 and 5.25
2.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government	1	3.34
3.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which need to be reiterated	5	2.23,2.27,5.11.5.12 and 6.10
4.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are of interim nature	9	2.25,2.26,3.19,3.20,3.32,4.15,5.24,6.25 and 6.26
	Total	21	

Details of the present status of the 14 recommendations, mentioned at Sl. No. 3 and 4 above, are given in **Annexure-I**. The abstract of their present status is as follows:

Sl. No.	Category of recommendation	No	Paragraph no of the recommendation in 4 th Report of the Committee
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Recommendations on which action has been taken by the Government	7	2.23,2.26,3.20,3.32,4.15,5.24,6.25
2.	Recommendations on which action is being taken	7	2.25, 2.27,3.19,5.11,5.12,6.10,6.26
	Total	14	

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S. No. 3, Para No. 3.25)

2.3 The Committee observe that as against the proposal for approval of Rs. 7000 crore, the Planning Commission has approved an amount of only Rs. 5375 crore. Funds sought for have been drastically curtailed in the Other Backward Classes Division (approved outlay of Rs. 716 crore out of proposed Rs. 2020 crore) and in the Social Defence Sector (approved outlay of Rs. 124 crore out of proposed Rs. 223 crore). The Committee are given to understand that in both these sectors the Planning Commission has not been generous and coverage under the Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarships for OBC students would be affected due to budgetary constraints. Since the revision in the Post-matric scholarships are due to be undertaken in the current financial year itself the Committee also feel the curtailment of funds in the OBC division would adversely affect the scheme. Similarly the slashing of funds in Social Defence sector would affect the schemes in that sector. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Ministry to take up

urgently with the Planning Commission the issue of increased allocation for both the sectors for the next financial year.

Reply of the Government

2.4 The matter of enhanced requirement for Backward Classes & Social Defence sectors has been again taken up with the Planning Commission for 2012-13

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.6, Para No. 3.28)

2.5 The Committee are happy to learn that during the year 2011-12 funds have been earmarked for certain new schemes of the Ministry i.e. Pre-matric scholarship for SC students (Rs. 200 crore), Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Centre (Rs. 10.00 crore), Educational Economically Backward Classes (Rs. 5.00 crore), National Overseas Scholarship for OBCs (Rs. 1.00 crore), Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for PwD (Rs. 11.98 crore) and Establishment of National Institute/Centre of Universal Design and Barrier Free Environment (Rs. 0.01 crore). The Committee would like the Ministry to work on the above new schemes and ensure that the money allocated is utilized during 2011-12.

Reply of the Government

2.6 Action taken so far in respect of four of the above schemes is summarized below:--

- (i) Pre-Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Castes Students: A Concept note for the scheme of "Pre-matric Scholarship for needy SC students studying in class IX and X" was sent to the Planning Commission on 28.4.2011 for its 'in principle' approval. Planning Commission conveyed its "in principle" approval vide letter dated 9.11.2011. The EFC apprised and recommended the Scheme in its

meeting held on 27.12.2011. The proposal has now been sent for the approval of the Full Planning Commission.

- (ii) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Centre: A High Level Committee, under the chairmanship of Shri Narendra Jadhav, Member, Planning Commission has been set up vide this Ministry's O.M. dt. 29.11.2011, for, *inter alia*, planning and development of a centre, tentatively titled as "Dr. Ambedkar National Centre for Social Justice", at Janpath, New Delhi. The Committee has been given three months to submit its Report. Action for establishment and construction of the Centre will be taken once the Committee's recommendations become available and have been examined.

- (iii) Establishment of National Institute/Centre of Universal Design and Barrier Free Environment: A Task Force has been set up under DG, CSIR, to consider the modalities for establishment of NCUDBE. The Task Force is expected to submit its Report shortly, based on which NCUDBE would be set up during the XII Plan.

- (iv) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for PwDs: Planning Commission's "in principle" approval for taking up this Scheme has been received in Jan, 2012. The Scheme is now being processed for appraisal by EFC.

Action on the remaining new schemes, mentioned in the above recommendation, is under consideration.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.7, Para No. 3.29)

2.7 The Committee in their earlier Report (4th Report on Demands for Grants, 2010-11) had recommended for introduction of a scheme of Pre-matric scholarship for SC students. The Committee are happy to learn that the Ministry have introduced the Pre-matric scholarship scheme for SC students during the current financial year. However, the Committee are given to understand that under the new scheme, scholarships are proposed to be given to class IX and X students. The Committee feel since the dropout of students is more in lower classes, the new scheme aiming at awarding scholarship to only class IX and X students will not fully serve the purpose and there is a need to provide scholarship to all students i.e. from class I to X. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the scope of the new Pre-matric scholarship for SC students should be expanded in order to cover all students from Class I to Class X

Reply of the Government

2.8 The announcement in the Finance Minister's Budget Speech, 2011-12, was limited to introduction of a new Scholarship Scheme for needy SC students of Class IX and X. Therefore, for the present, action is being taken accordingly. The XII Plan Working Group on "Empowerment for the SCs" set up by the Planning Commission has in its Report, recommended expansion of the Scheme to cover students studying in Class I-X, action on which will be taken in the light of the Plan as finalized.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.10, Para No. 3.32)

2.9 The Committee find that out of plan allocation of 184 crore for the N.E. region and Sikkim for the year 2010-11, the utilization was only 78.9 crore. The reasons for less

expenditure can be attributed to inadequate proposals received from the State Governments, NGOs and other implementing agencies working for the schemes of the Ministry in the region. There have been no release of funds under the schemes of Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna (Girls Hostels), Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship, ALIMCO and Employment of physically challenged and women with disabilities and for construction of Old Age Homes in NE region etc. Considering that a still higher allocation of about Rs. 213.50 crore (i.e. 2% allocation of SC schemes and 10% allocation of the remaining schemes) has been made during the year 2011-12, the Committee desire the Ministry to implement a more focused action plan for their schemes in the NE region of the country so as to have 100% utilization of funds.

Reply of the Government

2.10 To generate awareness about the schemes of the Ministry in the NER and to improve utilization of funds in the region, the following steps are being taken:

- i. A radio programme, called 'Sanwanti Jayen Jeevan Ki Rahen' is being broadcast in all regional languages of the NE States through All India Radio.
- ii. The Ministry has also been seeking help of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) and the North Eastern Council, to impress upon the NE States for sending complete proposals on adequate scale under the various schemes implemented in the region by this Ministry.
- iii. To boost expenditure in the region and identify problems being faced by the State Governments in utilizing the funds, the Ministry has been organizing meetings with Social Welfare Secretaries & other officers of Social Welfare Departments of NER States as well as representatives of non-Government organizations in the region for the last three years. During 2010-11, a meeting with Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, was held on 8.11.2010 at Guwahati wherein various issues related to

development of Scheduled Castes and OBCs were discussed. This was followed by a Regional Meeting with Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries/Representatives of State Governments of North Eastern Region (NER) on the 9th, and a meeting with NGOs and Civil Society Organizations working in various sectors such as Disability, Social Defence [Senior Citizens and Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse], Development of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes from North Eastern Region, on 10th November. Similarly a meeting with Principal Secretaries and Secretaries of Social Welfare/Justice of North Eastern States as well as with NGOs implementing the schemes of the Ministry was held at **Guwahati** on 15-16 November, 2011.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.13, Para No. 4.20)

2.11 The Committee are happy to learn that an ambitious programme of the Ministry, a centrally sponsored Pilot scheme called Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana has been launched for integrated development of 1000 SC majority villages. However, the Committee are disappointed to see that the funds allocated under the scheme which were Rs. 400 crore in the year 2010-11, have been reduced to Rs. 98 crore at the RE stage. The allocation for 2011-12 has been kept again at Rs. 100 crore which is too meagre for implementation of such an important pilot scheme. The Ministry have stated that funds under the scheme were reduced at RE stage, as the Planning Commission had not agreed to Ministry's proposal to increase the 'gap filling' to the scheme from Rs. 10.00 lakh to Rs. 20.00 lakh per village. The Committee are of the view that such an important pilot programme of the Ministry should not suffer for want of funds and therefore recommend that the matter may be vigorously pursued with the Planning Commission so that gap filling funds to the scheme are increased suitably during the next financial year and 12th

plan period. The Committee desire that the Village Development Plans of all the selected five States are completed at the earliest and the scheme is implemented in the most effective manner so that the villages in these States are developed with maximum infrastructure and amenities to meet the standard of ideal villages. The Committee also recommend that subsequently the scope and reach of the scheme should be expanded so as to enable other States/UTs to be part of such an important scheme of providing basic facilities to the villages having sizable SC population.

Reply of the Government

2.12 The proposal of the Ministry to increase the rate of Central Assistance under the “gap-filling” component of PMAGY from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh per village, on an average, was approved by the Government in September, 2011. Consequently, additional Central assistance amounting to Rs.100 crore, on this account, was released to the five concerned States as follows, in September 2011 (except in case Assam where part of the due amount was released in the month of November, 2011):-

(i)	Assam(100 villages)	- Rs. 10.00 crore
(ii)	Bihar (225 villages)	- Rs.22.50 crore
(iii)	Himachal Pradesh (225 villages)	- Rs.22.50 crore
(iv)	Rajasthan (225 villages)	- Rs.22.50 crore
(v)	Tamil Nadu (225 villages)	<u>-Rs.22.50 crore</u>
	Total	<u>Rs.100.00 crore</u>

The Central Advisory Committee constituted for PMAGY under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, with the Minister, Rural Development, as Co-

Chairman, reviewed progress of the Scheme in the five states in its meeting held on 18.11.11, wherein all the participating States were requested to accelerate the implementation of the Scheme. The matter is being followed up with them.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.15, Para No. 4.37)

2.13 The Committee observe that the scheme of Top Class Education for SCs is being implemented since 2007-08 under which SC students studying in selected premier institutions are given scholarships. Although funds to the tune of Rs. 25.00 crore were allocated under the scheme only Rs. 14.15 could be utilized in 2010-11. The Committee find that the number of students availing the scheme has been low since 2008-09 i.e. only 378 people availed of the scheme against a target of 1250 in 2008-09 and 1036 beneficiaries availed the scheme in 2010-11 against the target of 1250. Some of the premier institutes in the country like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, King George Medical College, Lucknow, Indian Statistical Institute (Bangaluru & Kolkata), The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi (TERI) have not granted any scholarships under the scheme. The Committee recommend that the Ministry regularly take up the matter with these institutes through meetings and workshops enlightening them about the scheme and persuading them to avail the fund and subsequently grant scholarships so that more and more students take benefit under the scheme. The Committee also feel that three years is sufficient time to evaluate the performance of a scheme and since the scheme has already completed three years, entering the fourth year of its running, the Ministry need to take steps for evaluation of the scheme so as to get comprehensive details about the implementation aspect for future and perspective planning

Reply of the Government

2.14 The matter has been vigorously pursued with the institutions notified under the scheme. This Ministry is regularly taking up the matter with the institutions for submission of proposals. During the current year all the Institutions were advised to forward the proposals which was followed up by reminder dated 6/09/11. A DO from Joint Secretary was sent to 72 institutions with highly unsatisfactory performance on 16/6/11. On the request of this Ministry, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) organized a meeting on 30/7/11 to discuss the Scheme, under the chairmanship of Special Secretary, MHRD. Representatives from Institutions under that Ministry specified under the Scheme attended the Meeting wherein they were urged to forward applications of eligible SC candidates under the Scheme urged. Enhancement of the current parental income ceiling (of Rs. 2 lakh p.a.) for eligibility for Scholarship under the Scheme is under active consideration, as this is felt to be a major reason for under utilization of the 1250 Scholarship available under the scheme annually. Evaluation of the scheme will be undertaken in 2012-13.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.16, Para No. 5.6)

2.15 The Committee have been informed that the objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the OBC students studying at post-matriculation or post secondary stage to enable them to complete their education. The scholarships are awarded through the State Governments/UT Administration to which the applicant actually belongs and under the scheme 100% central assistance is provided to State Government/UT Administration over and above the committed liability. The demand from States/UTs under the scheme has been much higher than budget allocation in the past. However, during the

year 2010-11 out of an allocation of Rs. 379 crore the expenditure has been Rs. 353.32 crore and the main reason for less expenditure has been attributed to non-receipt of sufficient proposals from North East States. The Committee are given to understand that since the scholarship scheme is proposed to be revised, a higher outgo to the State Governments is expected during 2011-12 on account of increase in income ceiling and rates of maintenance allowance, for which an increased allocation during 2011-12 i.e. Rs. 535 crore has been earmarked. As this is an important scheme for educational development of OBCs, the Committee fully endorse the increased allocation and also recommend that the allocation under the scheme during the 12th plan should be suitably enhanced. The Committee are, however, dismayed to learn that though the proposal for revision of Post-matric scholarship for SCs has already got the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on 30.12.2010 the proposal for revision of Post-matric scholarships for OBCs is still pending. The reasons cited by the Ministry in this regard are non-explanatory as they have attributed the delay in revisions to non-approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs to the scheme and announcement of elections in five States/UTs. However, the Committee feel that the issue of revision of OBC scholarships was not taken with due care for which the revisions could not be effected during the current financial year itself. If the proposal had been mooted and processed in time the scheme could have been revised along with the revisions in the Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for SCs. The Committee recommend that the matter may be resolved at the earliest and approval for the revisions are obtained at once so that the OBC students also benefit from revisions in scholarships.

Reply of the Government

2.16 The Post matric Scholarship Scheme for OBC students has been revised w.e.f. 1.7.2011. The revision has been communicated to all States/UTs vide this Ministry's letter

dated 11.08.2011 (**Annexure IV**) with a request to submit proposals for Central assistance as per revised norms.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.17, Para No. 6.9)

2.17 The Committee understands that the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act (PwD Act), 1995 came into effect on 1.1.1996. Keeping in view the developments in disability sector over 15 years and to harmonize the provisions of the Act with the United Nations Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and other legislative provisions, it is proposed to amend the Act. A Committee has been constituted for this purpose which will submit its draft legislation by 30th June, 2011. The Committee desire the Ministry to ensure that the aforesaid legislation is finalized and placed in Parliament at the earliest so that the amended Act comes into force in this year itself.

Reply of the Government

2.18 The above Committee submitted its Report, inclusive draft of a new Bill, on 30.6.2011, after which the follow action has been taken:

- (i) The recommended draft Bill has been uploaded on the Ministry's website, seeking comments from the public,
- (ii) 17 concerned Central Ministries and Departments have been consulted on the provisions of the Draft Bill pertaining to them.

- (iii) The draft Bill was also discussed in a meeting of the Central Coordination Committee, set up u/s 3 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 on 12th November, 2011.

The Ministry will also be consulting States, in whose domain 'disability' figures under the constitutional scheme, on the proposed Bill, and will take step, to introduce it in Parliament at the earliest after consultations with State Governments and other stakeholders are completed.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S. No.18, Para No. 6.10)

2.19 The Committee find that the budgetary provisions for the implementation of the PwD Act had been kept at Rs. 100 crore at BE stage which was revised to Rs. 75 crore at RE stage. However, the actual expenditure has been only Rs. 50.41 crore. The allocation had been enhanced from Rs. 20 crore in 2009-10 with a view to give thrust on providing accessible and barrier free environment to persons with disabilities and to make Government websites at State and District level accessible to PwDs. The Committee are however unhappy to note that enhanced allocation for 2010-11 could not be fully utilized as the proposals were not received from State Governments in time. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry are working in the right direction as making the public places disabled friendly will definitely have a salutary effect on the problems being faced by the people with disability. The Committee, therefore, recommend that State Governments be adequately sensitized in the matter and asked to send complete proposals well in time so as to have full utilization of funds in the current financial year.

Reply of the Government

2.20 States were informed about their notional allocation for the year 2011-12, and were requested to send their proposals for Central Assistance under SIPDA for the following two activities, vide letters dated 25th and 26th May, 2011:-

- (i) To provide barrier free environment in important Government buildings for persons with Disabilities and
- (ii) To make Government websites at State and District level accessible to PwDs.

The issue was also discussed in the Conference of State Ministers of Welfare and Social Justice held on 17th to 18th June, 2011 at New Delhi wherein State Governments were again requested to send adequate proposals under the Scheme to the Ministry.

All efforts are being made to utilize allocation under the scheme in 2011-12, to the maximum possible extent.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.21, Para No. 7.18)

2.21 The Committee are given to understand that the scheme of Assistance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse is being implemented for identification, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation of addicts through voluntary and other eligible organizations. Although an allocation of Rs. 41 crore had been made for the scheme only a little more than half i.e. Rs. 29.31 crore could be used. The Committee feel that there is a need to sensitize more and more State Governments to send adequate number of proposals under the scheme. The Committee are also baffled by the fact that no authentic data is available with the Ministry on the number of persons affected by alcoholism and drug abuse. Although sample surveys had been carried out by NSSO in a

few States of Punjab, Manipur and Mumbai the pilot survey has been limited to the cities of Amritsar, Imphal, and Mumbai. In view of the alarming nature of the problem, the Committee feel that concerted efforts need to be made for collecting authentic data on the number of persons affected by Alcoholism and drug abuse. For this, baseline data could be collected from State run hospitals and drug de-addiction and rehabilitation centres to find out the severity and magnitude of the problem. The Committee also feel that awareness generation being an important component of overall preventive strategy to deal with this menace having multi dimensional manifestations in present times having negative impact on society, awareness campaigns in this regard should be wide spread among the youths in schools and colleges. The Committee recommend that a separate fund should be created by the Ministry with funds exclusively earmarked for this purpose.

Reply of the Government

2.22 On the request of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, a Pilot Survey was carried out by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) in March-April, 2010 in the cities of Amritsar, Imphal and Mumbai using the method of Network Sampling to test the efficacy of sampling design and survey instrument to be adopted for a national survey. NSSO submitted the draft report of pilot survey to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in January 2011. From the draft report, it was observed that the pilot survey did not seem to give a realistic picture of the prevalence of drug abuse. It was therefore decided that on the basis of experience gained, an advanced pilot survey in 3 States viz. Punjab, Maharashtra and Manipur should be conducted in which left-out groups like street children, homeless and educational institutions should form part of the sample to be surveyed. Accordingly, NSSO has been requested to carry out the advanced pilot survey in Maharashtra, Manipur and Punjab. A Joint Coordination Committee comprising representatives of MSJE, Ministry of Statics and Programme Implementation, NSSO,

concerned State Governments and other concerned Ministries/organization has been constituted to finalize and monitor the Survey.

The Central Sector scheme of Assistance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug Abuse) is being implemented for awareness generation, identification, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation of addicts through voluntary organization. Concerted efforts have been made by the Ministry to get adequate number of project proposals from the State Governments so that fund allocated for the Scheme is fully utilized. State Governments are requested at regular intervals to send adequate number of project proposals. Progress of implementation of the Scheme is also reviewed during the annual State Welfare Ministers/Secretaries Conference wherein State Governments are requested to send adequate number of project proposals.

The Ministry, in collaboration with National Bal Bhawan, has started an awareness generation programme among the children of the age group of 12-16 years regarding the evil of substance abuse. The project is to be implemented by National Bal Bhawan through its network of 155 affiliated Bal Bhavans and 77 Bal Kendras during the current year. Awareness about ill effects of drugs will be generated among children through activities like poster making, creative writing, lectures, rallies, nukkad natak etc. The cost of the project is Rs.1.06 crore.

Similarly, in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan, this Ministry has started an awareness generation programme in Punjab and Manipur covering 3000 villages of 10 Districts in Punjab and 750 villages of 7 Districts of Manipur. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan through its network of volunteers at village level will create awareness about the ill effects of alcoholism and Substance (Drug) abuse among the rural masses through door to door campaign, candle march, poster campaign, street play etc. The programme will be completed in one year.

The Ministry spends money for awareness generation about its schemes, including the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse from its Medic Budget.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

CHAPTER – III

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

Recommendation (S.No.5, Para No. 3.27)

3.1 The Committee have been told that for 12th Five Year Plan four working groups have been set up i.e. for empowerment of PwD, empowerment of SCs, empowerment of OBCs and Nomadic and semi-nomadic and DNTS and for Social Welfare which would make projections for financial resources under the various schemes/programmes of the Ministry for the next Five Year Plan. The Committee while hoping that the Ministry would succeed in making better projections for 12th plan recommend that they should lay thrust on key areas of development of SCs and OBCs as also seek more allocation for Social Defence and Disability areas which need to be given a boost with more funds and schemes. The Ministry should judiciously review the requirement of funds for all their schemes and seek appropriate funds for the 12th Plan period so as to give maximum benefit to the target groups which are covered under various schemes

Reply of the Government

3.2 The four XII Plan Working Groups have, in their reports submitted to the Planning Commission in October, 2011, projected need based financial requirements for their respective sectors for the XII Plan period.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.9, Para No. 3.31)

3.3 The Committee are unhappy to note that the utilization of funds in the disability sector during 2010-11 has been far from satisfaction i.e. Rs. 314.19 crore out of BE of Rs.

450 crore. It is also observed that out of the seven National Institutes only two could utilize their funds optimally and as many as five Institutes could not utilize their planned funds in full. The Committee have been informed that one of the main reasons for lower expenditure in the disability sector has been that there was no Joint Secretary (disability) for four months of the financial year. The Joint Secretary is also the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the seven National Institutes, which clears a number of expenditure proposals. The Committee feel that the approach of the Ministry in the matter has been very casual and non-serious as the post of Joint Secretary lying vacant for so long should have been avoided and some action should have been initiated immediately to fill the post keeping in mind the fact that the vacancy of the post of Joint Secretary would directly affect both the sanction of funds as well as sanction of projects. The Committee view the lapse to be rather serious in nature and direct the Ministry to ensure that it does not recur in future.

Reply of the Government

3.4 Filling up of vacancies at the level of Joint Secretaries lies within the purview of the Dept. of Personnel and Training, and is constantly taken up with that Department whenever vacancy is likely to arise or remains unfilled.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

CHAPTER – 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

Recommendation (S.No.2, Para No. 3.24)

4.1 The Committee note that against the plan allocation of Rs. 4524.04 crore (BE) which was reduced to Rs. 4300 crore, at RE stage, the Ministry has achieved an expenditure of Rs. 4185.93 crore. The Committee find that two important divisions of the Ministry i.e. the Disability Division and the Social Defence Division could not utilize full funds allocated to them (utilization of Rs. 314.19 crore out of Rs. 450.01 crore and 76.12 crore out of Rs. 222.01 crore respectively). Also there was a saving due to non-receipt of sufficient proposals from State Governments/voluntary organizations located in the North Eastern region. The budgetary allocation of the Ministry for the year 2011-12 has been enhanced to Rs. 5375 crore and the Committee are given to understand that the additionality of fund requirement in 2011-12 is mainly for post-matric scholarship for SCs and OBCs and a new scheme on pre-matric scholarship for SCs. The Committee while expressing their unhappiness over the Ministry's not-so-satisfactory performance in various schemes due to which there was underutilization and surrender of funds during the year 2010-2011 recommend that the Ministry should make maximum efforts to utilize the entire funds allocated to them for the year 2011-12. Adequate precautionary steps in way of review of utilization of funds at suitable intervals, tight monitoring of various schemes and persuading the States to send the proposals well in advance etc. should be undertaken so as to avoid surrender of funds. The Committee strongly recommends that the Ministry should focus itself in key areas like Disability sector and Social Defence sector where the financial and physical performance has been slow in the past. The Ministry

while allocating funds to various NGOs should also intimate about the same to concerned MPs in whose constituency the NGO is working so that they can also monitor the implementation of the scheme and utilization of funds.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The Ministry is continuously making efforts to further improve its utilization of Plan outlay especially in the Disability and Social Defence sectors. As a step in that direction, sanctioning powers delegated to Joint Secretary/Special Secretary/Secretary of the Ministry have been doubled in November, 2011.

As regards the involvement of MPs in whose constituency an NGO is working, in monitoring its progress and utilization of funds, a proposal for constitution of Vigilance-cum-Monitoring Committees at the State and district levels is under active consideration, in consultation with the Planning Commission. These Committees would be expected to keep a regular watch on the implementation of the Programmes as per the prescribed procedures and guidelines. These Committees would, *inter alia*, include Members of Parliament, State Legislatures and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

The suggestion of the Committee to endorse a copy of the sanction letters of Grant in aid released to NGO(s), to the concerned MPs, in whose constituency the particular NGO is working, is being examined.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (S.No.4, Para No. 3.26)

4.3 The Committee note that the scheme for Post-matric Scholarship to students belonging to SCs has been revised with effect from 1st July, 2010 which has raised the parental income ceiling for eligibility from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 2.00 lakh and also there is a proposal to increase the income ceiling and scholarship rates under the scheme of Post-matric scholarship for OBCs. The Committee desire that parental income ceiling for availing the scholarships in both the schemes of Post-matric Scholarship for SCs and Post-matric Scholarship for OBCs should be revised upwardly to Rs. 3.00 lakh so that more students can avail the scholarships.

Reply of the Government

4.4 Parental income ceiling under the scheme of PMS for OBCs has been revised from Rs.44,500/- to Rs.1.0 lakh p.a. w.e.f. 1.7.2011. Further revision of the Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for SC & OBC students would be undertaken in the XII Plan.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Comments of the Committee

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

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.19, Para No. 6.11)

4.5 Further the Committee note that the setting up of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) is one of the areas where funds have been earmarked under the scheme of SIPDA. In pursuance with the Finance Minister's Budget speech (2010-11), 50 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and 2 Composite Rehabilitation Centres(CRCs) were proposed to be set up during the year, however against the above target only 21 DDRCs could be sanctioned. Apart from non-receipt of proposals from State Governments non-availability of rent free accommodation have been cited as problems for DDRCs. Also, the District Management Team headed by the District Collector finds it difficult to identify the implementing agency suitable for such work as also non-availability of skilled manpower. The Committee are given to understand that some of the guidelines for assistance to DDRCs have been revised to address the above problems. However, the Committee feel that the Ministry need to find a solution to other major concerns like finding implementing agencies and skilled manpower for setting up DDRCs. The Committee recommend that a specific team/task force should be appointed for the purpose so that it can help to resolve the local issues and the requisite number of DDRCs as per target are set up and made functional with all infrastructure and manpower facilities covering maximum number of districts in the States.

Reply of the Government

4.6 Setting up of DDRCs involves a number of steps, including identification of suitable implementing agency possessing requisite expertise, at the District level, which is to be done by the concerned State Government, and as such, appointment of a task force at the Central level may not serve much purpose. However, the concerned State Governments are being regularly pursued to expeditiously send their complete proposals.

21 DDRCs were sanctioned in 2010-11 and 5 more DDRCs have been sanctioned till date in 2011-12. Proposals have been received in respect of another 62 DDRCs but have been found on scrutiny to be deficient. The Ministry has taken up the matter with the concerned States to remove the deficiencies.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (S.No.20, Para No. 7.9)

4.7 The Committee observe that the Ministry has been running Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons since 1992 under which grants-in-aid is given to Non-Government organizations for running of Old Age Homes (OAH), Day Care Centres (DCC) and Mobile Medicare Units (MMU). The scheme was revised in 2008 to include new projects like maintenance of Respite Care Homes and Continuous Care Homes, running of Multi Service Centres for older persons, running of Day Care Centres for Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons, training of care givers etc. However, the Committee observe that despite the revision of the scheme widening its scope, only 50% of the funds released could be utilized during the year 2010-11 the reason being non-receipt of adequate number of proposals, incomplete proposals and late proposals. The Committee desire that matters concerning the older persons need to be given proper attention in India as Governments in other countries of the world have taken a step forward to provide basic facilities to older persons as the responsibility of the State and implementation of programmes concerning older persons in States should be addressed with utmost priority. The Committee are dismayed to note that an important scheme of the Ministry i.e. the scheme of Construction of Old Age Homes for Senior

Citizens could not be launched during 2010-11, even though an allocation of Rs. 100 crore had been made specifically for the purpose during 2010-11. It is more disheartening to note that the scheme has been pushed to further uncertainty as no funds have been kept for the scheme during 2011-12. With the Rs. 100 crore allocation during the year 2010-11, the Ministry should have taken up the matter with Planning Commission for launching of the scheme at least on a pilot basis with smaller targets. Under Section 19 of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 the care of older persons and senior citizens is the primary responsibility of the Government and hence their basic needs can be catered to a great extent by construction of Old Age Homes in each district. Therefore, the Committee desire early and expeditious action in the matter. Now that the preparations for 12th plan allocations are under way, the Committee recommends that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment will appropriately take up the matter with the Planning Commission and work on a viable proposal to be launched during the 12th plan.

Reply of the Government

4.8 (i) Integrated Programme for Older Persons

The scheme was revised in 2008 to include new projects like maintenance of Respite Care Homes and Continuous Care Homes, running of Multi Service Centres for older persons, running of Day Care Centres for Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons, training of care givers etc. However, the pace of expenditure under the Scheme continues to be unsatisfactory, though concerted efforts are being made by the Ministry to get adequate number of project proposals from the State Governments. Financial norms prescribed under the Scheme are also not attractive enough for the NGOs to submit proposals for financial assistance under it. Therefore,

keeping in view the rise in cost of the living index, a Committee has been constituted to recommend revision in the financial norms under the scheme.

(ii) Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens:

Sub section (i) of Section 19 ("Establishment of old age Home") of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 reads as follows:-

"The State Government may establish and maintain such number of old age homes at accessible places, as it may deem necessary, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate in such homes a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent"

To assist State Governments in the discharge of the above statutory responsibility, the Ministry had initially formulated a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens for construction of old age homes for indigent senior citizens in 300 districts of the country during the XI Plan, at a cost of Rs 635 crore so as to cover at least 50% of the districts in the country during the XI Plan. The Ministry's XI Plan, however, had a provision of only Rs. 60 crore for this new Scheme. On the advice of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure, the scheme was then recast to fit within the allocation of Rs. 60 crore with a physical target of only 100 old age homes in the 11th Plan, and a reduced pattern of central assistance. Although the Ministry did so as per the advice given by the Planning Commission, when the revised scheme was sent for the Commission's approval, it conveyed vide its letter dated 30th July, 2009, that the scheme has not been approved on the ground that a token approach for setting up old age homes would not serve any purpose and the position would be reviewed during mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Plan. As a result, the plan outlay of Rs. 13 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 15 crore in 2009-10 could not be utilized.

Pursuant to a substantial increase in the Ministry's overall Plan outlay in 2010-11, Rs.100 crore was allowed for the above Scheme in that year's budget, and a fresh proposal for introducing it was sent for the approval of the Planning Commission on 9.8.2010. The Commission however again rejected the proposal saying that it would be conducting a zero base budgeting exercise in the terminal year of XI plan and advised this Ministry to take up the proposal before the XII Five Year Plan Working Group. The allocation for the Scheme was therefore reduced to Rs1.00 crore at R.E. stage due to non-approval by Planning Commission.

The XII Plan Working Group on Social Welfare, constituted by the Planning Commission, has also recommended introduction of the above scheme, and its Report is under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.16 of Chapter – I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V

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

Recommendation (S.No.8, Para No. 3.30)

5.1 The Committee observe that a large number of utilization certificates are outstanding in respect of grants released to the States upto March, 2008. The No. of UCs outstanding as on 31.12.2009 stood at 11708 and the amount involved was Rs. 835.27 crore. Despite the best efforts of the Ministry in monitoring the receipt of the utilization certificates, this remains a major problem area for the Ministry. The Ministry have informed that no further grants are released by the Ministry to the voluntary organizations/implementing agencies without obtaining and accepting the UCs of the grants released in the previous year. The Committee are dismayed to note that during 2010-11, funds to many States/UT could not be released due to non-receipt of UCs under various schemes of the Ministry like Pre-matric scholarship scheme for OBCs, Post-matric scholarship for OBCs, construction of Hostels for OBCs, SCA to SCSP etc. However, in the opinion of the Committee, when the Ministry do not release funds to the States/UTs ultimately it is the disadvantaged section who suffer because they are the target groups and the funds under various schemes are meant for their betterment. Therefore, the Committee would like the Ministry to take a more pragmatic and judicious approach in the matter of withholding the release of funds to States. The steps taken in the matter should be more persuasive in nature rather than stringent, specially in the scholarship schemes which directly affect the educational development of SC/OBC students. As for the pendency of UCs, the Committee recommend that special drives should be undertaken State-wise to obtain utilization certificates as this is also a method of evaluation of the proper/utilization of funds available under the scheme.

Reply of the Government

5.2 The requirement of obtaining due Utilisation Certificates from implementing agencies is a pre-requisite under General Financial Rules of the Government of India, for release of further grants-in-aid/ financial assistance to implementing agencies. All the implementing Agencies are periodically requested to send pending Utilization Certificates for previous releases. Further grant is considered for release after receiving satisfactory report on utilization of funds released in the past. The matter is regularly pursued with states, so that the interests of the target groups are not adversely affected.

This matter was taken up in the three regional review meetings with the State Governments held in 2010-11, and reiterated in the State Social Welfare Ministers' Conference held in 17-18 June, 2011. The Ministry will continue to closely monitor the pendency of utilization of certificates, and take appropriate action for its reduction.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.11, Para No. 4.12)

5.3 The Committee note that the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) is an umbrella strategy to ensure earmarking of funds for development of Scheduled Castes in proportion to their population by the Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs. The Ministry provide Special Central Assistance (SCA) to States as an additive to their own Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP). At present 27 States/UTs having sizable SC population are implementing Scheduled Castes Sub Plan. The allocation made is based on the percentage of SC population as per 2001 census. The Committee are unhappy to note that the percentage of expenditure over the outlay of the SCSP scheme has been hovering at around 14.5% since 2008-09 and not all the States are allocating funds in

proportion to their SC population. In some States such as Karnataka, Gujarat, Assam, Haryana, Sikkim etc., the percentage of SCSP outlay over plan outlay falls far short of their percentage of SC population. The availability of data on the No. of BPL families who have been assisted is also very limited. Only 2 States have furnished the figures for the number of BPL families who were assisted and who crossed the poverty line in the year 2007-08. The Committee have taken a serious note of this and desire that they should be informed why the data could not be collected and furnished by the other States. The Committee further recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter with States not allocating funds in proportion to SC population and persuade them to allocate funds as per the laid down norms. Attempts should also be made to collect data on BPL families who have crossed the poverty line after getting assistance under SCSP.

Reply of the Government

5.4 I. Allocation of Population-proportionate Funds by States under SCSP.

The outlays earmarked by the concerned States/UTs under SCSP vis-à-vis proportion of SCs in respective States' population from 2007-08 to 2010-11 is enclosed at **Annexure-II**. The Statement at the Annexure brings out that, in the year 2010-11, of the 27 States/UTs which need to earmark outlay under SCSP:-

- (i) 15 States/UTs did so to the required extent or more,
- (ii) in the case of 6 States/UTs, the shortfall was less than 15%, and
- (iii) in the case of 6 States/UTs, the shortfall was more than 15%

The Ministry will continue to pursue with states which have had a shortfall in allocating of their plan outlays under SCSP

II. Data on Beneficiaries of SCA to SCSP who have crossed the Poverty Line

The Ministry is constantly pursuing concerned States/UTs to furnish data on the number of beneficiaries of the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, who have crossed the poverty line. The list of States which have furnished the data on BPL beneficiaries under SCA to SCSP for the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is enclosed at **Annexure-III**, the abstract of which is given below:

The year of extending assistance	No. of States, UTs (out of a total of 27 concerned States/UTs) from which information regarding No. of beneficiaries who were able to cross the poverty line, has been received
2005-06	20
2006-07	9
2007-08	9

The matter is being regularly pursued with defaulting at various levels, including through letters from the Union Minister, SJ&E, to the Chief Ministers.

The Ministry had also requested the Programme Evaluation Organization, Planning Commission, to conduct a national level evaluation of the flagship programmes of the Ministry, including Scheme of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). The Programme Evaluation Organization has informed that the evaluation of the SCA to SCSP scheme has been entrusted to the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad. The final report of the study is likely to be received from the NIRD by the end of July, 2012.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.12, Para No. 4.13)

5.5 Regarding the funds under SCA to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan the Committee have been informed that the matter has been continuously taken up by the Minister (Social Justice and Empowerment) with the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and also the Finance Minister for enhanced allocation. The budgetary allocation for the scheme has also been enhanced from Rs. 600 crore in 2010-11 to Rs. 775 crore in 2011-12 i.e. an enhancement of Rs. 175 crore. The Committee note that the main objective of the plan is to give thrust to the development programmes for SCs with reference to their occupational pattern and the need for increasing the productivity of and income from their limited resources. Under the scheme, the State Governments have been given the flexibility to use the funds for subsidy against loan to the SC BPL persons for self employment and training and development of infrastructure. The scheme is proposed to be revised in the 12th plan by enhancing the maximum amount of subsidy admissible under the scheme from the present Rs. 10,000/- per beneficiary and also to make villages having 40% or more SC population eligible for infrastructure development programmes rather than 50% SC population villages. The Committee feel that there are loopholes in the implementation of the scheme as data on the No. of families who have crossed the poverty line is very vague. The Committee recommend that the scheme be revamped in the 12th plan period by enforcing strict guidelines on the State Governments for implementation of the scheme. Certain benchmarks and guidelines need to be fixed for selecting the beneficiary as also some definite feedback mechanism also needs to be fixed as to how the scheme has elevated the BPL families in the States. The Committee also recommend that there should be a reassessment of the SC population villages eligible for infrastructure development programmes and the ceiling of 40% population for eligibility should also be reviewed.

Reply of the Government

5.6 Observation of the Committee will be kept in mind while revising the Scheme of SCA to SCSP in the 12th Plan.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

Recommendation (S.No.14, Para No. 4.28)

5.7 The Committee note that the primary objective of the scheme is to provide hostel facilities to SC Boys and Girls studying in middle schools, higher secondary schools, colleges and universities with broader vision of retention and reduction of their dropout rate in educational institutes. The State Governments/UTs and the Central and State universities/Institutions are eligible for central assistance for construction of hostels or expansion of hostel facilities while NGOs and deemed universities get grants only for expansion. The actual expenditure under both heads of boys hostels and girls hostels has been comparatively less than the allocation made in 2010-11 (against allocation of Rs. 80.00 for girls hostels only Rs. 43.91 crore could be utilized and against allocation of Rs. 50.00 crore for boys hostel only Rs. 34.28 crore was utilized). During the last two years against 53 girls hostels and 61 boys hostels sanctioned the number of hostels completed is 'Nil'. Even if the two year gestation period for completion of hostels is taken into account, the achievement during the year 2008-09 has not been satisfactory since out of 64 and 45 hostels sanctioned respectively for girls and boys only one and four hostels respectively could be completed. The Committee take serious note of this and desire that since funds under the scheme are not a constraint, the Ministry should impress upon the State Governments to take expeditious action to ensure that hostel accommodation for SC boys and girls is developed at the earliest as per target date.

The Committee further feel that rates of subsistence allowance given to the hosteller/students staying in hostels is far too less even after its revision on 31-12-2010. The Committee recommend that these rates should be suitably revised upwardly especially to meet the needs of the students who are staying far away from their houses in hostel accommodation for pursuing their education.

Reply of the Government

5.8 The matter of accelerating progress under BJRCY will be pursued with the concerned States/UTs. Further Central assistance is considered for release only after receiving satisfactory progress report on construction of the hostels sanctioned earlier and utilization certificates.

The recommendation of the Committee regarding further revision of subsistence allowance for hostellers would be considered when the next revision is undertaken of the Scheme of Post-matric Scholarship for SC students.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-9/2011(PS)/PREM dated 31.1.2012)

NEW DELHI
05 March, 2012
15 Phalguna, 1932 (Saka)

DARA SINGH CHAUHAN
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and Empowerment

Annexure – I

S. No.	Para No.	Recommendation	Status of Implementation
1	2.23	<p>The Committee have noted that while separate provisions have been made by the Ministry for educational development of SCs with Rs. 2115 crore and OBCs with Rs. 455 crore such a provision has not been made under the head of educational development of the persons with disability. The Committee have also been informed that earlier too there was a Centrally sponsored scheme of providing scholarship to students with disability which has since been transferred to States in the 90's. What is more disheartening to note is that it was a conscious decision of the Government of India taken up by Planning Commission and the Ministry was also a party to this decision. The Ministry's argument that the educational development needs of the persons with disability are taken care of by other schemes such as Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) does not hold water as SSA being a big umbrella programme with provisions for all sections of society cannot give focused attention to the holistic educational requirements of the persons with disability. As far as States are concerned they have their own resource constraints. Educational development is the key for overall development and security of this section and keeping in view the priority given to education by the Government, the right to education made a fundamental right under Part III of the Constitution, it is imperative that the educational needs of the persons with disability are taken care of. For this, the Committee recommend the Ministry not to deviate from this priority and urgently make some provision under the head educational development of the persons with disability. The Ministry should revive the earlier provision/scheme in this direction and act to provide some kind of scholarship to the students with disability. The Committee may be apprised of the progress made in this regard as early as possible.</p>	<p>“Disability” is in the State list. As per available information, the following 16 State Governments are implementing their own scholarship Schemes for students with disability:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bihar 2. Chhattisgarh 3. Haryana 4. Jharkhand 5. Karnataka 6. Maharashtra 7. Orissa 8. Punjab 9. Rajasthan 10. Tamil Nadu 11. Uttarakhand 12. West Bengal 13. Assam 14. Meghalaya 15. Nagaland 16. Goa. <p>Special provision for students with disabilities under SSA has been enhanced from Rs.1200/- per child to Rs.3000/- per child w.e.f. 2010-11.</p> <p>The Ministry is also offering a total of 1500 scholarships per year for students with disabilities from two funds with which it is administratively concerned:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Fund for People with Disabilities – 500 scholarships 2. Comptroller and Auditor General of India Trust Fund for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities – 1000 scholarships <p>The above scholarships are being administered through the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation.</p> <p>The Ministry's Plan Budget for 2011-12 includes a provision of Rs. 11.98 crore to introduce a new Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) scheme for students with disabilities, to pursue M. Phil & Ph. D programmes on the line of the existing RGNF for SC & ST students..</p> <p>The XII Plan Working Group on Disability has recommended a comprehensive set of scholarships, for students with disabilities. Their implementation would depend on the</p>

			final XII Plan allocation.
2	2.25	<p>The Committee observes that for most of the NGO related programmes/schemes run by the Ministry, substantial amount of funds were released at the fag end of the financial year i.e. January to March. While the Secretary during the evidence has tried to justify the above action by saying that the release of funds to NGOs particularly in the case of schemes on disability and social defence sector during the last quarter of the financial year is O.K. with the Ministry because the NGOs still have sufficient time/full year to utilize the amount. However, in the opinion of the Committee this is clearly against the sound budgetary principle, as funds released at the fag end are prone to be diverted and mis-utilized and most of the time not subject to any kind of audit and monitoring. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should ensure that proposals complete in all respects are received well in advance preferably at the commencement of the financial year and processed expeditiously in batches. Due care should be taken at this stage only so as to avoid the undesirable trend of rushing release of funds at the end of the financial year.</p>	<p>The Ministry on its part makes all efforts to get complete proposals, with State Government's recommendations, on time. However, the response of NGOs and State Governments to this has been uneven. The Ministry is continuing to vigorously pursue the matter with them.</p>
3	2.26	<p>On the launching of the Pre-matric scholarship to cover all SC students, the Committee during their examination of the Demands for Grants for 2009-10 had been informed that the concept note for initiation of the scheme has been sent to the Planning Commission, which has already approved it in principle. However, since the financial implications were high, the scheme could not be launched during the last budget and it would be mooted only when there is an enhancement of allocation. Now after having a look at the current Budget, the Committee fails to understand as to why the scheme of Pre-matric scholarship for all SC students does not feature in the</p>	<p>Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme for all SCs could not be incorporated in the Ministry's Plan budget of 2010-11 despite significant increase in its Plan allocation as the increase was enough only to enable long pending revision of Post-matric Scholarship for SC and OBC students.</p> <p>A new Centrally- sponsored "Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste Students" studying in classes IX & X has now been announced in the budget speech, 2011-12. This would benefit estimated 43 lakh S.C. students. An allocation of Rs.200 crore has been provided for this purpose in the Ministry's budget for the year 2011-12 which will need to be augmented. Action is</p>

		<p>current budget though there has been considerable enhancement in the budgetary allocation. The Secretary, during the evidence has submitted that things have been put off till formulation of the XII Five Year Plan in this regard. The Committee view this serious lapse on the part of the Ministry because during the current budget exercise itself some kind of provision of Pre-matric scholarship covering all SC students should have been initiated. The Committee directs the Ministry to take note of this and take necessary action in this regard so that the scheme is able to take off at least during the next financial year.</p>	<p>being taken to obtain approval of the competent authority on the detailed scheme.</p>
4	2.27	<p>The Committee note that funds to the tune of Rs. 100 crore could not be utilized in full and got blocked under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana because of non approval of the scheme by the Planning Commission. The Committee also observes that the Planning Commission has now approved the scheme on 11.3.2010 and an allocation of Rs. 400 crore has been made for the scheme during 2010-11. The scheme being a flagship programme of the Ministry aims at the integrated development of villages having more than 50% Scheduled Caste population through convergent implementation of existing Central and State schemes. Since a huge amount of Rs. 400 crore has been earmarked for the scheme, efforts should be made for successful implementation of the said programme during 2010-11 by utilizing the entire amount allocated for the purpose. The Committee also recommend the Ministry to look into the reasons for under –utilization/non-utilization of funds under the schemes of Construction of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens, Financial Assistance to Women with Disability to look after their children after birth and Educational and Economical Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes, B. R. Ambedkar Foundation, Spinal Injury Centre, Research and Training and take suitable remedial</p>	<p>Full budgeted amount was released to B. R. Ambedkar Foundation and the Spinal Injury Centre during 2010-11. The position in regard to other schemes is briefly given below:</p> <p><i>(i) Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAGY):</i> Finance Minister had announced introduction of a new Centrally sponsored Pilot Scheme of “Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAGY)” in 1000 SC-majority villages of the country in his budget speech 2009-10, and Rs.100 crore had been provided for the purpose. The scheme was approved on 13.3.2010 and its guidelines were circulated to the concerned five States (and Central Ministries) on 16.3.2010. Under the first phase of the pilot Scheme, integrated development of 1000 SC-majority villages located in five States U.P., Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu (225 villages each) and Assam (100 villages) was to be taken up - primarily through convergent implementation of all relevant Central and State schemes. To the extent needs of the identified villages cannot be met through convergence, they are to be met through ‘gap-filling’ funds for which Central assistance is to be provided @ Rs.10.0 lakh per village with State Governments expected to contribute a</p>

measures to avoid the repeated under-utilization/non-utilization of funds in these schemes.

matching share.

Since Uttar Pradesh did not agree to implement the Scheme despite persuasion, therefore, it was been decided in January 2011 to replace it with Himachal Pradesh.

So far, based on complete proposals received from Bihar, Rajasthan, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, full admissible amount of Central assistance under the scheme has been released to these States, as per the details given below:

Release of Central Assistance under Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme of PMAGY (Amount in Rs. crore)				
State	District	No. of Blocks from which villages have been selected	No. of selected villages	CA Released up to 31.3.11 (incl. amt released in March, 2010)
Rajasthan	Sri Ganga nagar	3	160	22.725
	Hanuman garh	2	65	
Sub Total	2	5	225	
Tamil Nadu	Tiruvarur	10	157	22.725
	Cuddalore	3	68	
Sub Total	2	13	225	
Bihar	Gaya	16	225	22.725
Sub Total	1	16	225	
Assam	Nowgaon	13	50	10.10
	Morigaon	4	50	
Sub Total	2	17	100	
Himachal Pradesh	Sirmour	5	125	22.725
	Solan	4	100	
Sub Total	2	10	225	
Grand Total	9	61	1000	101.00

The Planning Commission vide their D.O letter dated 1-11-2010 had suggested that the Ministry may first complete the exercise of covering 1000 villages and evaluate its impact. Therefore, the Commission did not agree to the proposal of the Ministry to increase rate of Central Assistance from Rs 10.00 lakh to 20.00 lakh per village. Hence Budget Estimate of Rs 400.00 crore was reduced to Rs 98.00 crore at Revised Estimate stage, out of which an amount of Rs. 97.00 crore was released up to 31.3.2011.

The allocation for 2011-12 for the scheme is again kept at Rs. 100.00 crore. During the current year, Planning Commission agreed for increasing the rate of Central assistance from Rs 10.00 lakh to 20.00 lakh per

			<p>village.</p> <p><u>(ii) Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens:</u> Sub section (i) of Section 19 (“Establishment of old age Home”) of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 reads as follows:-“The State Government may establish and maintain such number of old age homes at accessible places, as it may deem necessary, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate in such homes a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent”</p> <p>To assist State Governments in the discharge of the above statutory responsibility, the Ministry had initially formulated a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens for construction of old age homes for indigent senior citizens in 300 districts of the country during the XI Plan, at a cost of Rs 635 crore so as to cover at least 50% of the districts in the country during the XI Plan. Ministry’s XI Plan, however, had a provision of only Rs. 60 crore for this new Scheme. On the advice of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure, the scheme was then recast to fit within the allocation of Rs. 60 crore with a physical target of only 100 old age homes in the 11th Plan, and a reduced pattern of central assistance. Although the Ministry did so as per the advice given by the Planning Commission, when the revised scheme</p>
--	--	--	--

			<p>was sent for the Commission's approval, it conveyed vide its letter dated 30th July, 2009, that the scheme has not been approved on the ground that a token approach for setting up old age homes would not serve any purpose and the position would be reviewed during mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Plan. As a result, the plan outlay of Rs.1 crore for the scheme in 2007-08, Rs. 13 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 15 crore in 2009-10 could not be utilized.</p> <p>An outlay of Rs. 100.00 crore was made in the Scheme, in 2010-11. A fresh proposal for introducing the new Centrally-sponsored Scheme was sent for the approval of the Planning Commission on 9.8.2010. The Planning Commission rejected the proposal saying that it would be conducting a zero base budgeting exercise in the terminal year of XI plan and advised this Ministry to take up the proposal before the XII Five Year Plan Working Group. The BE under the Scheme was therefore reduced to Rs1.00 crore at R.E. stage due to non approval of the scheme by Planning Commission.</p> <p>The Working Group on Social Welfare, constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of XII Five Year Plan, reconsidered the matter and has recommended introduction of the new</p>
--	--	--	---

			<p>scheme of Construction of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens during the plan period. The Report of the Working Group has been submitted to Planning Commission in October, 2011.</p> <p><i>(iii) Scheme of Financial Assistance to Women with Disabilities to look after their Children after Birth:</i> The Scheme could not be launched during 2009-10 in view of a ban by the Ministry of Finance on introduction of new schemes unless it follows from a budget announcement. However, the ministry had requested the Ministry of Women & Child Development (WCD) to incorporate a component in their proposed schemes, Indira Gandhi Matriva Sahyaog Yojana (IGMSY)– conditional maternity benefit scheme for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age and above for providing financial assistance to eligible mothers with disabilities. The Ministry of WCD in their Scheme incorporated a provision of flexi fund, amounting to 2.5 per cent of total annual expenditure under the scheme, and advised the State Governments that this fund can be utilized for funding need-based interventions during the course of implementation of the scheme. Some indicative examples of such interventions could be additional cash transfer to disabled women to take care of their child, incentive for first child birth at age of 21 years and beyond, spacing of three years between first two births, etc. The matter of adequate coverage of Women with Disabilities under the IGMSY is being pursued with the Ministry of WCD.</p> <p><i>(iv) Scheme for Educational and Economic Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes:</i> The Scheme could not be launched during 2010-11 as the Report of the National Commission set up to study the developmental aspects of</p>
--	--	--	---

			<p>de-notified tribes, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes was still under consideration of the Government.</p> <p>(v) Research & Training Scheme: Efforts are made to obtain proposals from reputed research and evaluation agencies and universities under the scheme each year. Meeting of the Research Advisory Committee are held as necessary from time to time to consider and approve proposals received.</p>
5	3.19	<p>The Committee observe that there are serious discrepancies and mismatch of figures on the number of assisted population/beneficiaries who have crossed the below poverty line under the SCA to SCSP obtained by the Ministry from the concerned 8 States for which the figures are available. The Secretary himself was candid enough to accept during the evidence the figures to be rather odd and not correct. The Committee consider that the Scheme of SCA to SCSP has tremendous potential for the overall development of the scheduled caste population and data/feedback on the physical progress, utilization of funds and consequent information on the raising standard of living of the SC population is an important input as far as the assessment of the scheme is concerned. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Ministry to have a fresh look at the whole state of affairs. Instead of being contended with the information sent by States, Officers should be deputed to undertake an exercise of verifying and crosschecking the figures obtained from the concerned States so as to ascertain the accuracy and authenticity of the information. The States, which are not furnishing the requisite information on the number of beneficiaries, should be persuaded to send it at the earliest. The Committee may be apprised of the progress in this regard.</p>	<p>Ministry has received information from 12 States on the number of Scheduled Caste families who have been able to cross the poverty line after having availed financial assistance under the scheme of SCA to SCSP during 2005-06. Further, partial information has been received from eight other States/UTs viz. Assam, Gujarat, H.P., Orissa, Sikkim, Chandigarh, Delhi and Puducherry. They have been requested to expedite complete information.</p> <p>The defaulting States/UTs viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Tripura have been reminded to provide information at the earliest. This matter was also taken up with the Principal Secretary/Secretary of these States during meetings of Principal Secretary/Secretary of Social Welfare of States held during October-November, 2010.</p> <p>During his evidence before the Committee, the Secretary had mentioned that information from only two States, viz. Kerala and Karnataka, was prima facie anomalous. Chief Secretaries of Govt. of Kerala and Principal Secretary of Govt. Karnataka States have been requested on 30th April, 2010 and 10th May, 2010 respectively to get the data verified and a report furnished to this Ministry at the earliest. The response from the two State Governments is still awaited.</p> <p>The Ministry had also requested the Programme Evaluation Organization, Planning Commission to conduct the</p>

			<p>national level evaluation of flagship programmes of this Ministry which, inter alia, includes the Central Sector Scheme of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled caste Sub Plan (SCSP). The Programme Evaluation Organization vide their letter dated 9-08-2010 had informed that the evaluation of the suggested Schemes of the Ministry including that SCA to SCSP is being undertaken by them.</p>
6	3.20	<p>The Committee observes that not all the States/ UTs are formulating and implementing Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan as part of their annual plans by earmarking resources in proportion to their share in total population. The Committee also note with serious concern that the percentage of SCSP outlay in respect of States after having reached to a benchmark of 17.16% during the year 2007-08 has been showing a declining trend i.e. 14.22% in 2008-09 & 13.34% in 2009-10. Also, all the Central Ministries are not uniformly earmarking their allocation under the scheme. In this context, the Committee in their earlier Report presented to the Parliament on 17.12.2009 had recommended that the Ministry should take up the above issue with the Planning Commission in the right earnest. The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry have taken up the issue with the Planning Commission and the latter have also realized the fundamental lacuna in the existing guidelines and informed the Ministry that they are in the process of working out fresh guidelines for central Ministries. The Committee are also in agreement with Planning Commission's observation that the present provision of uniform earmarking of 16% by States and the Central Ministries is not working out well and there is a need to review and reformulate the guidelines. The Committee recommend the Ministry should not leave the matter there and take it forward with Planning Commission on the urgent need for an exhaustive review of the existing</p>	<p>Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes, now renamed as Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP), was introduced in 1979-80, to channelize flow of benefits and outlays from the Plan of States and Central Ministries for the development of Scheduled Castes, in proportion to the percentage of SC population, which is 16.2% as per Census, 2001. Guidelines on formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP have been issued by the Planning Commission from time to time.</p> <p>Consolidated guidelines for formulation and implementation of SCSP by States to earmark the outlays under SCSP in proportion to SC population in their total population were last issued by the Planning Commission in October, 2005 for implementation from the Annual Plan, 2006-07. Minister (SJ&E) wrote letters in 2009 to Chief Ministers of those states which failed to earmark the outlays under SCSP proportionate to their SC population. The matter is being taken up again with defaulting States as well as with the Planning Commissions.</p> <p>Similar guidelines in this regard for Central Ministries were issued to 62 Central Ministries/ Departments in December, 2006, for implementation from the Annual Plan, 2007-08. Implementation of the above guidelines by Central Ministries/ Departments had not been satisfactory.</p> <p>To rectify the above situation, the Ministry of SJ&E had conveyed certain concrete suggestions to the Planning Commission.</p>

	<p>guidelines on SCA to SCSP to make these more rational, flexible and acceptable for the Ministries and the States.</p>	<p>Pursuant to this, the Planning Commission, vide its Order dated 4-6-2010, constituted a Task Force under the chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Member, with Secretaries of Ministries of SJ&E and Tribal Affairs and Principal Secretaries of four States, namely, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, to re-examine and revise the extant Guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) by Central Ministries and State Governments. The Task Force, submitted its First Report, covering Central Ministries/ Departments, on 25th November, 2010. Following are some of the important recommendations:-</p> <p>(i) Imposing an obligation on 25 Ministries (mainly those dealing with social sectors and poverty alleviation) to earmark plan outlays under SCSP to varying extent, depending on their nature of work, instead of a uniform 16.2% obligation on all Ministries, as before, and</p> <p>(ii) Since the aggregate SCSP allocation based on the above Ministry-wise allocation was to fall short of the level of 16.2% of the Plan outlay by about 1.9 percentage points, to keep an amount equivalent to such shortfall, initially under the Planning Commission, in Annual Plan, 2011-12, which may be allocated later to suitable Ministries for SC-related programmes, after necessary consultation and examination.</p> <p>The Planning Commission accepted the first recommendation mentioned above, and issued instructions accordingly to concerned Central Ministries/Departments for implementation from Annual Plan and Budget, 2011-12 vide its letter dated 15.12.2010. The Finance Ministry also incorporated necessary instructions about SCSP in its Budget Circular for 2011-12, and the Controller General of Accounts also</p>
--	--	---

			issued necessary consequential instructions on 15.12.2010. Almost all Ministries, with the sole major exception of the Ministry of Rural Development, complied with the above guidelines. Also, the Planning Commission did not keep untied funds under its own Demand for Grants, 2011-12 to the extent of the shortfall, as per the second recommendation of the Task Force. The Ministry is continuously pursuing the matter with the Planning Commission and also the Ministry of Rural Development.
7	3.32	The Committee are happy to note that the budgetary allocation under the post-matric scholarship scheme has been increased significantly from Rs.750 crore during the year 2009-10 to Rs. 1700 crore during the year 2010-2011. The Committee are given to understand that with this enhanced allocation, the Ministry will undertake the much-awaited revision in the scholarship amounts which are at present extremely low. Apart from fulfilling the much-felt needs of the students, this will certainly go a long way in the educational empowerment of the scheduled caste students. However, since the Ministry are yet to work out the details of the revision, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation on early revision of the scholarship and hope that in this exercise every aspect of the scholarship will be taken into account and the scheme is dovetailed and revamped in total ready to be implemented by the next academic session. The Committee would like to be apprised about the decision taken in this regard at the earliest.	The Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students has been revised with effect from 1 st July, 2010, vide his Ministry's Order dated 31.12.2010, so as to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise the parental income ceiling for eligibility from Rs.1.00 lakh to Rs.2.00 lakh, • rationalize the grouping of Courses, and • upward revision of maintenance and other allowances by approximately 60%.
8	4.15	The Committee are constrained to note that the progress of construction of hostels for OBC boys and girls has not at all been satisfactory, as during the last five years out of 353 hostels sanctioned, only 140 hostels could be completed. The reason for shortfall and non-materialization of the remaining sanctioned hostels as furnished to the Committee that ultimately OBC hostels are sanctioned to State Governments and grants get held up due to non-furnishing of Utilization Certificates by the States is not at all acceptable to the Committee. The Ministry's submission that there is a two	The Scheme of "Construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls" has been revised in 2010-11 and communicated to all States/UT Administrations on 10.12.2010. The scheme provides, <i>inter-alia</i> , that – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) While submitting proposals for release of Central assistance, the implementing agencies shall give an undertaking that they would construct the hostels within one year of release of Central assistance. This is as per the recommendation of the

		<p>year time period, tendering process and issue of technical sanction involved in construction of hostels is also not convincing because the Committee observe that even hostels sanctioned during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 could not be completed on time for reasons not known to the Committee. The Committee observe that the present construction period of two years for hostels is an unusually long period allowing for prolonged delay in construction and also cost escalation due to increase in prices of cement and steel etc. Considering the fact that huge constructions are completed in no time these days with advanced building materials and in comparison, hostels are small buildings with simple dormitory type halls accommodating hardly 100 to 200 students per hostel, the construction should not stretch beyond a year. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should ask State Governments to acquire land before issuing financial sanctions, stipulate in its sanctions that construction be completed within a year and gear up its machinery for strict monitoring of the whole process of construction so that these hostels are completed in a time bound manner strictly within a year's time-frame.</p>	<p>Parliamentary Standing Committee.</p> <p>(ii) Agencies, having clear title and possession over the land, where the hostel is to be constructed, will submit the proposals in the prescribed format which envisages to indicate the details of land where construction is proposed like name of owner, Department/institution, plot No., area and location.</p> <p>(iii) The scheme also stipulates to send documents like documentary evidence of land availability, plot No. and plot area as well as site plan.</p> <p>The Ministry's sanction letters also stipulate that construction of the hostel shall be undertaken by implementing agencies, taking into account the physical norms and other parameters envisaged in the scheme. The sanction letter further envisages that the construction work of hostel is completed within a period of one year from the date of sanction of the grant.</p>
9	5.11	<p>The Committee find that the assistive devices are provided free of cost to persons having income up to Rs. 6,500/- per month and at 50 percent concession to persons with income between Rs. 6,500/- and Rs. 10,000/-. The maximum admissible amount for purchase of a device is Rs. 6,500/-. On the one hand while the use of advanced assistive devices has brought a qualitative change in the lives of the persons with disability, on the other hand the cost of the devices have gone up due to advancement in technology making these beyond the reach of the persons with disability. There is an urgent need for early revision in the guidelines of the scheme to upgrade the ceiling limits and make these devices within the reach of the persons with disability. Therefore, the Committee</p>	<p>A Committee comprising representatives of various stakeholders Non-Governmental Organizations, National Institutes under this Ministry, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO) a PSU under the Ministry and representatives of the State Govt. was constituted to deliberate upon the issues concerning revision of various provisions under the scheme. The Committee submitted its report on 1.4.2011 based on which the revision proposals is under preparation for approval by the Expenditure Finance Committee..</p>

		recommends the Ministry to urgently bring changes in the existing ceiling limits by revising the guidelines of the above scheme.	
10	5.12	The Committee further note that even though the appliances provided are of good quality and ISI marked even then the issue of breakage, wear and tear in the appliances do come and at the moment the ADIP scheme does not have any provision to address the issue of regular wear and tear in the costly devices distributed. In this regard the Ministry have maintained that follow up camps are held to look into any defects. However, in the absence of such a provision in-built in the ADIP scheme for repair and maintenance of these devices at regular intervals, the beneficiaries are often put into difficulty and inconvenience when these devices don't work properly. The warranties coming with the devices as provided by the companies are not enough for this. As such, there is a need for inclusion of such a provision with financial assurance in the scheme itself for repair and maintenance. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry to take necessary steps in this direction and revise the guidelines of ADIP scheme if need arises to address the above issues. Action taken by the Ministry in this regard may be furnished to the Committee within three months of presentation of this report.	As mentioned in reply to Recommendation No. 5.11 (para 15) that Committee constituted for the revision of various provisions of ADIP Scheme has submitted its Report, on which further action is being taken. The issues relating to repair and maintenance of the devices given under ADIP are being addressed in the proposed revision of the scheme as per the recommendations of the Committee.
11	5.24	The Committee observes that the National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC) offers financial assistance in the form of concessional loans to persons with disability through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs). However, a look at the release of funds to SCAs in the year 2009-10 shows that many States such as Assam, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura did not receive any grant and as such there was no beneficiary coverage in these States. Out of these States, the	The main reasons for non-release of funds to States of Assam, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura were:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Non-receipt of proposals from State Channelizing Agency (SCA); (ii) Non-submission of utilization details, (iii) Non-repayment of over dues; and (iv) In case of Madhya Pradesh, lack of sufficient Government Guarantee of the State Govt.

		States of Goa, Karnataka did not receive any grant even during 2008-09. The Committee recommends the Ministry to look into the specific problems being faced by these States and hurdles if any should be cleared so that the people with disability in these States are not deprived of the benefits of NHFDC.	The matter was pursued with the concerned State Governments. As a result, during 2011-12, funds were released to Assam, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Sikkim for implementation of NHFDC's schemes.
12	6.10	The Committee are unhappy to observe the 'nil' expenditure under the Scheme of Assistance for Construction of Old Age Homes for the Indigent Senior Citizens during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2010-11. The reason cited by the Ministry for incurring 'nil' expenditure is that the scheme is still awaiting approval of the Planning Commission despite regular follow up. The Committee have been given to understand that the scheme had been initiated in the year 2007-08 in pursuance of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 with the noble intention of constructing old age homes for senior citizens. However, even after three years since the above Act has come into force, concrete steps have not been taken to implement the above scheme. In view of the fact that substantial allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been made under the scheme for the year 2010-11, the Committee recommend that the scheme should be formulated early and the details of the scheme worked out expeditiously within the first trimester of the financial year so that the entire amount allocated for the purpose could be utilized. The Committee may be apprised of the steps taken by the Ministry and Planning Commission within three months of presentation of this report.	Please see reply given to the Recommendation at S. No 6, Para 2.27 (sub para ii)
13	6.25	The Committee note with concern that at present there is no National Policy on Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention and Rehabilitation. About the steps taken in this direction, the Committee have been informed that a sub-committee of the National Consultative Committee on De-addiction and Rehabilitation (NCCDR) has been constituted. The Ministry have informed that there is a large number of people who are under the spell of some kind of drugs/alcohols and their de-addiction and rehabilitation is an area of national concern calling for collective	A National Consultative Committee on De-addiction and Rehabilitation (NCCDR) has been set up in July 2008 to advise Central and State Governments on issues connected with drug demand reduction, especially education/awareness building, de-addiction and rehabilitation. On the recommendations of NCCDR, a Sub-Committee was constituted on 28 th February 2009 for, <i>inter-alia</i> , drafting a National Policy on Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance

	<p>action. The Committee also endorse the above view/ information shared by the Ministry and consider that a national strategy to tackle the issue of drug addiction is a priority area and the constitution of the above Committee is definitely a positive development. A National Policy on Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention and Rehabilitation is absolutely necessary not only for curbing the increasing number of drug addicts in the country but also in rehabilitating the addicts and giving them a new lease of life. Most nations of the world have already formulated their national policy on drug abuse highlighting their strategy to curb the menace and India should not be left behind. While recommending the Ministry to expedite the early finalization of the above policy within a stipulated time frame, the Committee urge the Ministry to ensure that the National Policy in this regard should be an all comprehensive one covering every aspect of the problem. It should also be in tune with the UN Charter of Drug Abuse. Smaller issues of having preventive strategy in schools through dissemination of information and awareness to larger issue of tackling cross border trade of narcotics should also be incorporated in the above policy.</p>	<p>Abuse and Rehabilitation of its victims</p> <p>The Sub-Committee after discussions and deliberations has prepared a draft National Policy, which was discussed in the Second meeting of the NCCDR held on 9.9.2010. The Sub-Committee is preparing the revised draft policy based on the suggestions received in the NCCDR meeting held on 9.9.2010. Efforts will be made to make the policy as comprehensive as possible as recommended by the Standing Committee.</p> <p>The Ministry in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan has started an awareness generation programme in the State of Punjab and Manipur. This programme will cover 3000 villages covering 10 Districts in the State of Punjab and 750 villages covering 7 Districts in the State of Manipur. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan through its network of volunteers at village level will create awareness about the ill affects of alcoholism and Substance (Drug) abuse among the rural masses through door to door campaign, wall writing, candle march, poster campaign, street play etc. De-addiction camps will also be organized for the identified addicts. The whole programme will be completed in one years time.</p> <p>Further, the Ministry in collaboration with National Bal Bhawan has also started an awareness generation programme among the children of the age group of 12-16 years. The project is to be implemented by National Bal Bhawan through a series of activities like poster making, creative writing, lecture, rally, nukkad natak etc. at local, zonal and national level.</p> <p>The Department of Revenue has also prepared a draft policy with respect to curbing the supply of drugs & narcotics. It is the nodal Department with regard to administration of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985.</p>
--	--	--

14	6.26	<p>The Committee observes that only one state i.e. the State of Rajasthan has availed the funds for organizing de-addiction camps for three successive years. In this regard, the Committee are not happy with the reason advanced by the Ministry that the scheme being demand driven, the fund could be disbursed to only one organization as demand had been made only by them. Drug addiction being an all pervasive phenomenon prevalent in the country, a sizeable population in States like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, North East being under its influence and more number adding each day, it is very unfortunate that the Ministry is not able to bring many States under the fold of the scheme. The Committee hopes that the Ministry will keep it in mind and improve the position by trying to motivate, guide and appropriately assist the States so that organizations/NGOs from all the States throng to avail the grants for organizing de-addiction camps.</p>	<p>The matter has been taken up during the regional meetings with State Secretaries of Social Welfare/Social Justice held in October/November, 2010 as well as in the State Social Welfare Ministers Conference organized in June, 2011. During the year 2011-12, so far proposals have been received from the States of Karnataka and Rajasthan for organizing De-addiction Camps.</p> <p>In a meeting organized separately for North Eastern States on 15.11.11 at Guwahati, State Government representatives as well as NGOs from the region were requested to send proposals for organizing de-addiction camps in greater numbers. National Institute of Social Defense would undertake a programme in collaboration with the State Governments for capacity building of NGOs.</p>
----	------	---	--

SCSP Outlay/Expenditure during Eleventh Plan 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11

I. No.	State/U.T	% of SC Population (2001 Census)	Annual Plan 2007-08				Annual Plan 2008-09				Annual Plan 2009-10				Annual Plan 2010-11		
			Total State Plan Outlay	SCSP Outlay	SCSP Expndr.	Percent-age to Col.5 to 4	Total State Plan Outlay	SCSP Outlay	SCSP Expndr.	Percent-age to Col.9 to 8	Total State Plan Outlay	SCSP Outlay	SCSP Expndr.	Percent-age to Col.13 to 12	Total State Plan Outlay	SCSP Outlay	Percent-age to Col.17 to 16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Andhra Pradesh	16.20	30500.00	4355.90	NR	14.28	44000.00	7630.42	NR	17.34	33496.75	5243.17	5455.84	15.65	36800.00	6131.39	16.66
2	Assam	6.90	3800.00	81.09	49.88	2.13	5011.51	100.72	84.38	2.01	6000.00	115.67	100.70	1.93	7645.00	140.27	1.83
3	Bihar	15.70	10200.00	2131.21	NR	20.89	13500.00	2428.26	2131.21	17.99	16000.00	2721.02	2721.02	17.01	20000.00	3375.12	16.88
4	Chattisgarh	11.60	7413.72	2722.31	800.78	36.72	9600.00	1103.68	568.59	11.50	10947.76	1271.66	1206.89	11.62	12277.83	1612.13	13.13
5	Goa	1.80	1430.00	26.95	11.66	1.88	1737.65	19.42	8.47	1.12	2240.00	16.15	15.50	0.72	2710.00	24.51	0.90
6	Gujarat	7.10	16000.00	1134.40	NR	7.09	21000.00	1200.00	408.27	5.71	23500.00	1294.94	822.65	5.51	30000.00	1363.46	4.54
7	Haryana	16.40	5300.00	1023.00	939.23	19.30	6650.00	1433.27	1385.28	21.55	10000.00	1493.21	1385.28	14.93	18260.00	2148.30	11.77
8	Himachal Pradesh	24.70	2100.00	231.00	170.36	11.00	2400.00	594.00	594.00	24.75	2700.00	668.00	594.00	24.74	3000.00	742.00	24.73
9	Jammu & Kashmir	7.60	4850.00	368.60	NR	7.60	4500.00	-	NR	0	5500.00	319.73	NR	5.81	6000.00	455.65	7.59
10	Jharkhand	11.80	6676.00	729.96	536.67	10.93	8015.00	1012.75	648.37	12.64	8200.00	852.86	852.86	10.40	9240.00	956.94	10.36
11	Karnataka	16.20	17782.58	2916.00	1972.28	16.40	26188.83	3232.00	2575.68	12.34	29500.00	4779.00	2916.59	16.20	31050.00	3866.60	12.45
12	Kerala	9.80	6950.00	681.80	545.73	9.81	7700.00	746.63	650.63	9.70	8920.00	875.12	848.57	9.81	10025.00	983.45	9.81
13	Madhya Pradesh	15.20	12011.00	1832.60	1709.58	15.26	14182.61	2209.81	1832.58	15.58	16174.17	2499.60	2000.91	15.45	19000.00	2918.00	15.36
14	Maharashtra	10.20	20200.00	2060.00	488.43	10.20	25000.00	2332.80	1890.66	9.33	35958.94	2651.99	1285.28	7.38	33934.53	3461.00	10.20
15	Manipur	2.60	1374.31	33.04	23.81	2.40	1660.00	48.30	33.24	2.91	2000.00	58.06	50.71	2.90	2600.00	62.40	2.40
16	Orissa	16.50	5105.00	843.96	787.79	16.53	7500.00	1239.75	1123.63	16.53	9500.00	1563.03	1410.72	16.45	11000.00	1817.90	16.53
17	Punjab	28.90	5111.00	1330.00	749.73	26.02	6210.00	1792.00	1235.87	28.86	8600.00	2488.31	2124.19	28.93	9150.00	2640.00	28.85
18	Rajasthan	17.20	11950.00	1787.77	1998.95	14.96	14020.00	2179.31	2352.35	15.54	17322.00	2735.49	2735.49	15.79	24000.00	3896.10	16.23
19	Sikkim	5.02	691.14	34.70	15.33	5.02	852.00	42.60	24.53	5.00	1045.00	NA	24.53	0	1175.00	30.77	2.62
20	Tamil Nadu	19.00	14000.00	1649.85	2903.62	11.78	16000.00	2379.20	3453.35	14.87	17500.00	2721.22	2618.56	15.55	20068.00	3827.84	19.07
21	Tripura	17.40	1220.00	205.22	NR	16.82	1450.00	242.19	183.19	16.70	1680.00	280.11	280.11	16.67	1860.00	308.25	16.57
22	Uttar Pradesh	21.10	25000.00	5307.00	4340.78	21.23	35000.00	7403.00	6789.41	21.15	39000.00	8275.00	8057.54	21.22	42000.00	8881.00	21.15
23	Uttaranchal	17.90	4378.63	749.82	350.19	17.12	4775.00	854.73	300.67	17.90	5800.81	1044.15	332.52	18.00	6800.00	1224.00	18.00
24	West Bengal	23.00	9150.00	2328.83	2328.00	25.45	11602.38	2677.83	1929.97	23.08	14150.00	3258.37	3258.37	23.03	17985.00	4142.40	23.03
25	Chandigarh	17.50	269.91	46.72	31.58	17.31	304.65	45.91	40.55	15.07	319.22	55.92	NR	17.52	450.91	79.15	17.55

26	Delhi	16.90	9000.00	1525.13	1534.05	16.95	10000.00	1694.15	1725.00	16.94	10000.00	1782.39	2094.30	17.82	11400.00	1901.56	16.68
27	Puducherry*	16.20	1455.00	150.15	149.73	10.32	1750.00	2.83	152.72	0.16	2250.00	176.83	176.83	7.86	2500.00	354.96	14.20
	ALL INDIA	16.20	233918.29	36287.01	22438.16	15.51	300609.63	44645.56	32122.60	14.85	338304.65	49241.00	43369.96	14.56	390931.27	57345.15	14.67

Source: State Plan approval letters and SCSP documents of the State Govts.

* Include TSP allocation

NA: Not Available.

NR: Not Reported.

Annexure-III

State / UTs-wise BPL Families assisted and crossed the Poverty Line during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08

Sl. No.	States	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		No. of BPL families assisted	No. of assisted families who crossed the poverty line	No. of BPL families assisted	No. of assisted families who crossed the poverty line	No. of BPL families assisted	No. of assisted families who crossed the poverty line	No. of BPL families assisted	No. of assisted families who crossed the poverty line
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	96213	21496	NR	NR	NR	NR		
2	Assam	34595	96*	6752	1130**	9957	1554**	10323	811^
3	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR		
4	Chhattisgarh	1082	915	1181	1040	1457	1157		
5	Gujarat	5260	2363	6187	2961	11989	5888	8303	4668
6	Goa	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR		
7	Haryana	15664	13229	15896	13512	16327	\$	12589	\$
8	Himachal Pradesh	25590	56***	23414	37***	21145	22#	95772	24943
9	Jammu & Kashmir	526	526	NR	NR	NR	NR		
10	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR		
11	Karnataka	13985	13985	NR	NR	NR	NR		
12	Kerala	499	38	3239	2199	14298	10008		
13	Madhya Pradesh	7444	4914	8273	4130	9211	4516	8393	4417
14	Maharashtra	23357	15645	NR	NR	NR	NR		
15	Manipur	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR		
16	Orissa	9151	N.A.	NR	NR	NR	NR		
17	Punjab	6435	2767	8250	3712	NR	NR		

18	Rajasthan	2645	1908	2470	1623	NR	NR		
19	Sikkim	120	N.A.	98	N.A.	NR	NR		
20	Tamilnadu	168492	67397	229020	91608	80302	45611		
21	Tripura	1991	211	1066	118	2877	281	1798	215
22	Uttar Pradesh	67016	36857	82040	61530	103781	77836	82084	62088
23	Uttarakhand	5282	NR	3776	NR	1503	NR		
24	West Bengal	15443	8030	NR	NR	34858	17976		
25	Chandigarh	N.A.	~	99	70	121	115	108	100
26	Delhi	253	N.A.	77	NA	366	NA	347	
27	Puducherry	774	@.	NR	NR	NR	NR		
	Total	501817	190433	391838	183670	308192	164964	219717	97242

N.R: Not reported. N.A: Not available

* Monthly Monitoring Report received from the sub Divisional Welfare Officers up to June, 2010.

** Monitoring Report of the Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers up to June 2010.

*** Data received only from Industries Department.

Data received only from Animal Husbandry Department.

\$ State Govt. has informed that Corporation has not sufficient infrastructure to conduct the survey to ascertain how many families have been able to cross the poverty line during 2007-08.

@ BPL SC families assisted during 2005-06 will be evaluated after the loan period 2010-11.

^ Monitoring report of the Sub-Divisional Welfare Officers upto may, 2011.

~No such specific survey carried out.

ANNEXURE - IV

File No.11014/21/2006-BC-I
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated : 11th August, 2011

To

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in-Charge of OBC Welfare,
All States/UTs.

Subject: Revision of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for students belonging to OBCs (PMS-OBC).

Sir,

The Government of India has been implementing the Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to OBCs since 1998. It aims to provide financial assistance to students belonging to OBCs for pursuing post-matriculation courses through recognized institutions. Under the Scheme, Central Assistance is provided on 100% basis to all States/UTs over and above their respective "committed liability" except in the case of North Eastern States, which are exempted from committed liability.

2. Components of the Scheme include:

- (i) maintenance allowance;
- (ii) reimbursement of non-refundable compulsory fee charged by educational institutions; and
- (iii) certain other allowances.

3. The Scheme has now been revised **w.e.f. 01.07.2011**. The revision consists of the following:-

- I. Changes in (i) income ceiling; (ii) grouping of courses; and (iii) rates of maintenance and other allowances, as per details given in para 4 below, and
- II. The Scheme was, to begin with, meant to be open-ended, but has, in practice, been implemented subject to allocation available for it. This "Funds-Limited" nature is now being formalized, as per details given in para 5 below.

4. The changes effective from **01.07.2011** are summarized below:

Sl. No.	Item / Component	Present Provision / Rates (with relevant Section / para of the existing Scheme)	Revised Provision / Rates (w.e.f. 01.07.2011)
1.	Ceiling on family income	(Para III) Rs.44,500/- p.a.	Rs.1 lakh p.a.
2.	Grouping of Courses	<p style="text-align: center;">(Para IV)</p> <p>Group A Medical /Engineering including Degree level Courses in Indian Medicine, B.A.M&S and Comparable courses in Ayurveda, Unani/ Tibbia and Homeopathic System of Medicines. B.Sc (Agriculture/B.V.Sc/B.F.Sc (Fisheries) Higher technical and all professional studies like Degree and Post-matric courses in Agricultural and Veterinary Science.</p> <p>Group B Diploma level courses in Indian Medicine and Comparable courses in Ayurvedic, Unani/Tibbia and Homeopathic system of Medicine. Diploma & comparable courses in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, medicine, diploma level Courses in printing technology and courses for Overseer, draftsman, surveyor, Commercial Pilot License, Diploma and higher courses in Hotel Management catering technology and applied Nutrition. Degree and post-graduate course in nursing and pharmacy. Wireless and television operators/ sound recording and sound engineering motion picture, photography, film direction/acting. screenplay/writing/Degree/post graduate Diploma courses in business management, Chartered and Cost /Works Accountancy.</p>	<p>Group A (i) Degree and Post Graduate level courses including M.Phil., Ph.D. and Post Doctoral research in Medicine (Allopathic, Indian and other recognized systems of medicines), Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary & Allied Sciences, Management, Business Finance/ Administration, Computer Science/Applications. (ii) Commercial Pilot License (including helicopter pilot and multiengine rating) course. (iii) Post Graduate Diploma courses in various branches of management & medicine. (iv) C.A./I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc. (v) M. Phil., Ph.D. and Post Doctoral Programmes (D. Litt., D.Sc. etc.). (vi) L.L.M.</p> <p>Group B Graduate/Post/Graduate courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B. Pharma), Nursing (B Nursing), LLB, BFS, other para-medical branches like rehabilitation diagnostics etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management & Catering, Travel/Tourism/ Hospitality Management, interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g. Banking, Insurance, Taxation etc.) for which entrance qualification is minimum Sr. Secondary (10+2).</p>

Sl. No.	Item / Component	Present Provision / Rates (with relevant Section / para of the existing Scheme)	Revised Provision / Rates (w.e.f. 01.07.2011)
		<p>Post Graduate courses in Science subjects.</p> <p>Group C Certificate courses in Engineering/Technology/Architecture and Medicine, Diploma and Certificate courses in Agriculture, Pharmacy, veterinary Science, Fisheries, Dairy development, Hygiene and Public Health , sanitary Inspector's Course, courses for Rural services, Cooperation and Community development, Sub-Officer' course at the national Fire Service College, Nagpur, Library Science.</p> <p>Degree /Post Graduate Diploma and Post Graduate Courses in Teachers' training, Library Science and Physical Education , Music Fine Arts and Law, Craft Instructor's Training Course, Certificate Course in Hotel Management/Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Passenger transport Management, Associate degree I Pharmacy , Post graduate courses in Arts and Commerce subjects.</p> <p>Group D General Courses upto Graduate level (2nd year and onward)</p> <p>Group E Classes X1th and X11th in 10+2 System Intermediate courses and first year of General courses upto graduate level.</p>	<p>(ii) Post Graduate courses not covered under Group A e.g. MA/M.Sc./M.Com/ M.Ed./M.Pharma etc.</p> <p>Group C All other courses leading to a graduate degree not covered under Group A & B e.g. BA/B.Sc./ B.Com etc.</p> <p>Group D All post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. senior secondary certificate (class XI and XII); both general and vocational stream, ITI courses, 3 year diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.</p>

Sl. No.	Item / Component	Present Provision / Rates (with relevant Section / para of the existing Scheme)	Revised Provision / Rates (w.e.f. 01.07.2011)																																	
3	Maintenance Allowance (Rs. per month)	(Para IV) <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day Scholars</th> <th>Hosteller</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Group A</td> <td>190/-</td> <td>425/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group B</td> <td>190/-</td> <td>290/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group C</td> <td>190/-</td> <td>290/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group D</td> <td>120/-</td> <td>230/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group E</td> <td>90/-</td> <td>150/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day Scholars	Hosteller	Group A	190/-	425/-	Group B	190/-	290/-	Group C	190/-	290/-	Group D	120/-	230/-	Group E	90/-	150/-	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day Scholars</th> <th>Hosteller</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Group A</td> <td>350/-</td> <td>750/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group B</td> <td>335/-</td> <td>510/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group C</td> <td>210/-</td> <td>400/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group D</td> <td>160/-</td> <td>260/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day Scholars	Hosteller	Group A	350/-	750/-	Group B	335/-	510/-	Group C	210/-	400/-	Group D	160/-	260/-
	Day Scholars	Hosteller																																		
Group A	190/-	425/-																																		
Group B	190/-	290/-																																		
Group C	190/-	290/-																																		
Group D	120/-	230/-																																		
Group E	90/-	150/-																																		
	Day Scholars	Hosteller																																		
Group A	350/-	750/-																																		
Group B	335/-	510/-																																		
Group C	210/-	400/-																																		
Group D	160/-	260/-																																		
4	Other Allowances	(Para IV) (Rs.)	(Rs.)																																	
4.1	Study Tour charges	500/- p.a. (subject to actual expenditure)	900/- p.a. (subject to actual expenditure)																																	
4.2	Thesis Typing & Printing charges	600/- (Maximum)	1000/- (Maximum)																																	
4.3	Book Allowance for correspondence course	500/- p.a.	900/- p.a.																																	
4.4	Reader charges for blind students (Rs. per month)	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Group A, B, C</td> <td>100/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group D</td> <td>75/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group E</td> <td>50/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Group A, B, C	100/-	Group D	75/-	Group E	50/-	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Group A, B</td> <td>175/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group C</td> <td>130/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group D</td> <td>90/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Group A, B	175/-	Group C	130/-	Group D	90/-																					
Group A, B, C	100/-																																			
Group D	75/-																																			
Group E	50/-																																			
Group A, B	175/-																																			
Group C	130/-																																			
Group D	90/-																																			
4.5	Scholarship for CPL Course	Maintenance allowance at the rates applicable to Group B courses, in addition to all compulsory fees including fee for flight charges. The number of awards for CPL will be 20 per annum on first-cum-first-serve basis.	Rs.5,000/- per flying hour in single/multiengine aircraft for 200 hours, as per DGCA approved rates. In addition, maintenance allowance at the rates applicable to Group 'A' courses will be provided (This will be subject to the candidate undergoing the CPL training in DGCA approved flying institutions and his confirmation to meet the balance of the cost on his own). The number of awards for CPL will be 20 per annum on first-cum-first serve basis.																																	

5. “Funds-Limited” nature of the revised Scheme & Procedure for Capping

Even under the existing PMS-OBC Scheme, due to budgetary constraint, in practice, it has not been possible for the Central Government to provide assistance for giving scholarship to all eligible students. Therefore, a notional allocation (NA) under the Scheme was being conveyed at the beginning of the financial year since 2008-09 to States/UTs having OBC population, in proportion to their total population as per census and they were being requested to send proposals within the NA. As mentioned in para 3(II) above, this is now being formalized under the revised Scheme, as per broad procedure outlined below :-

- (i) At the beginning of the financial year, notional allocation(NA) of funds of States/UTs will be made by this Ministry, from the overall annual outlay of the Scheme, on the basis of population of each State/UT, excluding States/UTs having no notified list of OBCs (viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Lakshadweep).
- (ii) States/UTs will sub-allocate their NA, district-wise and group-wise, for all non-professional courses. However, such sub-allocation would not be necessary for professional courses, as institutions of professional education tend to be concentrated in major cities/centres. The State Government is expected to lay down criteria for selection for award of scholarship under both types of courses – professional and non-professional, to the extent of available funds, based on merit-cum-means.
- (iii) States will earmark at least 25% of the total outlay under the Scheme for Group D courses which include, Class-XI and XII and all other post-matriculation level non-degree courses, diploma courses in polytechnics etc. Such earmarking would encourage more OBC students to join entry-level courses of tertiary education which would enable them subsequently to take up courses leading to higher qualifications.
- (iv) States/UTs will incur expenditure under the Scheme at least to the extent of “Central assistance or NA plus their committed liability”, and should normally limit the number of scholarships accordingly. However, they would be free to allocate funds from the State-Plan, over and above the level of their committed liability plus the Central Assistance received, for funding additional scholarships under the Scheme. Any such additional expenditure will have to be borne by the State Government/UT Administration itself, over and above their committed liability, and will generally not be eligible for reimbursement from the Centre. However, additional expenditure incurred by a State/UT beyond the level of Central Assistance may be considered for reimbursement by the Central Government, to the extent of availability of savings (mainly from States which are not able to fully avail of their notional allocation, for any reason), towards the end of a financial year.
- (v) Central assistance given to a State/UT would have to be first utilized to cover renewal cases (i.e students already awarded scholarships during the previous years against Central Assistance), and only the balance amount left may be utilized to cover new cases.

The above lays down the broad principles and procedure for implementing the “Capping” feature. Each State Government may please work out its State-specific detailed modalities for implementing the “Capping” feature of the revised PMS-OBC Scheme, keeping

in view the above broad principles/ procedure and its own circumstances, and send to this Ministry a copy of its guidelines issued in this behalf to the implementing agencies - as far as possible, with the first request for Central Assistance under the revised Scheme, and failing that, as soon thereafter as possible.

6. Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, recurring expenditure of the last year of a Five Year Plan gets transferred to States as their committed liability, from the first year of the next Five Year Plan. In the instant case, however, as the revision is taking place in the last year of the XI Five Year Plan, Government of India have decided, as a special case, that **additional committed liability arising on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01.07.2011 shall be passed on to the States / UTs at the end of the XII Five Year Plan (i.e. w.e.f. 01.04.2017) and not at the end of the XI Plan.** However, committed liability as per old scholarship rates, at the end of the XI Plan, will get transferred to States / UTs with effect from 1.4.2012, as per past practice.

7. Other provisions of the Scheme remain unchanged.

8. State Governments/UTs, which have already sent proposals for 2011-12, are requested to revise their proposal for Central Assistance in 2011-12, in the light of the provisions contained in para 4 of this letter, and send the revised proposal to this Ministry, so as to reach the undersigned (by name), as early as possible but in any case, by 15th September, 2011. In case the proposal for Central Assistance under the Scheme for the 2011-12 has not yet been sent, it may now please be sent, in the light of the above revision, by the above date, to enable the Ministry to release Central Assistance at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(P.P. Mitra)
Joint Secretary

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 DARASINGH 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 FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	21	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (Paragraph Nos. 2.3, 3.25, 3.28, 3.29, 3.32, 4.20, 4.37, 5.6, 6.9, 6.10 and 7.18).	11	52.38
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies (Paragraph Nos. 3.27 and 3.31).	2	9.52
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. 3.24, 3.26, 6.11 and 7.9)	4	19.05
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature (Paragraph Nos. 3.30, 4.12, 4.13 and 4.28).	4	19.05