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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT
(2012-2013)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

**(MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2013-2014)**

THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
May, 2013/ Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)**

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(2013-2014)

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 2.5.2013
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 2.5.2013**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

May, 2013/ Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2012-2013)**

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri M. Anandan
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Shri Devidhan Besra
5. Shri Tarachand Bhagora
6. Smt. Rama Devi
7. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiwal
8. Shri Mohan Jena
9. Shri Dinesh Kashyap
10. Shri Kirodi Lal Meena
11. Kumari Meenakshi Natarajan
12. Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab R.
13. Smt. Sushila Saroj
14. Shri N. Dharam Singh
15. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh
16. Dr. Naramalli Sivaprasad
17. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
18. Shri Kabir Suman
19. Vacant
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
23. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
- *24. Shri Rishang Keishing
25. Shri Mangala Kisan
26. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
27. Prof. Mrinal Miri
28. Shri Jesudasu Seelam
29. Shri Mohammad Shafi
30. Shri Shivpratap Singh
31. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad

* Resigned from the Committee w.e.f. 22.2.2013

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri. Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director
4. Smt. Neena Juneja - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2012-13) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, do present this Thirty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2013-14 of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment).

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the current year i.e. 2013-14 which was laid on the Table of the House on 19.3.2013. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) on 1.4.2013. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 23.4.2013.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for placing before them the detailed written notes on the subject and furnishing the information the Committee desired and tendering evidence before the Committee in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in a consolidated form in Appendix to the Report.

NEW DELHI;

23 April, 2013
3 Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)

HEMANAND BISWAL
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is responsible for looking after the welfare of the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of society such as Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Senior Citizens and Victims of Substance Abuse. The basic objective of policies, programmes, laws and institution of the Indian Welfare System is to bring the target-groups into the mainstream of development by making them self-reliant.

1.2 The population of the main target groups of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment as per census 2001 is given below:

Table 1.2: Population of target groups of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Sl. No.	Target Group	Population and its % in total Population (as per 2001 Census unless otherwise stated)
1.	Scheduled Castes	16.7 crore (16.2%)
2.	Other Backward Classes	Caste Census has not been done since 1931. The Mandal Commission had estimated OBC population at 52% of the total population while NSSO (2004-5) had estimated it to be 41%.
3.	Senior Citizens	7.7 crore (7.5%)
4.	Victim of Substance Abuse	Authentic data not available. Around 1% of the population is believed to be addicted.

1.3 As per the Allocation of Business Rules 1961 the subjects allocated to the Department are as follows:-

1. The following subject which fall within List III – Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution:

Nomadic and Migratory Tribes (entry 57, concurrent list).

2. To act as the nodal Department for matters pertaining to the following groups, namely:-
 - (i) Scheduled Castes;
 - (ii) Socially and Educationally Backward Classes;
 - (iii) Denotified Tribes;
 - (iv) Economically Backward Classes; and
 - (v) Senior Citizens.
3. Special schemes aimed at social, educational and economic empowerment of the groups mentioned at (i) to (iv) under entry 2 above, e.g. scholarships, hostels, residential schools, skill training, concessional loans and subsidy for self-employment, etc.
4. Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers in alternative occupations.
5. Programme of care and support to senior citizens.
6. Prohibition.
7. Rehabilitation of victims of alcoholism and substance abuse, and their families
8. Beggary.
9. International Conventions and Agreements on matters dealt within the Department.
10. Awareness generation, research, evaluation and training in regard to subjects allocated to the Department.
11. Charitable and Religious Endowments and promotion and development of Voluntary Effort pertaining to subjects allocated to the Department.
12. The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (22 of 1955).

13. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (33 of 1989), (in so far as it relates to the Scheduled Castes, excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences under the Act).
14. The National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 (27 of 1993).
15. The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 (56 of 2007).
16. The National Commission for the Scheduled Castes.
17. The National Commission for Safai Karmacharis.
18. The National Commission for Backward Classes.
19. The National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation.
20. The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation.
21. The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation.
22. National Institute of Social Defence.
23. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation.
24. Babu Jagjivan Ram National Foundation

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment shall be the nodal Department for the overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for the development of the groups mentioned at (i) to (iv) (Point 2) and the welfare of the group at (v) above. However, overall management and monitoring, etc. of the sectoral programmes in respect of these groups shall be the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Each

Central Ministry or Department shall discharge nodal responsibility concerning its sector.

REPORT

A. GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

2.1 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has given the following statement showing the Plan and Non-plan expenditure of the Department for the year 2012-13 and budgetary outlay for 2013-14:-

Table 2.1: Plan and Non-Plan expenditure

(Amount in Rs crore)				
Head	BE 2012-13	RE 2012-13	Actual Expenditure	BE 2013-14
Plan	5415.0	4750.76	4657.36	6065.00
Non-plan	45.20	45.55	43.23	49.12

2.2 When asked to specify the reasons for low expenditure during 2012-13, the Department has informed that under the Plan head it was due to non-receipt of sufficient proposals from the State Govts especially in respect of centrally-sponsored schemes and also from voluntary organizations under Grant-in-Aid schemes of the Department with their recommendations and inspection reports. Besides, due to instructions of Ministry of Finance, to defer the new schemes to the next financial year where no EFC /Cabinet note had been prepared or moved, funds allocated for new initiatives remained unutilized during the current year. As regards to Non-plan, there was no shortfall and it was expected that the entire non-plan budget provision will be utilized.

2.3 The Department have furnished the following figures for bureau-wise expenditure during 2012-13 and BE 2013-14:

Table 2.3: Bureau-wise expenditure

Sl. No.	Bureau	2012-13					2013-14
		Head.	BE	RE	Exp. As on (31.3.2013)	% of Exp. to RE	BE
1.	Scheduled Castes Development	Plan	4212.50	3781.53	3764.20	99.54	4573.00

		Non-Plan	15.62	14.33	14.77	103.07	15.68
		Total	4228.12	3795.86	3779.27	99.56	4588.68
2.	Other Backward Classes	Plan	810.50	734.83	732.41	99.67	1096.00
		Non-Plan	3.30	2.90	2.35	81.03	3.30
		Total	813.80	737.73	734.76	100.00	1099.30
3.	Social Defence	Plan	192.00	66.51	66.57	100.09	159.10
		Non-Plan	1.25	1.11	1.09	98.20	1.35
		Total	193.25	67.62	67.66	100.06	160.45
4.	Secretariat	Plan	1.00	1.48	1.29	87.16	2.00
		Non-Plan	25.03	27.21	25.02	91.95	28.79
		Total	26.03	28.69	26.31	91.70	30.79
5.	Lump sum allocation for NE & Sikkim	Plan	199.00	166.41	93.31	56.07	234.90
		Sub Total	5415.00	4750.76	4657.78	98.02	6065.00
		Non-Plan	45.20	45.55	43.23	94.91	49.12
	Grand Total		5460.20	4796.31	4701.01	98.01	6114.12

2.4 Asked to explain the steps taken to arrest the trends of under-utilization under the Plan schemes, the Department submitted that they constantly persuade the State Governments to send the adequate proposals timely under various centrally-sponsored schemes as well as under the Grant-in-aid schemes of the Departments. It was further submitted that this issue has been invariably flagged during annual review meetings with States' Social Welfare Secretaries.

2.5 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished the following statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure incurred during the year 2012-13 alongwith BE for the year 2013-14 as also statement showing scheme-wise surrender of funds during the year 2012-13.

Table 2.5: Scheme-wise expenditure and surrender of funds

crore)

Sl. No.	Programme/Schemes	XII Five Year Plan						
		BE 2012-13	RE 2012-13	Exp.	Savings in r/o BE	Saving in r/o RE	BE 2013-14	Reasons for savings/surrenders
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	SCD Bureau							
1	Post Matric Scholarship for SCs	1500.00	1500.00	1656.60	-156.60	-156.60	1500.00	-
2	Coaching & Allied Scheme for Weaker Sections including SCs & OBCs	12.00	6.00	5.38	6.62	0.60	12.00	Due to non receipts of proposal from State Govt./UTs & Institutions, UT Adm. & Institutions located in NE regions & Sikkim
3	Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana	1.00	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.00	100.00	Only a token allocation has been provided at BE Stage
4	Implementation of PCR Act 1955 and PoA Act, 1989	100.00	84.00	97.44	2.56	-13.40	90.00	Due to non receipts of proposal from State Govt./UTs Adm. & Institutional located in NE regions & Sikkim
5	BJRCY - Girls Hostels	95.00	14.00	20.22	74.78	-6.20	50.00	Due to non receipts of proposals complete in all respect from State Govt./Tts Adms.
6	BJRCY - Boys Hostels	50.00	13.00	15.59	34.41	-2.60	25.00	Due to non receipts of proposals complete in all respect from State Govt./UTs Adms.
7	Assistance to VOs Working for SCs.	50.00	15.00	14.86	35.14	0.10	28.00	Due to non receipts of sufficient viable proposals of NGOs and also receipt of late proposal of NGOs from State Govt./UTs Adms.
8	Pre-matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations	10.00	9.00	10.00	0.00	-1.00	10.00	-
9	SCDC- Equity support	20.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	0.00	20.00	Due to unspent balance available with SCAs
10	Up gradation of Merit of SC Students	5.00	5.00	1.97	3.03	3.00	5.00	Due to non receipt of proposals.
11	NSFDC	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	-
12	SCA to SCSP	1200.00	1050.00	872.00	327.95	178.00	1051.00	Due to non receipt of sufficient proposals form some State

								Govts./UT Govt.
13	Dr Ambedkar National Centre (new Scheme)	14.00	0.01	0.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	Due to non finalization of proposals setting up the proposed memorial
14	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Foundation	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	-
15	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Center for Social Justice	10.00	0.01	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	Due to non finalization of setting up the proposed center
16	NSKFDC	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	-
17	Assistance to students belonging to SCs for pursuing study in residential public schools	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
18	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SCs	125.00	25.00	0.00	125.00	25.00	100.00	Due to non receipt of proposals from UGC, the implementing agency of the scheme and UCs pending for grant release earlier
19	Self Employment Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers	100.00	20.00	20.00	80.00	0.00	570.00	Due to non receipt of proposals from the implementing agencies
20	National Overseas Scholarship for SCs	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	-
21	Top Class Education for SCs	25.00	15.00	16.67	8.33	-1.70	21.00	Due to non receipt of proposals from several institute and utilization certificate & non utilization of full slots by some institutions
22	Babu Jagjivan Ram National Foundation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
23	Pre Matric Scholarship for SC Students (Class IX & X)	824.00	938.70	931.37	-107.37	7.30	900.00	-
	Total: SCD Bureau	4298.00	3856.73	3824.10	473.85	32.50	4663.00	
	Social Deference							
1	National Institute for Social Defence	10.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	10.00	Due to non taking up some activity/trg. Programme by the institute
2	Scheme for prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drug) Abuse	40.00	17.00	17.92	22.08	-0.90	45.00	Due to non receipt of complete proposals with inspection report and recommendation of State GIA committees

3	Assistance to VOs. for General Grant in Aid in the field Social Defence	5.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	3.00	Due to non receipt of complete proposals with inspection report and recommendation of State GIA committees
4	Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP	40.00	18.00	18.21	21.79		45.00	Due to non receipt of complete proposals with inspection report and recommendation of State GIA committees
5	Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of OAHs for Indigent Senior Citizens	80.00	0.01	0.00	80.00	0.00		Due to non approval of the scheme by the Planning Commission
6	Awareness Generation for Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
7	Setting up of Helpline for Senior Citizens at National level	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	-
8	Setting up of Helpline for Sr Citizens at District level (in 120 Districts @ Rs.15 lakh per District)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
9	Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
10	Creation of National Trust for the Aged	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
11	Implementation of the National Policy on Senior Citizens	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
12	Detailed National Survey to assess the extent, pattern and trends on Drug and Substance Abuse in the Country	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
13	National Policy on Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	-
14	Scheme of Integrated Programme for Rehabilitation of Beggars (IPRB)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	-
	Total : Social Defence Bureau	175.00	43.01	44.13	130.87	-0.90	132.00	
	Backward Classes Devt Bureau							
1	NBCFDC	100.00	27.65	27.65	72.35	0.00	100.00	Due to completion of paid up capital of the corporation
2	Pre-matric Scholarship to OBC students	50.00	50.00	46.52	3.48	3.50	150.00	Due to non receipt of sufficient of

								proposals from State Govt./Tts located in NE regions & Sikkim
3	Grant in aid to Vol.Orgns working for BCs	5.00	1.50	0.46	4.54	1.00	5.00	Due to non receipt of proposals of NGOs from State Govt./UTs
4	Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls	45.00	15.00	14.76	30.24	0.20	45.00	Due to non receipt of sufficient proposals complete in all respect from State Govt./UTs
5	Post-Matric Scholarship for BCs	625.00	722.35	666.45	-41.45	55.90	900.00	Due to non receipt of sufficient proposals from State Govt./UTs Adm. Located in any reason & Sikkim
6	Scheme for Educational and Economical Development of DNTs	10.00	0.01	0.00	10.00	0.00	5.00	Due to non approval of the scheme
7	Scheme for Educational Empowerment of Economically Backward Classes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	Due to non approval of the scheme
8	NOS Scheme for OBCs	5.00	0.01	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	Due to non approval of the scheme
9	Post Matric Scholarship for EBC	10.00	0.01	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	Due to non approval of the scheme
10	RGNF for OBCs & EBCs	50.00	0.01	0.00	50.00	0.00	10.00	Due to non approval of the scheme
	Total: Backward Classes Bureau	900.00	816.54	755.84	144.16	60.60	1225.00	
	Miscellaneous							
1	Information & Mass Education Cell	30.00	30.00	29.00	1.00	1.00	40.00	Due to less requirement of publicity coverage in NE region and in Sikkim
2	Research & Training	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	
3	Research Studies & Publications	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	
4	Monitoring of Schemes of Ministry through State and District level VMCs	8.00	0.01	0.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	Due to non approval of scheme
5	Secretariat	1.00	1.48	1.29	-0.29	0.20	2.00	-
	Total: Miscellaneous	42.00	34.49	33.29	8.71	1.20	45.00	-
	Grand Total	5415.00	4750.77	4657.36	757.59	93.40	6065.00	

2.6 When asked to specify the reasons for under utilization of funds, the

Secretary explained before the Committee:-

“Sir, the first observation that was made was regarding the allocation made for the Department *vis-à-vis* the actual expenditure incurred. It was very correctly pointed out that the allocation made for the Ministry in the

year 2012-13 was Rs. 5415 crore and the actual expenditure as on 31st March, is Rs. 4655.57 crore. Now this amount of Rs.5415 crore was actually reduced during the revision of the budget to Rs.4750.77 crore by the Ministry of Finance. The reason why the Ministry of Finance reduced this amount was because every year the Finance Ministry carries out a review of how much money has been spent till the month of December in each Ministry. Till last year, the Finance Ministry would look at the total money allotted and the total money spent and then they would impose the cut of 33 per cent and 15 per cent. This year, the Ministry of Finance changed the system and they said that the Ministry must spend 67 per cent of allocation under each scheme. Earlier it used to be out of the overall allocation. They changed it to each scheme and they said that if expenditure under a particular scheme is not 67 per cent till the third quarter, then that much will be cut away from the allocation of the Ministry. Now, the point is conceded that we should have ourselves made sure that we spend 67 per cent up to December. But the system had so far been that the Department would try to spend 67 per cent in the over all budget allocation and not in the schematic allocation. The major default that you will notice in the case of our Ministry is regarding the schemes pertaining to the NGO sector.

Explaining the reasons for less release of funds under the NGO pertaining schemes, the Secretary further informed:

“Now the NGO recommendation for the sector scheme come to the Ministry from the State Government and usually the recommendations came in bunches around December-January and the processing takes place thereafter. So, we had to suffer more than a 50 per cent cut in the allocations made for the NGO sector under various divisions, that is the Social Defence Division the Scheduled Castes division and the OBC division. So far the system had been that the proposals would be received sometime around December, we would process them and sanction the money. This year, unfortunately, because the system was changed, therefore, we had to suffer a major cut there. That was one reason. But if you look at the revised estimate, the Ministry was given Rs. 4750.76 crore, against which we were able to spend Rs. 4655.57 crore which is 98 per cent of the budget provided to us”.

2.7 The amount allocated to the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment as per Government of India expenditure is given in the following table:-

Table 2.7: Gross budgetary support to GOI Plan and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Amount in Rs. crore	
Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) to Plan 2013-14 of GOI	419068.0
Gross Budgetary Support to Plan Outlay of Department of SJ&E	6065.0

Department of SJ&E as per cent to total GBS to GOI Plan for 2013-14	1.447%
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Proposed Outlay and Approved Annual Outlay 2012-13

2.8 Department of Social Justice and Empowerment have furnished the following statement showing the allocations sought from the Planning Commission in 2013-14 and the amount actually allocated to the Department.

Table 2.5: Proposed Outlay and Approved Annual Outlay 2012-13

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment					
Proposed Outlay & Approved Annual Outlay 2013-14					
Rs. in Crore					
Sl. No.	Division	Proposed Outlay	2013-14		
			Annual Outlay		
			BE (ROC)**	NE*	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Scheduled Castes Development	13356	4571.70	93.30	4665
2.	Other Backward Classes	4950	1102.50	122.50	1225
3	Social Defence	209	118.8	13.20	132
	Misc. (Media + Secretariat + Research)	35	38.70	4.30	43
	Grand Total	18550	5831.7	233.30	6065

2.9 Commenting on the fact that the allocation sought had been curtailed to one third, the Secretary deposed before the Committee:

“Sir, Department had asked for Rs.18000 and odd crores for the year 2013-14 and has been allotted only Rs.6065 crore, where is the cut going to be expected. There are a few schemes which we were keen on implementing in the current year. As we showed to you during the course of our presentation, we have started a new scheme called the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for the Scheduled Castes children studying in Class IX and X. In 2012-13 we were given allocation of Rs.824 crore under the scheme and we finally ended up spending Rs.931.32 crore which means we over spent by Rs.100 odd crore. Our wish was that in the current year, we should extend the scheme further to classes 6, 7 and 8. In the classes

9 and 10, we are already covering about 40 lakh children. Probably, their number will increase next year because this was introduced for the first year. The purpose was to check the dropout rate of students our view is that if money is provided to the children as scholarship, then it will act as an incentive for the parents to send the children to school. So, it is possible that during the current year, the number of beneficiaries under the scheme may possibly go up from 40 lakhs to a higher number”.

12th Plan allocation

2.10 The Department have in a statement given the following details about the Twelfth Plan allocation:-

Table 2.10: Sectoral outlay of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for the 12th Plan.

Sl. No.	Bureau/Sector	Outlay
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Scheduled Castes Development	21321
2.	Other Backward Classes	6174
4.	Social Defence	1470
4	Miscellaneous(Media, Sectt., Research)	435
	Grand Total	29400

2.11 Responding to a question of the Committee, the Department stated that they had set up three Working Groups were set up which together recommended Rs. 4.26 lakh crore for 12th Plan for the Department of SJ&E.

2.12 The Working Groups submitted their reports to the Planning Commission which were considered by the Steering Committees set up by the Planning Commission under the Member In-charge of the sector. The recommendations of the Working Groups are presented by the Ministry before the Steering Committees in a series of meetings. However, the Steering Committee did not indicate any outlay for the sector during these meetings as the Ministry of Finance did not give them any indication of estimated gross budgetary support which would be available for the 12th Plan period. The outlay envisaged for the

Department of SJ&E in the 12th Plan Document at Rs 29400 crore was therefore, finalized by the Commission subsequently on the basis of the indication given by the Ministry of Finance about the likely availability of gross budgetary support during the plan period.

2.13 Elaborating further on the outlay as suggested by the working group and actual expenditure, the Department informed to the Committee that the Working Groups recommended the Plan Outlay for D/o SJ&E with the presumption to meet the full demand to the States especially in the OBC sector as well as for some new initiatives in other sectors as well. However, Planning Commission envisaged Ministry/Department-wise Plan Outlays in the 12th Plan Document based on the projected gross budgetary support likely to be available, as indicated by the Ministry of Finance, for the Central Plan during the 12th Plan period. The 12th Plan outlay envisaged for each Ministry/Department is only a indicative outlay which is operationalised through Annual Plans subject to the availability of GBS and the competing demands of various Ministries/Department and the emerging priorities of the Central Government during this period.

2.14 Further, the Department informed the Committee that no proposals were sent to the Planning Commission for dropping any scheme/programme during the 12th Plan period. However, as per the instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission, the proposals have been moved by the Department for continuation of the existing plan schemes in the 12th Five Year Plan and the approval of the competent authority has been obtained for their continuation in the 12th Plan.

2.15 When asked about the new schemes proposed in the 12th Plan, the Department furnished the following details on the various new schemes/programmes and initiatives which have been incorporated in the 12th Plan document, approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held in December, 2012:-

Table 2.15: New schemes proposed in 2013-14

(Rs. in crores)

Scheduled Castes Development		
S. No.	Scheme/Programme	Plan Outlay
1	Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial	14
2	Dr. Ambedkar National Centre for Social Justice	10
Other Backward Classes		
3	Educational Empowerment of Economically Backward classes Students	5
4	Scheme for Education and Economic Empowerment of DNTs and NTs	5
5	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for OBC students	10
6	National Overseas Scholarship for OBCs	5
Social Defence		
	Awareness Generation for Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007	2
8	Setting up of Helpline for Senior Citizens at National level	5
9	Setting up of Helpline for Sr Citizens at District level (in 120 Districts @ Rs.15 lakh per District)	2
10	Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens	2
11	Creation of National Trust for the Aged	2
12	Implementation of the National Policy on Senior Citizens	2
13	Detailed National Survey to assess the extent, pattern and trends on Drug and Substance Abuse in the Country	2
14	National Policy on Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse	2
15	Scheme of Integrated Programme for Rehabilitation of Beggars	10

2.16 The Committee are constrained to note the underutilization of funds in Plan allocations of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2012-13. Against a budgetary allocation of Rs. 5415 crore for the Department, the revised estimates were reduced to Rs. 4750.76 crore and the actual expenditure was Rs. 4657.36 crore. As informed by the Department, the cut was due to new expenditure norms whereby the Department must spend 67% of the allocation under each scheme by December. The Secretary submitted before the Committee that the major default was in the schemes pertaining to the NGO sector, and the delay being caused by the fact that the recommendations about grants to NGOs came to the Department from the State Governments usually in December – January and processing of the proposals took place thereafter. Taking cognizance of the revised expenditure norms and in order to ensure that there is no reduction in allocation at RE stage in any scheme, the Committee recommend that the Department impress upon the State Governments to send forward the proposals of NGOs, well in advance i.e. in the first quarter of the year itself so that they could be processed and funds sanctioned before the third quarter of the year to avoid reduction in allocation. The Committee also desire that the Ministry bring these new expenditure norms to the notice of the States and persuade them to send their proposals early in the first quarter of the financial year.

2.17 The Committee note that the Department had sought an allocation of Rs. 18550 crore for the annual plan 2013-14, which was curtailed to one third i.e. Rs. 6065 crore by the Planning Commission. The Committee further note that the 12th Plan allocation to the Department is only Rs.

29400 crore inspite of the fact the three working groups of the Planning Commission constituted for finalising the 12th Plan allocation of the Department had proposed an allocation of Rs. 4.26 lakh crore for the Plan period. The Committee express their unhappiness at the meagre allocation made to the Department for the 12th Plan as well as the allocation made in the budget 2013-14. The Committee desire that the Department should convey their concern to the Planning Commission, pursue vigorously with the Planning Commission for increase in allocation of funds in the 12th Plan so that in the existing schemes for the welfare of SCs and OBCs get successfully implemented and the Department is able to undertake new initiatives and expansion of some schemes like Pre-Matric scholarship for SC and OBC students for 6, 7 and 8 classes. This would go a long way in achieving the goal of helping the target groups in getting access to education and financial independence.

2.18 The Committee also feel that the synchronisation of the Central and State Governments schemes and pooling of resources for Social Sector Projects would improve the utilization of funds with better outputs. The Committee accordingly recommend that the matter should be taken up with the Planning Commission in this regard.

B DEVELOPMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES (EDUCATION SCHEMES)

Post-Matric Scholarship for SCs.

2.19 The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to Scheduled Caste students studying at post matriculation or post secondary stage to enable them to complete their education. As informed by the Department, the scheme was revised on 31.12.2010 with the following main modifications of revision of income ceiling of parents/guardians from all sources from existing Rs. 1.00 lakh p.a. to Rs. 2.00 lakh p.a.

2.20 The Department has stated that all the State Governments/UTs Administrations were advised to ensure that cash payment of scholarship is avoided and the scholarship is paid to the students through post offices/Bank accounts and smart cards by opening bank accounts in the name of the beneficiaries Several States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have already started payment of scholarship through beneficiary bank account directly.

2.21 The details of Budgetary Allocation and Central Assistance released during last three years is as under:-

Table 2.21: Budget allocation and Central assistance released

Year	Budget allocation (Rs. in Crore)	Amount released (Rs. in Crore)	Beneficiaries (in lakhs)
2010-11	1700	2097.31	42.98
2011-12	2218	2711.19	48.00
2012-13	1500.00	1656.60	51.00 (anticipated)

2.22 Elaborating further on the details worked out in implementation of the schemes, the Department informed that the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme, in its first phase, is being implemented in 43 District in 16 States/UTs viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Goa, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura. In its second phase, the scheme is likely to be extended in another 78 districts with effect from 1.7.2013 encompassing in 26 States/UTs. The operationalization of the DBT system, *inter-alia*, involves a few steps viz. preparation of digitized list of beneficiaries, opening bank accounts of all the beneficiaries and obtaining the Aadhaar numbers for them as well as seeding the Aadhaar numbers with the database of beneficiaries and bank accounts. The.. the Departments of the States/UTs have been instructed by the D/o SJ&E especially in regard to the implementation of DBT System in its identified schemes. To further orient the State Government officials, D/o SJ&E organized a one day workshop on 18.12.2012 during the first phase of implementation of DBT scheme. Besides, the Planning Commission, Department of Financial Services, Department of Electronics and Information Technology have also issued suitable guidelines and instructions to Central Ministries/Departments including to States/UTs for the implementation of DBT Scheme. To share the experiences of States/UTs as well as to prepare for the second phase of DBT scheme with effect from 1.7.2013 in all 121 districts of 26 States/UTs, D/o SJ&E organized a meeting with States/UTs on 18th April, 2013.

2.23 The Department has stated that Government of India's decision to introduce a system of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the individual beneficiaries under scholarship schemes in their Aadhaar enabled bank accounts would result in removing layers of intermediary channels. The availability of digitized list of beneficiaries seeded with Aadhaar numbers would be a pre-condition for releasing funds under the above schemes from the year 2013-14. In turn, the transfer of funds directly to the beneficiaries accounts, will remove the need for obtaining Utilization Certificates from the States Governments/UT Administration.

Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students studying in IX and X

2.24 The scheme has been introduced w.e.f. 1.7.2012. The scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which will receive 100% central assistance from the Government of India for expenditure under the scheme over and above their commuted liability. The Committee apprised that during the year 2012-13 as against a budget allocation of Rs. 824 crore, assistance of Rs. 931.37 crore released to 6.2 lakh anticipated beneficiaries:-

2.25 The Secretary further elaborated in response to a query of the Committee:
“But what we were really looking at was to expand the scheme and bring it from class 6, 7 and 8 also within the ambit. If we brought in classes 6, 7 and 8, the number of beneficiaries that we are estimating who would benefit from this scheme, would be somewhere in vicinity of 70 to 75 lakh. Now, because the money has not been provided, I am not very confident that the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission would allow us to extend the scheme to class 6, 7 and 8. We would certainly make an effort again to go to them and request them to expand the scheme for us.

But considering the amount of money that is provided to us, I am not very sanguine that they will agree. That is one place where we are going to have a difficulty”.

Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships for SC students

2.26 The scheme provides financial assistance to Scheduled Caste students for pursuing research studies leading to MPhil, PhD and equivalent research degree in universities, research institutions and scientific institutions. University Grants Commission (UGC) is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme 2000 Research Fellowships (Junior Research Fellows).

2.27 In response to a query of the Committee, the Department have informed that UGC did not send any proposal for release of funds under the scheme during current financial year. Therefore no funds could be released to UGC. Utilization Certificates (UCs) amounting to Rs. 153.02 crores are pending with UGC.

2.28 The BE, RE and Actual Expenditure for the previous years alongwith BE for the current year is as follows:-

Table 2.28: Budget at a glance

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	160.00	144.00	144.00
2011-12	125.00	125.00	103.69
2012-13	125.00	25.00	0.00
2013-14	100.00		

2.29 Depositing before the Committee on the reason for zero expenditure in

2012-13, the Secretary stated:-

“....This time we asked UGC to give us a list of the beneficiaries and also give us a utilisation certificate of 150 crore that was pending with them. These two things they have been unable to supply so far. We took up correspondence with them. The correspondence started at the level of the Joint Secretary; it was raised to my level. I sent a large number of letters.

Then we raised the level further and we got our hon. Minister to send a number of letters to the hon. Minister of HRD saying that this is a problem which needs to be resolved. Meetings were held and the UGC now tells us that they have now been able to overcome this problem and hopefully this year they will be ensuring that no such difficulty takes place”.

2.30 The problem was posed to the UGC. The representative of UGC explained:

“During the year 2012-13, UGC has released the money to the department research centres and students to the tune of Rs. 65.02 cores. Sir, the reason behind this is that we have not received the utilisation certificate from the university, the students where they are doing the research work”.

2.31 The Committee note that the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has the responsibility of empowering the Scheduled Castes through its various schemes most important of them being the Post-Matric and Pre-Matric scholarship schemes. Allaying the worry of the Committee, the representatives of the Department testified that the State Governments / UTs Administrations 'have been advised to ensure that cash payment of scholarships is avoided and scholarships is paid through post offices/Bank accounts'. The representative further submitted that Government have decided to introduce a system of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the individual beneficiaries under the scholarship schemes in their Aadhaar enabled Bank Accounts. The availability of digitized list of beneficiaries seeded with Aadhaar number would be a pre-requisite for release of funds. Having noted the fact that the scholarships reach the beneficiaries at the fag end of the year due to the cumbersome procedures, the Committee hope that the new system would help the SC students in getting the scholarship money early at the start of the academic session. The Committee however caution that digitized lists along with Aadhaar number of all beneficiaries of the scheme would need to be submitted by the State Governments in a time bound manner for the success of the new system of Direct Benefit Transfer and the Department would have to monitor the same scrupulously.

2.32 The Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SC students is an important scheme for the educational empowerment of SC students by providing financial assistance to Scheduled Caste students for pursuing research studies leading to MPhil, PhD and equivalent research degree in universities, research institutions and scientific institutions. The

Committee however are dismayed to note that against an allocation of Rs. 125 crore, RE was reduced to Rs. 25.00 crore but the Actual expenditure was nil in 2012-13. The explanation of the Department to the Committee was that the funds could not be released in 2012-13 as University Grants Commission (UGC), which is the implementing agency, neither furnished the list of beneficiaries nor the utilization certificate for Rs. 150 crore of the previous years. Taking a serious note on the tardy implementation of the scheme, the Committee recommend that the Ministry strictly monitor the scheme in coordination with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and UGC so as to ensure that the universities award the required number of fellowships to deserving SC students and that there is 100% utilization of funds.

C. SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO SCHEDULED CASTES SUB-PLAN

2.33 The Central Scheme of Special Central Assistance to Schedule Castes Sub Plan was introduced in March 1980. The main objective is to give a thrust to family oriented schemes of economic development of Scheduled Castes below the poverty line.

The Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan is released to States/UT Administrations on the basis of the following criteria: -

(i)	SC population of State/UT	40%
(ii)	Relative backwardness of State/UT	10%
(iii)	Percentage of SCs Families in the State/UT covered by Composite economic development programmes in the State Plan to enable them to cross the poverty line and	25%
(iv)	Percentage of Special Component Plan to the Annual Plan as compared to SC population percentage of State/UT	25%

2.34 Funds under the scheme are provided as an additive to States/UTs implementing Scheduled Castes Component Plan. The amount of subsidy admissible under the scheme is 50% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per beneficiary. Upto 10% of the total release to States/UTs can be utilized for infrastructure development in villages having 50 % or more SCs population. 15% of the SCA is to be utilized by the States/UTs for SC women.

2.35 During 2012-13, against the allocation of Rs.1200.00 crores, RE was kept as Rs. 1050 crore. Rs872 crores was released to various States/UT Administrations. Allocation for 2013-14 in the scheme is kept at Rs. 1051.00 crores.

2.36 When enquired about the reasons for less release of funds during 2012-13, the Department explained that the Central Assistance (CA) under the

Scheme, during the financial year 2012-13, has been released on the basis of States/UTs meeting certain stipulated conditions like submission of Utilization Certificates for the central assistance released till penultimate financial year, audited figures of expenditure, action Plan, etc. As and when States/UTs furnished requisite information for release of central assistance, the case was processed for release of CA due. A sum of Rs.67204.82 lakh was released to 14 States (as on 31.3.2013) which submitted the complete proposals under the Scheme. The State-wise break up of central assistance released during 2012-13 is given below:

Table 2.36: Special Central Assistance released to States/UTs during 2012-13 (As on 31.3.2013)

		Rs. in lakhs
S.No	States/UTs	Actual Release
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	9584.00
2	Chattisgarh	1759.00
3	Haryana	1565.00
4	Himachal Pradesh	1315.38
5	Karnataka	6755.00
6	Madhya Pradesh	6183.00
7	Maharashtra	5613.00
8	Odisha	4707.00
9	Rajasthan	5727.00
10	Sikkim	336.00
11	Tamil Nadu	13116.00
12	Tripura	941.00
13	Uttar Pradesh	11618.00
14	West Bengal	11800.00
15	Assam	1275.26
16	Gujarat	1783.00
17	Jharkhand	1108.42
18	Kerala	1405.76
19	Uttarkhand	913.00
	Total	87204.82

2.37 Asked to explain less allocation in BE 2013-14 when the number of beneficiaries is expected to increase from 7 lakhs in 2012-13 to 10 lakhs in 2013-

						Col.5 to 4				Col.9 to 8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	16.20	36800.00	6131.39	5364.48	16.66	43000.00	7233.35	5961.28	16.82
2	Assam	6.90	7645.00	140.27	117.60	1.83	9000.00	165.52	165.52	1.84
3	Bihar	15.70	20000.00	3375.12	1731.85	16.88	24000.00	4245.72	4245.72	17.69
4	Chhattisgarh	11.60	13230.00	1534.63	1531.53	11.60	16710.00	1847.77	1570.60	11.06
5	Goa	1.80	2710.00	24.51	13.76	0.90	3320.00	35.74	15.40	1.08
6	Gujarat	7.10	30000.00	1363.45	1143.74	4.54	38000.00	2084.04		5.48
7	Haryana	19.30	18260.00	2309.65	1904.61	12.65	20358.00	2593.29	2660.70	12.74
8	Himachal Pradesh	24.70	3000.00	742.00	733.65	24.73	3300.00	816.00	816.00	24.73
9	Jammu & Kashmir	7.60	6000.00	455.65	NR	7.59	6600.00	535.78	535.78	8.12
10	Jharkhand	11.80	9240.00	956.24	740.24	10.35	15300.00	1446.05	1446.05	9.45
11	Karnataka	16.20	31050.00	3866.59	2926.01	12.45	38070.00	4632.99	4632.99	12.17
12	Kerala	9.80	10025.00	983.45	862.07	9.81	12010.00	1178.18	1178.18	9.81
13	Madhya Pradesh	15.20	19000.00	2918.00	2708.12	15.36	23000.00	3575.58	3418.17	15.55
14	Maharashtra	10.20	37916.00	3867.11	2478.13	10.20	42000.00	4233.00	3938.36	10.08
15	Manipur	2.80	2600.00	62.40	42.40	2.40	3210.00	89.62	71.82	2.79
16	Odisha	16.50	11000.00	1817.90	1726.26	16.53	15200.00	2033.38	2033.38	13.38
17	Punjab	28.90	9150.00	2640.00	1881.07	28.85	11520.00	3323.52	1433.78	28.85
18	Rajasthan	17.20	24000.00	3796.00	3364.35	15.82	27500.00	4555.62	4344.10	16.57
19	Sikkim	5.02	1175.00	30.77	18.20	2.62	1400.00	27.65	27.65	1.98
20	Tamil Nadu	19.00	20068.00	4240.73	4210.00	21.13	23535.00	5014.30	5014.30	21.31
21	Tripura	17.40	1860.00	308.25	258.02	16.57	1950.00	237.35	237.35	12.17
22	Uttar Pradesh	21.10	42000.00	8881.00	8657.89	21.15	47000.00	9938.15	8973.16	21.15
23	Uttarakhand	17.90	6800.00	1224.00	608.65	18.00	7800.00	1404.00	650.80	18.00
24	West Bengal	23.00	17985.00	4142.40	2698.34	23.03	22214.00	5118.98	5118.98	23.04
25	Chandigarh	17.50	462.73	81.20	81.33	17.55	661.89	115.85	118.05	17.50
26	Delhi	16.90	11400.00	1926.60	1901.56	16.90	15133.00	2064.99	2390.88	13.65
27	Puducherry*	16.20	2500.00	291.83	206.99	11.67	2750.00	412.85	214.72	15.01
	ALL INDIA	16.20	395876.7	58111.14	47910.8	14.68	474541.89	68959.2	61213.72	14.53

Source: Planning Commission

2.40 From the data given in the table above it is seen that during 2010-11, 13 States and in 2011-12, 16 States fell short of earmarking funds in proportion to their SC population under SCSP. The Committee were apprised that the Planning Commission got the evaluation of "Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled caste Sub Plan (SCSP)" conducted through National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. The major recommendations of the Institute are given below and the Ministry has moved a proposal to carry out the revisions in the Scheme.

Suggestions contained in the evaluation Study on Special Central assistance (SCA) to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad

1. Criteria for release of funds to States/UTs under SCA to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP):

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----|
| a. Preparation of the Gram Panchayat SCSP | : | 15% |
| b. Villages in States/UTs having 50% or more than 50% Scheduled Castes population | : | 60% |
| c. Villages in States having less than 50% Scheduled Castes populations | : | 20% |
| d. Preparation of village development plan (VDP) for Scheduled Castes concentration villages | : | 05% |

2. During the 12th Five Year Plan, 100% of the Special Central Assistance (SCA) to the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) should be allocated to the States which have villages having 50% or more than Scheduled Castes population.

3. i) All the critical gaps should be met from the Special Central Assistance (SCA) by way of giving full subsidy.
- ii) The policy of permitting the utilization of the SCA as subsidy with bank loan should be dispensed with. The report envisages such loan schemes are not linked and converged with Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). SCA can be utilized optimally only in a situation of convergent implementation of the area based and family-oriented income generating schemes within the framework of the SCSP and TSP approach.

4. There should be SCSP micro level plans at village level.

2.41 When asked about the allocation made by the Ministries/Departments as per the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission, the Department explained that the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) (earlier known as Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes) is in force since 1979-80, to ensure proportionate flow of Plan resources for the development of Scheduled Castes.

Guidelines on formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP (& TSP) had been issued by the Planning Commission from time to time. Consolidated guidelines in this regard were last issued to the States/UTs and 62 Central Ministries/Departments in October, 2005 and December, 2006, for implementation from the Annual Plan, 2007-08. These, inter alia, required concerned Ministries to earmark funds under SCSP from the Plan outlay, at least in proportion to the percentage of SC population in the country, which was 16.2% as per census, 2001. In view of this, the Planning Commission vide its Order dated 4-6-2010 constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of its Member, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, with Secretaries of Ministries of SJ&E and Tribal Affairs and Principal Secretaries of four States as Members, to re-examine and revise the extant Guidelines for implementation of SCSP (& TSP). The Task Force submitted its report regarding revision of SCSP/TSP guidelines in respect of Central Ministries / Departments on 25th November, 2010.

2.42 Based on its recommendations, the Planning Commission issued instructions in December, 2010 to concerned Central Ministries, for introduction of a modified system of SCSP and TSP from the Annual Plan, 2011-12, under which different Ministries/Departments will have different obligations to earmark funds under SCSP (and TSP) depending on their nature of work. As per these instructions, only 25 Ministries / Departments would be required to earmark varying percentages of their Plan outlay under SCSP so that, overall, at least 16.2% of the total Gross Budgetary Support to Central Plan outlay, gets earmarked under SCSP. The status of implementation of the instructions of the Planning Commission from 2011-12 to 2013-14 by Central Ministries / Departments is given below:

Table 2.42: Status of implementation of GBS to Central Plan outlay and SCSP funds

(Amount in Rs crore)					
Financial Year	GBS to Central Plan Outlay as per Statement 12 of Exp Budget (Volume-I)	Out of Col (2) Funds to be earmarked under SCSP as stipulated 16.2%	Funds actually Earmarked (BE) by identified Ministries/ Departments	Col (4) as per cent to Col (2)	Gap between stipulated 16.2% and Col (5)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
2011-12	335521	45280.42	31279.25	9.32%	6.88%
2012-13	391027	63346.37	37113.03	9.49%	6.71%
2013-14	419068	67889.02	41561.13	9.92	6.28%

2.43 The following table shows the Ministry /Scheme-wise earmarking of Plan Outlays under SCSP and TSP for 2011-12:-

Table 2.43: Plan outlays under SCSP and TSP, Ministry-wise

S. No.	Ministry/Department	Earmarking of Funds Recommended for the Ministry (In Per cent)	
		SCSP	TSP*
1	2	3	4
Category I	Ministries/Departments with no obligation for Earmarking Funds under SCSP and TSP	0.00	0.00
Category II	Ministries/Departments Required Earmark certain proportion of their Plan Outalys under SCSP and/or TSP		
1	Ministry of Power	8.30	0.00
2	Department of Telecommunications	0.00	1.00
3	Ministry of Tourism	0.00	2.50
4	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	0.00	3.50
5	Ministry of Water Resources	0.00	1.30
6	Ministry of Coal	0.00	8.20
7	Ministry of Mines	0.00	4.00
8	Ministry of MSME	12.00	8.20
9	Ministry of Textiles	5.00	1.20
10	Ministry of AYUSH	5.00	2.00
11	Department of Food and Public Distribution	0.00	1.40
12	Ministry of Environment and Forests	2.20	8.20
13	Ministry of DONER	2.00	0.00
14	Ministry of New & Renewable Energy	3.50	0.00

15	Department of Information Technology	2.00	6.70
16	Ministry of Culture	0.00	2.00
17	Department of Science and Technology	2.50	2.50
18	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	16.20	6.40
19	Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying	16.20	0.00
20	Department of Higher Education	15.00	7.50
21	Ministry of Labor and Employment	16.20	8.20
22	Department of Land Resources	16.20	10.00
23	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	16.20	8.20
24	Department of Youth Affairs	16.20	8.20
25	Department of Health and Family Welfare	15.20	8.20
26	Department of Sports	15.00	8.20
27	Department of Drinking Water Supply	22.00	10.00
28	Ministry of HUPA	22.50	2.40
29	Department of School Education & Literacy	20.00	8.20
30	Department of Rural Development	25.00	17.50
31	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	72.50	0.00
32	Ministry of Women and Child Development	20.00	8.20
33	Tribal affairs	0.00	100.00
	Applying these percentages to respective Ministries/ Departments' BE -2010-11, the average BE in percentage terms expected to be earmarked under SCSP & TSP	14.30	8.2

2.44 It is observed from the table below that major defaulters in earmarking the plan funds under SCSP have been the Ministries of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. The extent of deviation by these Ministries has been as follows:-

Table 2.44: Deviations in SCSP by Central Ministries

Ministry/ Department	Rs. in Crores					
	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
	Funds to be earmarked under SCSP	Funds actually Earmarked under SCSP	Funds to be earmarked under SCSP	Funds actually Earmarked under SCSP	Funds to be earmarked under SCSP	Funds actually Earmarked under SCSP
Ministry of Rural Development	18525.0	4375.06 (23.61%)	18293.75	4942.13 (27.07%)	18607.25	6358.37 (34.17%)
Ministry of Panchayati Raj	32.40	14.59 (45.03%)	48.60	34.42 (70.82%)	81.0	75.49 (93.19%)

2.45 It is further revealed from the above Table that Department of Rural Development has grossly under-earmarked the funds under SCSP vis-à-vis stipulated funds to be earmarked by them.

2.46 The Department further informed that the 12th Plan Document recognized the shortcomings in the implementation of SCSP/TSP. Based on the experience of implementing the SCSP/TSP by the Central Ministries/Departments, the document says that the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission will be reviewed to remove any shortcomings, so as to ensure that at least 16.2% of the Central Plan Outlay is earmarked under the Schemes/Programmes that benefit the SC community demonstratively. In pursuance of this recommendation, the Planning Commission has constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee at the Secretary level vide its letter dated 17.1.2013 to examine ways to “effectively implement SCSP as essential instrument of accomplishing inclusive growth” with the following terms of references:

- a. To explore the possibility of converting the prevalent “post-facto accounting approach’ to the SCSP/TSP into a robust ‘pro-active planning’ approach with a view to ensure inclusive growth. In this regard, rather than focusing only on ‘earmarking’ funds on pro-rata accounting basis in the existing schemes, new and innovative schemes should be proposed which have the potential to bridge the gap in development between SCs/STs and others.
- b. To prepare guidelines for effective implementation of SCSP/TSP in the 12th Five Year Plan. The Inter-Ministerial Committee should especially take into account the existing guidelines issued in 2006, the recommended guidelines of the Narendra Jadhav Task Force 2010, recommendations of the National Advisory Council and other concerned organizations and propose measures to strengthen the delivery and implementation mechanisms.

2.47 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment also took up the matter from time to time with the Prime Minister, Finance Minister as well as with the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to ensure *inter alia* that there is no shortfall in allocation under SCSP vis-à-vis the stipulated level of 16.2%. They also stressed on the need for obtaining Cabinet approval, at the earliest, on the revised guidelines for SCSP for their effective implementation.

2.48 Elaborating on the issue of the gap between stipulated 16.2% and percentage earmarked for SCSP as per the report of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, the Secretary informed the Committee during evidence:

“.....There is still a gap of three per cent. This was converted to rupee terms and it was felt that this would amount to something around Rs. 8000 crore which was the shortfall which the Planning Commission had thought that they will provide as a lump sum and then that money would be allocated for the sector. It did not happen. When the time for the finalisation of 12th Plan document came, we as a Ministry raised the issue that we are not ready to accept that formulation because you say that you will have a notional allocation for each Ministry, you will notionally feel that this money has been transferred and notionally, 16.2 per cent will work out is not what the rules published by the Planning Commission say. The document of the Planning Commission says that as far as SCSP is concerned, only that money will be counted which is actually utilised for the betterment of the SC people and which can be physically quantified. So, if it is to be physically quantified, then I must have not the notional figure but the actual figure. So, we had a lot of correspondence and discussions with the Planning Commission. You will be happy to know that after our pursuing the matter with the Planning Commission, it has now set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee which will go into this matter”.

In regard to the issue discussed in the inter Ministerial Committee meeting, the Secretary of the Department submitted:

“We have had only one meeting of the Inter Ministerial Committee so far. But in the first meeting we had indicated to them that we as a Ministry which are ready to take up the responsibility of interacting with all the Ministries of the Central Government to see that the scheme that are selected for being included in the SCSP are such schemes that will eventually benefit target groups..... this is my target group and I have to make sure that the Ministry will address the concerns of our target group. We will go to each Ministry, sit with them and work out the schemes in

consultation with the Ministry as well as the target group and decide that these are the schemes that we need for the upliftment of these people. So, we have indicated our willingness though we had only one meeting so far. The report is yet to come. Probably there will be three or four meetings and then, we will be able to put across our point of view”.

2.49 The Committee note that the Central Scheme of Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan was introduced in 1980, with the main objective to give a thrust to family oriented schemes for economic development of the Scheduled Castes below the poverty line. The Committee are however dismayed to note that the allocation of Rs. 1200 crore for the scheme in BE 2012-13 was reduced to 1050 core and the release of funds was only Rs. 872 crore due to States not meeting the stipulated conditions in submission of UCs, audited figure of expenditure, etc. The Committee express their disapproval of the lackadaisical approach of States in submission of documents resulting in less release of crucial funds meant for a historically disadvantaged sections of society. The Committee recommend that the Department should take up the matter with the defaulting State Governments at higher level and impress upon them to timely submit the documents so that the entire amount allocated under the scheme gets utilized for approved purposes.

2.50 As per the data available to the Committee as many as 13 States fell short of earmarking funds in proportion to SC population during 2010-11 and 16 States during 2011-12. The Committee are dismayed that even after so many years of implementation of the scheme, the number of defaulting States is very high and despite the fact that the development of these disadvantaged groups remains the focal point of the developmental strategy . As approval of the State Plans is done by the Planning

Commission, the Committee desire that the Planning Commission devise some mechanism of penal action and accountability against the erring States so that they strictly enforce the guidelines in allocating funds in proportion to their SC population. The Committee further recommend that the Department should take expeditious action to revamp the scheme in the light of the recommendations made by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad who have recently carried out a study in this regard and the keep the Committee apprised.

2.51 The Committee note that SCSP has been in force since 1979-80 with a view to ensuring proportionate flow of resources for the development of Scheduled Castes involving 62 Ministries. However in the year 2010, the number of Ministries, which were required to earmark funds in proportion to the Scheduled Caste population was curtailed from 62 to 25 following the recommendations of a task force constituted under Dr. Narendra Jadhav. 25 Central Ministries are now required to earmark funds in varying percentages of their plan outlay so that at least 16.2% of the total Gross Budgetary Support to Central Plan outlay gets earmarked under SCSP. However the Committee are shocked that, as per the data available, the proportion of funds earmarked under SCSP by the various Ministries stands at 9.32% in 2011-12, 9.49% in 2012-13 and 9.92% in 2013-14. The Committee also find that two main Ministries which are expected to play pivotal role in the development of Scheduled Castes i.e. Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj have not been earmarking the stipulated funds under SCSP. The Ministry of Rural Development is allocating only 1/3 of the stipulated amount. While expressing strong disapproval, the Committee recommend that the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment should play a proactive role not only in persuading the Central Ministries in allocating funds for SCSP

as per stipulated norms but also help them in devising plans and projects for the upliftment of the target groups by strict monitoring and keep the Committee apprised.

2.52 The Committee further note that the average budgetary allocation actually earmarked by the 25 Ministries is 14.30% which is about 2% less than the stipulated 16.2%. The Committee note that the Planning Commission has set up an inter-Ministerial Committee to look into the matter. The Committee desire that the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment take up the matter with the Planning Commission so that the IMC examine the issue in right earnest and give its recommendations to Planning Commission in a time bound manner.

D. DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES (EDUCATION SCHEMES)

I Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for OBC students

2.53 The scheme is intended to promote higher education by providing financial support to OBC students studying at Post-Matric/Post Secondary levels including PhD degree. The scholarships are awarded through State Governments/UT Administrations to which the applicant belongs for study in recognised institutions. Under the scheme, 100% Central assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations and above their committed liability. The scheme has been revised w.e.f. 1.7.2011. The major changes effected under the scheme are that parental income ceiling has been raised from Rs. 44.500/- to Rs. 1 lakh per annum as also increase in maintenance and other allowances for OBC students.

2.54 The Department have furnished the following table giving the BE, RE and expenditure position of Department in the scheme as follows:-

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	350.00	379.00	353.35
2011-12	535.00	535.00	527.99
1012-13	625.00	722.35	666.45
2013-14	900.00		

2.55 The demand from the States/UTs under the Post Matric Scholarship for OBC students is much higher than the budget allocation. Against the budget allocation of Rs. 625.00 crore during 2012-13, the expenditure under the scheme is Rs. 666.45 crore (up to 31.3.2013). The main reason for less expenditure is due to non –receipt of sufficient proposals from the North-Eastern States. It is proposed to cover 25 lakh (approximate) beneficiaries under the Scheme during 2013-14. Also the income ceiling of family to avail the scholarship is Rs. 44,500/-. The scheme is under revision and it is proposed to

fix the income ceiling for scholarship at Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum at par with the income ceiling available under the scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students.

2.56 The Committed liability under the Scheme is indicated in the proposals furnished by the respective States/UTs to the Ministry. Funds are released to the State Governments based on these projections. However, information related to fulfillment of the committed liability by the States/UTs is not maintained centrally”.

II PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OBCs

2.57 The aim of the scheme is to motivate children of OBCs studying at Pre-Matric stage. As such, scholarships are awarded to students belonging to OBCs whose parents/guardian’s income for all sources does not exceed Rs. 44,500/- per annum.

2.58 The Ministry furnished the following figures about the budget status of the scheme:

Table 2.58 Budget status of Post-Matric scholarship scheme for OBC scheme

(Rs. in crore)

	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	50.00	50.00	44.63
2011-12	50.00	45.00	40.69
2012-13	50.00	50.00	46.52
2013-14	150.00		

2.59 Elaborating on a query regarding the various aspects of the scheme, the Department submitted in a written reply:-

“The budget allocation under the Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBCs scheme has been very less in comparison to the demands of the States. Further, the scheme is under revision in terms of raising the income ceiling, funding pattern and revising the scholarship rates. This will result in higher financial requirement. It is proposed to cover approximately 25 lakh beneficiaries under the Scheme during 2013-14.

Presently, the income ceiling of family to avail the scholarship is Rs.44,500/-. The scheme is under revision and it is proposed to fix the income ceiling for

scholarship at Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum at par with the income ceiling available under the scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students”.

III. Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls

2.60 The Department has furnished the following figures for BE, RE and actual expenditure under the schemes as follows:-

Table 2.60: Budget for OBC boys and girls hostel

(Rs. in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	45.00	33.00	25.59
2011-12	45.00	25.00	16.07
2012-13	45.00	15.00	14.76
2013-14	45.00		

2.61 The Department informed the Committee that the scheme of Construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls is under revision. It is proposed to build integrated hostels and revise the period of construction and cost of construction to bring it at par with the Scheme of Construction of Hostels for SC students. It is expected that upon revision of the Scheme, the Ministry will be able to consider more proposals for construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls.

2.62 The Secretary elaborated on the various education schemes for OBCs as follows:

“We wanted this year to do something for the other Backward Classes sector also. There are two major scholarship schemes under the OBC sector. One is the Pre-Matric Scholarship for the children of OBCs. The total budget allocation for the Ministry under the scheme is Rs. 50 crore the OBC population in the country is probably between 42 to 52 per cent. Now, to take care of such a large population – if we take the conservative figure of 40 per cent of a country with a population of 120 crore – an amount of Rs. 50 crore is certainly not a sum which we really can talk about with any great pride. So, we had wanted that we must increase this and try to bring it at par with the schemes of SC students or we must try to reach somewhere near it. `

2.63 The witness conceded that

“We are not going to reach the target give the amount is being given to which the SC children as far as the OBC children are concerned we pay Rs.25 scholarship to the lower classes up to class 5. Then we pay Rs.40 up to class 8 and we pay Rs.50 to classes IX and X. wanted to increase the amount to Rs.75 or Rs.100 per child. We had written to the hon. Prime Minister also. We had requested for an additional amount of Rs.1950 crore additional making a total of Rs.2000 crore under the pre-Matric Scholarship scheme for children of OBC. This will also suffer. Of course, considering the pressure that we had built up, the Planning commission and the Ministry of Finance have agreed and they have increased the allocation under this scheme from Rs.50 crore to Rs.150 crore which is a three times increase but if you look at it irrespective of the amount from the number that we had asked, this number is far too less”.

2.64 In regard to Post-Matric scholarship scheme of OBC, the Secretary

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment deposed:

“Similarly, in the case of the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme, the total allocation under this head is Rs.625 crore for 2012-13. Now the Ministry had wanted the allocation under the OBC sector under Post-Matric Scholarship also to be raised to Rs.2000 crore because today the Scheme is a fund-limited scheme. We are unable to provide the amount that is required or requested for by the various State Governments. What we do is that we just say since the total amount available with me is Rs.625 crore we will look at the total population of the state, look at the population of the country, divide it and by virtue of a formula, we decide which particular state will get how much notional allocation. What this means is that if there are ten OBC children in a class, the amount of money being provided by the Central Government may suffice for giving scholarship to 3-4 children only. The other 6-7 children will not get the scholarship. The State Governments will have to decide which children get the scholarship we wanted that we must try to address this issue again, I do not think that we will be able to address this issue”.

2.65 The Committee note that the Backward Class division of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment runs the Post-Matric and Pre-Matric scholarship schemes as also scheme of Hostels for OBC boys and girls. The Committee find that only a small percentage of OBC students are getting access to the scholarships, and therefore the scope of the schemes need to be expanded to cover more children in accordance with the OBC population in the country. The Committee therefore recommend that more funds may be allocated under the education schemes for OBCs and the income ceiling revised so as to bring it at par with the ceilings for similar schemes for the SC students.

2.66 The Committee are deeply concerned that the BE for OBC boys and girls hostel scheme has remained static at Rs. 45 crore from 2010-11 to 2013-14, but the RE has shown downward trend ranging progressively from Rs. 33 crore to Rs. 15 crore. What disturbs the Committee most is that the expenditure continued to decline in these years from Rs. 25.59 crore to Rs. 14.76 crore. The Committee were apprised that the scheme is under revision and there is a proposal to build integrated hostels and revise the period of construction and cost of construction to bring it at par with the similar scheme for the SC students. Obviously, this would involve considerable increase in allocation for the scheme. The Committee recommend early revision of the scheme so that availability of hostel facilities helps in the educational development of OBCs. Further, the anxiety and deep concern of the Committee may be brought to the notice of all concerned so that adequate funds are sanctioned for the successful implementation of the scheme.

E. SOCIAL DEFENCE

Scheme for construction of Old Age Homes

2.67 The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment of Lok Sabha in their Report on the "Maintenance & Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill 2007" noted that "since establishment of old age homes is stipulated in the proposed legislation, the Government should make adequate provision for grants-in-aid to the State Governments for establishing and maintaining old age homes in the proposed legislation itself, for which suitable amendment in the proposed legislation may be made". The Committee had also urged the Government to formulate a long-term plan to establish adequate number of well-maintained Old Age Homes throughout the country at the earliest so that maximum number of deserving and destitute senior citizens could be accommodated in such Homes. The Working Group on Social Defence, constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of strategies for the 11th Five Year Plan, also recommended - (i) transfer of Non Plan Scheme to Plan to facilitate establishment of old age homes on a larger scale and (ii) to make municipalities, statutory local bodies and State Governments also eligible to access grants under the Scheme.

2.68 In response to a query on the funds allocated under the scheme, the Department informed that an outlay of Rs 80 crore was kept for the Scheme in 2012-13 so as to initiate the process afresh for launching the scheme during 12th Plan period, if it is included in the 12th Plan document as recommended by the Working Group. The Department approached the Planning Commission again for seeking 'in-principle' approval for the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme,

namely, "Assistance for establishment of old age homes for indigent senior citizens".

2.69 The Department have further informed that in a recent development, the Planning Commission was of the view that in-situ rehabilitation facilitated by the National Old Age Pension Scheme is much better and also in keeping with the Indian culture, rather than put senior citizens in separate old age homes. Further, Planning Commission stated that running old age homes is largely a non-recurring expenditure and it would therefore, be more appropriate if such Schemes are run by the State Governments. The 12th Plan Document envisages establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens with integrated multi-facility centre of varying capacity (25, 60 and 120) in 640 districts of the country, through State Governments. Therefore, the onus of construction of old age homes will be on the State Governments/UT Administrations during the 12th Plan period.

2.70 In addition, the Department also proposes the following new schemes in 12th five year plan for Senior Citizens:-

The new Schemes that have been proposed in the 12th Five Year Plan Document are given below:

- (i) Awareness generation for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007
- (ii) Setting up Helpline for Senior Citizens at the National and District Levels
- (iii) Setting up a National Commission for Senior Citizens
- (iv) Creation of National Trust for the Aged
- (v) Scheme for Implementation of various provisions of the New National Policy on Senior Citizens
- (vi) Setting up of Bureau for Socio-economic empowerment of senior citizens at District level
- (vii) Issue of smart Identity cards for senior citizens
- (viii) Health Insurance for senior citizens

2.71 The Committee note that in pursuance of their earlier recommendation in the 28th Report (14th Lok Sabha) on the “Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2007” and the recommendation of the working group on 11th Plan for formulation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of old age homes, an outlay of Rs. 80 crore was earmarked in the BE of 2012-13 and the Department had approached the Planning Commission for ‘in principle’ approval of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Surprisingly, in a recent development, the Planning Commission taking a different position on the issue have come to the view that running old age homes is largely a non-recurring expenditure and it would therefor be more appropriate for the State Governments to run the old age homes. Although the Committee acknowledge that the onus for running the old age homes should be on the State Governments, yet they feel that liberal Central Assistance should be provided for construction of old age homes in each district so that the scheme takes off and constraint of funds does not become a hindrance in execution of the scheme by the States. The Committee are happy to note that certain new schemes are proposed to be launched for the senior citizens during 12th Plan. Considering the growing aging population and the changing socio-economic milieu and the impact of globalized world on our cultural mores, the Committee consider it imperative that the schemes contemplated are implemented expeditiously. The Committee also desire that immediate steps such as setting up help-lines for senior citizens should be taken.

NEW DELHI;

23rd April, 2013
3rd Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)

HEMANAND BISWAL
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

**MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON MONDAY, 1st APRIL,
2013**

The Committee met from 1235 hrs. to 1355 hrs. in Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri M. Anandan
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Shri Tarachand Bhagora
5. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal
6. Kumari Meenakshi Natarajan
7. Smt. Sushila Saroj
8. Shri N. Dharam Singh
9. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
11. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
12. Prof. Mrinal Miri
13. Shri Jesudasu Seelam
14. Shri Mohammad Shafi
15. Shri Shankarbai N. Vegad

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND EMPOWERMENT**

Sl. No.	Name	Designation and Organization
1.	Shri Anil Goswami	Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
2.	Shri Anoop Kumar Srivastava	Additional Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
3.	Shri Raghav Chandra	Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
4.	Shri Sanjeev Kumar	Joint Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
5.	Smt. Ghazala Meenai	Joint Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
6.	Shri T.R. Meena	Joint Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
7.	Dr. J.C. Sharma	Economic Advisor, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
8.	Shri Hardeep Singh Kingra	CMD, NSFDC
9.	Shri Lalit Kohli	Managing Director, NSKFDC
10.	Shri A.A. Naqvi	Managing Director, NBCFDC

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee and also the representatives of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to the sitting of the Committee. The Chairman informed that the meeting had been convened to discuss the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment. With the permission of the Chairman, the representative of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment made a power point presentation briefly narrating the details of various schemes/programmes being undertaken by the Ministry and the physical and financial targets achieved under the schemes, as also new schemes proposed in the year 2013-14.

3. The Members then raised points/questions, which *inter-alia* related to :-

- (i) Under utilization and surrender of funds under various schemes and curtailing of funds at RE stage.

- (ii) Allocation of funds and less expenditure under the scheme of Central Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub-plan (SCSP).
- (iii) Allocation of funds by the various Central Ministries and Departments under SCSP for schemes for development of scheduled castes.
- (iv) Scholarship schemes for the welfare of SCs and OBCs and income ceiling to avail the same as also late receipt of funds under the schemes to beneficiaries.
- (v) Non-utilization of funds under Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship Scheme.

4. The representatives of the Ministry then responded to the queries put forth by the Members to the extent possible. The Chairman directed them to furnish replies to those points which could not be replied in the meeting by 5.4.2013.

5. The Chairman thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views in a free and frank manner on various issues.

6. The verbatim proceedings were kept on record.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON TUESDAY, 23RD
APRIL, 2013.**

The Committee met from 1020 hrs. to 1040 hrs. in Committee Room 'D',
Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri M. Anandan
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Shri Devidhan Besra
5. Smt. Rama Devi
6. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal
7. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

RAJYA SABHA

8. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
9. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
10. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
11. Prof. Mrinal Miri
12. Shri Mohammad Shafi
13. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the 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 two Draft Reports of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) and the Demands for Grants (2013-14) Ministry of Minority Affairs.

3. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the Thirty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) and the Thirty-seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs without amendment.

4. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalize the draft Reports and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.