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CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(iii)
INTRODUCTION	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government	9
CHAPTER III Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	18
CHAPTER IV Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration	22
CHAPTER V Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government have not been received	32
APPENDICES	
I. Ministry of Home Affairs D.O. letter No. III 11011/4/80-NID(D) dated 10-3-80 addressed to Governors/Lt. Governors and Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories on prevention of atrocities	33
II. Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 31st Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) of the Committee	44

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES
AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

(1980-81)

Shri R. R. Bhole—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

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3. Shri Bheekhabhai
4. Shri Somjibhai Damor
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21. Shrimati Saroj Khaparde
22. Shri G. Swamy Naik

*Elected w.e.f. 4th December, 1980 vice Shri Baleshwar Ram, ceased to be member of the Committee on his appointment as Minister of State.

23. Shri Roshan Lal
24. Shri Bhagwan Din
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26. Shri Sangdopal Lepcha
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29. Shri Sharief-ud-din Shariq
30. Shri Ganpat Hirala] Bhagat.

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. D. N. Gadwok—*Senior Legislative Committee Officer*
2. Shri P. C. Chaudhry—*Senior Legislative Committee Officer.*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf present this Eighth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-first Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at their sitting held on the 24th February, 1981. The Report has been divided into the 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 replies.
- IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration.
- V. Recommendation/Observation in respect of which final reply of Government has not been received.

An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-first Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix II. It would be observed therefrom that out of 31 recommendations made in the Report 13 recommendations that is 42 per cent have been accepted by the Government. The Committee do not desire to pursue six recommendations i.e. 19 per cent of their recommendations in view of Government replies. 11 recommendations 35.60 per cent in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee require reiteration and for one recommendation i.e. 3.40 per cent, final reply of Government has not been received.

NEW DELHI;
March 6, 1981

R. R. BHOLE
Chairman,

Phalgun 15, 1902

Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Report of the Committee deals with action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-first Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1.2. In their 31st Report, paras 51 and 52, the Committee had recommended that the administrative machinery both at the Central and State levels should be geared up and should be moulded and motivated in such a manner that they are able not only to check atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but also in putting down flareups and to tackle such situation effectively and satisfactorily.

1.3. In their reply dated the 29th December, 1980, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that State Government's are taking prompt action for investigating and prosecuting cases involving the atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes by persons belonging to communities other than the Scheduled Castes. The statistics about the incidents of crimes against members of Scheduled Castes in the year 1980 received so far from the State Governments indicate that there is no increase in this account compared to the figures for the corresponding period of 1979. Moreover, the Union Home Minister in his D.O. letter No. III. 11011/4/80-NID(D) dated the 10th March, 1980 (Appendix I) and its Annexure has communicated detailed guidelines of precautionary and preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures to be taken for effectively dealing with the crimes against the Scheduled Castes.

1.4. The Committee note that Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments for effectively dealing with the crimes against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Such guidelines had been issued by the Government earlier and repeated again by the Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs to the Chief Ministers of States on 26th October, 1977. But unfortunately these guidelines/instructions are not being acted upon at the lower level. There is, therefore, a great need to gear up the administrative machinery both at the Central and State level as already recommended by the Committee. The Committee would, therefore, like to reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.5. In Para No. 53 of the same Report, the Committee after taking note of the fact that the law and order were essentially the concern of State Government under constitutional provisions had opined that Central Government could not evade their responsibility on this plea as the overall overseeing agency in the matter of upliftment of the weaker sections of people, particularly those of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was the Central Government. Incidents of harassment and atrocities had been raised time and again in Parliament and Members had shown their deep concern on such incidents. Central Government being answerable to Parliament had, therefore, to devise such ways and means and strengthen their administrative machinery to implement the constitutional safeguards provided to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1.6. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated 29-12-1980 has stated that the Government of India is deeply concerned about the atrocities or crimes perpetrated on the Scheduled Castes and are anxious to put an end to this phenomenon of national shame. In March, 1980, the Home Minister has written to the Governors/Lt. Governors and Chief Ministers and States and Union Territories communicating detailed guidelines of precautionary, preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures.

1.7. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. By issuing guidelines to the State Governments the Central Government cannot absolve themselves of the constitutional responsibility under Article 46 which makes it abundantly clear that it is the responsibility of the Central Government to protect the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. The Central Government has, therefore, to devise such ways and means and strengthen their administrative machinery to implement the constitutional safeguards provided to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as already recommended by the Committee. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.8. In Para No. 55 of their said Report the Committee, had recommended that Government should examine the feasibility of having a separate full fledged Ministry for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the Centre which should look after all the matters concerning the promotion and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at one spot and in an integrated manner. In the opinion of the Committee the necessity of having a full fledged Ministry was all the more necessary in view of the fact that the

problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were not confined to any particular state or region but was a national problem covering the entire country.

1.9. In their reply dated the 29th December, 1960, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the main reasons for the atrocities towards the Harijans are the growing awareness among the Harijans of their dignity and a growing insistence of their rights to the social equality promised by law and economic advancement. With the law on their side, the younger generation is rising to assert itself in relation to other sections of the society. There is also a rise of an educated section in the Harijans and Adivasi fold and an increase in the political influence of the Harijans (and Scheduled Tribes) at the National and State levels. On the other hand there has been resistance among the upper caste groups to the changes which threaten their traditional dominated position in the village economy and Society. The Ministry have further stated that economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is essential for a permanent solution of their problems. As there is a close means between the economic condition of S/C and atrocities committed on them.

1.10. From the point of view of the economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also the Ministry of Home Affairs, as the Ministry in close touch with the State Governments, is best positioned to look after the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. What is important is the measures to be undertaken by the Central and State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Castes. In this regard, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been taking all necessary initiatives and will continue to do so.

1.11. In view of the position stated above there is no need for a separate Ministry for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the Centre. This in the present circumstances may in fact not be to their best advantage.

1.12. The Committee are not agreeable to the views expressed by the Ministry of Home Affairs regarding the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Even after 30 years of independence today the majority of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes live below the poverty line. Concentrated and integrated approach is required to raise their standard above the poverty line. The representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs had informed the Committee during evidence that there are different Departments/Divisions which deal with the Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, feel that it is all the more necessary to have a full fledged Ministry to look after the socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in an integrated manner. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.13. In Para No. 56 of the same Report, the Committee had recommended that Government should introduce a comprehensive law to define and to deal with the subject 'Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' on the lines of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and for that, if necessary, the Constitution might also be amended. The Committee were strongly of the opinion that the Administration at the lower levels should not be allowed to proceed merely on loose executive instructions and guidelines.

1.14. In their reply dated the 29th December, 1980, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the Government of India is fully alive to the need for taking stern action against perpetrators of atrocities or crimes against the Scheduled Castes and the present laws in force are adequate to tackle this problem. As already mentioned earlier, the Government of India have communicated comprehensive guidelines to the State Governments about the precautionary and preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures to be taken in this regard.

1.15. The Committee do not agree with the reply of Government that 'the present laws in force are adequate to tackle this problem.' As is evident from the facts placed before the Committee (para 22 of the Report) there has been a tremendous increase in the number of cases of atrocities. The number of incidents had increased from 5968 in 1976 to 10879 in 1977 i.e. an increase of 82.2 per cent: The Committee are of the opinion that the laws in force have not been able to check this alarming increase in the number of cases of atrocities and there is, therefore, need to have a comprehensive law to deal with cases of atrocities or a comprehensive amendment to the Civil Rights Act, 1955 to plug the loopholes. The Committee therefore reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.16. In Para No. 62 of the Report, the Committee had recommended that there should be a cell at the district level for the proper implementation and quantification of development schemes/programmes undertaken by Government of India as well as the State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1.17. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated the 29th December, 1980 have stated that most of the States are not in favour of setting up any cell at the district level for the proper implementation and quantification of programmes for the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The States feel that the district level agencies at present functioning are adequate to attend to this problem more effectively. The mechanism of Special Component Plans for Scheduled Castes for which Special Central Assistance to States was introduced from March, 1980 is expected to help in this regard in respect of Scheduled Castes. The mechanism of Tribal sub-plans with a separate Special Central Assistance to States in existence since 1974-75, similarly helps in respect of Scheduled Tribes in the sub-plan areas.

1.18. The Committee have no doubt that special component plans and tribal sub-plans will be of a great help in the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But what the Committee desire is that there should be proper monitoring and quantification of these programmes, for which it is essential to have adequately manned cells at district level. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.19. In Para No. 86 of the same Report the Committee had suggested that the quality of performance of local police who deal with the cases of atrocities should be improved, the force should be modernised and provided necessary transport, aids, wireless sets, telephones and motor vehicles and incentives so that they could deal with such matters promptly and effectively.

1.20. In their reply dated the 29th December, 1980, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the replies from the States indicate that cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes are promptly attended to and the suggestion made by the Committee has been noted by the State Governments.

1.21. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government and are of the view that quality of performance of the local police which is required to deal with the cases of atrocities needs to be improved. The Committee therefore not only reiterate their earlier recommendation but also stress that responsibility should be fixed on such district/police officers who fail to take prompt and effective action in cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1.22. In Para 90 of the said Report the Committee had recommended that the police administration in tribal areas should be improved on the pattern suggested by the Ministry of Home Affairs in their evidence before the Committee referred to in para 80 of the Report.

1.23. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated the 29th December, 1980 have stated that most of the State Governments have replied that they will examine this suggestion.

1.24. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. During evidence the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs had stated that it was much better to have a larger number of officers in tribal areas. Accordingly the State Governments had put up their claims before the Finance Commission for having a larger number of police officers. It was also stated that if the Finance Commission did not agree to the proposals of the State Governments, the Central Government would do something in the matter. The Committee would like to be apprised of the latest position in this regard.

1.25. In Para 91 of the same Report the Committee had recommended that special police stations for Scheduled Castes, on the pattern of the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, should also be opened by other States in all the districts of their States. Special Flying Police Squads should also be formed at district level for the purpose of visiting the affected spots immediately after the incident and for proper investigation.

1.26. In their reply dated the 29th December, 1980, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that most of the State Governments have indicated that the existing arrangements are adequate while some others have replied that action in this respect is being taken by them.

1.27. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. The Committee would like to have precise information as to which State Governments have accepted and implemented the recommendation of the Committee and the reasons advanced by other States which have not accepted the recommendation.

1.28. In Para 96 of the said Report the Committee had urged the Central Government to spread its intelligence network up to at least sub-divisional level in the States and obtain independent report about the occurrence and likely happenings there and initiate remedial measures, wherever necessary, in consultation with the State Governments to protect the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

1.29. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated 29th December, 1980 have stated that the Government of India are conscious about its responsibility to protect the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from Social injustice and all forms of exploitation and are determined to put an end to this phenomena of national shame. It is well known that the causes of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are really not sporadic in nature but have their roots in evident socio-economic factors. The Government of India always remain in continuous touch with the State Governments on problems connected with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is felt that the Intelligence net work at present existing is adequate to meet the requirement of the situation.

1.30. The Committee do not agree with the statement of Government that intelligence network at present existing is adequate to meet the requirements. The Committee are of the view that had these arrangements been adequate there would not have been such alarming increase in the number of cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee would, therefore, like to reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.31. In Para 108 of the same Report the Committee had stated that the scheme of State of Andhra Pradesh for providing immediate relief to the victims of atrocities without waiting for the results of the criminal proceedings which normally took considerable time was commendable, and had recommended that the relief provided should be increased to a considerable extent keeping in view the rising cost of living and prices of various material and commodities.

1.32. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated the 29th December, 1980 have stated that most of the State Governments have indicated that there is already a scheme existing in their States for monetary relief to the victims of atrocities belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1.33. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. The Committee would like that the relief in the cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given to the victims without waiting for the results of the criminal proceedings which normally take considerable time. The quantum of relief to be provided to the victims of atrocities should also be adequate. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.34. In Para No. 146 of the same Report the Committee were distressed to note that as reported by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his 24th Report the funds to the tune of Rs. 5 Crores sanctioned by the Central Government to the State Governments for the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 during the Fifth Five Year Plan remained unutilised largely due to dismal performance of the Directorate General, Backward Classes Welfare, which was under the administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs.

1.35. The Ministry of Home Affairs in their reply dated 29-12-1980 have stated that the funds to the tune of Rs. 5 crores were allocated for the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (Renamed as PCR Act, 1955 from 19-11-1976) in the Fifth Plan, but actual Annual Outlays were as indicated below:—

Year	Outlay	Amount released
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	15.00	1.41
1975-76	15.00	Nil
1976-77	1.50	1.50
1977-78	15.00	15.00

1.36. The Amendment and Miscellaneous Provision Bill was introduced in April, 1972, as per the recommendation of the Joint Committee on Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, and was passed by the Parliament in September, 1976, when more than half of the Fifth Five-Year Plan was over. The fund allocated for the subsequent two years were fully utilised as can be seen from the above statement.

1.37. The Committee are not convinced of the reasons advanced by Government for non-utilisation of the funds by the State Governments for enforcement of the provisions of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. As pointed out by the Committee earlier in their 31st Report, the funds had remained unutilized due to the dismal performance of the Director General, Backward Classes Welfare. The Committee feel that vigorous monitoring is needed at the level of the Central Government which can only be possible if there is a separate Ministry to look after the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation, Sl. No. 3 (Para No. 54)

The Committee are extremely unhappy to note that a small 'desk' in the Ministry of Home Affairs headed by a section officer which is one of the lowest rung in the hierarchy of the Government of India supported by a skeleton staff, is dealing with such a sensitive and important subject of atrocities. It is all the more disappointing to note that in the Ministry there is no separate division nor an exclusive cell to ensure that the decision taken at the various high level conferences and at the meetings of the zonal councils and instructions and guidelines issued by the Government of India to the State Governments in regard to atrocities are processed or followed up.

Reply of Government

The Desk dealing with atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes by persons belonging to communities other than the Scheduled Castes has now been brought under a Director. This set up is part of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes Development Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs under a Joint Secretary, who is incharge of the economic development and other development of the Scheduled Castes.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)
PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 6 (Para 57)

The Committee feel that atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have a direct link with their precarious economic condition which forces them to work as bonded labour and to borrow, sometimes at high rate of interest, from unscrupulous money lenders. This results in alienation of their land as also the sale of their crops in advance and cattle wealth. The Committee note that Government have initiated certain schemes for the economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and have asked the State Government to give priority to Scheduled

Castes under the Small Farmers Development Agency and other schemes and are also floating Scheduled Castes Development Corporation in various States to ameliorate the socio-economic condition of Scheduled Castes.

Reply of Government

No action is required.

The Government are in agreement with the views expressed by the Committee. The analysis contained in the Home Minister's D.O. letter dated 10th March, 1980 is along similar lines.

[Ministry of Home Affairs U.O. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/
PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 7 (Para No. 58)

The Committee observe that apart from Maharashtra no State Government has come forward with a scheme for abolishing the indebtedness among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee would like the Government of India to advise the State Governments to follow the scheme of the State Government of Maharashtra and take speedy steps to abolish the indebtedness among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As a pre-requisite necessary survey should be undertaken by the Government of India within a specific period to determine the extent of indebtedness among the Scheduled Castes/Tribes in different States.

Reply of Government

Some surveys have been undertaken by the Govt. of India with a view to determine the extent of indebtedness among both the rural and the urban population. There have also been a few like the pilot Enquiry on working and living conditions of Scheduled Caste workers in selected occupations at Agra which have gone into the specific situation of the Scheduled Castes. The need for such surveys is appreciated and noted.

2. As suggested by the Committee the States have been advised to follow the Scheme of Maharashtra regarding abolishing indebtedness among SCs and STs.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/
PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 8 (Para No. 59)

The Committee are dismayed to note that although the Government of India have abolished the system of bonded labour, and it is not legal to hold anyone in bondage, they have not drawn up any

Central scheme for their proper rehabilitation. The Committee desire that Government of India should come forward immediately with a sound economic programme for the proper rehabilitation of the released bonded labour and should also direct the State Governments to intensify the programmes to get the bonded labour released and rehabilitated. The Government of India should extend full financial support and help to the State Governments for implementing these programmes.

Reply of Government

According to the latest reports available from the State Governments, the number of bonded labourers identified and released so far total 1,20,561 as on 30-11-1980. Of the freed bonded labourers, 95,557 have so far been rehabilitated under one programme or another. Of these 18,650 beneficiaries are covered by Central financial assistance, released to the State Governments so far. The released bonded labourers were being rehabilitated by the State Governments mainly under various on-going programmes relating to area development and welfare of backward classes. With a view to supplementing the rehabilitation efforts of the State Governments, a centrally sponsored scheme for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers was launched by the Union Ministry of Labour in 1978-79. Under this scheme, the State Governments concerned are given 50 per cent matching grants for the rehabilitation of the freed bonded labourers. This assistance at a total estimated cost of Rs. 4,000 per beneficiary is rendered to the freed bonded labourers through delivery of income generating economic units such as agricultural implements and inputs milch; cattle/poultry/goats/sheeps/pig-units; tools and equipments for carpentry and such other skill based occupations suitable to individual aptitudes and requirements. State Governments have also been requested to take effective steps, including rehabilitation of the bonded labourers already identified and freed as early as possible on a time-bound programme by March, 1982.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/
PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 9 (Para 60)

The Committee regret to note that no time bound programme has been drawn up for updating the land records by the State Governments with the results that land records do not truly and adequately reflect the rights and cultivatory possession of the land by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, suggest that the Central Government should ask the

State Governments to draw a time bound programme for updating the land records. After the land records have been updated the pattas for the lands actually in possession of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or allotted to them by due process of law should be issued without hesitation. Law should also be enacted to provide that no alienation of land belonging to Scheduled Castes take place.

[Reply of Government with Recommendation No. 10]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 10 (Para No. 61)

The Committee further recommends that Government should take effective steps to persuade the State Governments to tighten the provisions of the land laws to ensure that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who have been once allotted land are not dispossessed by vested interests. The Committee would also recommend summary procedure under the law for eviction cases where one of the party involved is Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.

Reply of Government

The administration of land reforms under the Constitution is a State subject and the Centre provides only broad policy guidance on matters relating the administration of land reforms, land tenure systems, imposition of land ceiling etc.

However, the Government of India, from time to time have been advising the State Governments to update land records and also to prevent vested interests from dispossessing allottees of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from the land allotted to them. The Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction had written to the State Chief Ministers in April, 1980, stressing the need to pay special attention to the updating and maintenance of land records. He also suggested that steps should be taken to ensure that landholders would be able to get extracts from the land records available with the revenue authorities within a short span of time so that they would be able to avail themselves of the necessary credit facilities. In a separate letter, the Union Minister has also stressed the need to ensure that allottees of surplus lands are not disturbed from their possession by powerful vested interests.

The State Governments are taking various steps on the above lines. In several States, record of rights are being prepared or being brought up-to-date as a part of survey and settlement opera-

tions. Provisions have been made in Tribal sub-plans of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh Manipur and Meghalaya to carry out cadastral surveys of tribal areas on a priority basis. In Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan pass books are being issued to land owners on the basis of the entries in the record of rights. Special operations have been started in Assam, Orissa, Gujarat, Karnataka and West Bengal to record the names of the tenants and share-croppers in the records of rights, even otherwise than as part of the survey and settlement operations. Legislative measures have been taken in almost all the States for safeguarding the interests of the tribals in lands. Generally speaking, these laws prohibit transfer of land belonging to a member of Scheduled Tribe to any person other than Scheduled Tribe and in cases where such illegal alienation has taken place, the competent authority may *suo moto*, or on an application restore the land to the tribal. One of the main objectives of special cadastral survey operations in the tribal areas referred to above is to unearth cases of illegal transfers with a view to restoring lands to the tribals. In reply to the letters of the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction referred to above, several State Governments have informed that they have issued strict instructions to the Revenue Officers to ensure that the new allottees continue in possession of ceiling surplus lands.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR(DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 14 (Para 87)

Further to instil a sense of security among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Committee would like to reiterate their earlier recommendation made by them in their 51st Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) that more and more Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be recruited in the Revenue and Police Departments so that the Police force, at all levels, has proper and adequate representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is high time that Government gives the urgent thought to this problem.

Reply of Government

Replies received from the State Governments indicate that there are reservation rules providing for a certain percentage of posts being filled up by the persons belonging Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Moreover, the Home Minister in his D.O.

letter No. III.11011/4/80-NID(D) dated the 10th March, 1980, (Copy enclosed in reply to recommendation No. 1) has requested the State Governments to ensure that the Scheduled Castes are adequately represented in the police force at all levels, especially at the cutting edge level which particularly includes, S.H.Os, Writers/Moharras/Munshis, Head Constables and Constables. The State Governments have also been told in that letter that where representation is not adequate, it is necessary to have an immediate special recruitment to bring it up to the required level.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016|3|79-NID(D)|
PCR(DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Recommendation, Sl. No. 16 (Para 89)

The Committee also suggest that local police authorities should hold periodical meetings with local non-officials in order to win their confidence and also to know the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the area.

Reply of Government

Most of the State Governments have indicated that already arrangements exist for holding periodical meetings with local non-officials while some others have replied that necessary instructions in this respect have been issued.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-
NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 24 (Para 111)

The Committee further recommend that for proper rehabilitation of the dependents of the victims of atrocities. Government should provide suitably employment to them and other adequate financial and material assistance to the aggrieved.

Reply of Government

In the Union Home Minister's D.O. No. III. 11011/4/80-NID(D) dated the 10th March, 1980 (Copy enclosed in reply to Recommendation No. 1), the State Governments have already been communicated detailed guidelines on 'Measures for Rehabilitation' which, *inter alia* includes restoration of full income earning capacity of the family of the deceased or incapacitated victims of atrocity through provision of employment and or self employment.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-
NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 25 (Para 145)

The Committee are constrained to note that although the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 as amended, came into force w.e.f. November, 1976 neither any of the State Governments has so far made efforts to identify the areas where untouchability is still practised nor they have conducted any survey about the working of the Act, with a view to suggesting measures for the better implementation of the provisions of the Act, as per the provisions of the Act. The Committee are strongly of the view that it is essential to identify areas before embarking upon programmes action plans for the eradication of this evil from those areas. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Government of India should impress upon the State Governments, to undertake identification of such areas with utmost expedition.

Reply of Government

The Government of India have made efforts in suggesting measures to be adopted by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for better implementation of the provisions of PCR Act, 1955.

The position in this regard is given in the Annual Report for 1978, which has already been placed before the Parliament on 31st July, 1980.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID (D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 27 (Para 147)

The Committee are perturbed to note that so far there was no machinery in the Ministry of Home Affairs to ensure effective implementation of the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and that the machinery in the States was also not adequate and require to be strengthened for which the Government of India propose to provide financial assistance to the States from this year. With a view to achieve a high degree of efficiency in the implementation of the provisions of the Act, in spirit of the objective laid down, the Committee would strongly urge the Government to strengthen the implementing machinery both at the Centre and at the State levels. Special Cells should be created forthwith in each of the State Headquarters and in all the district headquarters and in

the Ministry of Home Affairs to closely coordinate the various programmes/action plan and supervise the working of the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.

Reply of Government

A Cell has been created in the Ministry of Home Affairs also from 1979. At the instance of Government of India almost all State Governments having sizeable population of Scheduled Castes where the problem of untouchability is significant have established Special Cells at various levels to supplement the measures adopted for eradication of untouchability. The details are furnished in the Annual Report for 1978.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID (D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 29 (Paras 149 and 150)

The Committee feel that eradication of untouchability is a complex problem of social relations and attitude of higher castes towards the so called depressed classes of society and it cannot be tackled effectively merely by passing legislation. The voluntary efforts by dedicated social workers can go a long way in creating the right type of social atmosphere and environment and prepare the people to accept the action plans/programmes drawn up by the Government for the removal of this evil.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation made by them in their 21st Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) that more and more voluntary agencies should be encouraged and entrusted with this job. The Committee further desire that they should be given special programme and action plans for eradicating the untouchability in their areas of operation. Financial assistance should not be a constraint in drawing and taking up such action plans/programmes by the voluntary agencies provided they are run and managed by dedicated social workers of proven record and integrity and competence. They should be more closely supervised to make them effective. The Central Government should, every year, place on the Table of each House of Parliament a report regarding the working of the Voluntary Agencies to whom financial assistance is given by the Central Government together with a copy of the review made by the Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to their working.

Reply of Government

Under the Central Scheme 'Aid to Voluntary Organisations', certain organisations like Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi, Bharatiya

Depressed Classes League, New Delhi, Iswar Saran Ashram, Allahabad, receiving *gratia-in-aid* are already doing propaganda work for the removal of untouchability. A statement showing the names of the voluntary organisations including the above organisations, the schemes run by them, their area of operation and the grant-in-aid sanctioned annually, is included in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs which is placed before Parliament every year. Thus action on the lines suggested in this recommendation by the Committee is already being taken.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 30 (Para 151)

The Committee have been informed that no State Government has so far set up Special Court for trial of offences under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. The Governments of Maharashtra and Bihar, have however, asked the High Courts to specify a particular court already existing one, to deal exclusively with cases under the Act. The Committee note the arrangements made by the Governments of Maharashtra and Bihar and would like the Central Government to persuade other State Governments, where pendency of cases are more to make similar arrangements or set up Special Courts as may conduct speedy disposal of the cases. The Committee desire that Courts should not keep such cases, pending for more than six months as that would be itself have its own impact on the problem of eradicating untouchability.

Reply of Government

The Government of India is persuading the State Governments to set up Special Courts for expeditious disposal of PCR and atrocity cases. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have set up Special Mobile Courts to begin with in the five districts where the incidence of offences against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was reportedly high and the Scheme extended to other districts after an evaluation of the results in the first batch of districts. This is being pursued with other State Governments also.

The details of measures adopted by the State Governments are furnished in the Annual Report, for 1978.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation, Sl. No. 12 (Paras 70 and 71)

The Committee strongly deplore that out of 22 States as many as 15 States have not furnished the Statement regarding Statistics of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period 1st January to 30th June, 1977 which was due on 15th July, 1977. Fourteen States have not forwarded the statement for the period 1st July to 31st December, 1977 which was due on 15th January, 1978. None of the States, except the State of Meghalaya, has forwarded the statement for the period 1st January to 30th June, 1978 which fell due on 15th July, 1978. The position in the case of Union Territory Administration is also no better. Out of the nine Union Territory Administrations, 6 have failed to furnish the desired information in time. This is so when they are directly under the administrative control of Union Government and for which Union Government is answerable. These sorry state of affairs are stated to be in spite of the fact that States were repeatedly reminded by the Ministry of Home Affairs and a mention about the non-submission/late submission of these vital statistics by the State Governments was said to have been made in the High Level Conference of Chief Secretaries/Chief Ministers.

The Committee need hardly emphasise that in the absence of timely submission of these vital statistics data by the States/Union Territory Administrations, it is but difficult to project the problem in its proper perspective and suggest ways and means to combat this menace and take remedial measures. The Committee, therefore, strongly urge the Central Government to impress upon the States/Union Territory Administrations to strictly adhere to the time schedules regarding collection and submission of statistics of atrocities to the Central Government. The Committee further recommend that copies of these statements should also be simultaneously forwarded to the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Reply of Government

The States have issued necessary instruction to ensure that the Statistics of atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes are sent to the Government of India promptly. There has been considerable improvement in respect of the promptness of receipt of the statistics from most of the State Governments.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O. M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 15 (Para 88)

The Committee further desire that the guardians of law and order should be much above the average, bold and honest in their dealings with the weaker sections of the Society. The Committee would, therefore, urge the Government to arrange special training courses for the Police officers with a view to enable them to understand the problems and difficulties of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to equip them with the basic knowledge of laws and rules in respect of matters concerning the amelioration of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the Government's approach and policies on these issues.

Reply of Government

Most of the State Governments have noted this suggestion while some others have indicated that the existing training courses are adequate to help the police personnel to understand the problems and difficulties of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O. M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee note the steps being taken by the State Governments for imparting proper training to their police force but would like to know the steps taken by the Central Government in regard to police force for which recruitment and maintenance is the responsibility of the Central Government.

Recommendation, Sl. No. 20 (Para 96)

The Committee recommend that with a view to inspire confidence and credibility in the public about the fairness and impartiality of the Administration, there should be an automatic judicial inquiry into the cases where there is a large scale arson, looting, murder and indiscriminate firing by the police involving Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Reply of Government

Almost all the State Governments are of the view that judicial inquiry is held taking into consideration the circumstances of each individual case and no general policy can be laid down in this respect.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O. M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 22 (Para 100)

Considering the distressing frequency of the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Committee recommend that the Central Government should consider the feasibility of drawing up a comprehensive scheme laying down the quantum and type of relief to be provided to the victims of atrocities as is the practice in the case of air or rail accidents.

Reply of Government

As already mentioned in reply to recommendation No. 21 (para 108) most of the State Governments have schemes for providing monetary relief to the victims of atrocities. These schemes are drawn up taking into consideration the circumstances that exist in a particular State. It is, therefore, felt that it would not be feasible to have a centralised scheme as the situation varies from region to region and from State to State. However, broad guidelines in this regard have been communicated to State Governments in the D.O. letter dated 10th March, 1980 of the Home Minister.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O. M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee hope that the Central Government will keep a watch that the broad guidelines communicated to State Governments regarding monetary relief to victims of atrocities are actually implemented.

Recommendation, Sl. No. 23 (Para 110)

The Committee further recommend that the entire expenditure should met by the Central Government for which a special fund at the Central level should be constituted as already recommended by the Committee in their 51st Report (Fifth Lok Sabha).

Reply of Government

As already mentioned in reply to Recommendation No. 21 (Para 108), most of the State Governments have already drawn up schemes for providing monetary relief to the Scheduled Castes victims of Atrocities. In view of this provision for a special fund at the Central level is not considered necessary.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O. M. No. III. 13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980].

Recommendation, Sl. No. 28 (Para No. 148)

The Committee further recommend that the mass media i.e. newspapers, films, radio and T.V. should be extensively made use of for educating and shaping the public opinion and to fight against discrimination and untouchability. Wide Publicity should be given to the provisions of the Act. Documentary films should be produced on the subject and those already produced on the subject should be dubbed into different regional languages and compulsorily exhibited in every cinema show in the rural areas and in the sensitive districts particularly. Suitable cinema slides should be made and widely exhibited. Appropriate slogans should also be printed in bold letters on the postal stationery so that these get widely circulated.

Reply of Government

The Government of India have made suggestions to the State Governments for taking up intensive publicity programmes in eradicating the problem of untouchability. The details of measures adopted are furnished in the Annual Report for 1978.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to know the action taken by the Central Government to have the appropriate slogan on eradication of untouchability printed in bold letters on the postal stationery as well as publicity done through mass media i.e. AIR and T.V.

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation, Sl. No. 1 (Paras No. 51 and 52)

The Committee are deeply distressed to note the increase in the cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during recent years. It may be the figures have gone up due to larger number of cases being registered now than in the past, although even now the Committee have received complaints during their on the spot study tours to various parts of the country that all cases of atrocities in various forms are not registered by the police. It may also be due to increase in political, socio-economic and religious tensions for various reasons now surfacing up. All the same the fact is that such cases are on the high side. The Committee have gone on the spot visits to certain affected areas and from what they saw and heard, they cannot but conclude that the administration has failed to rise to the occasion not only in putting down the flareups but also in taking preventive measures.

The Committee are of the considered opinion that the administrative machinery both at the Central and State levels, has to be geared up and has to be moulded and motivated in such a manner that they are able to tackle such situation effectively and satisfactorily.

Reply of Government

Replies received from the State Governments indicate that they are taking prompt action for investigating and prosecuting cases involving the atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes by persons belonging to communities other than the Scheduled Castes. The Statistics about the incidents of crimes against members of Scheduled Castes in the year 1980 received so far from the State Governments indicate that there is no increase in this account compared to the figures for the corresponding period of 1979. Moreover, the Union Home Minister in his D.O. letter No. III.11011/4/80-NID(D) dated the 10th March, 1980 and its Annexure has communicated detailed guidelines of precautionary and preventive, puni-

tive and rehabilitative measures to be taken for effectively dealing with the crimes against the Scheduled Castes. A copy of that letter alongwith its enclosures is at Appendix I.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/
PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 2 (Para No. 53)

The Committee are conscious of the fact that the law and order are essentially the concern of State Government under constitutional provisions, nevertheless, Central Government cannot evade their responsibility on this plea as the overall overseeing agency in the matter of upliftment of the weaker sections of people, particularly those of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is the Central Government. Incidents of harassment and atrocities have been raised time and again in Parliament and Members have shown their deep concern on such incidents. Central Government being answerable to Parliament has, therefore, to devise such ways and means and strengthen their administrative machinery to implement the constitutional Safeguards provided to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Reply of Government

The Government of India is deeply concerned about the atrocities or crimes perpetrated on the Scheduled Castes are anxious to put an end to this phenomenon of national shame. In March, 1980, the Home Minister has written to the Governors/Lt. Governors and Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories communicating detailed guidelines of precautionary, preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/
PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation S. No. 4 (Para No. 55)

The Committee, however, noted that it proposed to create a new separate division for Backward Classes development on the lines of Scheduled Tribes Department under the charge of Joint Secretary to deal with the matter concerning Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes including atrocities at one spot. The Committee also note

that the matter concerning the reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in services will continue to be dealt with by the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms. The Committee feel that the division of responsibility among the two Departments will not lead to evolving an integrated policy to tackle the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who constitute about 23 per cent of our total population and who have been socially exploited and economically suppressed for centuries together. The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that Government should examine the feasibility of having a separate full fledged Ministry for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the Centre which shall look after all the matters concerning the promotion and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at one spot and in an integrated manner. The necessity of having a full fledged Ministry is all the more necessary in view of the fact that the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not confined to any particular state or region but is a national problem covering the entire country.

Reply of Government

Since time immemorial, the Scheduled Castes|Tribes have been suffering from the dual disabilities of severe economic exploitation and social discrimination. Until very recently, the Harijans, as a class, were engaged in occupations they had traditionally been following under the caste system. Practically, very little systematic work was done for the development of the Scheduled Castes|Tribes by the Government prior to Independence.

2. The Constitution of India which came into force on 26th January, 1950 provides for a number of safeguards for the Scheduled Castes|Tribes. In order to improve the economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes|Tribes, Government of India have launched a number of welfare schemes since Independence. As a result of the planned efforts, there has been improvement not only in the rate of literacy but also in the economic conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

3. The main reasons for the atrocities towards the Harijans are the growing awareness among the Harijans of their dignity and a growing insistence of their rights to the social equality promised by law and economic advancement. With the law on their side, the younger generation is rising to assert itself in relation to other sections of the society. There is also a rise of an educated section in

the Harijan and Adivasi fold and an increase in the political influence of the Harijans (and Scheduled Tribes) at the National and State levels. On the other hands there has been resistance among the upper caste groups to the changes which threaten their traditional dominated position in the village economy and Society. Although the subject 'Law and Order' is a State subject and it is mainly for the State Governments to take steps for protecting the Harijans from atrocities, Central Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments regarding the measures to be taken for effectively dealing with atrocities against Scheduled Castes from time to time. In March, 1980 the Prime Minister and the Home Minister have also written to all the Chief Ministers|Governors of States and Central Ministers, indicating the measures to be taken to deal with atrocities|crime committed against the members of Scheduled Castes and about the preparation of optional Special Component Plans for the development of the Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plans. Economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is essential for a permanent solution of their problems. The close nexus between the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and the atrocities committed on them has been clearly brought out in these important communication to the State Governments.

4. From the point of view of the economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also the Ministry of Home Affairs, as the Ministry in close touch with the State Governments, is best positioned to look after the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. What is important is the measures to be undertaken by the Central and State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Castes. In this regard, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been taking all necessary initiatives and will continue to do so.

5. In view of the position stated above there is no need for a separate Ministry for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes at the Centre. This in the present circumstances may in fact not be to their best advantage.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79-NID(D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 5 (Para No. 56)

The Committee have been informed that the terms 'Atrocities' has not been defined under the Penal Laws and constitute criminal offences and come within the purview of public order which is a State subject. The Central Government have no jurisdiction in the matter in the purely legal and constitutional sense. The Committee do not agree with the views expressed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. In the opinion of the Committee so far law and order is concerned, it is the State subject and concerns the State Governments but in so far as the matters concerning the promotion and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned. It is the constitutional responsibility of the Central Government. The relevant Article in the constitution is very significant and is required to be understood in its true spirit for proper and meaningful implementation. The discretion available to the Central Government within the legal and constitutional framework, therefore, should be fully exercised to ensure that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes do not suffer on account of their position in the society. The Committee, therefore, feel that there is an urgent need to introduce a comprehensive law to define and to deal with the subject 'Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' on the lines of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and for that, if necessary, the Constitution may also be amended. The Committee are strongly of the opinion that the Administration at the lower levels should not be allowed to proceed merely on loose executive instructions and guidelines.

Reply of Government

It is not considered necessary to enact a new law for dealing with atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Government of India is fully alive to the need for taking stern action against perpetrators of atrocities or crimes against the Scheduled Castes and the present laws in force are adequate to tackle this problem. As already mentioned earlier, the Government of India have communicated comprehensive guidelines to the State Governments about the precautionary and preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures to be taken in this regard.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 11 (Para No. 62)

The Committee need hardly point out that unless the various development schemes/programmes undertaken by the Government of India as well as the State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are properly and sincerely implemented in a coordinated and integrated manner, they will be of little use in uplifting their economic status. The Committee, therefore, recommend that there should be a cell at district level for the proper implementation and quantification of these programmes.

Reply of Government

Most of the States are not in favour of setting up any cell at the district level for the proper implementation and quantification of programmes for the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The States feel that the district level agencies at present functioning are adequate to attend to this problem more effectively. The mechanism of Special Component Plans for Scheduled Castes for which Special Central Assistance to States was introduced from March, 1980, is expected to help in this regard in respect of Scheduled Castes. The mechanism of Tribal sub-Plans with a separate Special Central Assistance to States in existence since 1974-75, similarly helps in respect of Scheduled Tribes in the sub-Plan areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016|3|79-NID(P)|
PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 13 (Para No. 86)

The Committee share the feelings of the Ministry of Home Affairs that local police and other administrative authorities having jurisdiction should be made squarely responsible for prompt and effective action in cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In order that local police could deal with the cases of atrocities promptly and effectively, the Committee would suggest that the quality of their performance should be improved, the force should be modernised and provided necessary transport, aids, wireless sets, telephones and motor vehicles and incentives.

Reply of Government

The replies from the States indicate that cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes are promptly attended to. They have noted this suggestion.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 17 (para 90)

The Committee hope that the police administration in tribal areas would be improved on the pattern suggested by the Ministry of Home Affairs in their evidence before the Committee.

Reply of Government

Most of the State Governments have replied that they will examine this suggestion.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 18 (para 91)

The Committee recommend that special police stations for Scheduled Castes, on the pattern of the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, should also be opened by other States in all the districts of their States. Special Flying Police Squads should also be formed at district level for the purpose of visiting the affected spots immediately after the incident and for proper investigation.

Reply of Government

Most of the State Governments have indicated that the existing arrangements are adequate while some others have replied that action in this respect is being taken by them.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/PCR (DESK) dated 29-12-1980]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 19 (Para 96)

The Committee is strongly of the view that it is the constitutional responsibility of the Central Government to protect the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from Social injustice and all forms of exploitation. The Committee would, therefore, urge the Central Government to spread its intelligence network upto at least sub-divisional level in the States and obtain independent report about the occurrence and likely happenings there and initiate remedial measures, wherever necessary, in consultation with the State Governments.

Reply of Government

The Government of India are conscious about its responsibility to protect the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from Social injustice and all forms of exploitation and are determined to put an end to this phenomena of national shame. It is well known that the causes of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are really not sporadic in nature but have their roots in evidence socio-economic factors. The Government of India always remain in continuous touch with the State Governments on problems connected with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is felt that the Intelligence net work at present existing is adequate to meet the requirements of the situation.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation Sl. No. 21 (Para 108)

The Committee Note that the quantum and type of relief provided to the victims of atrocities is left to the discretion of the State Governments and that there are no guidelines or scheme for the grant of relief in such cases. The State of Andhra Pradesh have drawn a scheme for providing immediate relief to the victims of atrocities without waiting for the results of the criminal proceedings which normally taken considerable time and the State of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have decided to follow the footsteps of Andhra Pradesh. Other State Governments

are yet to take a decision in the matter. Though the Andhra Pradesh Scheme is commendable, the Committee feel that the quantum of relief provided by the Scheme is inadequate and should be increased to a considerable extent keeping in view the rising cost of living and prices of various material and commodities.

Reply of Government

Most of the State Governments have indicated that there is already a scheme existing in their States for monetary relief to the victims of atrocities belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID (D)/PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I

Recommendation SL No. 26 (Para No. 146)

The Committee are distressed to note that as reported by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his 24th Report the funds to the tune of Rs. 5 crores sanctioned by the Central Government to the State Governments for the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 during the Fifth Five Year Plan remained unutilised largely due to dismal performance of the Directorate General, Backward Classes Welfare, which is under the administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Reply of Government

The funds to the tune of Rs. 5 crores were allocated for the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (Renamed as PCR Act, 1955 from 19-11-1976) in the fifth Plan, but actual Annual outlays were as indicated below:—

Year	Outlay Amount released	
	(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	15.00	1.41
1975-76	15.00	Nil
1976-77	1.50	1.50
1977-78	15.00	15.00

The amendment and Miscellaneous provision bill was introduced in April, 1972, as per the recommendation of the Joint Committee on untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, and was passed by the Parliament in September, 1976, when more than half of the Fifth Five-year Plan was over. The fund allocated for the subsequent two years were fully utilized as can be seen from the above statement.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/
PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS REGARDING WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED

Recommendation Sl. No. 31 (Para No. 152)

Case of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Government employees have also come to the notice of the Committee from time to time. The Committee consider such cases no less serious than other cases of atrocities. The Committee recommend that victims of such atrocities should be allowed to approach the Heads Ministries/Departments direct without going through the proper channel. Where a Government employee desires to file a case in the court of law under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, he should invariably be permitted to do so.

Reply of Government

The Matter is being examined in consultation with the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms and the PCR Cell of Ministry of Home Affairs.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. III-13016/3/79 NID(D)/
PCR (Desk) dated 29-12-1980].

NEW DELHI;
March 6, 1981.
Prhalpana 15, 1902 (Saka).

R. R. BHOLE,
Chairman,
Committee on the Welfare of
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

APPENDIX I

Copy of H.M's. D.O. letter No. III 11011/4/80-NID(D) dated 10-3-1980 addressed to Governors/Lt. Governors and Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories on prevention of atrocities.

I am writing this letter specially to convey to you the deep concern of the Government of India about the atrocities or crimes perpetrated on the Scheduled Castes and our anxiety to put an end to this phenomenon of national shame.

2. On the basis of the statistics furnished by the State Government the crimes under the I.P.C. where the victims belong to the Scheduled Castes and the Offenders are non-Scheduled Castes, showed a downward trend from 1974 to 1976 from a figure of 8860 in 1974 to 7781 in 1975 and 5960 in 1976. But subsequently the figure shot up to 10879 in 1977 and 15059 in 1978. There has been a marginal decline in 1979 when the total figure was 13184 but this does not include the figures for a few months in respect of some States which have not yet sent reports. Further, in some States there is increase in 1979 over the figures of 1978.

3. Certain policies and measures need to be adopted and effectively implemented in order to deal with and eliminate the menace of these atrocities. This approach will require a careful analysis of the causes of these crimes, identification of major trouble spots, prompt solving of fastering disputes, regular monitoring and such other preventive measures, quick investigation and firm punitive measures; and total and expeditious rehabilitation of the victims.

4. It is not difficult to find out the causes as these atrocities are really not sporadic incidents, but have their roots in obvious socio-economic factors. Scheduled Castes, are in a particularly weak and vulnerable situation. Typically they are agricultural labourers. Others depend on share-cropping, small and marginal farming, fishing and other low income occupations like weaving and leather work. They own very small assets. Almost all of them are below the poverty line in their economic status. A national survey has revealed that 66 per cent of the bonded labourers in the country belong to the Scheduled Castes. Further, they are subjected to

various social and civil disabilities arising from the evil custom of untouchability. There is a clear and close link between their economic plight on the one hand, and the crimes and atrocities and the social and civil disabilities to which they are subjected to, on the other.

5. For example, when Scheduled Castes seek the payment of the statutory minimum wages for agricultural labour or when they try to resist the practice of bonded labour or forced labour or the practice of untouchability against them, vested interests try to cow them down and terrorise them. This is the genesis of most of the crimes or atrocities. Another obnoxious practice in some rural areas is that Scheduled Castes women are subjected to indignities by the powerful in the village. When the Scheduled Castes try to preserve their self respect and their women's honour this too becomes an irritant for the powerful and this is another source of atrocities. Another fertile source of atrocities pertains to the disputes regarding Government-owned waste lands or ceiling surplus lands allotted by Government to the Scheduled Castes. When they try to take possession of or cultivate or retain possession over such lands, the powerful vested interests try to obstruct them. Thus atrocities are committed when the Scheduled Castes seek to secure their legitimate rights in various matters.

6. One other peculiar atrocity against members of Scheduled Castes which has not received sufficient attention is that of harassment by booking false cases against them in order to teach them lesson, for approaching authorities with their complaints or for seeking their legitimate rights. In view of this subtle and sophisticated practice indulged in by some of the rural vested interests, the State police machinery should be suitably advised to be careful in booking such cases against members of Scheduled Castes.

7. In view of all this, it is necessary to activate the State machinery to take the initiative and meet out a fair deal to the Scheduled Castes in all these matters and find permanent solutions to all disputes like the above ones. A number of measures, of precautionary and preventive nature, that have to be taken in this connection are indicated in the Annexure to this letter. There can be many other such steps that the State and district authorities can devise if they approach the problem in its fundamentals and think of the actual situation in each area with the objective of effectively preventing atrocities on Scheduled Castes.

8. If in spite of all such preventive and precautionary measures, taken, by violent incidents to occur, firm punitive measures have

to be taken. A number of measures, of an illustrative nature that have to be taken at this stage, are also given in the Annexure. The State Government and District authorities may think of other possible measures. The objective to be clearly kept in view, should be that every crime committed against Scheduled Castes receives deterrent punishment with noticeable rapidity.

9. Another important aspect is to formulate a scheme for comprehensive rehabilitation of the victims. The various ingredients it should have if it is to be of real help to the victims may be seen in the Annexure. The State Government may add any other items in the scheme, in addition to what is indicated in the Annexure, according to the local situation and needs. The benefit of the scheme should be available retrospectively to Scheduled Castes victims of atrocities and the surviving families wherever they have not been fully rehabilitated.

10. I would also request you to see whether the Scheduled Castes are adequately represented in the police force at all levels, especially at the cutting edge level, which particularly includes the SHOs, Writers/Moharrars/Munshis, Head Constables and Constables. Where representation is not adequate, it is necessary to have an immediate special recruitment to bring it up to the required level. Similarly special recruitment is necessary to bring up the representation of Scheduled Castes to the required level in other services, whose activities have a bearing on matters which can lead to atrocities. Some examples are posts of village officers, survey and settlement department, Revenue Department, Labour Department.

11. In order to keep the administrative, police and prosecuting machineries in perfect trim on a continuing basis so that they discharge the above task efficiently, I would suggest monthly review by Home Secretary, quarterly review by the Chief Secretary and half yearly reviews by the Chief Ministers. While these reviews may cover the various aspects of atrocities against the members of Scheduled Castes and the various preventive, precautionary, punitive and rehabilitative measures, it may particularly cover in detail progress of action in very serious cases individually.

12. While the above indicative measures are intended to directly deal with atrocities or crimes committed against the members of Scheduled Castes, I would also underline the fact that the economic development of the Scheduled Castes particularly through mechanism like the Special Component Plan for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Castes Development Corporation is

essential for a permanent solution of the problem. These are already known to the State Government and I would commend them to your personal care. You will also hear from us from time to time in detail about these long term economic development programmes.

13. I shall be happy if you could kindly keep us informed of the action taken and the results of these measures periodically, and widely publicise them through all media for public information.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
(ZAIL SINGH)

ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR EFFECTIVELY DEALING WITH ATROCITIES AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES

A. Precautionary and Preventive measures.

(1) The Administration at the State and District levels must fully appraise itself of disputes concerning Scheduled Castes in different parts of the State pertaining to land, minimum wages bonded labour, indignity against Scheduled Caste women etc.

- (i) All these disputes should be resolved quickly in a manner which is fair to the Scheduled Castes who have been long exploited and denied their due.
- (ii) Keeping in view the real situation in different parts of the State regarding wages, it must be effectively ensured that the agricultural labourers in practice should get not less than statutory minimum wages and have alternative and additional employment opportunities throughout the year to improve their bargaining power for fair wages. Adequate machinery should be set up for enforcing the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act in actuality as experienced by the agricultural labourers who are largely Scheduled Castes, and not merely in terms of official statistics.
- (iii) All bonded labourers who are essentially agricultural labourers in extreme distress and who are mostly of the Scheduled Castes should be released quickly and simultaneously rehabilitated.

- (iv) Scheduled Castes should be put in effective possession of lands belonging to them or allotted to them and enabled to carry on cultivation wherever there are disputes and obstructions. A related task to be undertaken immediately and completed well before the ensuing cultivation season is to launch a village to village drive to find out whether Scheduled Castes are in actual possession of land allotted to them or belonging to them and wherever they are not, to put them in effective possession of these lands so that they can carry out their cultivation in the ensuing season and subsequently without any hindrance. While this drive is on, it will also be possible for the teams concerned to identify villages and lands in respect of which there is a possibility of interference by others and in such cases, full and effective police protection should be given to the Scheduled Castes from the beginning of the cultivation season till as long as necessary.

For accomplishing the above task efficiently, Revenue-cum-Police Cells/Teams may be set up in Districts to exclusively attend to these tasks. To these Cells/Teams may be added officers of any other Department necessary, like the Labour Department.

2. The CID of the State Police Department should be charged with the special responsibility on the highest priority of identifying the areas of potential atrocities, where tensions are building up, well in time and communicate this information to the Administration both at the district level and at the State level regularly and promptly.

3. Based on such information as well as information from any other source, the Administration and the police force should regularly and promptly move in to scotch the evil before it explodes as an atrocity.

4. Instead of leaving the resolution of such disputes and tensions to lower functionaries, high level officers like Collectors/DCs/DMS and their subordinate Officers at the Sub-Divisional level and similarly the SPs and Sub-Divisional Police Officers should themselves go to the spot for resolving these disputes in a fair manner. This will go a long way in deterring the potential criminals and giving confidence to the potential victims.

5. In many areas, the actual crimes are committed under the instigation of the powerful in the villages, by musclemen hired or employed by them or gang leaders engaged by them. Preventive action will be strengthened if persons of this type are located and

dealt with severely under the various preventive sections, available in the cr. P.S. This work can straightway begin with those who may already be within the knowledge of the authorities.

6. It is necessary to review the arms licencess granted in the State and cancel such licences in areas where atrocities have taken place or potential for atrocities exists. Simultaneously, areas notorious for illegal manufacture of arms should be combed and this source of supply for committing atrocities completely eliminated.

7. Areas where atrocities have been place, areas where there is potential for atrocities and areas notorious for illegal arm should be taken as top priority areas for immediate implementation of Land Ceilings Act and other land reform measures; i.e. identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labour, developmental schemes for strengthening the socio-economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and public works schemes to afford them alternative and additional employment opportunities. These measures will help strengthen the victims and potential victims of atrocities and weakens the capability of perpetrators and potential perpetrators of atrocities for engaging musclemen and mobilising arms.

8. A few units of Special Striking Force, highly mobile and well-equipped may be located in strategic areas, composed and officered in a manner which will give confidence to the Scheduled Castes and other weaker sections and deter perpetrators and potential perpetrators of atrocities.

9. Special Cells may be constituted at the State level under the personal supervision of the Chief Minister, or, in the case of States under the President's Rule of the Adviser, to look into the grievances of the Scheduled Castes. The time of the day and the days of the week when Scheduled Castes can meet the Chief Minister|Adviser in such cases may be widely publicised through mass media. Monitoring of quick action on them may be arranged. Similarly, arrangements may be made at the District level and widely publicised through mass media in the offices of the Superintendent of Police and the District Collector to receive and attend to members of Scheduled Castes with complaints, register them and regularly monitor the progress of quick action on them.

10. When an atrocity has taken place in a village, there is a possibility of chain reactions in neighbouring villages and areas. Therefore, preventive vigilance and preparedness covering the various points enumerated above and including intensive patrolling should be stepped up in such neighbouring villages and areas.

B. Punitive Measures:

1. When in spite of all preventive and precautionary measures, atrocities do occur against Scheduled Castes, police force should be moved into the area quickly to quell them, arrest the offenders; not only those who actually commit the crime but also those who encourage and instigate them. It will not be correct if the small fry alone are arrested and the powerful, really behind the crimes, are allowed to go scot-free.

2. In areas where serious atrocities against Scheduled Castes take place, special police picquets should be stationed, not only to take prompt action against offenders but also to prevent recurrence of such offences. These picquets should be manned and officered in a manner that will give confidence to the victims and put fear of the law into the offenders.

3. The police should directly and effectively intervene in instances of criminal trespass into lands belonging to Scheduled Castes by others, criminal trespass being as cognizable offence under Section 447 of the IPC.

4. The effectiveness of punishment depends not only on its quantum but also on the speed with which it is imposed. Therefore, the police machinery should be required to complete the investigation on top priority and charge these cases within the shortest possible time, in any case not exceeding 14 days.

5. The police machinery should be tightened up to ensure that the registration of complaints is prompt and the investigation is free from lacunae and defects, which might affect successful prosecution.

6. In serious cases of offences against members of Scheduled Castes, the investigating officers should be Gazetted Officers preferably Deputy Superintendents of Police or above, and carefully selected on the basis of their sense of social justice and ability to perceive the implications of the case and investigate it along right lines within the quickest possible time. These serious cases should be treated as Special Reports Cases.

7. Prosecuting machinery should be tightended up to effectively resist the grant of bail to the accused in such cases and to go in for appeal if bail is granted in spite of their efforts.

8. The prosecuting machinery should further be required to pursue the case in the court for securing out-of-turn quick trial, conviction and deterrent punishment.

9. Public Prosecutors to deal exclusively with cases of crimes against Scheduled Castes under the IPC and the PCR Act should be appointed. There are many young members of Scheduled Castes with Degrees in Law who are working as Clerks, Assistants, etc. in different Departments for want of a property owning social base which is often necessary to support legal practice. Such young men may be identified and given all support for setting up practice and continuing it, appointing them as Assistant Public Prosecutors under the above Public Prosecutors, if necessary after a period of understudy. They should be enabled to make this switchover by ensuring that there is no loss of income compared to their present pay in jobs not related to their legal qualification.

10. One specific measure that can help in securing quick Trial and ensuring punishment of offenders with deterrent rapidity is to set up special courts to try crimes under the IPC and the PCR Act. There may be an arroneous impression in some minds that the justification for special courts depends on a number of cases. This is not correct. The real justification for special courts is the need to secure punishment for crimes under the IPC or under the PCR Act with deterrent rapidity and to impress offenders as well as potential offenders of the firm determination of the State Government to put an end to atrocities once for all, irrespective of the number of cases on file. In fact, if this process of speedy trial through special courts starts, it is very likely that many cases where complaints are not made by the Scheduled Caste victims of crimes on account of their lack of confidence in the legal and administrative machinery may come to light providing even numerical justification for special courts at a later stage.

11. In all cases of serious crimes like murder, rape, arson and other serious mischief, grievous hurt, kidnapping wrongful restraint, wrongful confinement etc. committed against members of Scheduled Castes, the local D.M. and S.P. should invariably visit the spot immediately and at any rate within 24 hours of the occurrence, supervise steps for the apprehension of the culprits and measures of relief and rehabilitation for the victims, and take such other steps as may be necessary to instil a sense of security and confidence among the members of Scheduled Castes in the area and the fear of law in perpetrators and potential perpetrators of atrocities.

12. District Officers should be required not only to take prompt action about all crimes committed by non-Scheduled Castes on Scheduled Castes, but promptly inform the State Government to enable the latter to take all necessary action and to simultaneously keep the Central Government informed.

Measures of Rehabilitation:

It is necessary to have a standing scheme of comprehensive rehabilitation of Scheduled Caste victims of atrocities so that it may automatically come into operation as soon as an atrocity takes place. In order that it may be of real help to the victims, it should contain the following ingredients:—

- (i) Immediate relief.
- (ii) Restoration of the full income-earning capacity of the family of the deceased or incapacitated victims of atrocities through provision of employment and/or self-employment.
- (iii) Provision for work including work under Food-for-Work Programmes or other assistance to meet the consumption requirement of the victim-families until income earning capacity is fully restored.
- (iv) Education and maintenance of children where there is no bread winner left and there is no scope for restoring income earning capacity through provision of employment and/or self-employment.
- (v) Special arrangements for rape victims, keeping in view the psychological trauma squared by them.
- (vi) Pucca house building for victims of arson.
- (vii) Adequate financial compensation in view of the outrage suffered by them.
- (viii) Delegation of full powers to the District Collector/Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate to grant all assistance according to the Scheme.

The Scheme may be formulated and brought into force urgently.

Measures of Personnel Policy:

1. It should be the personal responsibility of the Collector/Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate and S.P. to ensure that prompt and effective action is taken not only by themselves but by all officers of their District along the lines indicated above. They should be responsible for fully achieving the objectives of effectively preventing atrocities, apprehending criminals and visiting them with condign punishment with deterrent rapidity and quick and complete rehabilitation of victims, families.

2. However, they may also have certain difficulties which hamper their work. They should be encouraged to express their difficulties of any type and the Chief Minister/Adviser and the Chief Secretary may promptly remove those difficulties.

3. In the ACR of these officers, especially District Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, a separate column should be opened on 'Effectiveness in the development and protection of Scheduled Castes'. Under this head, there should be specific heads on—

- (a) Attitude towards Scheduled Castes.
- (b) Sensitivity to social justice.
- (c) Ability to take quick and effective action to prevent and quell atrocities and ensure justice to Scheduled Castes.
- (d) Effectiveness in bringing about the development of Scheduled Castes.

4. Any failure to undertake prompt and efficient action or exercise adequate supervision, whether at the preventive stage or punitive stage or rehabilitation stage should be regarded as a grave dereliction of duty on the part of the Officer concerned and entered in the ACR apart from taking appropriate disciplinary action.

5. The incentive-cum-disincentive system should operate in such a manner that officers should perceive the career of those who do their duty to the Scheduled Castes in an exemplary manner advancing rapidly and the careers of those who fall in this receiving a significant set-back.

6. The State Government may post carefully selected District Collectors/D.Cs/D.Ms, Superintendents of Police and Officers of

Major Developmental Officers in Districts/areas, where atrocities are taking place or where is potential for atrocity.

7. It is well known that according to the hierarchical pattern of residence, in existence in most parts of the country rural as well as urban, Scheduled Castes generally are relegated to the outskirts or the most distant parts of the village, devoid of facilities and conveniences available in the rest of the village. They are considered to be the least prestigious part of the village, or even the town. It is necessary to rectify this as part of the drive against atrocities. As one step to bring prestige to the Scheduled Caste part of the village, and thereby to the Scheduled Castes, all Collectors and SPs and their sub-divisional subordinates should be required to spend a substantial part of the time on their tours to villages in the Scheduled Caste localities or the villages and transact from these locality their work pertaining to the general advancement and general problems of the village. Similar instructions may be given to the Officers of the major development departments and Officers of local bodies. This will have a far-reaching psychological impact. This of course does not mean that where their work pertains to specific groups like potters or carpenters, etc. They should do that also from the Scheduled Caste localities. Such work should appropriately be done from the localities of the concerned occupational groups. But on, no account should the district administration lend the weight of its prestige to that part of the village where the powerful of the village reside by transacting work pertaining to the general public, or specific occupational groups, sitting in the locality of the powerful.

APPENDIX II

Analysis of the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-first Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) of the Committee

(Vide para 4 of Introduction)

I.	Total number of recommendations	31
II.	Recommendations which have been accepted by Government (<i>vide</i> Recommendations Sl. Nos. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 24, 25, 27, 29, and 30)	
	Numbers	19
	Percentage to the total	42
III.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies (<i>vide</i> Recommendations Sl. Nos. 12, 15, 20, 22, 23, and 28)	
	Number	6
	Percentage to the total	19
IV.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted and which require reiteration (<i>vide</i> Recommendations Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 21, and 26)	
	Number	11
	Percentage to the total	35.60
V.	Recommendations in respect of which final reply of Government has not been received (<i>vide</i> Recommendation at Sl. No. 31).	
	Number	1
	Percentage to the total	3.40