

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE
OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES
(1986-87)**

(EIGHTH LOK SABHA)

TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh.]



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CORRIGENDA

to

the Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of SCs/SIs (8th L.S.) on action taken by Govt. on the recommendations contained in 12th Report on Socio-economic conditions of SCs/SIs in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Correction</u>
2	<u>12</u>	38	For 'wnole' read 'whole'
14	-	5	For 'not' read 'note'
21	-	32	For '10.3.86' read '30.3.87'
27	-	33	For '10.2.87' read 30.3.87

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COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

(1986-87)

Shri K.D. Sultanpuri—*Chairman*

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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 Twenty-fifth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh.

2. The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at their sitting held on 10th April, 1987.

3. The Report has been divided into the following Chapters :—

I. Report.

II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the 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. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government have not been received.

4. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 20 recommendations made in the Report, 13 recommendations i.e. 65 per cent have been accepted by the Government; the Committee do

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not desire to pursue one recommendation i.e. 5 per cent of their recommendations in view of Government's replies, one recommendation i.e. 5 per cent. in respect of which reply of Government has not been accepted by the Committee and requires reiteration and for 5 recommendations i.e. 25 per cent. final replies of Government have not been received.

KRISHAN DATT SULTANPURI,

Chairman.

*Committee on the Welfare of
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled
Tribes.*

NEW DELHI;
April 16, 1987.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh.

1.2. In Para 3.40 of their Twelfth Report the Committee had recommended that road construction programme should be drawn up by the Union Territory Administration to link all the Districts with each other by all weather roads during the Seventh Plan period. The Committee had expressed the hope that roads development in Arunachal Pradesh would improve the means of communication which was so essential for the social and economic upliftment of the tribal people. The Committee had further hoped that adequate funds would be provided by the Central Government for construction of roads in Arunachal Pradesh during the Seventh Plan period and the estimates of funds submitted by the Arunachal Pradesh Government would be favourably considered and Arunachal Pradesh given special treatment in this regard in view of the backwardness of the area and the need to pace up development there.

The Committee had also recommended that PWD of Arunachal Pradesh should be developed more and more so that it could take up entire construction works of the Union territory and ultimately replace CPWD.

In their reply dated 10th March, 1987, the Ministry of Home Affairs had stated that :—

- (a) Work on roads to link all District Head Quarters with each other by all weather roads is in progress. However, it would not be possible to complete the work due to paucity of funds. The Head Quarters of East Kameng, West Kameng and Tawang Districts viz.

Bomdila, Tawang and Seppa are well connected. The completion of Seppo Sagalee-Yazali road will connect Seppa with Ziro and the latter is already connected with Daporijo, Along and Pasighat. The completion of NH 52 will link Pasighat with Reing and Tezu. The possibility of linking Tezu with Khonsa is being explored as there is no connecting road at present, due to presence of the river Noa Dihing which has the tendency to change it's course.

- (b) The policy to gradually convert the PWD of Arunachal Pradesh to be brought under Officers of Arunachal Pradesh Administration has already been accepted in principle. In fact, one Circle of CPWD has already been converted in Arunachal Pradesh P.W.D, Circle in 1981. The proposal for converting one of the CPWD Zones into AP PWD Zone has already been sent to Government of India, Ministry of Urban Development and the matter is being vigorously pursued by the Hon'ble Minister PWD. However, the growth of AP PWD has to be gradual as the number of tribal Officers required to man the various posts in various grades are not fully available now and it will take some more years for the AP Tribal Officers recruited to PWD to acquire adequate experience to man the higher level posts of PWD. The UT Govt. have been requested to approach Indian Human Settlements Management Institute for imparting training to the PWD personnel.

The recommendation of the Committee regarding conversion of CPWD into PWD, Arunachal Pradesh has been accepted by Government in Principle. However, the reply of the Government that all District Headquarters cannot be linked by all weather roads due to paucity of funds during the 7th Five Year Plan period is not convincing as they have not even stated as to what extent the road construction work will be completed during the 7th Plan and by what time the whole work is likely to be completed. The Government reply is also silent regarding the recommend-

ation for providing adequate funds by the Central Government for this purpose. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that a road construction programme should be drawn up by the Government to link all the district Headquarters with each other by all weather roads and adequate funds may be provided by the Central Government therefor during the Seventh Plan period.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2 Para 2.5)

The Committee note that the allocation during the Sixth Plan in the agriculture and allied services sector was Rs. 4162.39 lakhs but the actual expenditure was only Rs. 4118.15 lakhs.

The Committee feel surprised that the allocated funds have not been fully utilised even though agriculture is the traditional profession of the tribal people of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Committee recommended that the allocated funds for Agriculture sector should not only be utilised fully during the Seventh Plan period but there should be proper emphasis to develop this sector to such an extent that the economic condition of the tribal people shows marked improvement by the end of the Plan.

The Committee also note that in the industry sector, whereas the Sixth Plan allocation was Rs. 448.70 lakhs, the expenditure was to the tune of Rs. 422.80 only and there is shortfall of Rs. 26 lakhs in expenditure. The Committee would like to stress that industry is a strong indicator of development of any particular area. The Government should pay more attention for development of industry, particularly Cottage industry which is more suitable for a tribal community like that of Arunachal Pradesh and ensure that allocation of Seventh Plan is fully utilised.

Reply of Government

During the Sixth Five Year Plan period the Department of Agriculture had spent Rs. 4118 15 lakhs which is 423.7% more than Fifth Plan expenditure i.e. Rs. 972 lakhs. This enabled us to enhance our production process

as had been seen from below :

Sl. No.	Item	At the time of 5th Plan achievement		At the end of 6th Plan achievement	
		Area HA	Prodn MT	Area Ha	Prodn MT
1.	Cereals	118116	192400	161589	173000
2.	Pulses	923	570	1663	1042
3.	Vegetable & cash crops	6911	23053	14284	65522
4.	Fruits	5864	5058	7544	14723
5.	Oil Seeds	5778	5400	13326	10010

From the above it can be seen that there has been improvement in the economic condition of the tribal people.

Proper emphasis has been laid to develop agriculture sector during the Seventh Plan period to such an extent that the economic condition of the tribal people shows marked improvement by the end of the Plan.

The Department of Industries of the Government of Arunachal has been taking up a number of schemes for the development of Cottage industries and village industries in the Territory. The department had first stated the training programme during 1953 in certain localities to upgrade the existing traditional skills and to introduce a few new skills which were considered essential for economic advancement. In these training centres, training was imparted on the trade like weaving, carpet making wool knitting, carpentry, bell metal, blacksmithy, cane and bamboo, silver, bend ornaments and painting etc. to boys and girls and Arunachal Pradesh. The trainees were getting stipend at the rate of Rs. 100/- per month besides free accommodation in Hôtels. At present there are 64 such training centres which have been established in different locations enrolling 562 trainees yearly. Since beginning of this programme the department has trained more than seven thousand boys and girls in these training centres.

The passed-out trainees are provided with subsidised tools and raw materials to pursue their trades for self employment. The department is also giving soft loan to the artisans in easy terms. Besides, the passed out trainees are also accommodated in the departmentally run craft production centres to start with production work.

Facilities are also provided for marketing of their products through sales emporium located in each district headquarters. In addition, the artisans in the cottage industries are also getting price preference in Government purchases of their products.

During Seventh Plan period provision has been kept for opening more training centres in remote localities, supply of improved tools, training, subsidised raw materials, marketing assistance etc.

The Seventh Plan outlay under handloom and handicrafts and Khadi village industries is Rs. 360 lakhs covering cottage and house hold industries also. Out of this allocation an expenditure of Rs. 28.61 lakhs has been already made till 1985-86. The anticipated expenditure during 1986-87 is Rs. 50 lakhs.

The total outlay during the Seventh Plan will be fully utilised.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-AP dated 10-3-87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised as to why the allocated funds during the Sixth Plan for Agriculture and Industry Sector could not be fully utilised by the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh. The details of schemes formulated/implemented to develop agriculture sector during the Seventh Plan may also be intimated to the Committee.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 3.9)

The Committee note that no land laws have yet been promulgated in the Union territory of Arunachal Pradesh. The Committee further note that a draft Arunachal Pradesh (Land Settlement and Land Reforms) Bill is awaiting approval of Government of India for enactment. There is no Land Reforms Regulation as yet in the Union territory.

Reply of Government

No comments.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 3.18)

The Committee note that in the Union territory of Arunachal Pradesh the main occupation of the tribals is agriculture. It has been stated that in Arunachal Pradesh the average size of land holding is 2 to 3 hectares per family.

The Committee feel that keeping in view the small size of agricultural holdings which is 2 to 3 hectares per family there has to be greater emphasis on the development of agriculture and horticulture. As already stated in Chapter II under "Plan outlays and expenditure" the total approved outlay for the agriculture and allied services sector during the years 1974-79 was Rs. 1,04.83 lakhs and during the years 1980-85 it was Rs. 4162.39 lakhs. Against this allocation the factual expenditure on agriculture and allied services sector was only Rs. 972 lakhs and Rs. 4118.15 lakhs respectively. The Committee recommended that concerted efforts should be made to utilise fully the sanctioned amount in agriculture and allied services sector for the welfare of the tribals.

The Committee are glad to note that there is proper emphasis on the development of horticulture in Arunachal Pradesh and the Union territory is producing quality apples.

Reply of Government

Efforts are being made to utilise the sanctioned amount in agriculture and allied services sector for the Welfare of the tribal people of this Union Territory.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 3.23)

The Committee note that the remote interior places of the Territory are not yet well connected by roads due to which supply of medicines/drugs etc. to the interior areas takes long time. Moreover, to meet immediate needs medical facilities cannot reach in time. The Committee hope that the work regarding construction of roads will be given priority during the Seventh Plan so that remote areas of the Territory are connected with each other.

The Committee note that there is no provision for opening of mobile dispensaries in 'Medical and Public Health' sector in the Union Territory. The Committee, therefore, recommend that at least one mobile dispensary should be opened in each District to cater to the needs of the tribals living in remote areas of the District. As the tribal population is scattered in far flung areas, mobile dispensary is a must for each District.

Reply of Government

The matter has been brought to the notice of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-AP dated 10-3-87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of the progress made regarding construction of roads for connecting remote areas in the State and opening of a mobile dispensary in each District for the use of tribals.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para 3.33)

The Committee was informed during evidence that in Arunachal Pradesh there is great potential for production of electricity from water but the Union Territory Administration could commission only one small project, or hydel power in 18 months.

As horticulture and small scale industries is the backbone of the economy of Arunachal Pradesh, commissioning of small power projects for the production of electricity is of the utmost importance. As such, the Committee recommend that adequate funds should be provided by the Central Government for small hydel power projects so that electricity is easily available for the development of small scale industries and horticulture.

Reply of Government

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh have already accorded very high priority to commissioning of Micro Hydel Projects for generation of electricity in various locations of the Union Territory. Already 22 Micro Hydel projects have been commissioned by PWD, Arunachal Pradesh and in this respect, Arunachal Pradesh is leading all other States in India. The present policy is to develop the Micro Hydel potential available to maximum extent in Arunachal Pradesh and a number of new schemes have already been taken up and more are under investigation. As regards adequacy of the funds to execute more Hydel projects the matter is being pursued with the Planning Commission during the Annual Plan discussions to allocate more funds for power projects under the 7th Plan. Government of India have also accorded highest priority for development of Hydel potential in Arunachal Pradesh which has assumed greater importance after the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Arunachal Pradesh in March, 1986 in pursuance of which specific directions have been issued to the Ministry of Energy by Prime Minister's Secretariat.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para 3.43)

The Committee note that in Arunachal Pradesh, the people in the villages are still living in thatched huts with Toke leaf roofing and bamboo

walls. These huts are exposed to natural hazards of catching fire etc. The Committee regret to point out that till the end of Sixth Plan period except for the construction of few staging huts no housing scheme has been implemented systematically in the Union territory. During this period only construction assistance was provided to 570 families.- For the Seventh Five Year Plan the Union Territory Administration proposed that for economically weaker sections of the people the amount of assistance for construction of houses should range from Rs. 7,500 to Rs. 15,000 per family. But this scale of assistance is yet to be approved. For the Seventh Five Year Plan only Rs. 120.00 lakhs have been earmarked for the Housing Sector.

Reply of Government

No comments.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para 3.46)

The Committee note that in Arunachal Pradesh there are 19 LAMPS which have been set up for supply of consumer articles, extension of agricultural credit and providing marketing facilities to the tribal people. The Committee were informed during evidence that these LAMPS are economically viable and they are selling in retail essential commodities through cooperative stores. The total turnover of these cooperative stores including LAMPS has crossed Rs. 2.00 crores per year. The Committee were also informed that these LAMPS gave only short term loans as in the absence of land records and absence of goods which could be mortgaged long term loans could not be provided. The Committee find that except two LAMPS at Tawang and Bomdilla which were procuring the surplus produce from the people and helping them in marketing other LAMPS were not so effective.

The Committee recommend that all LAMPS in the Union Territory should be activated in the matter of procurement of surplus produce to save the cultivators from the exploitation by the outside businessmen who assist the cultivators by advancing money in the initial stages and later on procure the surplus produce at throw away prices.

Reply of Government

All the lamps in the Union Territory have been entrusted with the responsibility of procuring oil seeds, fruits and other cash crops. Procurement of paddy is the responsibility of the FCI. The lamps at Tawang has

been procuring potato for marketing as seed potato in neighbouring States. A proposal is in hand to install cold storage in Kameng District for preservation of fruits and other perishable agricultural produce of Kameng District. Another scheme of installation of a Mustard Oil-cum-Atta processing unit has been sanctioned under centrally sponsored scheme. This aims at utilisation of oil seeds and other agricultural produce of the U.T.

Needy farmers of the Union Territory are being given short term crop loan by A.P. Co-operative Apex Bank through LAMPS.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para No. 3.50)

The Committee find that these Lamps are also having a problem in regard to the recovery of overdue loans. They agree with the views of the Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh that if procurement of marketing of surplus produce is done through LAMPS then it would be possible for the LAMPS to recover the loans from the cultivators in time. The Committee hope that all the LAMPS would be strengthened to take up the responsibility of procuring and marketing of surplus produce of the cultivators and provide them the necessary credit facilities.

Reply of Government

The views of the Committee have been brought to the notice of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-3-87]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para No. 3.53)

The Committee note that there are fine prospects for the development of a number of village and small scale industries in Arunachal Pradesh. The Committee need hardly stress that the village and household industries are most appropriate and relevant for the economic development of the people belonging to socially and economically backward classes. Since there is a vast scope for development of village and small industries, the Committee hope that the Union Territory Administration will draw up a phased programme for setting up of these industries and will also provide sufficient financial and technical assistance to the Tribal people so that they could take advantage of these schemes and thus better their socio-

economic conditions. They also recommend that the Central Government should give matching grants to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and provide increased allocation of funds in the Seventh Plan for industrial development which is an important factor in the overall development of the region.

Reply of Government

Growth of village and small industries in Arunachal Pradesh is of late beginning. This is due to lack of infrastructure, entrepreneurship awareness, advanced technical know-how, communication, adequate raw materials supply and marketing facilities etc. The Department of Industries has, of late, taken up a few phased programme for development of entrepreneurship and industries in the Territory in the following manner :

- (a) Entrepreneurship training.
- (b) Industrial Estates with essential infrastructure.
- (c) Industrial Finance with self loan.
- (d) Free registration of SSI units.
- (e) Free supply of technical guidance/schemes/ project reports etc.
- (f) Concessional allotment of land/shed in Industrial estate.
- (g) Grant of subsidy.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh are also extending number of incentives for the growth of industries. These incentives include Capital investment subsidy, transport subsidy, power subsidy, subsidy on diesel generator set, man power subsidy and subsidy on industrial housing.

While continuing the above the Department has planned during Seventh Plan as follows :

1. An amount of Rs. 700 lakhs has been kept for village and small industries development in the Territory.
2. An outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made in the Seventh Plan for the development of small scale industries which includes assistance to entrepreneurs under the following promotional schemes
 - (a) Subsidy to new entrepreneurs for market study cost.
 - (b) Subsidy to entrepreneurs for feasibility study cost.
 - (c) Subsidy for promotion of ancillary and village industries.
 - (d) Schemes of assistance for self employment.

The Government has also proposed to set up new industrial estates and develop industrial areas in the districts to establish industrial units by entrepreneurs. It is also proposed to construct 100 working sheds with the provision of facilities.

There are 27 full fledged craft centres and 35 craft training and production centres throughout the Territory. New training centres have been proposed in the remote rural localities to utilise the skilled personnel as well as locally available raw materials. Rs. 260 lakhs has been earmarked for these programmes during the Seventh Plan.

Sericultural programmes have been taken up in the foot hills areas for introduction and development of mulberry and non-mulberry silk worm rearing for production of raw and spun silk.

Under this scheme a few seed production centres have been established in different places of the territory and demonstration programme for rearing of silk worm have also been started at the village level.

During the 7th Plan period an outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs has been earmarked for Sericultural activities.

Technical assistance for development of Industries are being provided by the Department with technical personnel in different fields. The training like preparation of Schemes, project report, Establishment of SSI Units, Raw Materials management and marketing of products are also arranged. Agencies like North Eastern Industrial and Technical Consultant Organisation, National Institute for Small Industries Extension training and Dr. SISI's at Itanagar are engaged in different programmes regularly for the Entrepreneurs of Arunachal Pradesh.

Under this programme the Government has conducted the training programme in the Territory since 1982 to 1986 where 254 entrepreneurs have been trained.

There are 5 main DICs. and 6 Sub-DICs set up in Arunachal Pradesh and technical assistance to entrepreneurs in different disciplines are also continued in a phased manner through those DICs.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh is also extending financial assistance to industrial Units and entrepreneurs. The nationalised Banks and Arunachal Pradesh Industrial Development and Financial Corporation is also extending financial assistance for setting up of Industries in Arunachal Pradesh.

The present position of such financial assistance are as follows : --

Loan advanced by Department since 1957 to 1986.. 42,14,898/-
 Entrepreneurs benefitted.....344 Nos
 Loan advanced by APIDFC Ltd.....2,12,94,000/-

During financial year 1986-87 an outlay of Rs. 20,00,000/- has been kept for distribution under the loan scheme.

- A. 25% Capital investment subsidy... Rs. 95,36,612/-
- B. Unit benefitted.....91 Units.
- C. Seed/Margin money sanctioned.....Rs. 5.82 lakhs
- D. Transport subsidy disbursed.....Rs. 9,00,591/-
- E. Unit benefitted.....2 units.

The above scheme for technical assistance and financial help are still being continued.

[Min. of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-AP dt. 10.3.87]

Recommendation (Serial No. 17. Para 3.54)

The Committee note that in Arunachal Pradesh training is imparted various crafts like Carpentry, Weaving, Wool knitting, cane and in bamboo works, wood carvings, painting and carpet weaving etc. The Committee further note that there is good scope for setting up small scale industries in this Union Territory. The Committee, however, regret to point out that no serious efforts have been made so far to develop small scale industries in this area in a systematic manner. During the Fifth Plan against the total allocation of Rs. 102.81 lakhs for Industry and mineral sector, the actual expenditure was only Rs. 58.03 lakhs and against the total allocation of Rs. 448.70 lakhs for the industry sector, the actual expenditure was only Rs. 422.80 lakhs. From this the Committee again draw only one conclusion that the Union Territory Administration have not been serious in developing small scale and cottage industries in this tribal area.

The Committee hope that the Union Territory Administration will pay greater attention to the development of Industries and there will be no shortfall in the utilisation of funds in the Industries Sector.

The Committee also suggest that Khadi and Village Industries Commission should also help the Union Territory Administration in setting up small scale industries which are more relevant to the hilly areas.

Reply of Government

The matter has been brought to the notice of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

[Min. of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-AP dated 10.3.87]

Recommendation (Serial No. 18, Para 4.16)

The Committee note that there is no arrangement in Arunachal Pradesh for training in B.Ed. course but there are very large number of seats in all disciplines reserved for the Territory all over India. The Committee further note that every year the tribal boys are nominated by the Union Territory Administration according to merit for admission to various courses of study. The Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh explained during evidence as under :—

“When we give them reserved seats, we take a bond from them that on the completion of the course they will come back and serve in Arunachal Pradesh for at least ten years”.

The Committee feel that the condition for serving the Union Territory for ten years after completion of B.Ed. or any other course is a bit too harsh as it hampers the right of a trained teacher to seek better prospects outside the Union Territory at the prime of his life. The Committee therefore, recommend that period in the bond for serving the Union Territory after completion of B.Ed. course etc. should be reduced to a reasonable limit i.e. from ten to five years. This will provide an incentive for youngmen to go out for receiving professional training.

The Committee hope that the proposal to set up a State Institute of Education in Arunachal Pradesh will also be finalised very soon so that the Union Territory would be producing trained teachers to take up teaching jobs. This will also prove economical in the long run as sending students for training to other States in reserved seats and giving the monthly stipends year after year involve a good deal of financial commitment.

Reply of Government

The matter has been brought to the notice of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

[Min. of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-AP dated 10.3.87]

Recommendation (Serial No. 19, Para 4.17)

While explaining the steps taken to minimise the high rate of drop outs at the school level and to raise the percentage of literacy, the Chief Secretary Arunachal Pradesh stated during evidence as under :

"About drop out, we will have a hostel even at middle and primary stage. The inter village schools at the primary and middle level with hostel facilities will have to be properly located and managed ... The greatest restraint today is allocation of resources. From 20% rate of literacy if government desires that the coverage should be 100% by 1990, it envisages a level of investment to which the Government and Planning Commission must agree".

The Committee desire that the Central Government should examine the issue of illiteracy in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh in depth and allocate adequate funds in consultation with the Planning Commission so that the target of 100% literacy by 1990 can be achieved in the Union Territory, since education is a prime instrument of tribal community development.

The Committee also recommend that the retention scholarship scheme should be implemented more vigorously to provide incentive to the tribal parents to send their children to schools.

Reply of Government

Concerted efforts are being made by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to achieve 100% literacy of Scheduled Tribes population of the Union Territory for the age group of 15-35 under Adult Literacy programme by 1990. Apart from various programmes being taken by the department, cooperation from other development departments and the Government of India is being sought.

In order to attract more tribal girls to school and retain them there, the scheme of Retention Scholarship for Arunachal Pradesh tribal girls students studying in Class III to VIII at a rate of Rs. 25/- p.m. for ten months was introduced with the approval of Government of India in 1983-84. During 1983-84 a sum of Rs. 17 lakhs was sanctioned covering 6,800 tribal girls. In 1984-85 Rs. 12.18 lakhs was sanctioned benefitting 4,872 tribal girls students. The Scheme has since been discontinued since 1985-86. It is being revived from next year.

Comments of the Government

The Committee would like to be apprised whether the scheme of Retention Scholarship for Arunachal Pradesh Tribal girls students has since been revived.

Recommendation (Serial No. 20, Para 5.11)

The Committee are distressed to note that the Ministry of Home Affairs/Union Territory administration could not furnish details showing the staff strength in the Union Territory as on 30.6.85. Similarly, details of promotion made in various groups of posts during the last 3 years could not be made available to the Committee.

This is a very serious matter. The Committee trust that in future replies to the questionnaire sent by a Parliamentary Committee will receive the importance which it deserves.

The Committee are distressed to note that the representation of Scheduled Tribes in all the groups is not up to the mark inspite of the fact that there is reservation upto 80 per cent for tribals in Groups B.C and D. The Committee trust that in all future recruitments wide publicity will be given about the reserved posts through various media like AIR, local and all India newspapers etc. so that there is greater response from tribal candidates to fill the reserved posts. For that a tremendous effort will be required to provide a base in which education will have to play big role and sense of awareness and political will have to be instilled in the mind of younger generation.

Reply of Government

In all recruitments made by the Arunachal Pradesh Administration wide publicity is always given about the reserved posts through AIR, News Papers and notices to the local employment cells. The District authorities are also informed of such posts, to make local arrangements for publicity.

The short-falls hitherto existing are mainly attributable to the dearth of technical, trained and qualified candidates and not due to lack of publicity.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (Serial No. 3, Para 2.12)

The Committee note that no comprehensive survey to assess the number of persons living below the poverty line has been made in the Union Territory. The Committee further note that the land in the Union Territory is community owned and they do not keep land records. As such any statistical survey in the Territory is not free from problems.

As per information furnished to the Committee, 85.79% of the indigenous tribal population in the Union Territory is living below the poverty line.

The Committee are unhappy to note that no proper methodology has been evolved so far to calculate the income of a tribal family in the Union Territory with a view to assess the number of tribal families actually living below or above the poverty line. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the matter should be examined in depth by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with the Union Territory Administration so as to evolve some concrete formula for assessing the income of a tribal family with a view to find out whether it is above or below the poverty line. The Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh informed the Committee during evidence that "at village level trained manpower is absent. Local patwari is absent".

The Committee are led to believe that no serious attempts have been made so far to streamline the administration at the village level. Absence of trained manpower or revenue records or Patwari are not adequate reasons for not assessing the income of a tribal family. The Committee, therefore, recommended that Ministry of Home Affairs should examine this matter and devise a suitable machinery for assessing the income of tribal families in Arunachal Pradesh so as to determine the number of families living below poverty line. The Committee fail to understand

as to how the Government have assessed that there are 50,000 families below poverty line without conducting a village to village survey. Under these circumstances the target fixed for uplifting families above poverty line is meaningless.

Reply of Government

Since agriculture is the mainstay of rural economy and land-based activities form the basis for assessment of income of the rural families. In Arunachal Pradesh, shifting cultivation (Jhuming) is still the main agricultural practice. Settled agriculture is still confined to certain pockets only, mainly in the lower belts. No land records are yet available, and the areas under shifting cultivation vary from year to year for the same family.

In the above circumstances, household surveys are conducted to assess the annual income of the rural families. In course of this exercise, agricultural land held by the family during the year, livestock/poultry owned by the family and other sources of income are checked on the basis of Prescribed survey schedule. The position is further reviewed in the Gram Panchayat meetings before selection of families as beneficiaries under IRDP.

In the local situation no formula can be immediately evolved and standardised for the purpose of assessment of the income of the tribal families in Arunachal Pradesh. Household surveys would continue to be relevant and necessary to identify the families below the poverty line. All efforts are also being made to involve the Gram Panchayats as effectively as possible for this purpose.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85-- AP dated 10-3-87]

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para 3.40)

The Committee note that in Arunachal Pradesh all district head quarters except one are now connected with roads. There are 280 villages which are not connected with main roads but are connected with each other. There are no roads connecting one District with another. The Committee also note that except "Debang Valley" all district headquarters are connected with motorable roads. Out of 11553 kilometers of road only 4991 kilometers are metalled roads and the rest are fair weather roads and kucha roads.

The Committee recommend that a road construction programme should be drawn up by the Union Territory Administration to link all the Districts with each other by all weather roads during the Seventh Plan period. The Committee hope that roads development in Arunachal Pradesh will improve the means of communication which is so essential for the social and economic upliftment of the tribal people.

The Committee trust that adequate funds will be provided by the Central Government for construction of roads in Arunachal Pradesh during the Seventh Plan period and the estimates of funds submitted by the Arunachal Pradesh Government will be favourably considered and Arunachal shall be given special treatment in this regard in view of the backwardness of the area and the need to pace up development there.

The Committee appreciated that as far as possible contract for road construction work is entrusted to the local people and contracts are generally not given to outside contractors. But at the same time the Committee cannot help pointing out that constructions of roads requires certain amount of technical expertise and as such CPWD/PWD of Arunachal Pradesh should be made responsible for the construction of roads so that the money is well spent and the roads last longer and remain in good

shape but PWD should be directed that for construction of roads the tribal labour from the Union territory will be utilised and no contractors or labour force would be brought from outside.

The Committee also recommend that PWD of Arunachal Pradesh which is still in nascent stage should be developed more and more so that it can take up entire construction works of the territory and ultimately replace CPWD.

Reply of Government

Work on roads to link all District Head Quarters with each other by all weather roads is in progress. However, it would not be possible to complete the work-due to paucity of funds. The Head Quarters of East Kameng, West Kameng and Tawang Districts viz. Bomdilla, Tawang and Seppa are well connected. The completion of Seppo Sagalee-Yazali road will connect Seppa with Ziro and the latter is already connected with Daporijo, Along and Pasighat. The completion of NH - 52 will link Pasighat with Roing and Tezu. The possibility of linking Tezu with Khonsa is being explored as there is no connecting road at present, due to presence of the river Noa Dihing which has the tendency to change it's course.

The policy to gradually convert the PWD of Arunachal Pradesh to be brought under Officers of Arunachal Pradesh Administration has already been accepted in principle. In fact, one Circle of CPWD has already been converted in Arunachal Pradesh P.W.D. Circle in 1981. The proposal for converting one of the CPWD Zones into AP PWD Zone has already been sent to Government of India, Ministry of Urban Development and matter is being vigorously pursued by the Hon'ble Minister PWD. However, the growth of AP PWD has to be gradual as the number of tribal Officers required to man the various posts in various grades are not fully available now and it will take some more years for the AP Tribal Officers recruited to PWD to acquire adequate experience to man the higher level posts of PWD. The UT Govt. have been requested to approach Indian Human Settlements Management Institute for imparting training to the PWD personnel.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85— AP dated 10-3-87]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I para 1.2.

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para 1.8)

The Committee note that as per the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order, 1951 there are 12 Tribes, living in the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh, and this list has not been amended so far.

During evidence when the Committee pointed out that the list of tribes furnished to the Committee was an old one, the representative of the Ministry admitted that list had become out of date now. He informed the Committee that the list would be amended through a Parliamentary Legislation. The delay was on account of fact that such changes in the list of tribes were required to be made in other parts of the country. This matter is under the consideration of Home Ministry.

The Committee note that Arunachal Pradesh became a Union Territory on 20th January, 1972 and since then some other tribes which were not included in the Scheduled Order of 1951 have claimed recognition. It is necessary these Tribes should be included in the Constitution Order that the safeguards and other facilities available to recognised tribes are also made available to these new tribes. These small tribes which had hitherto being neglected should also see down of development. The Committee, therefore, desires that the Government should take necessary legislative steps to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order, 1951 so as to include therein the tribes which have since been recognised by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, without loss of time.

Reply of Government

The matter regarding revision of All India List of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is under consideration of Government of India.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85--AP dated 10-3-86]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to know the likely date by which the matter regarding revision of All India list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be finalised.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 3.10)

The Committee appreciate the difficulty of the Union territory Administration in introducing the concept of individual ownership in a tribal society where people have a life style of their own and still believe in community ownership of land in remote areas. But with the advancement of the tribal people in educational and economic fields the desire to own land or other property is a natural phenomenon and it is high time that Government should make an indepth study as to how land laws should be promulgated in this area.

The Committee would like to stress that ownership of land has many advantages also. The owner works hard to produce more when he knows that all the fruits of his labour will be enjoyed by him and his family.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that a complete survey of land in Arunachal should be undertaken at the earliest and in developed areas the land laws should be promulgated to meet the needs of a developing society. The Committee further recommend that in case of settled cultivation, Pattas should be granted to the owners of land.

The Committee feel that the promulgation of land laws is a basic necessity in a developing society and should not be postponed indefinitely. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Home Affairs should examine the provisions of the draft Bill already submitted to them by the Union territory Administration and take an early decision. The Committee agree that the enactment of land laws in a tribal society as that of Arunachal Pradesh is a very difficult and sensitive issue and the Government should adopt a very cautious approach to this issue keeping in view the long term interests of the people of the territory.

The Committee note that any person who is not native of the Union territory is not permitted to acquire land without permission from the Government. But benami transactions cannot be ruled out and as such the Committee recommend that suitable legislation for prohibiting transfer of land from a tribal to non-tribal or to a person who does not belong to the Union territory should be promulgated forthwith.

Reply of Government

The draft Arunachal Pradesh (Land settlement and Land Reform) Bill provides for recognising tribal rights, in Jhum lands as well conferring ownership for land under settled cultivation. The Government is considering the framing of the laws in the light of experience gained in other tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85 - AP dated 10-3-87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of the final position regarding framing of land laws in Arunachal Pradesh.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7 Para No. 3.19)

The Committee recommended that for increased production of fruits land should be given to tribals on the concept of individual ownership. The Committee feel that if the land is made available to the tribals on individual ownership basis it will not only provide them with permanent income from the produce of land but it will also ensure that the loans advanced by the Government under various schemes are in the nature of a safe investment.

The Committee firmly believe that individual ownership of land will automatically generate a feeling of satisfaction linked with competitive spirit among the tribals which is conducive for the increased production and the ultimate prosperity of the Union Territory as a whole.

The Committee further recommended that a fruit processing plant should be set up at a place near the apple producing areas so that surplus fruits can be utilised for preservation in the form apple juice and jam etc.

Reply of Government

Action on this will be feasible only on promulgation of land laws as proposed. The prevalent practice is that land under individual occupation for agriculture and horticulture is treated as individual property by the tribal society in Arunachal Pradesh.

There are at present no fruit processing plant for apple processing in Apple growing areas in Arunachal Pradesh. The Agriculture Department of Arunachal is taking up a few pilot projects in certain apple growing

areas on experimental basis. However a proposal has been drawn up for a detailed feasibility report of such plants and the CFTRI Mysore has been requested for this purpose.

Large scale apple is grown in West Kameng District and the Co-operative Department is now planning to establish a cold storage plant for the fruits etc. at Bhalukpung in West Kameng District. Establishment of a fruit processing plant in other areas where apple is grown will also be looked into.

A fruit processing plant of 5 TPD capacity is also under establishment at Nigmoi in West Siang District for utilising the fruits like pineapple, orange etc. The Plant is expected to be commissioned during this year.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10.3.87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of (i) the progress regarding promulgation of land laws conferring individual ownership of land to tribals; and (ii) latest position regarding setting up of fruit processing plant near the apple producing areas.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para 3.32)

The Committee note that the Union Territory Administration is providing irrigation facilities to the tribals mostly from surface water sources by construction gravity channels with diversion structures and head works. In few cases pump sets are also used for lifting the water where construction of gravity channels is either uneconomical or not feasible.

The Committee further note that ground water potential is roughly estimated at 1 lakh hectare but nothing much could be done yet for harnessing the ground water sources due to the paucity of the funds and non-availability of proper machinery and expertise in this regards.

The Committee were informed during evidence that the total cultivated land in the Territory is 1.9 lakh hectares and the area irrigated is 60,000 hectares. The Committee have been further informed that during the Seventh Plan Period, the Union Territory administration proposed to take up modernisation activities wherever needed and permanent structures would be constructed. Some projects which have been spilled over from the Sixth Plan Period will also be completed. The new schemes on surface water utilisation by constructing gravity channels and through pumping shall be

taken up alongwith the ground water exploration and Development Schemes. The target fixed is 18,000 hectares of additional land with an allocation of Rs. 23 crores during the Seventh Plan period. The Committee recommended that adequate funds should be provided for the development of irrigation in Arunachal Pradesh during the Seventh Plan period. The Central Government should also arrange to provide necessary expertise to the Union Territory Administration for completion of irrigation projects for the development of agriculture through Central agencies. The Committee needs hardly stress that keeping in view the small size of agricultural holdings which is 2 to 3 hectares per family, there has to be greater emphasis on the development of minor irrigation schemes. The Committee recommend that substantial portion of the allocated funds should be utilised on the development of minor irrigation schemes which are less costly and can be completed very quickly. The Committee also feel unhappy that the allocation of 23 crores for irrigation during the Seventh Plan Period is quite inadequate and as such Central Government should consider if more funds could be provided for irrigation schemes in Arunachal Pradesh during the Seventh Plan period.

Reply of Government

Government of Arunachal Pradesh has given greater emphasis on the development of Minor irrigation schemes so that small size of agricultural holding which are 2 to 3 hectares per family, are benefited to maximum extent. Accordingly a substantial portion of allocated fund has been earmarked for the implementation of surface Minor Irrigation Projects in the territory. The Government of India has provided Rs. 23 crores for irrigation during Seventh Plan period which is quite inadequate as against our projected requirement of Rs. 68.51 crores to provide assured irrigation to 28,000 hectares cultivable land in this difficult terrain. In the upper region of this territory, the gravity irrigation projects are implemented by harnessing adequate number of surface water resources available. But in some of the foot hills areas in the absence of adequate surface resources, ground water exploitation is essential. Ground water survey was carried out in Arunachal Pradesh and an area of 4,500 sq. km in the foot hills belt has been delineated for exploratory drilling. It is estimated that we have ground water potential of 0.135 m. ha per year which can be utilised for irrigation as well as domestic water supply purpose. We have not been able to exploit this resource for want of suitable drilling rigs. A request for providing drilling rigs is pending with Central Ground Water Board for quite a long time. If it could be expedited the problems of water scarcity at foot hills can be solved.

In view of the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee, the increase of allocation of fund during the Seventh Plan to the tune of Rs. 68.51 crores to provide assured irrigation facilities to 28,000 hectares will be resubmitted to the Planning Commission during the next meeting with the Planning Commission.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10.3.87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of the outcome of the meeting with the Planning Commission regarding increase in allocation of funds for development of irrigation.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 3.44)

The Committee recommend that sufficient funds should be provided to the Union Territory Administration, if any dent is to be made to solve the housing problem in this backward area. With the rising cost of construction of houses Rs. 2,500/- as construction assistance is too small an amount for constructing even a small tenement with two rooms. The Committee, therefore, suggest that the Union Territory Administration should implement a low cost housing scheme for Arunachal Pradesh under which small tenements should be constructed by the Government and these should be then allotted to economically weaker tribal families. The Committee feel that this investment will be much safer in the sense that there will be no chance of utilising the construction assistance of Rs. 2,500/- for other purposes.

The Government should also consider providing the local people with construction material so that houses are constructed by them by their own labour. The Committee are not in favour of giving cash assistance to the people for housing purposes.

Reply of Government

It has not been possible to finalise the type of scheme which has to be implemented under rural housing programme in Arunachal Pradesh. Initially the scheme started with distribution of C.G.I. Sheets worth Rs. 2,500/- per family by Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District. During annual plan discussion for 83-84, the then Adviser (State Plan) objected to this kind of scheme and suggested building up of permanent assets for common use instead of giving subsidy for purpose of C.G.I. Sheets to the individuals. This was, however, not appreciated by the State

Planning Board of Arunachal Pradesh who directed that a suitable scheme for providing housing assistance to the weaker section to be worked out. Accordingly two type design of Tribal pattern houses with plinth areas 33 sq. mtr. were prepared for low and high altitude area (the present estimated cost of which are 17,500/- and Rs. 21,330/- respectively). The scheme was discussed with the Adviser (housing), Planning Commission, who mentioned that there was a provision of Rs. 750/- only per family for such scheme.

During the discussion on the Seventh Plan and annual Plan 85-86, the matter was again discussed between Deputy Chairman Planning Commission and the Chief Minister Arunachal Pradesh on 31-1-1985. A scheme for rural housing has been proposed which was accepted as an added self-help housing programme for which Government subsidy would be limited to Rs. 2,500/- per family. Accordingly the Adviser, (SP), Planning Commission Government of India was requested to convey the formal approval for issue of C.G.I. Sheets worth Rs. 2,500/- per family which is still awaited.

The houses in Rural areas in comparison to those in the cities have to be more than functional and not only shelter but also requires space for stores of agricultural produce, tools, etc., and while designing houses for rural people, the social needs and custom shall have to be kept in mind. In Arunachal Pradesh, the people are traditionally living in spacious houses with large utility rooms. The pattern of houses is quite different from the low cost small urban house. The existing norms of housing assistance at the rate of Rs. 2,500/- per household is just inadequate cover even 20% of the roof area of the traditional tribal houses.

In view of the recommendation of Parliamentary Committee which visited Arunachal Pradesh in the month of September, 1986, the proposal providing Government assistance to the tune of Rs 17,500/- and Rs. 21,300/- respectively for low and high altitude area of Arunachal Pradesh will be submitted to the Adviser, Planning Commission for approval as a special case.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 14/35/85—AP dated 10-2-87]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of the latest position regarding low cost housing scheme in Arunachal Pradesh.

APPENDIX

*Analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations
contained in the Twelfth Report of the Committee
(Eighth Lok Sabha)*

1. Total number of recommendations	...	...	...	...	20
2. Recommendations which have been accepted by Government (Vide recommendations at Sl.Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20)					
Number	...	...	...	...	13
Percentage of total	...	...	...	...	65%
3. Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (Vide recommendation at Sl. No. 3)					
Number	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of total	...	...	...	...	5%
4. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration (Vide recommendation at Sl. No. 11)					
Number	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of total	...	...	...	...	5%
5. Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government have not been received (Vide recommendations at Sl. Nos. 1, 5, 7, 9, 13)					
Number	...	...	...	...	5
Percentage of total	...	...	...	...	25%