

SECOND REPORT

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE
(1999-2000)**

(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND EMPOWERMENT**

*[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/
Observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing
Committee on Labour and Welfare on Ministry of Social
Justice and Empowerment—Demands for Grants (1999-2000)]*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2000/Phalguna, 1921 (Saka 1924)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND
WELFARE (1999-2000)

Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

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3. Shri Alam Amir
4. Shri Denzil B. Atkinson
5. Smt. Sandhya Bauri
6. Shri Joachim Baxia
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23. Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava
24. Dr. N. Venkataswamy

Rajya Sabha

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26. Shri Sanatan Bisi
27. Dr. (Mrs.) P. Selvie Das
28. Shri Mohd. Azam Khan
29. Shri Ramachandra Khuntia
30. Shri Pali S. Nariman
31. Shri C.O. Poullose
32. Shri Joyanta Roy
33. Ms. Prida Topno
34. Shri Janardan Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Joginder Singh — *Joint Secretary*

2. Shri J.P. Sharma — *Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri B.D. Swan — *Under Secretary*
4. Shri Jagdish Prashad — *Committee Officer*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Second Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment—Demands for Grants 1999-2000.

2. The Eleventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 22 April, 1999. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 14 January, 2000. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare at their sitting held on 1 March, 2000.

3. The Report has been divided into following chapters:

- I. Report
- II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government.
- III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply.
- IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Twelfth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix.

NEW DELHI;

1 March, 2000

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Chairman

Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare

CHAPTER I REPORT

I.I This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Labour and Welfare on the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants 1999-2000.

1.2 The Eleventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 22 April, 1999. It contained 19 recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under:

(i) Recommendations and observations which have been accepted by the Government:

SI. Nos. 1, 6, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17 and 18

(Total 8 included in Chapter II of the Report)

(ii) Recommendations and observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue taking into consideration the replies of the Government:

SI. Nos. 2, 3, 7 and 13

(Total 4 included in Chapter III of the Report)

(iii) Recommendations and observations, replies to which have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration: or merit comments

SI. Nos. 5, 10, II and 19

(Total 4 included in Chapter IV of the Report)

(iv) Recommendations and observations in respect of which final replies have not been received:

SI. Nos. 4, 9 and 14

(Total 3 included in Chapter V of the Report)

1.3 The Committee desire that replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter-1 and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V for which only interim replies have been given should be furnished to the Committee *expeditiously*.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with those action taken replies of the Government which need reiteration or merit comments.

A. Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes Recommendation (SI. No. 5, Para No. 2.25)

1.5 The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was not having the information regarding the number of persons who had achieved economic viability after taking Special Central Assistance. The Committee having rejected the reasons put forth by the Ministry that SCP was implemented by the State Governments and it was physically not possible for the Ministry to monitor and review the progress of the utilisation of plan funds of all State Governments and UT Administrations, had recommended that the Ministry in consultation with Planning Commission should ascertain the data regarding the number of Scheduled Castes actually crossed the poverty line after availing the financial assistance under the scheme.

1.6 The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in their action taken note has stated that the information regarding the number of SC families who have crossed the poverty line are being collected from respective State Governments and UT Administrations. Information from 22 States/UTs is still awaited.

1.7 The Committee are not satisfied with the stereo-type reply given by the Ministry to their recommendations that information is being collected from the respective State Governments/UTs. It is true that only 25% weightage is given while releasing Special Central Assistance to State Governments/UTs. for composite development programme for SC families to enable them to cross the poverty line but the purpose of the scheme would be defeated if the Central Government is not able to monitor effectively the utilisation of SCA by State Governments/UTs. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Government should conduct a survey to find out as to how many SC families have actually been benefited by the scheme and thereby crossed the poverty line. This information may be obtained from the State Governments/UT Administrations expeditiously and furnished to the Committee at the earliest.

B. Scheme for Hostel Facilities for SC/ST Boys and Girls Recommendation (SI. No. 10, Para No. 2.39)

1.8 The Committee was informed that the Ministry had no information about the number of SC/ST boys and girls hostels actually constructed during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99 as well as the number of SC/ST boys and girls who availed hostel facility during that period. The Committee had desired that the Ministry should improve its coordination with State Governments/UTs and obtain the requisite information regarding hostels actually constructed before releasing the next instalment of funds. The Committee had also been informed that the Government had entrusted the work of evaluation studies to TRIs (Tribal Research Institutes) to look into the discrepancies noticed in the maintenance of Hostels in the States of Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96. The Reports of TRIs have stated to be forwarded to the concerned State Government for compliance. The action of the Ministry simply forwarding the Report to State Governments indicated the casual approach of the Ministry towards the scheme. The Committee had, therefore, recommended that the officers from the Ministry should visit the States to ensure the rectification of the discrepancies pointed out by Tribal Research Institute.

1.9 The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in their action taken notes has stated that despite constant efforts, it had not been possible to obtain information regarding hostels for SC students actually constructed from all the State Governments/UT Administrations etc. However, on the basis of available information, a statement showing number of hostels completed and the number of inmates who availed hostel facilities during the years from 1990-91 to 1998-99 is annexed (Annexure-I *vide* chapter IV pages 26, 27 and 28) It may also be stated that the next proposals of the State Governments/UTs/Universities are sanctioned only after obtaining the Utilisation Certificates for the completion and proper utilisation of funds previously sanctioned to them.

1.10 The Ministry has furnished the following details of the hostels for ST students constructed during the year 1997-98 and number of seats as per reports received from the concerned States Government/

SI. No.	Name of the Scheme	Hostels constructed in 1997-98	Seats
1.	Boys Hostels for STs	91	2870
2.	Girls Hostels for STs	78	2028

The report regarding the actual construction of hostels for STs under both schemes during the year 1998-99 will be received in the last quarter of 1999-2000.

1.11 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry that despite their constant efforts, they could not obtain information from all the State Governments/UTs about the number of hostels for Scheduled Caste Students actually constructed during the

year 1997-98 and 1998-99 whereas the similar information pertaining to Scheduled Tribe Hostels has been furnished to the Committee. The Committee fail to understand as to why the relevant information is not available with them particularly when the next proposals of the State Governments/UTs/Universities are sanctioned only after obtaining the utilisation certificates for the completion and proper utilisation of funds previously sanctioned to them. The committee, therefore desire that complete information regarding hostels constructed for SC Students should be furnished to them within three month's time.

1.12 On perusal of replies, the Committee find that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has not reacted to the later part of the recommendation pertaining to the action-taken by the State Governments of Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh on the discrepancies pointed out by Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in the maintenance of hostels. The Committee would, therefore, like to be informed whether those discrepancies have actually been rectified by the concerned State Governments.

C. Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST students.

Recommendation (SI. No. II, Para No. 2.49)

1.13 The Committee had observed that the Ministry had not been able to achieve its target under the scheme of post matric scholarship to SC and ST students during the last three years. In order to achieve this target the Ministry had made some modifications in the scheme with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs and accordingly detailed profonna had been devised which was regularly sent to States/UTs for reporting on the scheme. The Committee further desired that constant monitoring and coordination should be maintained with the States/UTs and the progress/implementation of the scheme should be reviewed periodically so that target fixed for assisting the SC/ST students is achieved.

1.14 In their Action Taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry has stated that the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is an open-ended scheme in the sense that all eligible students are entitled and as such targets are only projected ones. The Ministry had furnished the following statement showing the projected beneficiaries *vis-a-vis* actual coverage during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998- 99 and reasons for variation:

1998-99	22.66	17.15	The actual coverage in respect of Delhi, West Bengal, Sikkim and Madhya Pradesh is not yet known.
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•Projected coverage is estimated at the beginning of an academic year.

1.15 The Ministry has further stated that the low coverage of beneficiaries under the scheme in 1996-97 and 1997-98 was monitored and towards correcting the situation, the Government of India decided to bear the Committed Liability of North Eastern States, from commencement of Ninth Plan period *i.e.* 1997-98. After dispensation of the committed liability in respect of North Eastern States from 1997-98 onwards, the scheme is being 100% financed for them. With the objective of providing scholarship to eligible students in time, the North Eastern States have already been provided adhoc Central assistance of Rs. 48.62 crores for 1999-2000. The release of due Central assistance to Bihar was also resumed from 1998-99 by having resolved the pending issue of their requirement to augment the State budget provision towards Committed Liability in the absence of which the State Government was not able to receive the due Central assistance. These corrective steps taken after proper monitoring and assessment have started yielding desired results as reflected in appreciation of beneficiaries since 1998-99 in the North Eastern States and also in Bihar as would be seen from the following table.

Coverage of beneficiaries (in lakhs)

State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
North Eastern States and anticipated	2.12	1.70	2.64	4.03

1.16 The Committee are not convinced with the arguments of the Ministry that the low coverage of beneficiaries was due to poor performance of the scheme in Assam and Bihar and for not providing the committed liability by the North Eastern States in their State Budget. The Committee express their concern that the SC/ST Students in the State of Bihar could not be benefited by the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme only because the State Government was not able to receive Central Assistance for want of adequate provision towards committed liability in their State Budget. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should persuade all the State Governments in the right earnest to make adequate provision for scholarship scheme in their State Budgets so as to have optimum utilisation of Central Assistance.

D. Welfare Schemes for Disabled—National Institutes

Recommendation (SI. No. 19, Para No. 2.82)

1.17 The Committee was informed that the Ministry had received a complaint regarding malfunctioning in National Institute of Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta and inquiry into the complaint was in progress. Considering it a serious lapse, the Committee had observed that the matter should be investigated and action taken against the erring Official should be communicated to them.

1.18 In their action taken note the Ministry has stated that Inquiries have been conducted to look into the alleged administrative as well as financial irregularities of the institute.

Under the Administrative aspects the institute was without a regular Director for about four years before the appointment of the present Director. There seems to have been some slackening in the functioning of the institute during the period.

After taking over the charge by present Director, there had been all round improvement in the functioning of the institute. The present Director is making efforts to bring about further improvements in the services being rendered by the institute. No specific action is required to be taken as nothing adverse had been found in the administrative aspect of functioning of the institute. However, the Ministry is continuously trying to improve the functioning of the Institute.

1.19 As regards findings of the inquiry into the financial irregularities in the institute the Ministry had stated that the special audit team conducted ail inquiry and pointed out the following financial irregularities committed during the period April' 95 to March,

- (i) Unfruitful expenditure of Rs. 14.19 lacks on computer.
- (ii) Non-adjustment of the outstanding advance of Rs. 1,61,056/-
- (iii) Unfruitful expenditure on sports complex.
- (iv) Theft case—lack luster security arrangements.
- (v) Disposal of the old staff car.

1.20 The Ministry has issued a show cause notice to then officiating Director of the institute. The reply is awaited. Appropriate action will be taken after the completion of all procedural formalities.

1.21 The Ministry has already admitted in their action taken note that there was some slackening in the functioning of the Institute during the period when there was no regular Director in National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta. In the opinion of the Committee the financial and administrative irregularities continued for a period of four years indicates nothing but lack of effective supervision and control of the Government over the Institute. The Committee, therefore, desire that the annual accounts of all the National Institutes as well as Apex Level Institutes should be verified regularly so as to avoid mal-functioning and unfruitful expenditure in these Institutes.

CHAPTER II
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN
ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT
Recommendation (SI. No. I, Para No. 1.15)

2.1 The Committee note that the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has reviewed all the on-going programmes/schemes, and restructured most of them in the light of the approach and objective envisaged for Ninth Five Year Plan. In addition many new measures have been taken to strengthen participation by both Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies in extending benefits to the target groups. The Committee expect that with the new measures taken by the Ministry there shall be an overall improvement in the functioning of the schemes. They would appreciate if the Ministry is able to coordinate its activities better with the State Governments and Non-Governmental agencies through intensive monitoring of the schemes.

Reply of the Government

2.2 The observations of the Committee have been taken note of by this Ministry. Effective monitoring of the schemes and programmes of this Ministry is being ensured by obtaining regular and periodical reports from the State Governments/UTs and NGOs. Meetings of officers from States/UTs are organised from time to time to get feedback on the progress of implementation of the schemes/programmes. The Officers of this Ministry are also deputed to visit the States/UTs to gain first hand knowledge of progress of the implementation of the schemes. Representatives of States/UTs are also called to Delhi for discussions in this regard.

2.3 As regards schemes implemented by NGOs, the grant-in-aid is released to them on the basis of the recommendations of the State Governments/UTs. In order to ensure effective monitoring/evaluation of the performance of NGOs, periodic inspection is arranged through State Governments/UT Officers. The Officers of this Ministry are also deputed for inspection/verification of NGOs. The services of retired Defence Personnel as also organisations like the School of Social Sciences and prominent NGOs like Child Relief and You (CRY) are also utilised in appropriate cases for monitoring the performance of the NGOs.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1128/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 6, Para No. 2.26)

2.4 The Committee regret to note that only 12 out of 35 Central Ministries/Departments, namely. Agriculture, Industry, Labour, Coal, Textile, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Human Resource Development, Science and Technology, Health and Family Welfare and Rural and Employment have formulated SCP in their annual Budgets. The reply of the Ministry that there is some improvement in the formulation of SCP by these Ministries, but it is not substantial, is not satisfactory. Further, the Matter has not been

taken by the Ministry in the Cabinet. The Committee are not happy with the situation. In their view every Central Ministry/Department whose activities have or can have a bearing on the development of SCs should atleast identify such schemes which directly benefit the SCs. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the matter should be taken up at the highest level with the Planning Commission so that other Central Ministries also fall in line and formulate SCP in their Annual Budget. If necessary, the matter should also be taken up at the Cabinet level.

Reply of the Government

2.5 Planning Commission has set up a Standing Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of the Planning Commission, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the concerned Ministry under the Chairmanship of the Member of Planning Commission which will identify the programmes/schemes/projects benefiting the SC/ST and take action to earmark funds for SCP and TSP as per the guidelines of the Planning Commission.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 8, Para No. 2.37)

2.6 The Committee note that the budgetary provisions for the Scheme of Hostel facilities for SC/ST students have not been fully utilised by the Ministry during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99. The reply of the Ministry that the shortfall in expenditure is due to inadequate provision by the State Governments for their matching share and non-utilisation of funds released during the year is not acceptable to the Committee. In the opinion of the Committee, the Ministry has not taken any concrete steps so far despite the fact that the Committee have been making recommendations in their previous reports on the issue. The Committee view situation seriously and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with those State Governments who have not been able to provide their matching share for construction of hostels for SC/ST boys and girls on a firm footing. The Ministry should also ensure that funds earmarked for the scheme is fully utilised by the State Governments/UTs during the same financial year.

Reply of the Government

2.7 (i) Hostel for SC students Year Budget Estimate Actual Expenditure
(Rs. in Crores)

Boys Hostel	1997-98	11.00	9.05
	1998-99	11.00	11.00
Girls Hostel	1997-98	8.00	6.00
	1998-99	8.00	7.94

It would be seen from the above figures that there was no saving during 1998-99 in regard to Boys Hostel and there was a very negligible saving of Rs. 0.06 crore against the budget provision of Rs. 8.00 crores for Girls Hostels. As regards, 1997-98, as already apprised to the Standing Committee the shortfall in expenditure was due to the inadequate provision of their matching share by the State Governments and non-utilisation of funds released during the year. 2.8 The matter has been regularly pursued with the State Governments/UT administration/universities in different fora. Apart from requesting them several times on this account by correspondence, the matter was also take up with the senior officials of State Governments/UT administrations, etc., during the Regional Conferences held at different places in the country during the year 1999 and also at the meeting held at New Delhi.

2.9 As regards utilisation of funds during the same financial year, it may be stated that inspite of the best efforts at our level, the proposals of the State Governments etc., tend to be received towards the end of the financial year. After their receipt it takes some time for their examination and issue of sanctions/cheques. And in many cases, sanctions are issued at the end of the year. Thus, it is not always possible for the State Governments etc., to utilise the funds during the same financial year.

(ii) Hostel for ST students

2.10 The budget provision and expenditure under the schemes of Boys Hostels for STs and Girls Hostels for STs are as under:—

Name of the Scheme	Budget allocation for 1997-98	Budget allocation for 1998-99	Expenditure during 1997-98	Expenditure during 1998-99	% for 1997-98	% for 1998-99
Boys Hostels for STs	4 crs.	8 crs.	3.53 crs.	8.30 crs.	88%	104%
Girls Hostels for STs	4 crs.	8 crs.	3.77 crs.	7.69 crs.	94%	96%

2.11 The table shows that there is no shortfall in the financial year 1998-99. The expenditure under the Scheme of Boys Hostels is 104% and expenditure under the Scheme of Girls Hostels is 96%. The 4% expenditure has been adjusted in the Scheme of Boys Hostels from Girls Hostels because there were no more proposal of Girls Hostels and the proposal for Boys Hostels were increasing the Budget allocation.

2.12 The expenditure during the financial year 1997-98 was 88% under the scheme of Boys Hostels and 94% for Girls Hostels. The amount could not be fully released due to lack of utilisation of the funds and matching share in the State Budget. The Scheme of Boys Hostels and Girls Hostels for STs are Centrally Sponsored Schemes under which

the grant-in-aid is released to State Governments on 50:50 sharing basis. This Ministry provides the grant-in-aid to State Government when the State Government sent the proposal with utilisation certificates of the grant of previous year and 50% budget provision in their State Budget. The provision for these schemes in their State Budget is the matter of the State concerned. However, all the State Governments are requested to send the proposals because the Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment being the nodal Ministry for the Welfare of STs. The funds earmarked for the scheme can not be diverted to any other scheme of the State Government as per the condition mentioned in the sanction letter. The funds allotted in the above mentioned years will be utilised for that hostels which were mentioned in the proposal, the location of the Hostels can not be changed as per the terms of the sanction letter. To utilise the full amount in the same financial year is not possible because some states take time in construction due to geographical factors but the amount released is a earmarked amount and it will be spent for the hostels for which it was released.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 12, Para No. 2.50)**

2.13 The Committee note that the Planning Commission has fixed the annual income of the family under poverty line in rural and urban areas to Rs. 15,976 and Rs. 21,206 respectively. The Committee, feel that even if the Ministry apply the revised criteria of poverty line honestly, the number of students covered within the funds allocated for the post matric scholarship scheme would still be very less. The Committee threfore recommend that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment should approach the Planning Commission for more allocation of funds under the scheme so that the eligible SC/ST students are not deprived of the benefit of the scheme. The Committee also desire that the criteria for fixing the income of the family below the poverty line should be revised once in two years and linked with Consumer Price Index for industrial workers of SC and ST students are benefited under the scheme.

Reply of the Government

2.14 The income ceiling under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been linked with the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers since 1.10.1995 and is subject to revisions once in every two years. Accordingly the income ceiling was revised with effect from 1.4.1998, based on the index number upto October, 1997, which is now upto Rs. 50,920/- per annum. The endeavour of the Ministry is to provide due Central assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations even by exceeding the budgetary allocations so that the States/UTs are able to cover all eligible students. During 1998-99, as against an allocation of Rs. 65.00 crores, an amount of Rs. 100.00 crores was released to State Governments/UT Administrations, by meeting the additionalities through re-appropriation in the Revised Estimates. For the year 1999-2000, the Planning Commission, on persistent efforts of this Ministry to enhance the

allocations, have raised the allocations under the Scheme from Rs. 65.00 crores in 1998-99 to Rs. 135.00 crores in 1999-2000. The educational interests of students in North-Eastern States have been specifically taken care of by dispensing with their committed liability of Rs. 20.83 crores per annum and these States now receive 100% Central assistance for implementing the scheme.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 15, Para No. 2.73)**

2.15 The Committee noted that the funds allocated under the Scheme for the welfare of street children had not been fully utilised by the Ministry during 1997-98 and 1998-99 for want of the on-going projects. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment should ensure that the funds earmarked for the scheme of welfare of street children should be fully utilised and the Ministry should strengthen their monitoring mechanism and make all out efforts for obtaining State Government's recommendations on time on the performance of the on-going projects.

Reply of the Government

2.16 In order to ensure that the funds earmarked for the scheme of welfare of street children are fully utilised, the Ministry has evolved alternate system of project appraisal by assigning the task to Schools of Social Work and a few permanent NGOs like Child Relief and You (CRY). Action to obtain the project appraisal reports/inspection reports from the Schools of Social Work was initiated as early as in May, 1999 and they were asked to send reports latest by October, 1999. In addition the Childline India Foundation has been designated as the Agency for scrutinizing the applications of NGOs working as support, collaborating and resource organizations for the establishment/running of the Childline Service throughout the country. The Foundation is also to act as the recommending authority for the purpose. This has ensured timely release of funds to the Childline Service throughout the country.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-Cdn. dated
14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No 16, Para No. 2.74)**

2.17 The Committee further noted that although City Level Task Force had been constituted in all the 43 cities to monitor the scheme, they had not furnished the performance reports of NGOs well in time.

Further, the meetings of the task force are not held regularly and many of the high-ranking members of the task force found it difficult to attend the meetings. In the opinion of the Committee, the very purpose of setting up of the Task Forces is defeated in case they are not able to guide and improve the performance of the NGOs. The Committee, therefore, desire that efforts should be made to ensure that the meetings of the task forces

are held regularly and attended to by all the members for proper implementation of the scheme.

Reply of the Government

2.18 The pre-revised Scheme titled "Scheme for the Welfare of Street Children" contained a provision of constitution of City Level Task Force. However, as the functioning of these Task Forces was not found to be satisfactory, the revised scheme titled "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" envisages specification of nature, type and periodicity of the inspection and audit and the agency which will be designated to carry out the inspection and the audit. In pursuance of this provision, a system of project appraisal/monitoring and inspection by Schools of Social Work and some prominent voluntary organizations like CRY (CHILD RELIEF AND YOU) has been put into operation from the financial year 1999-2000. The system is working satisfactorily.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.2.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 17, Para No. 2.75)**

2.19 The Committee further note that no survey has been conducted by the Ministry in all the States to see the factors responsible for the existence of street children. The Committee had also been informed that since street children were very mobile and prone to migration, it was difficult to provide education or vocational training to them for any fixed period. In the opinion of the Committee, the Ministry was not giving due attention to the scheme which it deserved. Every year a considerable amount for the scheme is allocated in the Budget, which is not fully utilised. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should conduct a survey in all the States to see the factors responsible for the existence of street children and monitor the scheme in all its earnest by utilising fully the funds allocated so that maximum number of street children were brought into the mainstream of the formal educational system and vocational training system. Also the vocational training should be linked with gainful employment.

Reply of the Government

2.20 The pre-revised scheme for welfare of street children was launched by the Ministry during the year 1992-93 consequent upon the survey conducted by the UNICEF and the erstwhile Ministry of Welfare. The said survey had indicated that extreme poverty, broken families, alcoholism and sometimes sheer adventure were the main causes responsible for phenomenon of street children. As recommended by the Committee the revised scheme for the welfare of street children renamed as "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" is being monitored in all earnestness and steps have been taken to utilise the funds allocated fully.

**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 18, Para No. 2.81)**

2.21 Funds allocated to the institute in the last two financial years have not been fully utilised which is indicative of the fact that Ministry's monitoring over these institutes has not been satisfactory. The Committee therefore recommend that the Ministry should improve its monitoring so that the funds allocated are fully utilised during the financial year and also the quality of services rendered by these institutes in conducting short-term/long-term courses. National level Workshops, holding of camps for disabled etc. is improved.

Reply of the Government

2.22 The Ministry is continuously monitoring the utilisation of funds of the National Institutes/apex level institutions. As a result, the status of utilisation of funds by the institute is improving every year. During 1997-98 four institutes viz. NIVH, NIOH, NIHH & IPH could not utilise the entire budget allocation while during 1997-98 only two institutes viz. NIOH & NIHH were not able to utilise the entire budget allocation.

This was due to the fact that several construction works were not completed by CPWD in time, hence the fund could not be utilised. This year, it will be our objective to ensure 100% utilisation by the NIs. So far as the improvement in quality of services rendered by the Institutes are concerned, we are keeping a strict vigil on the activities of the institutes and will further attempt at improving the quality of their services. Quarterly review are made on the services rendered by the Institutes in the Executive Council meetings. Annual review is made by the General Council every year. The Institutes will be evaluated by an independent agency in the near future.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

CHAPTER III
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE
COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN
VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLY
Recommendation (SI. No. 2, Para No. 2.11)

3.1 The Committee note that Rs. 2045.65 crores was allocated to the Ministry during the financial year 1998-99, which was reduced to Rs. 1654.44 crores at the Revised Estimate stage. Out of this, the Ministry has utilised Rs. 1263.91 crores upto February 28, 1999. The remaining 390.53 crores *i.e.* almost 31% of the Budget would be utilised in the last month of the financial year. The reply of the Ministry that the funds are released to States/UTs at the fag end of the financial year due to late receipt of the progress report and utilisation certificate from them is not acceptable to the Committee. In the opinion of the Committee the practice prevailing in the Ministry that a large amount is released to States/UTs at the fag end of the year should hence be discouraged. For this, vigorous consultations with the State Governments should be made at the highest level and a strong monitoring over the schemes should be done by the Ministry, so that funds are released in the beginning of the financial year and the bills for reimbursement from State Governments are received in time.

Reply of the Government

3.2 All efforts are made by the Ministry to ensure that funds allocated in the Budget are utilised in full during the year and further that release of funds to the State Governments/UTs and NGOs are made in a phased manner throughout the year, so that hunching of releases at the fag end of the financial year is avoided. However, before release of funds to the State Governments/UTs, certain essential requirements are to be kept in view. These include obtaining formal and complete proposals and information regarding the status of utilisation of funds released in the earlier year(s).

3.3 In order to effect releases in time, the State Governments/UTs are addressed at the beginning of the financial year for submission of 18 complete proposals including information regarding the status and extent of utilisation of funds released in the earlier year(s), in respect of each scheme/programme, meetings are also held with the representatives of the State Governments/UTs at Delhi as also at State Headquarters wherein the need for timely submission of complete proposals is emphasized. Regular and period review of the pace of expenditure/releases under various schemes/programmes is also undertaken by the Ministry and remedial action initiated wherever it is found that the trend of releases is slow. The Ministry will continue to strive for timely release of funds as per Budget allocation in a phased manner.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn., dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 3, Para No. 2.12)**

3.4 The Committee further note that the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 6608 crores to the Ministry to meet its requirements during the Ninth Five Year Plan out of which the Ministry is likely to spend Rs. 4700 crores in the first three years of the Plan period *i.e.* upto 1999-2000 leaving the balance of Rs. 1908 crores for the remaining two years of the Plan period. The Committee fail to understand as to how Ministry would be able to meet their commitments/requirements for the remaining two years for want of sufficient funds. The Committee views this situation very seriously. They, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take up the issue with the Planning Commission at the highest level for allocation of more funds during the remaining part of the Ninth Five Year Plan, so that the on-going schemes do not suffer for want of funds.

Reply of the Government

3.5 The Ninth Plan allocation for various schemes/programmes of this Ministry is Rs. 6608.13 crore. This is exclusive of the provisions for Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan and Grants under First Proviso to article 275(1) of the Constitution, which are met out of the State Plan allocations.

3.6 At the time of examination of the Demands for Grants for 1999-2000 of this Ministry, an expenditure of Rs. 4,700 crore was projected in the first three years of the Plan period based on the actual expenditure for 1997-98, R.E. provision for 1998-99 and B.E. provision for 1999-2000. This figure also included the provisions for SCA to TSP and Grants under article 275(1) of the Constitution. However, according to present indications, the expenditure in the first three years of the Plan period is likely to be of the order of Rs. 4561.20 crore, as per the break-up given below:

Year	Expenditure	(Rs. in crore)
1997-98 (actuals)	1205.30	
1998-99 (actuals)	1512.33	
1999-2000 (R.E. provision)	1843.57	
Total	4561.20*	

* This figure expenditure on Animal Welfare Programmes, SCA to STP and Grants under article 275(1) Constitution.

3.7 Keeping in view the trend of expenditure in the first three years of the Plan period the Planning Commission will be approached for increase in the allocation in case additional funds are needed.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn., dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 2.27)**

3.8 The Committee note with concern that though the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas had been allocating funds for the development of SCs in their Annual Budget in the past, no allocation of funds has been made by them in the current budget. The Government's reply that the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has not yet sent any intimation regarding allocation under SCP in the current budget is not satisfactory. In the opinion of the Committee, the Ministry should have taken the issue with the Ministry of petroleum and Natural Gas on priority. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the matter should be taken up at the highest level with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas so that the funds are allocated under the Ministry's head at Revised Estimate stage.

Reply of the Government

3.9 Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has informed that the Chief Executives of all the PSUs have been advised to formulate and implement Annual Plan for Special Component Plan in accordance with the Government guidelines. All the PSUs have formulated SCP. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas's budget covers only the administrative expenditure and as such there is no provision for formulating & implementing the Annual Plan for SCP.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 2.62)**

3.10 The Committee note that out of 32 projects sanctioned during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 for the development of Urban Wakf Properties, 20 were from Karnataka State only. The reply of the Ministry that other States did not forward their projects during the last three years and in some of the States, State Wakf Board has not yet been constituted is not acceptable to the Committee in view of the fact that where there is no state Wakf Board, the Wakf properties shall be looked after by the Controller. In the opinion of the Committee Ministry's monitoring in this regard has not been upto the mark. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry should pursue the other State Governments also to send their projects for sanction so that they avail the benefit of the scheme. Also, steps should be taken for pursuing the State Governments for constitution of State Wakf Boards at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

3.11 It is true that maximum number of projects are forthcoming from the State of Karnataka and the response from other States

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation (SI. No. 5, Para No. 2.25)

4.1 The Committee note with concern that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment does not have the information regarding the number of persons who have achieved economic viability after taking Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan. The reasons put forth by the Ministry that SCP is implemented by the State Governments and it is physically not possible for the Ministry to monitor and review the progress of the utilisation of plan funds of all State Governments and UT Administration are not satisfactory and not acceptable of the Committee. The Committee have also been informed by the Ministry that under the scheme no targets are fixed because the funds released are utilised by State Government through their implementing agencies depending upon their variant needs. The Committee view this situation very seriously. They, therefore, recommend that the Ministry in consultation with Planning Commission should ascertain the data regarding the number of Scheduled Castes who have actually crossed the poverty line after availing the assistance of the scheme. Also the Ministry should strengthen its monitoring mechanism in coordination with State Governments/UTs to ensure that the funds earmarked under the scheme reaches the grassroot level.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The information regarding the number of SC families who have crossed the poverty line are being collected from respective State Governments and UT administrations. Information from 22 States/UTs is still awaited.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

Especially the Northern and Eastern States are very poor. Whereas the office of Central Wakf Council has been asked to put more efforts so that this scheme is implemented in these States also. Ministry is also taking steps to popularize this scheme in these States by way of writing to the State Govt. Deptt. concerned/State Wakf Board and sending its officers there. Regarding Constitution of Wakf Boards by the States, the matter is being pursued vigorously with the State Government concerned.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.7 of Chapter I of the Report)
Recommendation (SI. No. 10, Para No. 2.39)

4.3 The Committee one with concern that the Ministry has no information about the number of SC/ST boys and girls hostels actually constructed during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 as well as the number of SC/ST boys and girls availing hostel facility during the period. In the absence of this data, the Committee fail to understand as to how the Ministry would be able to justify proper utilisation of the funds allocated for the scheme. The Committee also note that consequent upon the recommendation made by them in their Seventh Report on Demands for Grants for the Year 1997-98 regarding removal of the discrepancies noticed by the Ministry in the maintenance of hostels in the State of Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh during the year 1995-96, the Government has entrusted evaluation studies to the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs). The Ministry has now stated that the reports of TRIs have been referred to the respective State Governments for remedial measures. In the opinion of the Committee, the Ministry has taken casual approach to the scheme as they have simply forwarded the reports to concerned State Governments for compliance. The Committee, therefore, desire that officers from the Ministry should visit the States to ensure that the discrepancies pointed out by the TRIs are actually rectified. The Committee also urge the Ministry to improve its coordination with State Governments/UTs and obtain the requisite information regarding hostels actually constructed before releasing the next instalment of funds. Steps taken and progress achieved in this regard should be communicated to the Committee within six months.

Reply of the Government

(i) Hostel for SC students

4.4 Despite constant efforts, it has not been possible to obtain information from all the State Governments/UT administrations etc. However, on the basis of available information, a statement showing number of hostels completed and the number of inmates who availed hostel facilities during the years from 1990-91 to 1998-99 is annexed. (Annexure 1) It may also be stated that the next proposals of the State Governments/UTs/Universities are sanctioned only after obtaining the Utilisation Certificates for the completion and proper utilisation of funds previously sanction to them.

(ii) Hostel for ST students

4.5 The details of the hostels constructed during the year 1997-98 and No. of seats as per reports received from the concerned States Govt/UT administration are given below:—

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Hostels constructed in 1997-98	Seats
1.	Boys Hostels for STs	91	2870

4.6 The report regarding the actual construction of hostels for STs under both schemes during the year 1998-99 will be received in the last quarter of 1999-2000.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

Comments of the Committee (Please *See* Paras 1.11 and 1.12 of Chapter I of the Report.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17.	Rajasthan	N.R.	N.R.	5	125	N.G.	N.G.	1	50	21	550	9	225	2	50	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
18.	Tamil Nadu	18	N.R.	6	N.R.	9	N.R.	7	N.R.	1	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
19.	Tripura	1	410	4	456	3	491	3	490	2	578	2	627	N.R.	705	1	651	2	762
20.	Uttar Pradesh	7	350	16	750	17	650	6	300	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.
21.	West Bengal	1	N.R.	3	N.R.	1	N.R.	2	N.R.	3	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.	N.G.
Total		191	4051	225	4356	143	1683	178	1020	173	3778	107	932	9	1304	66	651	89	812

1. Jawahar Lal University

Funds not released from 1990-91 to 1997-98

For 1998-99 grant released but work not yet started.

2. Kurukshetra University.

Funds not released from 1990-91 to 1997-98

For 1998-99 grant released but work not yet started.

NOTE: N.R. (NOT RECEIVED), N.G. (NO GRANT RELEASED)

Recommendation (SI. No. II, Para 2.49)

4.7 The Committee note that the Ministry has not been able to achieve its target under the scheme of post matric scholarship to SC and ST students during the last three years. The Ministry has stated that the target could not be achieved due to dismal performance of the scheme particularly in the States of Assam and Bihar as well as non-provision of committed liability by the North-eastern States and other States like Bihar, Karnataka etc. In the opinion of the Committee, the monitoring of the Ministry over the States has not been upto the mark. However, the Committee have now been informed that the Ministry has made some modifications in the scheme with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs and accordingly detailed proforma has been devised which is regularly sent to States/UTs for reporting on the scheme. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to ensure strict compliance of the conditions laid down in the proforma before releasing Central assistance to the States/UTs. The Committee also desire that constant monitoring and coordination should be maintained with the States/UTs and the progress/implementation of the scheme should be reviewed periodically so that target fixed for assisting the SC/ST students is achieved. Progress achieved in this regard should be communicated to the Committee.

Reply of the Government

4.8 The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is an open-ended scheme in the sense that all eligible students are entitled and as such targets are only projected ones.

4.9 The projected beneficiaries vis-a-vis actual coverage during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 and reasons for variation are given in the table below.

(Beneficiaries Covered in lakhs)

Year coverage*	Projected coverage	Actual	Reasons for variation
1 1996-97	2 20.40	3 17.62	4 Poor performance of Scheme in Assam and Bihar.
1997-98	20.88	17.78	Very low coverage in North Eastern States, which could not prove State budget towards their respective Committed Liability and thus not qualify to get due Central assistance. The performance was also not good in Bihar.
1998-99	22.66	17.15	The actual coverage in respect of Delhi, West Bengal, Sikkim and

Madhya Pradesh is not yet known.

* Projected coverage is estimated at the beginning of an academic year.

4.10 The low coverage of beneficiaries under the Scheme in 1996-97 and 1997-98 was monitored, and towards correcting the situation, the Government of India decided to bear the Committed Liability of North Eastern States, from commencement of Ninth Plan period *i.e.* 1997- 98. After dispensation of the committed liability in respect of North Eastern States from 1997-98 onwards, the scheme is being 100% financed for them. With the objective of providing scholarship to eligible students in time, the North Eastern States have already been provided adhoc Central assistance of Rs. 48.62 crores for 1999-2000. The release of due Central assistance to Bihar was also resumed from 1998-99 by having resolved the pending issue of their requirement to augment the State budget provision towards Committed Liability in absence of which the State Government was not able to receive the due Central assistance. These corrective steps taken after proper monitoring and assessment have started yielding desired results as reflected in appreciation of beneficiaries since 1998-99 in the North Eastern States and also in Bihar as would be

seen from the following table:—

State	Coverage of Beneficiaries (in lakhs)			
1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
North Eastern States and Bihar	2.12	1.70	2.64	4.03 (anticipated)

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

Comments of the Committee

(Please *See* Para No. 1.16 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Recommendation (SI. No. 19, Para No. 2.82)

4.11 The Ministry has received complaints in regard to mal- functioning of NIOH, Calcutta. The Committee have been informed by the Ministry that an inquiry into the complaints is in progress. The

Committee, therefore, desire that the matter should be thoroughly investigated and action is taken against the erring officials so that such irregularities do not occur in other institutes. Also details of inquiry report alongwith the action taken in this regard should be communicated to the Committee within six months time.

Reply of the Government

4.12 Inquiries have been conducted to look into the alleged administrative as well as financial irregularities of the institute.

Finding into the administrative aspects

The institute was without a regular Director for about four years before the appointment of the present Director. There seems to have been some slackening in the functioning of the institute during the period. After taking over the charge by present Director, there has been all round improvement in the functioning of the institute. The present Director is making efforts to bring about further improvements in the services being rendered by the institute.

Action Taken: No specific action is required to be taken as nothing adverse has been found in the administrative aspect of functioning of the institute. However, we are continuously trying to improve the functioning of the Institute. Findings of the inquiry into the financial irregularities in the institute The special audit team conducted an inquiry and pointed out the to March, 98:—

- (a) Unfruitful expenditure of Rs. 14.19 lacs on computer.
- (b) Non-adjustment of the outstanding advance of Rs. 1,61,056/-
- (c) Unfruitful expenditure on sports complex.
- (d) Theft case-lack lustre security arrangements.
- (e) Disposal of the old staff car.

Action Taken: We have issued a show cause notice to the then fficiating Director of the institute. The reply is awaited. Appropriate:tion will be taken after the completion of all procedural formalities.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

Comments of the Committee
(Please *See* Para Nb. 1.21 of Chapter I of the Report.)

CHAPTER V
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT
OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT
HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED

Recommendation (SI. No. 4, Para No. 2.13)

5.1 The Committee note that an amount of Rs. 250 crore was allocated to the Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya during the financial year 1997-98, which was reduced to Rs. 1 crore at the revised estimate stage. Similarly, in 1998-99 the same amount was kept in the Budget Estimate which was revised to Rs. 20 crore and the expenditure was nil upto 31.12.1998. This year the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 50 crore for the scheme. The Committee have now been informed that the Scheme would be launched by the Ministry as soon as the scheme is cleared by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. In the opinion of the Committee, much time has been taken in resolving the issue between the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Human Resource Development over the question of integration of scheme with Mahila Samridhi Yojana. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment should taken up the matter with CCEA on priority for early clearance of the scheme. Also vigorous efforts should be made by the Ministry to make the scheme functional during the year 1999-2000.

Reply of the Government

5.2 The observations of the Committee have been noted. Efforts are being made to process the scheme for obtaining necessary clearances and to make the scheme operational as early as possible.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]
Recommendation (SI. No. 9, Para No. 238)

5.3 As regards the Ministry's plan to revise the scheme of boys and girls hostels for STs, where it is being proposed to increase the 33 Action Taken: No specific action is required to be taken as nothing adverse has been found in the administrative aspect of functioning of the institute. However, we are continuously trying to improve the functioning of the Institute. Findings of the inquiry into the financial irregularities in the institute The special audit team conducted an inquiry and pointed out the following financial irregularities committed during the period April 95 to March, 98:—

- (a) Unfruitful expenditure of Rs. 14.19 lacs on computer.
- (b) Non-adjustment of the outstanding advance of Rs. 1,61,056/-
- (c) Unfruitful expenditure on sports complex.

- (d) Theft case-lack lustre security arrangements.
- (e) Disposal of the old staff car.

Action Taken: We have issued a show cause notice to the then officiating Director of the institute. The reply is awaited. Appropriate action will be taken after the completion of all procedural formalities.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para Nb. 1.21 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Central share for construction of hostels, the Committee, while appreciating the revision in the proposed scheme desire that the Ministry should also improve its monitoring mechanism so that the benefit of the hostel facilities actually reach the ST students belonging to remote areas.

Reply of the Government

5.4 The Scheme of Boys Hostels and Girls Hostels for STs are under revision. The Ministry had proposed to release the 75% Central share to State Government because some States do not send the proposal due to the non-availability of State Share of 50%. The schemes under revision aim to make available benefits of the schemes to more and more Scheduled Tribe students.

**[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]**

Recommendation (SI. No. 14, Para No. 2.63)

5.5 The Committee are concerned to note that large number of Wakf properties have been encroached upon by the Government/Semi- Government/local bodies and private persons in some of the States.

The Committee have been informed by the Ministry that they have proposed to call a meeting of the Wakf Ministers of States under the Chairmanship of Hon. Prime Minister to discuss the issue of encroachment of Wakf properties and to take a decision in the larger interest of implementing the Wakf Act. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to convene a meeting of the Wakf Ministers at the earliest so that a decision is taken to restore the Wakf properties. In the meantime, the State Governments should be pursued to take up the matter with the concerned Wakf Boards for restoration of encroached property and also responsibility should be fixed on the earning Mutawalli/Manager of the Wakf Board under the provisions of Wakf Act, 1995.

Reply of the Government

5.6 As desired by the Hon'ble Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare, all the State Governments/UT Admn. have been requested at the level of Chief Secretaries/Administrators to instruct their Deptt. concerned to take up the matter with the Wakf Board concerned for restoration of encroached property and to fix responsibility on the erring Mutawallis/Manager of the Wakf Board under the provision of the Wakf Act, 1995. The matter is being pursued with the State Government.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1/28/99-
Cdn. dated 14.1.2000]

NEW DELHI;
I March, 2000
II Phalguna, 1921 (Saka)

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

ANNEXURE
MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON LABOUR AND WELFARE HELD ON 1 MARCH, 2000

The Committee met from 15.00 hrs. to 15.45 hrs. in Committee Room 'D' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Denzil B. Atkinson
3. Smt. Sandhya Bauri
4. Shri Joachim Baxia
5. Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai Chaudhuri
6. Smt. **Phoolan Devi**
7. Shri Krishan Lal Diler
8. Shri Virendra Kumar
9. Shri C. Kuppusami
10. Shri Ramjee Manjhi
11. Shri Bherulal Meena
12. Shri Rupchand Murmu
13. Shri Ram Shakal
14. Dr. N. Venkataswamy

Rajya Sabha

15. Shri Govindrao Adik
16. Dr. (Mrs.) P. Selvie Das
17. Shri Ramachandra Khun
18. Shri C.P. Poullose

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Joginder Singh — *Joint Secretary*
 2. Shri J.P. Sharma — *Deputy Secretary*
 3. Shri B.D. Swan — *Under Secretary*
2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee. The Committee then took up the following Reports for consideration and adopted *One* same without any modification:
- (f) ** ** »* *<•
- (ii) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (1999-2000).
3. The Committee authorised the Chairman to present the above

Reports to Parliament on their behalf.
The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE
ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOUR AND WELFARE (TWELFTH LOK SABHA)**

	Total Percentage	
I. Total number of Recommendations	19	
II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Nos. 1, 6, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17 and 18)	8	42
III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government replies (Nos. 2, 3, 7 and 13)	4	21
IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 19)	4	21
V. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited (Nos. 4, 9 and 14)	3	16