

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2014 - 2015)**

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

**(DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES)**

Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2014-15) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities)

SEVENTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2015/Shravana, 1937 (Saka)

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(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

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(DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 10.8.2015

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 10.8.2015



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2015/Shravana, 1937 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2014-2015)**

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor
3. Kunwar Bharatendra
4. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
- *5. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
6. Shri Jhina Hikaka
7. Shri Prakash Babanna Hukkeri
8. Shri Bhagwant Khuba
9. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
10. Smt. Maragatham K.
11. Shri Kariya Munda
12. Prof. A.S.R. Naik
13. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
14. Sadhvi Savitri Bai Phule
15. Dr. Udit Raj
16. Smt. Satabdi Roy
17. Prof. Sadhu Singh
18. Smt. Neelam Sonkar
- *19. Smt. Mamta Thakur
- #20. Shri Tejpratap Singh Yadav
- **21. Vacant

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
- ##23. Dr. Tazeen Fatma
24. Shri Ahamed Hassan
25. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
26. Shri Prabhat Jha
27. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
28. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
29. Shri Nand Kumar Sai
30. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
31. Smt. Wansuk Syiem

Nominated w.e.f. 22.12.2014

Nominated w.e.f. 29.1.2015

* Nominated w.e.f. 25.3.2015

** Shri Dilip Singh Bhuria expired on 24.6.2015

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director
4. Smt. Madhu Bhutani - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2014-15) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, do present this Seventeenth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants - 2014-15" relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).

2. The Second Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2014. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 29th May, 2015. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 6th August, 2015.

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

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

NEW DELHI;

6th August, 2015
15 Shravana, 1937 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

CHAPTER - I

REPORT

1.1 This Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2014-2015) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).

1.2 The Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2014. It contained 14 observations/recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the observations/recommendations have been examined and have been categorized as under: -

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

Paragraph Nos. 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.19, 2.26, 2.27, 2.39, 2.44, 2.48, 2.53 and 2.57.

(Total : 11 -Chapter II)

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

Nil

(Chapter-III)

(iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which require reiteration :
Paragraph Nos. 2.20, 2.32 and 2.55.

(Total : 3 -Chapter-IV)

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

-Nil-

(Chapter- V)

1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken notes if any 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 this Report.

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

A. Non-Utilization of funds for new schemes for the differently abled persons.

Recommendation (Sl. No.2, Para No. 2.13)

1.5 The Committee found that against the allocation of Rs. 3284 crore for the 12th Plan for the Department, the utilization of funds in the first two years was only Rs. 223.90 crore and 341.71 crore i.e., only 18% of the total allocation of the Plan Period. The Committee noted that about 21 new schemes of the Department are still pending at various stages. The Committee impressed upon the Department to pursue vigorously with all concerned agencies as also with Ministry of Finance for early clearance of the

schemes such as, Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship Scheme, National Overseas Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities, Top Class Scholarship Scheme and Scheme of Awareness Generation and Publicity so that funds kept during current financial year could be spent to empower a sizeable population of the persons with different abilities.

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

“(a) The Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities was approved in August 2014. Applications were called for by issuing advertisement through newspaper and website of this Ministry. Only two applications were received. None of them was found eligible for the scholarship. Hence no fund was utilized under the scheme in the year 2014-15. Steps are being taken to popularize the scheme. Letters issued by Secy (DEPwD) to all Chief Secretaries with the request to popularize the scheme. From the current year (2015-16) the scheme will be operated through the National e- Scholarship Portal (NeSP) being developed by Department of Electronic & Information Technology (DEITY) for all scholarship schemes of the Govt. of India. The candidates will apply on-line through the portal and the scholarship amount will be remitted to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries direct through the portal.

(b) The Scheme of Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship for Students with Disabilities was approved in October, 2014. Initially it was decided to operate the scheme through web-portal to be developed by NIC. The portal of NIC did not materialize. Subsequently, on the direction of PMO a National Scholarship Portal is being developed by DEITY. The said portal is likely to be functional from June 2015. In absence of any portal it was decided to implement the scheme through the Governments of State/UTs for the year 2015. Letters were sent to the State Govt. /UTs. Each State/UT was allotted specific number of scholarships in accordance with the disabled persons’ population of the State/UT in proportion to that of India. The State Govts. had been advised to complete the selection process and intimate the final list of selected candidates. Till the close of the year 2014-15, only one State namely Uttar Pradesh sent a list of selected candidates but funds could not be released to them due to requirement of some additional information. Demands for funds from other States are gradually coming.

From the current year (2015-16) the scheme will be operated through the National e-Scholarship Portal (NeSP) being developed by Department of Electronic & Information Technology (DEITY) for all scholarship schemes of the Govt. of India. The candidates will apply on-line through the portal and the scholarship amount will be remitted to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries direct through the portal.

(c) The Scheme of Scholarship for Top Class education for SwDs has been approved and is being implemented from the year 2015-16. The scheme will be operated through the National e-Scholarship Portal from the current year. The

Portal will be operational by June 2015 when applications will be called for. Funds will be released after selection of candidates is done and they raise the demands by furnishing requisite documents.

(d) The Scheme of Awareness Generation and Publicity has been launched in the year 2014 and expenditure under the Scheme in the year 2014-15 was Rs. 71 lakhs.

(e) The Scheme of Research on disability related technology, products and issues has been launched in the year 2014 -15.

(f) The Scheme of In-Service Training and Sensitization of Key functionaries of Central/State Govt., Local Bodies and other Service Providers has been launched in the year 2014 -15.

(g) The Scheme of Establishment of College for Deaf has been launched in the year 2014-15.

(h) Central Sector Scheme for “support of establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille Presses”

The Government has approved in November, 2014 the Central Scheme of “support for establishment /modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille presses” for the benefit of visually challenged during the 12th Plan Period (effective from 2014-15) and the expenditure under the Scheme was Rs.3.86 crore.

The objectives of the Scheme are:-

- i. To establish 18 new Braille Presses
- ii. To establish 03 small scale Braille printing units in UTs;
- iii. To modernization 12 old Braille Presses
- iv. To augment Braille printing capacity of 03 modern Braille printing presses.”

1.7 The Committee were informed that funds were not utilized for those schemes running for empowerment of persons with different abilities during the financial year 2014-2015 due to poor response from applicants, non-functioning of National-e-Scholarship portal and pendency of various new schemes due to non clearance by the Ministry of Finance and other concerned agencies. The Committee again insist that Department should vigorously pursue with all concerned agencies and Ministry of Finance as well for early clearance of all these educational and scholarship schemes so that funds meant for the persons with different abilities could be utilized optimally and these people could be empowered too. The Committee have now been informed that the National e-scholarship portal (NeSP) is being developed by Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DEITY) for all scholarship schemes of Government of India from the year 2015-16 under which candidates will apply on-line through the portal and their scholarship amount will be remitted to their bank account direct through the portal. Considering the fact that these scholarship schemes are vital for students with different abilities, the Committee recommend early operation of National e-Scholarship portal. The Committee also desire the Department to ensure maintaining a strong verification process for opening of bank accounts for the beneficiaries so that scholarship amount is remitted to the genuine beneficiaries only. The Committee may also be apprised of the latest development in the matter.

B. Working of National Institutes

Recommendation (Sl. No 5, Para No. 2.20)

1.8 The Committee noted that the Baswan Committee was set up to look into the working of National Institutes to make them as Institutes of National importance. Work study of the National Institutes was being done by study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance. The Committee had been informed that the details of work study for four Institutes National Institutes for the Visually handicapped (NIVH), National Institutes for the Hearing Handicapped (NIHH), National Institute for the Rehabilitation, Training and Research (NIRTAR) and National Institutes for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) have already sent to Ministry of Finance and the report of National Institutes for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH) is awaited. The Committee desire that the work study should be done in a time bound manner. The Committee would like to be informed about the details of the work study of National Institutes done by Study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance, along with parameters and benchmarks required for declaring them as Institutes of National importance.

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

“The Department has assigned work study of the National Institutes to Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of Ministry of Finance. The status of work study of National Institutes done by Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance is as under:-

Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIHH), Mumbai

The work study material submitted by AYJNIHH, Mumbai was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 24.06.2014. Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU), vide letter dated has 29.10.2014 intimated that information furnished by the Institute has been examined and sought certain clarification. The clarification sought by SIU has been forwarded to SIU vide letter dated 08.12.2014.

Swami Vivekanand National Institute for Rehabilitation and Training (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack

The work study material submitted by SVNIRTAR, Cuttack was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 10.07.2014. Additional information sought by Department of Economic Affairs has also been sent to them.

National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun

The work study material submitted by NIVH, Dehradun was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 17.06.2014.

National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad

The work study material submitted by NIMH, Secunderabad was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 14.08.2014.

National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH), Kolkata

Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU), vide O.M. dated 28.10.2014 has informed that the preliminary and basic data in respect of NIOH, Kolkata may be forwarded so that the work study of the Institute may be conducted. Department vide letter dated 05.11.2014 has requested NIOH, Kolkata to furnish the preliminary and basic data for onward transmission to Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU). The information has been received from the NIOH, Kolkata and work study material submitted by NIOH, Kolkata was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 26.02.2015.

The Recommendations of the Baswan Committee are to make the existing seven National Institutes for the Persons with Disabilities as the Institutions of National importance. As these recommendations have far reaching implications requiring sufficient absorption capacity of the Institute, it has been felt necessary to first assess whether the existing infrastructure facilities of these Institutes are sufficient for their up gradation and how much additional manpower, etc. are required for making them Institutes of National importance. Therefore, the Ministry decided to get the work study of the National Institute done by the Study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

Besides above, it is submitted that the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU) is being requested separately to expedite the work study of the above National Institutes as per the suggestions of the Committee.”

1.10 The Committee have been informed that the work study of all National Institutes is still in process and at various stages of completion. The Committee are aware that National Institutes are playing a vital role in the field of disability and providing rehabilitation services to the persons with different abilities. As the pace of work study is rather tardy, the Committee reiterate its early completion so that all the seven existing National Institutes could be declared as Institutes of National importance without further delay.

C. Schemes of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)

Recommendation (Sl. No 6, Para No. 2.26)

1.11 The Committee found that in the Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances Scheme (ADIP), there has been a consistent under utilization of funds for the last three years. The Committee found that State Governments had utilized only Rs. 1481.21 lakh as against an allocation of Rs. 6000 lakh in 2012-13, Rs. 2219.25 lakh only against an allocation of Rs. 6000 lakh in 2013-14 for camp activity. Although the Ministry have revised the Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2014, the Committee are still apprehensive regarding utilization of funds under the Scheme by States. The Committee desired that the procedure for distribution of aids and appliances to needy people should be further simplified so that more and more people from the target group can avail the benefits.

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

(a) "Under ADIP Scheme grants-in-aid are utilized through four activities viz., Camp Activity, Headquarter Activity, ADIP-SSA Activity, Special Camp Activity and for Cochlear Implant (w.e.f. 1.4.2014). Special Camp activities are undertaken through ALIMCO and National Institutes only. For ADIP-SSA, ALIMCO is the sole implementing agency under the Scheme. For Cochlear Implant, ALIMCO and Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai are the nodal agencies.

(b) Grants-in-aid against the proposal recommended by the State Govts./UTs are released for camp activities at district level by the implementing agencies and through Headquarter activities by those implementing agencies who have Centres/Sub-centres that carry out OPD activities and also undertake corrective surgery operations for Persons with Disability. Being the major implementing agencies under the Scheme, sufficient funds are also released to ALIMCO, National Institutes/Composite Regional Centres under the Department for carrying out Camp activity and Headquarter Activity through their Headquarters and Regional Centres situated in the various parts of the country.

(c) As a plan of action, in order to ensure full utilization of funds allocated under the Scheme for a particular year, the funds are notionally earmarked for various type of activities in the beginning of the financial year. Based on the trend

of expenditure under various types of activities, the funds initially earmarked are reviewed from time to time during the financial year and re-allocation of funds from one activity to other activity are made accordingly, as per requirement.

(d) For further simplification of procedures, Ministry has issued guidelines on 23.01.2015 to address the issues relating to issuance of Disability Certificate in respect of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) for getting assistance under the Scheme. The age limit of PwDs for getting Motorized Tricycle/Wheelchair under the Scheme has been reduced from 18 years to 16 years vide Ministry's O.M. dated 26.3.2015. To enable the PwDs for getting assistance under the Scheme who are not linked with Aadhar Number yet, Ministry issued further guidelines on 13.5.2015.

(e) During 2014-15, against revised estimate of Rs.100.00 crore, grant-in-aid of Rs.101.28 crore was released under ADIP Scheme which is the highest ever since inception of the Scheme.

During 2014-15, a total of 2,58,033 persons benefitted from the Scheme till 30.4.2015."

1.13 The Committee have been informed that ALIMCO and National Institutes are playing vital role in conducting activities and in utilizing grants-in-aid under this Scheme. To ensure full utilization of funds allocated under the scheme, funds are notionally earmarked for various activities in the beginning of the year and based on the trend of expenditure, funds are reviewed and reallocated from one activity to other. Further Ministry have also issued guidelines in January, 2015 for simplifying the procedure under ADIP. The age limit of PwDs for getting motorized Tricycle/wheelchair has also been reduced from 18 year to 16 years. The Committee welcome the initiatives taken by the Department. The Committee, however, desire the Department to hold more training programmes and workshops all over India on regular basis by involving the concerned institutes so as to popularize the Scheme. Efforts may also be made to give due publicity in print and electronic media in rural areas also. The Committee also desire that in order to bring transparency, a strong foolproof mechanism should be evolved so as to check fraud cases and if need be linkage of Aadhar Number be also considered for the beneficiaries for getting assistance under ADIP scheme.

D. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)

Recommendation (Sl. No 8, Para No. 2.32)

1.14 The Committee were unhappy at the trend of utilization of funds under Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme during the last four years. Despite an allocation of Rs. 124.85 crore in the year 2013-14 in the scheme, expenditure has been about 50% only. The Department had reportedly stated that they had started an online system of receiving applications under the Scheme. The Committee felt that strict monitoring of the Scheme is required so that only deserving NGOs get grants under the Scheme. The Committee had been informed that the Department is reviewing the Scheme as also the honorarium of the teachers working under the Scheme. The Committee desired that the Department should pursue with the Ministry of Finance to expeditiously revise the Scheme and also revise the honorarium of teachers working in the various programmes under the Scheme.

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

“The RE allocation for the year 2014-15 was Rs. 50.50 crores out of which Rs. 50.08 crores was released during the year 2014-15. 170 proposals for the year 2012-13, 429 proposals for 2013-14 and 248 proposals for 2014-15 totaling 847 proposals were sanctioned.

In order to expedite proposals under DDRS the following measures were taken:

1. State Level Meeting of State Social Welfare Minister-in-Charge of Disability Affairs and Secretaries was held on 23.08.2014 in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. This Department has developed centralized on-line portal www.ngograntsje.gov.in. All applications by NGOs seeking Grant-in-aid (GIA) under Deendayal Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) are being invited and tracked/monitored through on-line process in the NGO portal from the financial year 2014-15 onwards.
3. Letters were issued to all the Principal Secretaries of States/Union Territories dealing with disability regarding for submission of

proposals/applications online on 7.5.2014 and to register themselves on line on the interactive www.ngograntsje.gov.in. All NGOs/VOs have also been asked to register the particulars on the above mentioned URL. Subsequent reminders on 9.5.2014 whereby the date for submission on line applications was extended by 31.07.2014 and it was further extended to 15.01.2015.

4. As regard revision of DDRS Scheme, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) note for revision of the Scheme has been prepared after due consideration with stakeholders and steps for appraisal & revision of the Scheme is under process.”

1.16 The Committee have been informed that various measures have been taken by the Department to expedite proposals received from the State Governments under DDRS. As regards revision of scheme, the Department have stated that Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Note has been prepared and steps for appraisal and revision of the scheme are under process. However, Department is silent regarding revision of honorarium of teachers working under the scheme. The Committee feel that lack of proper monitoring and undue delay in revision of the scheme by the Department is defeating the main objective of the scheme and also depriving the persons with different abilities of the benefits under the scheme. The Committee, again desire the Department to revise the scheme alongwith honorarium of the teachers without further delay in coordination with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure). The steps taken and progress achieved in the matter be intimated to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of the Report.

E. Revision of Pension under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)

Recommendation (Sl. No 13, Para No. 2.55)

1.17 The Committee have noted that the Ministry of Rural Development have implemented the pension scheme for PwDs i.e., India Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) which is a component of National Social Assistance programme. The Committee considered that the pension of Rs. 500/- per month provided to persons with severe and multiple disabilities is too meager. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) had taken up the matter for revision of the pension along with eligibility criteria with Ministry of Rural Development. A task force constituted to review all demands and issues in the matter had submitted its report. The Committee desired that the matter be pursued with Ministry of Rural Development for expenditure revision of the scheme so that more PwDs can avail benefits considering the cost involved for looking after PwDs.

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

“Ministry of Rural Development is responsible for implementation of Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme under National Social Assistance Programme. The observation of Parliamentary Standing Committee regarding the quantum of pension (Rs 500 per month) and its recommendations regarding expenditure revision of the scheme has been taken up with Secretary, Department of Rural Development vide letter dated 25.05.2015 **(Annexure - I)**.”

1.19 The Committee take serious note of the delayed response of the Department to such a vital scheme for older persons with disabilities. The Committee are of the considered view that the very purpose of launching and implementing the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme gets defeated if all the procedural formalities, viz revision of amount of pension and eligibility criteria etc. were not finalized by the Ministry of Rural Development within a definitive timeframe. The Committee, therefore, desire that the matter should be pursued vigorously with the Ministry of Rural Development for an early decision.

CHAPTER – II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No.1, Para No. 2.12)

2.1 The Committee note that actual expenditure during 2013-2014 of the Department was only 61% of the Budget Estimates. The reasons attributed for under utilization of funds were incomplete proposals of the ongoing Schemes from the State/UTs and lack of concrete proposals from agencies/organizations/State Governments. The Department is reportedly taking corrective steps to sensitize the State Government in this regard. Concerned to note that under utilization of funds year after year for the various schemes for the differently-abled persons, the Committee recommends that the Department should introduce online submission and processing of the proposals for all the schemes apart from monitoring the schemes at State level through video conferencing with the NGOs and implementing agencies. The Committee also desire the Ministry to make full use of technical innovations to arrest the trend of under utilization of funds.

Reply of the Government

2.2 (a) In order to streamline the release of funds under various schemes of the Department, in the very beginning of the financial year 2014-15, a meeting with the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of the States dealing with disability was held on 28.4.2014 where the State Govts. /UTs were requested to send proposals in time. Further, for the first time, Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) held a meeting with Ministers of Social Welfare Departments of all the States/UTs on 23.8.2014 to address various issues including submission of timely proposals by the State/UTs under various

schemes of the Department. During 2014-15 the Ministry also introduced the system of accepting on-line proposals of NGOs. In order to bring transparency and monitoring of implementation of the Scheme, uploading of list of beneficiaries on their website have been made mandatory for all the implementing agencies. All the relevant information/decision relating to the ADIP Scheme are also invariably placed on the website of the Ministry/Department for information of all concerned.

Consequently, during 2014-15, against the Budget allocation of Rs.110.00 crore, Rs. 101.28 crore was released under the ADIP Scheme which is the highest ever since inception of the scheme.

(b) Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), the Department has developed a centralized on-line application software with the assistance of National Informatics Centre (NIC) on the website www.ngograntsje.nic.in. All the applications by NGOs seeking Grant-in-aid under DDRS are being invited through on-line process in the website of the Ministry from the year 2014-15 onwards. All State Governments (SGs)/Union Territories (UTs) are submitting proposal on-line except some SGs/UTs. All the SGs/UTs are also being advised to submit the proposal on-line for the year 2015-16.

(c) Under the Scheme of funding of National Institutes, at BE stage, funds to the tune of Rs. 105.00 crore was allocated to seven National Institutes, which at RE stage was reduced to Rs. 87.00 crore in 2014-2015. Against the above allocation, funds to the tune of Rs. 78.97 crore was released to National Institutes during 2014-15 under the Plan Head in order to meet the day to day expenditure of National Institutes.

(D) Following new schemes has been launched by the Department in the year 2014-15.

(i) Post matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

- (ii) Pre matric Scholarships for SwDs
- (iii) National Overseas Scholarships for PwDs
- (iv) Awareness Generation and Publicity
- (v) Research on disability related technology, products and issues
- (vi) Support for establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille Presses
- (vii) In-service training and Sensitization of Key functionaries of Central/State Govt. Local Bodies and other Service Providers
- (viii) Establishment of College for Deaf

As against the allocation of Rs.375 crore (Plan) in RE 2014-15, the expenditure was Rs. 337.84 crore.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No.2, Para No. 2.13)

2.3 The Committee find that against the allocation of Rs. 3284 crore for the 12th Plan for the Department, the utilization of funds in the first two years was only Rs. 223.90 crore and 341.71 crore i.e., only 18% of the total allocation of the Plan Period. The Committee note that about 21 new schemes of the Department are still pending at various stages. The Committee impress upon the Department to pursue vigorously will all concerned agencies as also with Ministry of Finance for early clearance of the schemes such as, Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship Scheme, National Overseas Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities, Top Class Scholarship Scheme and Scheme of Awareness Generation and Publicity so that funds kept during current financial year could be spent to empower a sizeable population of the persons with different abilities.

Reply of the Government

2.4 (a) The Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities was approved in August 2014. Applications were called for by issuing

advertisement through newspaper and website of this Ministry. Only two applications were received. None of them was found eligible for the scholarship. Hence no fund was utilized under the scheme in the year 2014-15. Steps are being taken to popularize the scheme. Letters issued by Secy(DEPwD) to all Chief Secretaries with the request to popularize the scheme. From the current year (2015-16) the scheme will be operated through the National e- Scholarship Portal(NeSP) being developed by Department of Electronic & Information Technology (DEITY) for all scholarship schemes of the Govt. of India. The candidates will apply on-line through the portal and the scholarship amount will be remitted to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries direct through the portal.

(b) The Scheme of Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship for Students with Disabilities was approved in October, 2014. Initially it was decided to operate the scheme through web-portal to be developed by NIC. The portal of NIC did not materialize. Subsequently, on the direction of PMO a National Scholarship Portal is being developed by DEITY. The said portal is likely to be functional from June 2015. In absence of any portal it was decided to implement the scheme through the Governments of State/UTs for the year 2015. Letters were sent to the State Govt. /UTs. Each State/UT was allotted specific number of scholarships in accordance with the disabled persons' population of the State/UT in proportion to that of India. The State Govts. had been advised to complete the selection process and intimate the final list of selected candidates. Till the close of the year 2014-15, only one State namely Uttar Pradesh sent a list of selected candidates but funds could not be released to them due to requirement of some additional information. Demands for funds from other States are gradually coming.

From the current year (2015-16) the scheme will be operated through the National e-Scholarship Portal (NeSP) being developed by Department of Electronic & Information Technology (DEITY) for all scholarship schemes of the Govt. of India. The candidates will apply on-line through the portal and the scholarship amount will be remitted to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries direct through the portal.

- (c) The Scheme of Scholarship for Top Class education for SwDs has been approved and is being implemented from the year 2015-16. The scheme will be operated through the National e-Scholarship Portal from the current year. The Portal will be operational by June 2015 when applications will be called for. Funds will be released after selection of candidates is done and they raise the demands by furnishing requisite documents.
- (d) The Scheme of Awareness Generation and Publicity has been launched in the year 2014 and expenditure under the Scheme in the year 2014-15 was Rs. 71 lakhs.
- (e) The Scheme of Research on disability related technology, products and issues has been launched in the year 2014 -15.
- (f) The Scheme of In-Service Training and Sensitization of Key functionaries of Central/State Govt., Local Bodies and other Service Providers has been launched in the year 2014 -15.
- (g) The Scheme of Establishment of College for Deaf has been launched in the year 2014-15.
- (h) Central Sector Scheme for “support of establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille Presses”

The Government has approved in November, 2014 the Central Scheme of “support for establishment /modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille presses” for the benefit of visually challenged during the 12th Plan Period (effective from 2014-15) and the expenditure under the Scheme was Rs.3.86 crore.

The objectives of the Scheme are:-

- v. To establish 18 new Braille Presses
- vi. To establish 03 small scale Braille printing units in UTs;
- vii. To modernization 12 old Braille Presses
- viii. To augment Braille printing capacity of 03 modern Braille printing presses.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 2.14)

2.5 The Committee while taking note of the fact that all Central Ministers/Departments are required to give thrust for implementation of programmes in the North East region and Sikkim and release funds for the same, find that the utilization of funds for scheme, viz. Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and appliances (ADIP) was very grim in 2012-13 and 2013-14. The Committee desire the Department to organize more camps for distribution of aids and appliances to needy persons with differently abilities in the North East region of the country in coordination with implementing agencies and State Governments.

Reply of the Government

2.6 (A) Keeping in view the trend of low utilization of budgetary allocation of North East Region under the ADIP Scheme during the previous years on account of non-receipt of complete proposals from the State Govts., during 2014-15, apart from release of funds against the complete proposals recommended by the State Govts., funds were also released to ALIMCO and National Institutes under the Department for organizing more camps in the region for distribution of aids and appliances to needy

PwDs. During 2014-15, against the Budget Allocation of Rs.12.00 crore (RE-Rs.10.00 crore) for NE Region, funds for Rs.9.78 crore were released.

Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) conducted total 184 camps and assisted 13551 beneficiaries against total value of Rs.10.22 crore. National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai also conducted a special camp in Imphal during 2014-15 wherein aids/appliances worth Rs.50.00 lakh were distributed. National Institute for Rehabilitation Training & Research (NIRTAR), Cuttack conducted a special camp in Composite Regional Centre (CRC), Guwahati during 2014-15 wherein aids/appliances worth Rs.53.37 lakh were distributed.

(B) Disability Schemes in the North East Region

“Due to non receipt of viable proposals from the National Institutes, funds allocated under NE head were not fully utilized during 2014-15. However, Department has taken following initiatives for utilizing the fund North East head during 2015-16:-

- Establishment of a Composite Regional Centre at Manipur.
- Construction of Disability study centre at Aizwal (Mizoram) in partnership with Mizoram University.
- Up-graduation of Composite Regional Centre, Guwahati
- Setting up Regional Centre (RC) at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh
- Composite camp for distribution of aids & appliances by the National Institutes.

(C) The National Institutes under this Department have undertaken the following activities/programmes in North East Region during 2014-15:-

(i) National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai conducted a camp at Imphal, Manipur on 24.03.2015 under ADIP Scheme and covered 957 beneficiaries during 2014-15.

(ii) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai strengthened 10 NGOs/DDRC by providing equipments (speech trainer group hearing aids and Dr Speech) in NE Region. The Institute organized skill training programmes and orientation training programme for professional/officials.

(iii) National Institute for Orthopedically Handicapped, Kolkata have organized 29 camps under ADIP Scheme in NE Region and 400 persons have been benefited during 2014-15.

(iv) Composite Regional Centre (CRC), Guwahati has conducted 2 assessment camps for issuing disability certificate and 5 assessment and distribution camps under ADIP Scheme on behalf Swami Vivekanand National Institute of Rehabilitation and Training in NE Region during 2014-15. 907 beneficiaries covered in ADIP camps in NE Region during 2014-15.

(v) National Institute for Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun has organized following programme / initiatives in NE Region during 2014-15:-

(1) Under an Applied Research Project, Braille codes for 03 languages of North East were developed viz, Garo, Khasi and Nepali. These Braille codes have been adopted by the Braille Council of India on 16.08.2014.

(2) For providing well qualified special education teachers for visually impaired children, the Institute is running a two years Diploma courses in Special Education (V) at Tura, Meghalaya with 30 trainee teachers.

(3) Seven short term training courses were conducted in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland covering 189 beneficiaries.

(4) Nine Library Extension counters have been opened in the North East. These Library Extension counters served 234 beneficiaries.

(D). Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has conducted following programme/initiatives in NE Region during 2014-15:-

- (i) One day workshop for developing a Plan of Action for Capacity Building of Institutions in North East Region for promoting RCI courses was organized by the Council on 7th January, 2015 at RCI, New Delhi. Seven representatives from different states of North East Region attended the Workshop. The proposal for development of HRD in North East Region was discussed in the Workshop.
- (ii) The Council organized a three day Seminar on “Capacity Building of Professional/Personnel for Persons with Disabilities in North East Region” from 5-7 February, 2015. More than 250 participants took part in the three day deliberations. Hon’ble Chief Minister of Assam was the Chief Guest at the valedictory function.
- (iii) Financial assistance for purchase of Laptops was provided to SC & ST students undergoing RCI approved courses in RCI approved Institutions in North East Region. 16 students were provided assistance amounting to Rs.4.00 lakh.
- (iv) 1st meeting of new appointed Chairpersons of ZCCs was held on 4th July, 2014 at Imphal, Manipur to prepare the Action Plan for the year 2014-15.
- (v) Following CRE Programmes/Workshop were sanctioned during 2014-15

S. No	Organization	Topic	Period	No. participants
1.	Composite Regional Centre for PwDs Guwahati	(a) Early Intervention of Children with ASD	13-15 Oct, 14	30
		(b) ASD: Development Communication Skills	29-31 Oct.14	30
		(c) Recent Developments in AAC	17-19 Nov.14	30
2.	Montfort Centre for Education,	Psychological Evaluation of	12-16 Jan.15	30

	Tura	Children with Disabilities		
3.	Shishu Sarothi Centre for Rehab. & Training, Guwahati	Inclusive Education and ASD	16-18 Feb.15	30

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No 4, Para No. 2.19)

2.7 The Committee note that the National Institutes are providing services to a large number of differently-abled persons besides catering to their needs through training and research in various fields to develop new technique, aids and appliances etc. Although most of the National Institutes are able to spend a large amount of funds, in Plan head. In the Non-Plan head, expenditure is on the higher side for six out of seven of these Institutes. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department to analyze the reasons for increase in Non-Plan expenditure of the National Institutes and approach the Ministry of Finance for enhanced release of funds to these Institutes under non-Plan head for their efficient functioning.

Reply of the Government

2.8 The Department reviews the requirement of funds under Non-Plan head of the National Institutes from time to time, thereafter matter is taken up with Integrated Finance Division (IFD) for increasing the funds under Non-Plan head for the National Institutes. Recently a meeting was held with IFD, wherein the Account Officers of the National Institutes also attended the meeting. In the meeting, the demand under Non-Plan head was discussed in length. Non-Plan funds are mostly incurred to meet out the salary and pension of the staff of National Institutes. Besides, these DA, LTC, Medical,

Telephone charges, electrical charges and day to day activities of the Institutes are incurred under Non-Plan head. Budget Estimate (BE) under Non-Plan head was Rs.50.16 crore during 2014-15.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is providing all necessary support and funds to National Institutes. The budget allocation from Rs.50.16 crore in 2014-15 has been enhanced to Rs.55.12 crore under Non-Plan head in 2015-16. However, Rs.25.00 crore has been allocated under Plan head during 2015-16 to meet out the salary of the staff of National Institute

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 2.26)

2.9 The Committee found that in the Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances Scheme (ADIP), there has been a consistent under utilization of funds for the last three years. The Committee found that State Governments had utilized only Rs. 1481.21 lakh as against an allocation of Rs. 6000 lakh in 2012-13, Rs. 2219.25 lakh only against an allocation of Rs. 6000 lakh in 2013-14 for camp activity. Although the Ministry have revised the Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2014, the Committee are still apprehensive regarding utilization of funds under the Scheme by States. The Committee desire that the procedure for distribution of aids and appliances to needy people should be further simplified so that more and more people from the target group can avail the benefits.

Reply of the Government

2.10 (a) Under ADIP Scheme grants-in-aid are utilized through four activities viz., Camp Activity, Headquarter Activity, ADIP-SSA Activity, Special Camp Activity and for Cochlear Implant (w.e.f. 1.4.2014). Special Camp activities are undertaken through ALIMCO and National Institutes only. For ADIP-SSA, ALIMCO is the sole implementing agency under the Scheme. For Cochlear Implant, ALIMCO and Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai are the nodal agencies.

(b) Grants-in-aid against the proposal recommended by the State Govts. /UTs are released for camp activities at district level by the implementing agencies and through Headquarter activities by those implementing agencies who have Centres/Sub-centres that carry out OPD activities and also undertake corrective surgery operations for Persons with Disability. Being the major implementing agencies under the Scheme, sufficient funds are also released to ALIMCO, National Institutes/Composite Regional Centres under the Department for carrying out Camp activity and Headquarter Activity through their Headquarters and Regional Centres situated in the various parts of the country.

(c) As a plan of action, in order to ensure full utilization of funds allocated under the Scheme for a particular year, the funds are notionally earmarked for various type of activities in the beginning of the financial year. Based on the trend of expenditure under various types of activities, the funds initially earmarked are reviewed from time to time during the financial year and re-allocation of funds from one activity to other activity are made accordingly, as per requirement.

(d) For further simplification of procedures, Ministry has issued guidelines on 23.01.2015 to address the issues relating to issuance of Disability Certificate in respect of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) for getting assistance under the Scheme. The age limit of PwDs for getting Motorized Tricycle/Wheelchair under the Scheme has been reduced from 18 years to 16 years vide Ministry's O.M. dated 26.3.2015. To enable the PwDs for getting assistance under the Scheme who are not linked with Aadhar Number yet, Ministry issued further guidelines on 13.5.2015.

(e) During 2014-15, against revised estimate of Rs.100.00 crore, grant-in-aid of Rs.101.28 crore was released under ADIP Scheme which is the highest ever since inception of the Scheme.

During 2014-15, a total of 2,58,033 persons benefitted from the Scheme till 30.4.2015.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 2.27)

2.11 The Committee are happy to learn that the Department is working on developing kits and appliances for the differently-abled persons which include mobile phone, laptop and Braille Note Taker for the blind, cochlear implant for hearing impaired children, kits for the leprosy affected, kits for persons with intellectual and development disabilities etc. However, the response of State Government in distribution of aids and appliances to these persons is far from satisfactory. The Committee desire the Department to

motivate as well as impress upon all the State/UTs to ensure that the new and innovative devices are invariably distributed to the needy people.

Reply of the Government

2.12 Ministry has noted the observations of the Committee.

As provided under the revised ADIP Scheme effective from 1.4.2014, the Department constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (DA) with experts from various field on board to decide modern Assistive Devices for various categories of PwDs. Based on the Recommendations of the Committee, the Department has already notified and circulated the following list of modern assistive devices to all the State Govts./UTs and implementing agencies under the Scheme for assistance under ADIP Scheme:-

- (i) List of modern assistive devices for visually handicapped.
- (ii) Kits for Leprosy Affected
- (iii) Kit for Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- (iv) List of modern assistive devices for hearing handicapped.

Ministry is taking further action to list out the High end mobility devices for assistance under ADIP Scheme.

Cochlear Implant: - Revised ADIP Scheme contains a provision to provide Cochlear Implant to 500 children per year, with a ceiling of Rs. 6.00 lakh per unit to be borne by the Government. For conducting cochlear implant surgery, initially, the Ministry has approved empanelment of 31 Hospitals (28 Government Hospitals and 3 State Government approved Hospitals). The Scheme was launched by Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) in Mumbai on 03.12.2014. As on 31.03.2015, 28 Cochlear Implant surgeries had

been conducted. Ministry is in the process of empanelling more hospitals for cochlear implant surgery so as to speed up the cochlear implant. Ministry has also initiated action to give wide publicity about this Scheme by advertising the matter in all leading newspapers.

As regards motivating and impressing upon States/UTs and implementing agencies, the position is that Ministry is organizing composite/mega composite camps in participation with ALIMCO/National Institutes in coordination with concerned authorities of States/UTs, throughout the country. Assistive devices distributed in these camps also include modern assistive devices approved by the Ministry. During the Camps awareness generation about the various modern assistive devices approved by the Ministry for financial assistance under the Scheme is also being undertaken to sensitize all concerned.

ALIMCO took proactive measures in tapping the potential for marketing its aids and appliances in the beginning of 2014-15 to all Maharatna, Navratna and Miniratna CPSEs for conducting camps under their CSR initiative. ALIMCO joined hands with 19 CPSEs during 2014-15 for conducting 66 camps and obtained business worth Rs.14.82 crore.

Products have been included by ALIMCO for distribution to PwDs under CSR

Projects:-

Mobility Aids:-

- (i) Motorised battery operated tricycles.
- (ii) Battery operated joy stick control wheelchair.
- (iii) Special wheelchair for patients of Cerebral Palsy (CP).
- (iv) Spring loaded floor reaction crutches (Baisakhi).
- (v) Stepped Walker to assist easy climbing on stairs.

ALIMCO also distributes smart cane to visually impaired persons under ADIP Scheme. The cane can not only offers basic support to a visually impaired person, but also gives a warning of obstacles by means of an alarm, activated by a sensor and electronic circuit.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para No. 2.39)

2.13 The Committee note that the Department is playing a key role in implementation of the provisions of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995. However, in spite of an allocation of Rs. 105.00 crore in 2013-2014, only Rs. 47.94 crore could be spent by the Department. Although the Department had sent requests to all States/UTs, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Universities Grants Commission, Central Universities for sending proposals for making the buildings barrier free in the financial year 2014, funds could not be distributed to State/UTs/Departments, other agencies in the year 2014-15 due to non-receipt of utilization certificates. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Department actively pursue with all Ministries/Department/Agencies at the Central level as well as State/local Authorities for making all buildings barrier-free as this is now a mandatory provision in the new legislation namely "The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014".

Reply of the Government

2.14 (a) The Ministry is continuing its efforts to pursue with all the State/UTs for furnishing the pending Utilization Certificates. In order to expedite the pending Utilization Certificates D.O. letters dated 25.06.2014 were addressed to all defaulting States/UTs who have not submitted Utilization Certificates in respect of GIA received by

them under the SIPDA Scheme. Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) also addressed letter on 06.08.2014, to all Chief Ministers of States/UTs requesting them to send the new proposals under the SIPDA Scheme and also requested to expedite the pending Utilization Certificates. Further, all States were again reminded vide D.O. letters dated 14.01.2015 for furnishing the Utilization Certificates. Joint Secretary D/o EPWDs also wrote D.O. letters, dated 28.04.2014 to Heads of grantee Institutions for furnishing Utilization Certificates and Progress Reports. All these efforts resulted in receipt of Utilization Certificates or Progress Reports about the Utilization of funds from some States. It is expected that the States/UTs will be able to furnish the pending U.C.s and they may send more proposals, in addition to their proposals already received but not processed for want of pending UCs. In order to release more funds for the benefit of Persons with Disabilities, the Ministry formulated and issued guidelines on 11.02.2015 covering more activities for release of funds under SIPDA Scheme, i.e., to promote research and development activities in the field of disability rehabilitation including to undertake surveys, investigations and research concerning cause of occurrence of disabilities; support for sporting events for PwDs at National/ State level to ensure optimal physical rehabilitation of PwDs; to promote accessibility of libraries, both physical and digital and other knowledge centres; Identification and Survey/issuance of Universal ID of PwDs and to assist States to organize camps for issuance of disability certificates; to set up/support resource centres facilitating dissemination of information, awareness campaigns and sensitization programmes on disability issues etc. Moreover, as per the mandate of the Govt. of India, a National Action Plan (NAP) for Skilling the PwDs has been prepared by the Department. The NAP has been launched on 21.03.2015 in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

(MSDE). The target for 2015-16 is to skill one lakh PwDs. Skill Development Training Programme has also been included for Financial Assistance under the SIPDA Scheme. All these activities are expected to attract more proposals under the SIPDA Scheme and funds for Rs.135.00 crore allocated under the Scheme during 2015-16 are likely to be released.

(b) Section 46 of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation of Rights) Act, 1995 mandates that every appropriate Government needs to make provision for ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheel chair users, Braille signage and auditory signals, tactile flooring etc. The Ministry as well as the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) from time to time request the State Govts./UT Administrations for providing barrier free access to public places to Persons with Disabilities, which includes facilities for easy movement within the office. Office of CCPD also takes up with concerned State Govts./UT Administrations/authorities as and when non-availability of facilities for access to public places for Persons with Disabilities come to its notice. The Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities of the concerned States/UT Administration are also requested to follow up with their respective State Govts. /UT Administration.

(c) The matter has also been taken up by Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) with all State Chief Ministers in July, 2014 with the request to issue suitable directions to concerned Departments for taking appropriate measures in concrete and time-bound manner for incorporation of barrier free access to all public buildings and transportation and making suitable provisions in local municipal/building bye-laws in their State.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 2.44)

2.15 The Committee noted that ALIMCO is a 35 year old manufacturing facility which has a production line for manufacturing aids and appliances for the persons with disabilities. Regarding the zero expenditure of the Corporation in the year 2013-2014, the Department informed that due to pending amount of interest and penal interest, it was not able to release grants to the Corporation for modernization, besides the matter has also been referred to Department of Expenditure for their comments. The Committee desire that the matter regarding release of funds for modernization of ALIMCO may be taken up the Ministry of Finance expeditiously so that modernization of plant and machinery could be taken up at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

2.16 Draft SFC Note along with Detailed Project Report for modernization of ALIMCO was circulated to Department of Expenditure, NITI Aayog and Department of Public Enterprises on 07.04.2015 for comments. Department of Public Enterprises has raised some issues, which are under examination in the Department.

As regards, Financial Restructuring of ALIMCO, by conversion of interest accrued on the loan provided to ALIMO during 1997-78 to 2001-01 and penal interest thereon into equity and increase in authorized share capital to give effect to the conversion of the interest element (including penal interest element) into equity, based on the comments received from concerned Departments including Department of Expenditure, CCEA Note has been submitted for approval.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 2.48)

2.17 The Committee note that although the Department is running an incentive scheme for private companies who employ persons with disabilities from 01.04.2008, the expenditure under the scheme is almost negligible i.e. only Rs. 0.53 crore in 2013-14. Further, up to 30.09.2012 only 645 and 1001 PwDs could be covered by Employees Provident Fund organization (EPFO) and Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC). Expressing their unhappiness at the progress of the scheme, the committee recommended that the scheme be revamped and revised to extend some other financial benefits in consultation with Ministry of Finance or land and resources at concessional rates to the firms/enterprises which employ PwDs, to give a boost to the Scheme.

Reply of the Government

2.18 After constant persuasion with Employee Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), New Delhi, EPFO sent a demand for Rs. One Crore to be released for FY. 2014-15 on 2nd February, 2015 and has informed that 1560 number of beneficiaries have been covered under this scheme. An amount of Rs. 50 lakhs was only allocated for this purpose in the RE (2014-15) and the full amount of Rs. 50 lakhs was released vide sanction dated 24th March, 2015.

A Task Force to study ways and means to improve the scheme was constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, M/o Labour & Employment, New Delhi with Joint Secretary (Disabilities), M/o Social Justice & Empowerment, New Delhi and Others as Member. The recommendations/suggestions given in the report has been

recently submitted by the Task Force to make the scheme more effective which are under consideration of the Department.

The Department has strongly taken up with the Deptt. of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance (MoF) for inclusion of the category of Persons with Disability (PwDs) under priority sector lending policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), so as to facilitate and promote easy credit flow to PwDs through the banking system. As a result, RBI has recently included the category of PwDs under weaker sections in their Priority Sector lending policy vide their order dated 19th March, 2015, which has also been confirmed by DFS, MoF vide letter dated 14th March, 2015. A meeting with all nationalized bank was held in this regard on 13th April, 2015 requesting them to implement this policy of RBI in letter & spirit for facilitating easy flow of credit to PwDs.

Further to this the Department has also taken up with DFS, MoF vide letter dated 14/5/2015 for making a reservation of at least 3% of the priority sector lending for PwDs under the weaker sections category.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 2.53)

2.19 The Committee note that the persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 makes it mandatory for the Government to reserve not less than 3% vacancies for PwDs. The Committee have been informed that as on date, only about 1% of the vacancies have been filled up by PwDs candidate and a huge backlog of vacancies exists in respect of posts meant for them. The Committee desired the Department to take up with DoPT, a nodal Ministry for

implementing the reservation policy, to clear the backlog by launching special drives. The Committee further desire that the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) to take up the matter with all Central Ministries/Departments/PSUs/State Governments and the Universities recognized by University Grant Commission to collect data on backlog of vacancies in respect of posts reserved for PwDs. The Committee also desire that appropriate action be initiated against erring Authorities for non-implementation of provisions of the Act.

Reply of the Government

2.20 (a) The Department has been continuously pursuing the matter relating to appointment of Persons with Disabilities against the reserved vacancies in terms of the provisions of the PwD Act, 1995 with the States as well as Central Ministries/Departments. The matter was taken up at the level of Secretary, DEPwD with Chief Secretaries of States/UTs as they are responsible for recruitment at State/UT level, Secretaries of various Central Ministries/Departments in May, 2014.

(b) Since DoPT is the nodal Department on matters relating to recruitment of Personnel, the matter was also taken up at the level of Hon'ble Minister SJ&E with Hon'ble MoS Ministry of Personnel and Training in June, 2014 to impress upon the line Ministries/Departments to fill up the backlog vacancies in a time bound manner. DoPT has already been requested to indicate the status of backlog vacancies as on 01.01.2015. It is further stated that the positions relating to filling up of vacancies in various Ministries/Departments is also under scrutiny of Hon'ble Supreme Court. As per information available from DoPT, out of the total 12,786 vacancies meant for Persons with Disabilities in various Ministries/Departments reported to the Hon'ble Supreme

Court, 8,321 posts has already been filled up by various Ministries/Departments. A statement indicating the position is enclosed **(Annexure – II)**.

(c) Further, the matter is also being taken up at the level of Hon'ble Minister SJ&E with Chief Minister of States, Lieutenant Governors/Administrators of UTs and Hon'ble Ministers of various Central Ministries. The issue is also being taken up with Chairman UGC with respect to implementation of the provision of PwD Act, 1995 in various Universities recognized by it.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 2.57)

2.21 The Committee taking a serious note of the existing position regarding issuance process for disabilities certificates to the PwDs in the respective State Governments and District desire that the process may be simplified to help the PwDs The Committee have been informed that Central Government has initiated a process for identification and issue of universal IDs to all PwDs across the country and Department of Electronics and IT is in the process of developing a web based solution programme for the purpose. The Committee needed that all PwDs be issued a universal ID in a time bound manner, which would be applicable in all State/UTs uniformly for availing of benefits of the Schemes of the Central and State Governments. The Committee also hope that the parameters/provisions will be foolproof and all those applying for bogus disability certificates will be suitably penalized in the new process and procedure for granting disability certificates.

Reply of the Government

2.22 In order to implement the UDID project (web based solution programme) for facilitating identification and certification of Persons with Disabilities, the Department has released an amount of Rs 3.50 crore to National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICS). The system to be developed in this regard would capture data relating to personal details, identity details (UDID number, voter ID etc.) disability details, employment details, education details, income status (BPL/APL) etc. On the basis of the processed data, the system would develop a unique UDID number for each Persons with Disabilities to avoid duplicity. The system would have features to ensure verification and authenticity of disability certificate, tracking of physical and social progress of the Persons with Disabilities. The system would provide both online and offline mode of application. This system will be applicable uniformly across the country.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

CHAPTER – III

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

-Nil-

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 (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 2.20)

4.1 The Committee also noted that the Baswan Committee was set up to look into the working of National Institutes to make them as Institutes of National importance. Work study of the National Institutes was being done by study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance. The Committee had been informed that the details of work study for four Institutes National Institutes for the Visually handicapped (NIVH), National Institutes for the Hearing Handicapped (NIHH), National Institute for the Rehabilitation, Training and Research (NIRTAR) and National Institutes for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) have already sent to Ministry of Finance and the report of National Institutes for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH) is awaited. The Committee desire that the work study should be done in a time bound manner. The Committee would like to be informed about the details of the work study of National Institutes done by Study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance, along with parameters and benchmarks required for declaring them as Institutes of National importance.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The Department has assigned work study of the National Institutes to Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of Ministry of Finance. The status of work study of National Institutes done by Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance is as under:-

Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIHH), Mumbai

The work study material submitted by AYJNIHH, Mumbai was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 24.06.2014. Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU), vide letter dated has 29.10.2014 intimated that information furnished by the Institute has been examined and sought certain clarification. The clarification sought by SIU has been forwarded to SIU vide letter dated 08.12.2014.

Swami Vivekanand National Institute for Rehabilitation and Training (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack

The work study material submitted by SVNIRTAR, Cuttack was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 10.07.2014. Additional information sought by Department of Economic Affairs has also been sent to them.

National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun

The work study material submitted by NIVH, Dehradun was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 17.06.2014.

National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad

The work study material submitted by NIMH, Secunderabad was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 14.08.2014.

National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH), Kolkata

Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU), vide O.M. dated 28.10.2014 has informed that the preliminary and basic data in respect of NIOH, Kolkata may be forwarded so that the work study of the Institute may be conducted.

Department vide letter dated 05.11.2014 has requested NIOH, Kolkata to furnish the preliminary and basic data for onward transmission to Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU). The information has been received from the NIOH, Kolkata and work study material submitted by NIOH, Kolkata was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, vide D.O. letter dated 26.02.2015.

The Recommendations of the Baswan Committee are to make the existing seven National Institutes for the Persons with Disabilities as the Institutions of National importance. As these recommendations have far reaching implications requiring sufficient absorption capacity of the Institute, it has been felt necessary to first assess whether the existing infrastructure facilities of these Institutes are sufficient for their up gradation and how much additional manpower, etc. are required for making them Institutes of National importance. Therefore, the Ministry decided to get the work study of the National Institute done by the Study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

Besides above, it is submitted that the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU) is being requested separately to expedite the work study of the above National Institutes as per the suggestions of the Committee.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 2.32)

4.3 The Committee were unhappy at the trend of utilization of funds under Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme during the last four years. Despite an allocation of Rs. 124.85 crore in the year 2013-14 in the scheme, expenditure has been about 50% only. The Department had reportedly stated that they had started an online system of receiving applications under the Scheme. The Committee felt that strict monitoring of the Scheme is required so that only deserving NGOs get grants under the Scheme. The Committee had been informed that the Department is reviewing the Scheme as also the honorarium of the teachers working under the Scheme. The Committee desired that the Department will pursue with the Ministry of Finance to expeditiously revise the Scheme and also revise the honorarium of teachers working in the various programmes under the Scheme.

Reply of the Government

4.4 The RE allocation for the year 2014-15 was Rs. 50.50 crores out of which Rs. 50.08 crores was released during the year 2014-15. 170 proposals for the year 2012-13, 429 proposals for 2013-14 and 248 proposals for 2014-15 totaling 847 proposals were sanctioned.

In order to expedite proposals under DDRS the following measures were taken:

State Level Meeting of State Social Welfare Minister-in-Charge of Disability Affairs and Secretaries was held on 23.08.2014 in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment.

2. This Department has developed centralized on-line portal www.ngograntsje.gov.in. All applications by NGOs seeking Grant-in-aid (GIA) under Deendayal Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) are being invited and tracked/monitored through on-line process in the NGO portal from the financial year 2014-15 onwards.

3. Letters were issued to all the Principal Secretaries of States/Union Territories dealing with disability regarding for submission of proposals/applications online on 7.5.2014 and to register themselves on line on the interactive www.ngograntsje.gov.in. All NGOs/VOs have also been asked to register the particulars on the above mentioned URL. Subsequent reminders on 9.5.2014 whereby the date for submission on line applications was extended by 31.07.2014 and it was further extended to 15.01.2015.

4. As regard revision of DDRS Scheme, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) note for revision of the Scheme has been prepared after due consideration with stakeholders and steps for appraisal & revision of the Scheme is under process.

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Comments of the Committee

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 2.55)

4.5 The Committee noted that the Ministry of Rural Development implement the pension scheme for PwDs i.e., India Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) which is a component of National Social Assistance programme. The Committee considered that the pension of Rs. 500/- per month provided to persons with

severe and multiple disabilities is too meager. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) had taken up the matter for revision of the pension along with eligibility criteria with Ministry of Rural Development. A task force constituted to review all demands and issues in the matter had submitted its report. The Committee desire that the matter be pursued with Ministry of Rural Development for expenditure revision of the scheme so that more PwDs can avail benefits considering the cost involved for looking after PwDs.

Reply of the Government

4.6 Ministry of Rural Development is responsible for implementation of Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme under National Social Assistance Programme. The observation of Parliamentary Standing Committee regarding the quantum of pension (Rs 500 per month) and its recommendations regarding expenditure revision of the scheme has been taken up with Secretary, Department of Rural Development vide letter dated 25.05.2015 (**Annexure – I**).

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) O.M. No.1/4/2014-2015/Budget (DDA) dated 29th May, 2015)

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.19 of Chapter – I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V

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

-Nil-

**New Delhi;
06 August, 2015
15 Shravana, 1937 (Saka)**

**RAMESH BAIS,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Social
Justice and Empowerment.**

अवनीश कुमार अवस्थी
संयुक्त सचिव
Awanish K. Awasthi
Joint Secretary
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भारत सरकार
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
विकलांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग
5वां तल, पर्यावरण भवन, सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स
लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110 003
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
5th Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003
25th May, 2015

D.O.No.21-02/2013-DD.III (Pt.)

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in the context of revision of Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) under the National Social Assistance Programmes.

2. We had earlier requested you to review the existing scheme with respect to relaxation in eligibility criteria and also upward revision of the quantum of pension. We are given to understand that Ministry of Rural Development had constituted a Task Force to review the scheme which has since submitted its report. We are not aware as to whether the scheme has been revised on the basis of the finding of the Task Force or not.

3. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment while considering the Demands for Grant of this Department for the year 2015-16, observed that the pension of Rs.500 per month provided to persons with severe and multiple disabilities under the scheme is too meagre. The Committee desired that the matter to be taken up with your Ministry for expenditure revision of the scheme so that more PwDs can avail benefits considering the cost involved for looking after PwDs.

4. I shall be grateful if you kindly look into the matter and arrange to expedite the process of revision of the scheme keeping in view the above observations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee. Action taken in this regard may be intimated to us to apprise the Committee accordingly.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Awanish K. Awasthi)

Shri J.K. Mohapatra,
Secretary,
Ministry of Rural Development,
Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi-110002.

olc
Issued
26/5/2015

ANNEXURE – II

Statement showing information received showing status of vacancies for persons with disabilities and action taken to fill them up from Departments/Ministries, details of which were submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the affidavit filed by Department of Personnel and Training

Sl. No.	Ministry/Department	Vacancy reported	Vacancy filled up	Action taken for filling up of vacancies	Action yet to be taken/ information awaited
1	Defence	1504	114	520	870
2	Health and Family Welfare	66	0	0	66
3	Telecommunication	200	19	179	2
4	Rural Development	3	0	0	3
5	Home Affairs	39	0	9	30
6	Youth Affairs and Sports	15	0	0	15
7	Mines	41	0	0	41 *
8	Commerce	53	2	25	26
9	Scientific and Industrial Research	175	152	23	0
10	NITI Aayog (Planning Commission)	4	0	0	4
11	Railways	3615	4644 **	2507	367
12	Water Resources	69	0	0	69 *
13	Culture	19	0	2	17
14	External Affairs	7	7	0	0
15	Petroleum & Natural Gas	2	5	0	0
16	Economic Affairs	0	0	0	0
17	Power	92	23	0	69
18	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region	6	0	0	6
19	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	1	0	0	1
20	Corporate Affairs	6	1	6	0
21	Minority Affairs	2	0	0	2
22	Pension and Pensioners' Affairs	0	0	0	0
23	Environment, Forests and Climate Change	1	4	0	0

24	Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (except field offices)	2	0	0	2
27	Expenditure	0	0	0	0
28	Revenue	1	0	0	1
29	Disinvestment	0	0	0	0
30	Food Processing Industries	0	0	0	0
31	UPSC	3	0	0	3
32	Labour and Employment	0	0	0	0
33	Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	3	0	0	3
34	Vice President Secretariat	0	0	0	0
35	Legislative Department	2	0	2	0
36	Road Transport and Highways	24	0	2	22
37	Panchayati Raj	0	0	0	0
38	Shipping	8	0	0	8
39	Steel	0	0	0	0
40	Textiles	39	0	0	39
41	Comptroller & Auditor General	34	34	0	0
42	Department of Personnel and Training	98	43	44	11
43	Commerce	16	0	0	0
44	New and Renewable Energy Resources	0	0	0	0
45	CAT Principal Bench, New Delhi	4	0	0	4
46	Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances	0	0	0	0
47	Drinking Water and Sanitation	0	0	0	0
48	Defence Production	834	249	689	145

49	Atomic Energy	292	12	72	208
50	Biotechnology	0	0	0	0
51	Chemicals and Petrochemicals	0	0	0	0
52	Space	0	0	0	0
53	Social Justice and Empowerment	0	0	0	0
54	Central Bureau of Investigation	9	14	5	0
55	Employees State Insurance Corporation	297	0	0	297
56	Department of Public Enterprises	0	0	0	0
57	Industrial Policy and Promotion	15	0	0	15
58	Legal Affairs	3	0	0	3
59	Women and Child Development	10	0	0	10
60	Department of Posts	1	0	0	1
61	Earth Sciences	0	0	0	0
62	Coal	1	0	0	1
63	Department of Financial Services	4699	2904	992	803
64	Agriculture and Cooperation	38	0	0	51
65	Electronics and Information Technology	77	2	51	24
66	Parliamentary Affairs	1	0	1	0
67	Food and Public Distribution	315	88	191	0
68	Heavy Industries	37	4	1	15
69	Ayush	3	0	2	0
70	Fertilizers *	0	0	0	0
	Total	12786	8321	5323	3254

* Clarification/Information awaited.

** Figures of Railways now include action taken for filling up backlog/shortfall vacancies.

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON THURSDAY, 6th AUGUST, 2015

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1650 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Jhina Hikaka
3. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
4. Smt. Maragatham K.
5. Prof. A.S.R. Naik
6. Dr. Udit Raj

RAJYA SABHA

7. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
8. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
9. Shri Nand Kumar Sai
10. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
11. Smt. Wansuk Syiem

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
2. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration the following draft Reports of the Committee :-

- (i) *****
- (ii) Seventeenth Action Taken Report on Second Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2014-15) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).
- (iii) *****
- (iv) *****

4. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions on the draft Reports. The Reports were adopted by the Committee without any change. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize these draft Reports and present the same to both the Houses.

- 5. *****
 - 6. *****
 - 7. *****
 - 8. *****
 - 9. *****
 - 10. *****
- ****

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

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

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	14	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (Paragraph Nos. 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.19, 2.26, 2.27, 2.39, 2.44, 2.48, 2.53 and 2.57).	11	78.57
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies – Nil.	0	0
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. 2.20, 2.32 and 2.55)	3	21.43
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature – Nil.	0	0