

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE
OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES
(1982-83)**

(SEVENTH LOK SABHA)

THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT

• **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Seventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Orissa.



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CORRIGENDA

to the

Thirty-fifth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Seventh Lok Sabha).

Page	Rec/ Para	Nb.	Line	Correction
2	-		22	For 4.5 read 4.25
5	1.15		4	For and read any
6	1.21		2	For that Excise ⁴ read the Excise
8	1.26		3	For places read pieces
	1.27		7	For forest are read forest area
	1.30		1	For that read dated
9	1.35		4	For that read the
14	-		1	For H&T. N. read E&T. W.
16	13/2.32		5	For make read take
17	17/3.18		10	For ERDP read ERFP
23	32/4.50		22	For wear read were
24	-		9-10	For recommends read recommend
	-		10	For mainly read mainstay
25	35/5.25		6	After should insert be
			7	For sub-plan area read sub-Plan area
	36/5.26		4	Delete knowledge after technical
26	40/5.49		7	After lesser insert cost
31	38/4.142			For Para. No. 4.142 read 5.142
	59/5.143		1	After Committee insert are
35	69/5.191		2	For Thirst read Thrust
	72/5.194		1	For The horticulture read In horticulture
41	25/4.13		4	For suggested read suggest
			9-10	For direction read detection
44	63/5.163		3	After Committee insert are constrained
57	37/5.27		12	For shows read shown
63	70/5.192		2	For places read pieces
66	20/3.26		7	For nominating read monitoring
75	-		3	For 35th read 15th
			5	For 61 read 81

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**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES (1982-83)**

Shri A. C. Das—*Chairman.*

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2. Shri D. C. Pande, *Chief Legislative Committee Officer.*
3. 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 Thirty-fifth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Orissa.

2. The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at their sittings held on the 4th and 11th March, 1983.

3. 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. 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 Fifteenth Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix IV. It would be observed

therefrom that out of 81 recommendations made in the Report 46 recommendations that is 57 per cent have been accepted by the Government. The Committee do not desire to pursue 9 recommendations i.e. 11 per cent of their recommendations in view of Government replies. 19 recommendations i.e. 23 per cent in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee require reiteration and for seven recommendations i.e. 9 per cent, final replies of Government have not been received.

NEW DELHI;

A. C. DAS,
Chairman,

March 24, 1983

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

Chaitra 3, 1905 (S).

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 15th Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Orissa.

1.2. In para 1.22 of their Fifteenth Report, while welcoming the proposal of the Government of Orissa to bring 50 per cent tribal population above the poverty line during the Sixth Plan period, the Committee had hoped that all out efforts would be made by the Government of Orissa to achieve this target and requisite assistance would be provided by the Union Government to help the State Government in achieving their aim. The representative of the Planning Commission had, however, stated during evidence before the Committee that recommendation of the Working Group about bringing 50 per cent of tribals above the poverty line during the Sixth Plan was not accepted by the Planning Commission because they feared that the object might not be fulfilled due to various factors. The Committee had, therefore, expressed their unhappiness over two divergent views about the possibility of bringing 50 per cent tribals above poverty line during the Sixth Plan period and had recommended in para 1.23 of the report that representatives of the State Government, Planning Commission and Ministry of Home Affairs should go into the question jointly whether 50 per cent of the tribals can be brought above the poverty line by the end of the Sixth Plan and then devise necessary schemes and programmes accordingly and create adequate infrastructure for implementation. The Committee had further recommended that the Planning Commission (Department of Statistics) should maintain separate data regarding development and achievement made in the tribal areas for the purpose of future planning and discussion with the authorities of State Government.

1.3. In their reply dated the 31st July, 1981, the Planning Commission have stated that the Report of the Working Group on Tribal Development recommended that "In the Sixth Plan the most urgent

task would be to create in the economic field, impact of an order which will enable 50 per cent scheduled tribe families to cross over the poverty line, requiring increase in productivity levels in the field of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, industry, etc." Planning Commission examined this recommendation carefully. It was, however, felt that, since approach to tribal development is to formulate area-based plans with focus on scheduled tribe families, it may not be possible to fulfil the objective of enabling 50 per cent of scheduled tribe families to cross the poverty line as mentioned in the recommendation, in a single five year Plan. The difficulty envisaged in adopting this recommendation as a national norm was that, creation of infrastructure like credit, marketing, communication, electrification, health and educational services etc. have not yet developed fully in tribal areas while integrated family-oriented programmes are still in an embryonic stage apart from overall constraints of financial resources. In view of this to set a target of taking 50 per cent ST families above the poverty line cannot be feasible and it would generate a false hope.

However, any particular State having this objective in view, while implementing tribal development programmes and making maximum possible efforts towards achieving it is commended. In this context Orissa's objective to enable 4.5 lakh families (i.e., 50 per cent of total Scheduled Tribe families) to cross the poverty line by the end of this Plan is welcome and the Union Government would assist the State Government, in their effort for achieving their aim.

In the recent detailed discussion of Orissa's Sixth Five Year Plan for tribal development, it was, however, noticed that 4.25 lakh of scheduled tribe families to be helped to cross the poverty line, has been targetted by the State Government on the assumption of a much larger special Central assistance than Orissa is entitled to as per formula of distribution of special Central assistance. The State Government stated that their target will need to be scaled down if special Central assistance proposed was not made available. While discussing the State's proposals a number of lacunae in Plan Document which would preclude achievement of taking 50 per cent ST families above the poverty line, have been noticed. The State Government has yet to identify families below the poverty line and spell out the methodology by which the identification would be done. Further, account as to effort by different sectors of development, e.g.,

agriculture, animal husbandry, small scale industries etc., for the development of individual families and their impact on improving the level of living of tribal population has to be worked out.

1.4. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Planning Commission which shows that there has been no proper coordination between the State Government, Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission at the planning stage. The Committee are surprised that the State Government have fixed the target of bringing 50 per cent of tribal population above poverty line on a false assumption of a much larger Special Central Assistance and are now contemplating to scale down the target.

The Committee need hardly stress that the State Government should be very careful and realistic in fixing targets so that at a later stage the failure to achieve those targets should not expose them to public criticism and thereby bring bad name to the Government.

1.5. In para 2.9 of their Report, the Committee had emphasised that all the concerned Ministries of Government of India should evolve suitable programmes for the development of tribal areas in consultation with the Government of Orissa, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Planning Commission, quantify funds for the on-going schemes and for new schemes to be implemented and about appropriate strategy for their effective implementation so that there was perceptible improvement in the quality of life of the tribal people during the Sixth Plan period. The Committee had desired that there should be proper monitoring of various developmental schemes being implemented in Tribal areas in order to assess their performance and achievements.

1.6. In their reply dated the 31st July, 1981, the Planning Commission have stated that they have already written to the various Central Ministries|Departments in regard to their responsibilities for programmes to be implemented for the tribal areas|people.

1.7. The Committee are not satisfied with Government's reply and reiterate that all the concerned Ministries of the Government of India should evolve suitable programmes for the development of tribal areas in consultation with the Government of Orissa, Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission, quantify funds for the on-going schemes and for new schemes to be implemented and adopt appropriate strategy for their effective implementation so that there is perceptible improvement in the quality of life of the tribal people during the Sixth Plan period.

1.8. In para 3.17 of their report the Committee had expressed unhappiness, that the Central Ministries who were required to quantify the flow of benefits from their sectoral programmes to the tribal areas failed to discharge their duty with the result that no clear picture has emerged regarding the impact of various programmes executed under Tribal Sub-Plan for which funds have been provided partly or wholly by the Central Government, and had impressed upon the concerned Ministries of Central Government to make periodical assessments of the achievements made under various development programmes being implemented in the tribal areas.

1.9. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the question of quantification of funds for Tribal areas by the Central Ministries is being pursued actively with them and this has been taken up with the Central Ministries at a very high level. Discussions have already been held with the Central Ministries. Some Ministries have already quantified funds.

1.10. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government and would like to know why the Ministries are reluctant to fall in line with the Government policy. The Committee cannot help concluding that such Ministries are not interested in the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and are failing to fulfil their responsibilities.

1.11. In para 4.14 of their report, the Committee had suggested that while taking up settlement operation, Government of Orissa must ensure that allotment of land to each tribal family was an economic unit so as to sustain the family and help them to become economically independent.

1.12. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the Government have fixed the limit of 2 acres for settlement of unobjectionable encroachment in favour of landless persons for agricultural purposes. Under the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960, provision has also been made for allotment of surplus land not exceeding 0.70 standard acre to landless persons in accordance with the priority fixed thereunder.

The sub-Plan approach during the 6th Five Year Plan is to strike a balance between area development and coverage of individual beneficiaries. The objective is to ensure that atleast 50 per cent of the tribal families are given adequate financial and technical assistance under different income generating schemes to enable them to earn substantial additional income.

1.13. The Committee are not satisfied with the Government reply in as much as 0.70 standard acre land which is being allotted to each landless person is an uneconomic unit and is quite inadequate. As such, the Committee recommend that the quantum of land allotted to each person should be a viable unit so that it can sustain the family of the allottee of land.

1.14. In para 4.24 of their report the committee had recommended that early steps should be taken by the State Government to identify the bonded labourers through a systematic survey.

1.15. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that after dovetailing the scheme of Bonded Labourers' identification and Rehabilitation with the E.R.R.P. Programme there may be no necessity to engage and special agency to survey the incidence of bonded labour. According to the E.R.R.P. Programme the bonded labourers are identified by the village Committee. Any attempt to identify bonded labourers through a systematic survey might consume time and money without bringing out any thing more tangible and beneficial than what is actually being done under the process of selecting through the village committee as envisaged under the ERRP Programme.

1.16. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government that a systematic survey might consume time and money without bringing out anything more tangible. The Committee feel that a systematic survey is very necessary to identify the bonded labourers in the State with a view to rehabilitate them in a planned manner.

1.17. In para 4.25 of their report, the Committee had urged that an independent survey for identifying the bonded labourers might be conducted immediately.

1.18. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that certain difficulties were encountered earlier in absence of a suitable mechanism in identifying bonded labourers. In accordance with instructions of Government of India to dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers with other on going schemes in the State the process of identification of bonded labourers was accele-

rated under the programme of ERRP after satisfying the definition of bonded labourer as in Section 2(G) of the Bonded Labour System Abolition Act, 1976.

Consequent upon linkage of this scheme with that of ERRP it has been possible to accelerate the process of identification of bonded labourers and it may be noted that in certain districts like Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, Sundergarh and Bolangir where the incidence of bonded labourers was not reported earlier, a large number of Bonded labourers from the list of ERRP beneficiaries could be identified. Government of India have appreciated the process of identification of bonded labourers through the programme of ERRP. By the end of April, 1982 out of 21,307 suspected cases of bonded labourers, 11,738 have been identified and freed and of these 720 bonded labourers have been rehabilitated. Besides, 6045 bonded labourers are in the process of rehabilitation. This appreciable increase in the number of bonded labourers identified and rehabilitated during the period is on account of dovetailing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers with ERRP Programme. Hence the question of making independent survey on identification of bonded labourers has not been considered necessary by the State Government.

1.19. The Committee are not satisfied with the progress of rehabilitating the bonded labourers who have been identified. The Committee feel surprised that out of 11,738 bonded labourers only 720 could be rehabilitated by the end of April, 1982. The Committee recommend that early steps should be taken to rehabilitate the remaining bonded labourers and Government should ensure that benefits flow to these people under various schemes in different sectors.

1.20. In para 4.44 of their report the Committee had recommended that the national policy of discontinuance of commercial vending of liquor in areas of tribal concentration should not be given up and the Government of Orissa should review their decision that during 1981-82 no liquor shops would be closed, and if necessary some shops might be opened to check illicit distillation and trade.

1.21. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that keeping in view that Excise Policy adopted by the neighbouring States, the Government of Orissa adopted the Excise Policy for the year 1981-82 and decided

not to close any more liquor shops on account of prohibition. It was further decided not to reopen the liquor shops already closed. All possible steps are being taken to safeguard the interest of tribals. Besides, the number of dry days have also been reduced from 64 to 53 in a year in order to check illicit sale of liquor in dry days for safeguarding Government revenue.

1.22. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government and reiterate their earlier recommendation that the national policy of discontinuance of commercial vending of liquor in areas of tribal concentration should not be given up.

1.23. In para 5.27 of their report the Committee had recommended that a survey regarding land affected by Podu cultivation should be conducted immediately to assess the magnitude of the problem so that development programmes can be planned accordingly.

1.24. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that though detailed survey has not been undertaken to assess the quantum of land affected by podu cultivation in Orissa, fairly accurate information regarding extent of the area under shifting cultivation can be obtained from the Vegetation maps of India which have been prepared by the Institute Francis, Pondicherry. The measurement of the patches shown in the maps under shifting cultivation in different vegetational zones comes to about 25793.335 sqr. K. Ms. which means that about 17 per cent of the total geographical area of the State of Orissa is affected by shifting cultivation. The coverage under shifting cultivation includes not only the Swidden plots but also immediate adjacent areas which are seriously affected by the practice of shifting cultivation.

According to a recent study under FAO|UNFPA Project (RAS|77|POI) on 'Population Data regarding Forestry Communities practising shifting cultivation' following area has been indicated for Orissa State:—

State	Area under shifting cultivation in a year (ha)	Shifting cultivation cycle	Estimated Total Area under shifting cultivation (ha)
Orissa	5,29,800 or 5298.00 Square Kilometre	7	3708,600 or 37086.00 Square Kilometre

1.25. The Committee regret that no detailed survey has been undertaken by Government to assess the quantum of land under Podu cultivation in Orissa. The Committee recommend that such a survey should be undertaken to make a realistic assessment of the magnitude of the problem.

1.26. In para 5.28 and 5.192 of their report the Committee had recommended that instead of giving limited ownership rights to the tribals they should be made fullfledged owners of the places of land on which fruits were grown by them. This would not only give them a feeling of economic stability but also encourage them to work tirelessly on their "own land".

1.27. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that ordinarily the hill slopes are podu ravaged areas which are within the boundary of reserved forest. The fruit plants raised in the podu ravaged areas will be given to the tribals practising podu cultivation under usufructury right. It may not be possible to vest in tribals the ownership right in the land lying in the reserved forest as this might lead to subsequent deforestation for immediate personal gains.

1.28. The Committee are not convinced with the Government reply that if the ownership right of the land in the reserved forest is vested in the tribals, it will lead to deforestation. They reiterate that the tribals should be made full-fledged owners of the plots of land on which fruit trees are grown by them.

The Committee need hardly stress that in order to rehabilitate the tribal families and to provide them a permanent means of livelihood certain tracts of reserved forests should be dereserved to the extent necessary.

1.29. In para 5.102A of their report the Committee had stressed that the tribals of sub-Plan area should be covered by a net work of roads connecting the block headquarters sub-divisional headquarters and district headquarters with market and other growth centres and Government of Orissa should give the highest priority to this programme.

1.30. In their reply that the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the State Plan funds available for development of communication in the State and particularly, in the Tribal areas are not adequate to meet the need fully. However, the State Government have taken steps to provide bridges on the roads wherever necessary according to availability of funds.

1.31. In Para 5.102, the Committee had recommended that more funds should be provided by Government of India under the Minimum needs programme for construction of roads in the tribal areas.

1.32. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that the importance of the Roads Programme has been accepted by the Planning Commission and an allocation of Rs. 6.5 crores is available in the Plan provision of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for the development of roads in Tribal Areas under the Central Sector Roads Programme for 1980-85. Some State Governments have sent proposals for allocation of these funds and the Government of Orissa can also take advantage of this fund.

1.33. The Committee are surprised that the State Government of Orissa are not aware of the allocation of Rs. 6.5 crores available in the Plan Provision of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for the development of roads in tribal areas under the Central Sector Roads Programme for 1980-85. The Committee emphasise that the State Government should immediately submit their proposals for road development in tribal areas and get the requisite funds.

In view of the comparatively low road length in Orissa and more particularly in the sub-Plan areas, the Committee recommend that adequate funds should be provided by the State Government for construction and maintenance of roads falling in the State Sector.

1.34. In para 5.104 of their report the Committee had suggested that construction of roads in Forest areas should be the responsibility of the Forest Department as these roads also helped in the Development of forests and more over the public Works Department had limited capacity to construct roads in the remote tribal areas.

1.35. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that it is actually found that the roads wing of the P.W.D. and National Highway are better organised to do road works than that Forest Department.

1.36. The Committee are not satisfied with the Government reply and reiterate that construction of roads in the forest areas should be the responsibility of the Forest Department.

1.37. In paras 5.139 and 5.141 of their report the Committee had urged the State Govt. to ensure that there was no confusion/overlapping in the activities of the two organisations i.e. the TDCC and LAMPS and proper coordination is maintained between them. The State Govt. should also ensure that proper check was exercised in the working of LAMPS and there was no scope for exploitation of tribals by the staff working in LAMPS. In view of the fact that there had been no proper evaluation of the working of the TDCC itself, the Committee was doubtful that this apex body could supervise the activities of 223 LAMPS. The Committee had, therefore stressed that the State Government could ensure adequate supervision of the working of both TDCC and of the LAMPS.

1.38. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have Stated that the State Government have constituted a Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner, Agriculture and Rural Development for ensuring better coordination between the LAMPS and TDCC in the field of collection of minor forest produce, surplus agricultural produce, distribution of consumer articles and marketing of minor forest produce or surplus agricultural produce. Secretary, H.&T.W. Department, Secretary, Agriculture and Co-operation and the RCS, Orissa are the members of this Coordination Committee.

1.39. The Committee do not feel satisfied with Government reply to the above recommendations in as much as the LAMPS are not working satisfactorily. The Committee during their on-the-spot visits have noted that some of the LAMPS do not even provide the necessities to meet the needs of the tribals. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the working of the TDCC and LAMPS should be evaluated. The Committee would also like to know how often the Coordination Committee has met and what decisions were taken and implemented to bring about improvement in the functioning of the LAMPS.

1.40. In para 5.140 of their Report, the Committee had pointed out that the accounts of the State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation (earlier known as Society) for the period 1972-74 and thereafter had not been audited. The audit of accounts for the period 1972-74 taken up by Chartered Accountants in January, 1975 had not been completed due to non-availability of records. The Committee had recommended that the working of the TDCC should be thoroughly examined and its accounts should be audited without any further loss of time to ensure that there is no misappropriation

of public money. Government should also fix responsibility on the concerned officers for the serious lapse in not getting the accounts audited from year to year.

1.41. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that urgency of need to update the audit of the accounts of Orissa Tribal Development Corporation has been impressed on the State Government. In the recent meeting for finalisation of State Tribal sub-Plan 1982-83, Chief Secretary of Orissa has been especially requested in this regard. Special steps are being taken for audit of the accounts of the TDCC, Orissa by the Audit Organisation of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Orissa.

1.42. The Committee fail to appreciate why the accounts of TDCC have not been audited so far for the last 10 years. They stress that these accounts should be audited without any further loss of time and serious action should be taken against the delinquents.

The Committee also recommend that the accounts of all the LAMPS should be audited annually.

1.43. In para 5.195 of their report the Committee had suggested that Government should consider the feasibility of setting up Fruit processing plants in area where there is scope for large scale production of fruits.

1.44. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that this is under consideration of the State Government.

1.45. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. They are of the view that there is considerable scope of establishing fruit processing plants in the Small Industries Sector. They recommend that such processing units should be established in and around the areas where fruits are grown.

1.46. In para 5.225 of their report the Committee had desired that rural electrification should be given top priority during the Sixth Plan period and more funds should be earmarked for rural electrification programme in tribal areas both by the Central and State Governments.

1.47. In their reply dated the 31st December, 1982 the Ministry of Home Affairs has stated that there are 18,272 inhabited Re-3604 LS—2.

Village villages in the sub-plan area covering 118 blocks, out of which till the end of 1979-80, 4021 villages were electrified. During the 6th Plan period it is proposed to electrify 3007 villages more in the sub-plan area. Thus by the end of 80—85, 7028 villages will be electrified in the sub-plan area.

1.48. The Committee are not satisfied with Government's reply and reiterate that rural electrification should be given top priority during the Sixth Plan period and more funds should be earmarked for rural electrification programme in tribal areas both by the Central and State Governments.

The Committee further suggest that street light should be provided in the tribal villages and at least one bulb should be given free of cost to each tribal family to light their abode.

CHAPTER II
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN
ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation No. 1 (Para No. 1.20)

The Committee note that 68.22 per cent of tribal population of the State has been covered under the Tribal Sub-Plan, and under Modified Area Development Approach an additional 6.51 percent of tribal population will be covered. Thus, under Tribal Sub-Plan and Modified Area Development Approach taken together, 74.73 per cent of the total tribal population of the State are covered. The remaining 25.27 per cent of the tribal population who are living in a dispersed manner will be covered under normal State Plan Programmes, Integrated Rural Development Programmes and the State's Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor Programme.

Reply of Government

Tribal population living in a dispersed manner outside the Sub-Plan area and pockets of tribal concentration (under MADA) are being taken care of under various income generating schemes implemented under I.R.D. and E.R.R.P. Programmes and schemes funded out of State Plan funds for their economic development.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 2 (Para No. 1.21)

The Committee feel surprised that no detailed study has been undertaken to assess the degree of achievements made under the Tribal Sub-Plan approach during the Fifth Plan period. In the absence of firm data as to how many tribal families have been benefited during the Fifth Plan and how many are yet to be covered during the Sixth Plan Period a systematic implementation of various programmes will not be possible.

Reply of Government

The State Government have decided to evaluate the 5th Plan achievements of some of the I.T.D.Ps through non-governmental

agencies and the T.H.R.T.I. of H. & T.N. Department. During the current year evaluation of 5 to 6 I.T.D.Ps will be taken up.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 5 (Para No. 1.24)

The Committee note that Government of Orissa are taking various steps to give publicity to the Welfare Programmes/schemes undertaken by them in the Tribal Sub-Plan area with a view to create awareness among the tribals about the availability of various facilities, financial assistance, subsidies etc. It is however, the experience of the Committee that tribals are not, generally aware of the details of welfare programmes/schemes launched by Government due to their general ignorance, educational backwardness and leading a life in isolation in remote areas of the country. The Committee, therefore, suggest that apart from issuing publicity literature, organising exhibitions, *melas* etc., documentary films and cultural shows depicting the benefits of the Schemes/programmes should also be arranged in regional languages so as to enlighten the tribals about the advantages of developmental schemes and programmes and to attract them to participate in them in larger numbers to get the maximum benefits.

Reply of Government

The State Government are taking steps to prepare documentary films and organising cultural shows depicting the benefits of the schemes/programmes in regional languages to enlighten the tribals about the advantages of developmental schemes and programmes and to attract them to participate in larger numbers to get the maximum benefits.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 7 (Para No. 1.40)

The Committee regret to note that very sketchy information has been furnished to them in regard to the action taken by the State Government on various recommendations made by the Council during its seven meetings held from 1975 to 1980. The Committee feel that there is need for streamlining the whole procedure for the working of the Council and for timely action on the part of Government to implement its recommendations. The Committee are perturbed at the indifference shown by the Government of Orissa in reconstituting the council in January, 1981 although mid-term

elections were held in the State in June, 1980. The fact that advisory Council did not meet even once in the year 1979-80 clearly indicates that there is need to improve the working of the Council so as to make it more effective.

Reply of Government

The recommendations made by the Tribes Advisory Council are duly examined in consultation with different Departments of Government for taking appropriate action in the matter. A brief resume of the action taken by the State Government on the recommendations made by the Council was given since it was not possible to give details of action taken in the matter. No meeting of the council could be held during 1979-80 due to administrative reasons. Similarly, there was also delay in reconstituting the council during the year 1980-81. However, timely reconstitution of the Council and holding of its meeting at regular intervals in accordance with the provisions contained in the Orissa Tribes Advisory Council Rules, 1950 will be ensured in future.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 10 (Para No. 2.11)

The Committee do not feel happy about the information furnished by Ministry of Home Affairs that "periodical progress reports are expected from the States". The Committee would like Ministry of Home Affairs to ensure that periodical progress reports are received regularly indicating the progress of various developmental programmes and the actual achievements made in terms of benefits accruing to tribal families and villages. These progress reports, on receipt, should be examined analytically and the deficiencies or shortcomings brought to the notice of the State Governments for taking immediate remedial action.

Reply of Government

The recommendations have been brought to the notice of State Governments. The Ministry of Home Affairs would endeavour to obtain the progress report regularly. The Ministry would also examine the report in the manner suggested by the Committee and shortcomings noticed in the implementation of the programme intimated to the State Governments for taking remedial action.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 11 (Para No. 2 30)

The Committee note that the Seventh Finance Commission has awarded a sum of Rs. 7.87 crores towards upgradation of standards of administration of the tribal areas in Orissa. The Committee hope all the vacant posts will be filled up immediately so that the work of the ITDPs is not hampered on account of non-availability of adequate staff. The Committee trust that the grant of compensatory allowance and housing facility will attract competent staff to work in tribal areas and this will go a long way in the efficient and expeditious implementation of various developmental programmes taken up under the Tribal Sub-Plan. The Committee also recommend that if Rs. 7.87 crores given by the Finance Commission for improving standard of administration is not sufficient to achieve the objective, Government of Orissa should earmark more funds for upgradation of standards of administration in the tribal areas of the State.

Reply of Government

Steps have been taken by the State Government to fill up the vacant posts in the sub-plan areas.

Out of State Plan funds a reasonable amount is also being utilised in the Sub-Plan areas for infrastructural Development which will help in upgradation of standards of administration in the tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 13 (Para No. 2.32)

The Committee suggest that Government of Orissa should consider the question of having Project Officers of higher status in the ITDPs in order that they can take independent decisions in matters concerning the implementation of various programmes. But while examining this question they may make into account the views expressed by the representative of the Planning Commission that this might lead to lack of coordination between the Collector and the Project Officer. The Committee are of the view that before taking a final decision in the mater, Government of Orissa should study the administrative set up at ITDP level in other States and benefit by their experience.

Reply of Government

The Government of Orissa have intimated that senior Officers belonging to I.A.S. or Class I Service of the State Government are appointed as Project Administrators of I.T.D.Ps.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 17 (Para No. 3.18)

The Committee suggest that separate figures regarding benefits which have accrued to Scheduled Tribes under various developmental programmes during an annual plan, should be maintained in respect of each ITDP, in order that a realistic assessment can be made periodically about the economic upliftment of this backward section of society.

Reply of Government

Instructions have since been issued by the State Government to maintain separate account of benefits accrued to Scheduled Tribe under various developmental programmes like IRDP, ERDP and schemes funded out of special central assistance and State Plan funds.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 18 (Para No. 3.19)

The Committee note that there are there high level committees in Orissa, one to review the work of different Departments relating to release and utilisation of funds second to review the overall policy relating to Tribal sub-plan and third one known as Quarterly Review Committee to review the performance of various schemes every quarter. The Committee feel surprised that inspite of these high level Review Committees there has been considerable diversion of funds from one sector to another. This only leads to one conclusion that at the time of allocation of funds to various Departments sufficient investigations are not made or relevant data is not collected about the implementation of various schemes. The Committee recommend that as far as possible diversion of funds from one sector to another and also outside the Sub-Plan should be avoided so that implementation of a scheme is not interrupted mid-stream for want of funds.

Reply of Government

Funds quantified for tribal sub-plan programmes out of State Plan outlay and under Central and Centrally Sponsored schemes are provided in a separate minor head in the budget of concerned Departments. No diversion of funds provided in the budget for utilisation in the tribal Sub-Plan area is allowed for utilisation outside the Sub-Plan area without prior concurrence of Finance Department, P&C Department and H & T.W. Department. Only under very special circumstances such diversion is permitted. Cases of such diversion are very few and far between. Inter-sectoral diversion of funds within the Sub-Plan area is done with the approval of the Project level Committee constituted at ITDP level in respect of special central assistance allotted directly to the ITDAs. Instances of such diversion of funds in respect of State Plan funds have not come to the notice of H & TW Department. However, instructions have been issued to the concerned Departments to avoid diversions of funds from sub-plan area to non-sub-plan area. Steps have been taken to ensure that funds are sanctioned to different departments and to different ITDAs on the basis of the programmes prepared by them and their firm requirement for implementation of the programmes. This will ensure non-diversion of funds from one sector to another unless it is absolutely necessary under special circumstances.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 19 (Para No. 3.20)

The Committee recommend that the Central Government should ensure that adequate number of branches of the nationalised banks are opened in the tribal areas of Orissa to provide credit facilities to the tribals under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme. Government should also ensure that the procedure for getting loans from banks is simplified and the applicants get loans within a month.

Reply of Government

The current branch licensing policy of the Reserve Bank of India is directed towards improving banking coverage in under-banked districts so as to ensure that there is at least one branch for every 20,000 people in rural/semi-urban areas. The stress is on achieving this through provision of banking facilities at unbanked rural/semi-urban centres in the identified deficit districts having poorer banking coverage than one bank office for every 20,000 peo-

ple in rural|semi-urban areas. In the implementation of the present branch licensing policy special consideration is being given to the opening of branches of banks in the hilly and tribal areas. The population criteria generally adopted in assessing the adequacy of banking facilities in other areas is not being strictly applied in the case of hilly|tribal areas because of sparse population and difficult terrain. The Reserve Bank have allowed banks to open offices in these areas on a more liberal scale having regard to the need for banking facilities in such areas and taking into account the proximity of the existing bank offices to such centres.

2. The population group-wise distribution of branches of commercial banks in various districts of Orissa as on 19-7-89 and 31-12-80 is indicated in Appendix I.

3. As mentioned earlier, in terms of the norm of one branch per 20,000 people in rural|semi-urban areas all the 13 districts in Orissa, were identified as deficit district. The total number of additional branches required for these districts to improve the coverage to the norm indicated above, was placed at 406. According to available information, Reserve Bank of India have already made allotments in respect of 454 centres upto end of June, 1981 and of those at 290 centres bank branches have already been opened.

4. In order to cater to the credit needs of the rural artisans, small farmers and other weaker sections in the rural and semi-urban areas, 9 Regional Rural Banks covering 11 districts in the state of Orissa have been established. As on 31-12-1980, 7 Regional Rural Banks had opened 226 Branches.

5. Besides the bank branches, large sized multipurpose societies (LAMPS) also serve as retail outlets of credit. Many of the LAMPS are receiving credit support from the banks, thus widening their effective coverage of tribal areas. In all there were 181 LAMPS in Orissa as at the end of June, 1979 with 1.13 lakhs borrowing members belonging to SC|ST. Of these, the tribal borrowers number 91,000.

6. As regards simplification of application forms and disposal of loan applications, banks have been advised from time to time to simplify their application forms and lending procedures and delegate adequate powers to their branch managers so that small loans are sanctioned at branch level.

7. Special steps have been taken to simplify the procedures in regard to financial assistance to small borrowers. In July, 1978 fol-

Following the recommendations of the High Powered Committee (Puri Committee) which examined the bank credit problems of small scale industries, RBI advised all the scheduled banks to ensure that small credit limits upto Rs. 25,000/- and those exceeding this amount but upto Rs. 2 lakhs should normally be disposed of within a period of 4 weeks and 8 to 9 weeks respectively from the date of receipt of the application. As such all applications under DRI Scheme should be disposed of within a month of their receipt. For this purpose, the banks were asked to vest their Branch Managers with adequate discretionary powers so that 60 per cent to 80 per cent of the credit decisions were taken at the branch level itself.

8. Banks were also advised to adopt two sets of applications cum appraisal forms for small scale industrial borrowers viz. for borrowers (I) whose credit requirements do not exceed Rs. 25,000/- and (II) for borrowers whose requirements were between Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 2 lakhs.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation o. 21 (Para No. 3.27)

The Committee trust that Ministry of Home Affairs will take necessary steps to strengthen their existing Cell for monitoring purposes as they must have the capacity and manpower to evaluate achievements of various programmes being implemented under Tribal sub-Plans. As the Central Ministry responsible for tribal development, they must keep an eye on the overall progress of achievements of various developmental programmes.

Reply of Government

The Ministry of Home Affairs have sanctioned one post of Joint Director and 2 Research Officers in Monitoring Cell of the Tribal Development Division of the Ministry. The Joint Director and some supporting staff have joined and the Cell has already started functioning. The question of strengthening the Monitoring Cell further will be considered in due course.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 22 (Para No. 3.28)

The Committee regret to note that there is a very small Monitoring Cell in the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Orissa. The Committee need hardly stress that proper monitoring and evaluation of achievements of development programme

is not possible unless a strong Monitoring Cell is set up. The Committee, therefore recommend that the State Government should immediately strengthen their existing Monitoring Cell in the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department to make it more effective for monitoring of programmes being implemented and assessing their achievements under Tribal sub-Plan.

Reply of Government

A Joint Director has been appointed to strengthen the Monitoring Cell of the H&T.W. Department of the State Government. The Monitoring Cell of the Department might now be able to monitor the programmes implemented in the sub-Plan area more effectively.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 23 (Para No. 3.29)

The Committee also suggest that monitoring Cells should be established at ITDP level which should be made responsible for collecting necessary data and information specially in regard to the elevation of social and economic status of tribal families and furnish the same to the main Cell in the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department.

Reply of Government

Steps have been taken by the State Government to establish monitoring Cells at the ITDP level.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would, however, like to know whether Monitoring Cells have actually been set up in all the ITDPs in Orissa.

Recommendation No. 24 (Para No. 3.30)

In order to have proper coordination, suitable proforma should be devised so that the Cell in each Integrated Tribal Development Project furnishes statistical data to the main Cell in the prescribed manner.

Reply of Government

A proforma has already been prescribed for submission of statistical data by the Project Administrators of the ITDAs to the Moni-

toring Cell of the Department at the State level. But a revised proforma will be issued shortly to get more detailed information about the coverage of families under various income generating schemes and details of infrastructural facilities provided in the ITDPs. In this connection Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs have sent a copy of the format prescribed by them for monitoring the programme at the national level. On the basis of that a revised format has been prescribed by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 30 (Para No. 4.36)

The Committee note that the Government of Orissa are alive to the problems of tribal indebtedness and they have taken several legislative measures to protect the tribals from unscrupulous money-lenders. They have now introduced the Orissa Debt Relief Bill, 1980 in the State Legislative Assembly for complete liquidation of loans of weaker section of the Society. The Committee recommend that Government of Orissa should take immediate steps to write off old debts of the tribal people as has been done in some other States. The Committee are of the view that in order to save the tribals from again falling victims to unscrupulous money-lenders, adequate credit facilities should be provided to the tribals on easy terms to meet their needs of productive and consumption loans.

Reply of Government

The State Government have enacted the Orissa Debt Relief Act, 1980 to provide for relief from indebtedness to the marginal farmers, rural artisans and agricultural labourers. Under this Act every debt incurred by a Scheduled debtor before the commencement of this Act including the amount of interest if any payable on such debt shall be deemed to have been wholly discharged excepting however certain categories of debts and liabilities of scheduled debtors.

In order to save the tribals from the clutches of the unscrupulous money lenders, credit facilities are provided through LAMPS, Cooperative Banks and Commercial Banks to meet their needs of productive loans. So far as consumption loans are concerned the T.D.C.C. has started giving consumption loans but the extent of such loan given is very small.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 32 (Para No. 4.50)

The Committee note that the minimum wages of different categories of labourers have been fixed by the Govt. of Orissa which are revised from time to time. The Committee further note that the tribal population are engaged either as agricultural labourers or as construction workers. Govt. of Orissa have raised the minimum wage for agricultural labourer from 4/- to Rs. 5/- in Dec. 1980 but the wages for different categories of construction workers which were last fixed in 1976 have not been revised. The Committee hope that minimum wages for construction workers will be revised without any further delay. The Committee also recomemnd that, the minimum wages should be fixed after taking into account the prevailing cost of living and the position should be reviewed periodically in the light of rising prices. The Committee also suggest that for strict enforcement of minimum wages surprise checks of records maintained by the employers of labourers should be made by the revenue authorities to delect irregularities committed by the employers. As proposed by the Govt. they should taken immediate steps to srengthen and streamline their enforcement machinery for the purpose.

Reply of Government

The minimum rates of wages for the employees engaged in agriculture weer last revised and came into force with effect from 19-12-1980. Further revision of minimum rates of wages for the said employees from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 6/- per day has also been taken up. Minimum rates of wages for the different categories of employees employed in construction sector have already been revised in August, 1981.

The minimum rates of wages are fixed|revised taking into account the rise in the consumer's price index. For conducting surprise checks, the Revenue authorities viz. Tahasildars, Addl. Tahasilars Revenue Supervisors, Revenue Inspectors have been declared as Inspectors, for the employment in agriculture. As regards further strengthening the enforcement machinery for implementation, the main bottleneck is resource constraint.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 33 (Para No. 5.23)

The Committee note that the Govt. of Orissa have taken up the programme of land reclamation and land development in the sub-

Plan area but no appreciable progress appears to have been achieved in this sector. Under land development programme the targets fixed for 1978-79 and 1979-80 were not achieved. Under land reclamation programme land varying from 1 to 2 acres was allotted to each tribal family. The Committee feel that 1 to 2 acres of land may not prove an economic unit for supporting a tribal family. As such, the Committee recommend that land reclamation programme should be intensified during the Sixth Plan period so that more land can be allotted to each tribal family. The Committee further recommended that in view of the fact that agriculture is the mainly in tribal economy special developmental programmes with the adequate research support should be prepared and implemented in the tribal areas in order that majority of tribal population become self-sufficient by the end of Sixth Plan and can cross poverty line.

Reply of Government

This is being implemented.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Recommendation No. 34 (Para No. 5.24)

The Committee have been informed during evidence that the land reclamation programme has not become popular in the tribal areas. The Committee are incined to think that lack of irrigation facilities and other packages of services is the main reason why the programme has not become popular. The Committee recommend that after allotting reclaimed land to tribal families, a team of officers of the State Department of Agriculture should pay regular visits to those areas to study and solve the problems of the allottees. The Committee need hardly stress that allotment of land is only the starting point and the experiment can only succeed if requisite services and financial support are made available to the tribal people.

Reply of Government

Steps have been taken to take up land reclamation and land development work only in the command areas of irrigation projects so that the reclaimed and developed lands could be provided with irrigation facility. Further package of services, like input assistance, crop demonstration, supply of bullocks etc. will also be provided for optimal utilisation of the lands reclaimed or developed.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee stress that the maximum benefit should flow to the tribals on priority basis in the programmes taken up for land reclamation and land development work in the command areas of irrigation projects.

Recommendation No. 35 (Para No. 5.25)

The Committee regret to note that no survey has so far been conducted by the Government of Orissa to find out whether every individual tribal landowner possesses proper legal rights to the land under his possession. The Revenue Department of the State Government also does not seem to be keeping its land records upto date. The Committee recommend that the land records should be brought upto date in the sub-plan area and survey should be conducted immediately regarding the rights of tribal people in the land under their possession, so that they do not face any difficulty to avail of the credit facilities from banks and other cooperatives in the absence of title to land.

Reply of Government

Steps have been taken to make the land records in the sub-Plan area up-to-date.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to be informed of the concrete steps taken by the Government to bring the land records upto date and to confer proper legal rights to the tribals owning land within a specified period.

Recommendation No. 36 (Para No. 5.26)

The Committee suggest that in view of the fact that irrigation facilities are not available to the desired extent in the tribal areas, adequate steps should be taken to provide necessary inputs and technical knowledge know-how to popularise dry farming in tribal areas. In order to motivate the farmers to adopt dry farming methods the field officers of State agricultural Deptt., should arrange practical demonstrations in selected areas to convince the tribals about the usefulness of dry farming technique.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted and being implemented in Orissa.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to be apprised of specific schemes undertaken by the Government to popularise dry farming methods and also research organisations involved in arranging demonstration in regard to dry farming technique. The Committee also recommend that necessary funds should be provided for the purpose.

Recommendation No. 39 (Para No. 5.48)

The Committee regret to note that only 6.06 per cent of the net cropped area of 26.8 lakh hectares received irrigation facilities by the end of 1977-78 in the sub-plan areas. As irrigation is crucial to development of agriculture the Committee recommend that top priority should be given to the completion of irrigation projects which are already being implemented in Orissa. The Committee need hardly stress that more funds should be earmarked for irrigation projects during the Sixth Plan period in order to increase the productivity of land.

Reply of Government

Top priority has been given for completion of incomplete irrigation projects earmarking the required funds for this purpose. Within the overall constraint of resources reasonable funds are also earmarked for execution of new irrigation projects in the tribal sub-plan areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 40 (Para No. 5.49)

The Committee are surprised that no funds were allotted for minor irrigation schemes under the State Plan upto 1977-78 and till that year Minor Irrigation Schemes were taken up only with Special Central Assistance. The Committee feel that the major thrust should be towards Minor Irrigation Schemes which will prove more beneficial in the tribal areas and can be implemented more quickly and at lesser.

Reply of Government

Under irrigation sector, the strategy is to give emphasis on execution of minor irrigation projects, renovation of tanks construction of dug wells and execution of small lift irrigation projects.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 41 (Para No. 5.50)

The Committee recommend that Government of Orissa should carry out a survey for major, medium and minor irrigation projects in the sub-Plan area prepare project reports on a priority basis so that these schemes can be implemented during the 6th Plan period. The Committee suggest that in respect of Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation schemes, master plans should be prepared so that there is a clear perspective about the potential of irrigation schemes to be implemented during the 6th Plan period.

Reply of Government

A master plan of irrigation project in the tribal sub-plan areas is under preparation.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee desire that the work regarding preparation of master plans for irrigation projects in the sub-Plan area should be completed within a time-bound programme and these should be implemented expeditiously.

Recommendation No. 43 (Para No. 5.78)

The Committee note that during the period from 1974 to 1979, the number of educational institutions in the sub-plan area has risen from 9,933 to 11,979 at the primary stage from 975 to 1679 at the middle school stage and from 390 to 409 at the secondary, stage. The Committee are, however, perturbed to note that the achievements in improvement of Literacy among tribals is far from satisfactory. The rate of literacy in sub-Plan area is 12.79 per cent as against 26.2 per cent for the State as a whole, among male tribals only 15.4 per cent and female tribals only 2.6 per cent. Out of 100 tribal students enrolled in Class I only 10 read in Class V and 4 in Class XI. The Committee are not interested in the opening of a large number of institutions over a period of time, but in the

results they actually achieve. The Committee, therefore, suggest that in order to improve the educational standard of the tribals—results-oriented programmes should be taken up so that the money is well spent and does not go waste. In the long run the real test whether the education policy in Sub-Plan area has been successful or not is to be judged by the fact whether the tribal population have become literate *vis-a-vis* the non-tribal population in rest of the State and they are able to join the main-stream of society.

Reply of Government

The State Government have taken the following special programmes for spread of literacy among the tribal population:

1. To make tribal children school minded 1855 Pre-primary schools have been opened in the low literacy pockets in the sub-Plan areas.

2. As the rate of drop outs is very high at the primary level, the State Government have decided to provide residential facility at the primary School level, to reduce the drop out ratio.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31-12-1982].

Recommendation No. 46 (Para No. 5.81)

The Committee also recommend that curriculum of school education in the tribal areas should be suitably modified so that the tribal students are able to earn their livelihood after completing education in school. The Committee also suggest that the educated tribal youth should be encouraged to join the teaching profession and they should be posted as teachers in tribal areas to enable them to play their part in propagating and spreading education among their brothers and inculcate in them the desired interest and love for education.

Reply of Government

Noted. This will be implemented as far as practicable.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31-12-1982].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee stress that greater efforts should be made to

ensure that tribal teachers are posted in Schools in the sub-Plan areas, if necessary by relaxing the minimum educational qualifications.

Recommendation No. 48 (Para No. 5.89)

The Committee regret to note that there is shortage of doctors and also of nurses in the medical institutions in tribal areas such as dispensaries, mini health centres and Mobile Health Units, etc. The Committee recommend that all the medical institutions in the sub-plan area should be provided with qualified doctors and nurses, if necessary, by giving them incentive so that proper medical care is provided to the tribals of the area. The Government should also ensure that essential medicines are made available regularly to these institutions located in remote areas.

Reply of Government

State Government have taken steps to fill up the vacant posts of medical officers in the tribal areas. Essential medicines are made available regularly to the medical institutions located in the tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31-12-1982].

Recommendation No. 49 (Para No. 5.90)

The Committee feel that there is substance in the guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs that in Tribal sub-Plan Curative medical centres should be evenly distributed so that every pocket of 10,000 population has one curative medical centre.

The Committee hope that the State Government will take necessary steps to set up maximum number of medical centres in the tribal areas during the Sixth Plan period although due to financial constraints the estimated target of 279 additional centres in tribal areas might not be achieved.

Reply of Government

The State Government have decided to have two primary health centres otherwise known as subsidiary Health Centres, in each block in the Sub-Plan areas. Steps are also being taken to open new sub-centres in tribal areas at the rate of one centre for every 5000 population. But this programme will be implemented in a phased manner according to availability of funds.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015|22|81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 52 (Para No. 5.103)

The Committee are at a loss to understand as to why proper statistics about the total length of all wheather roads and fair-weather roads in the sub-Plan area in 1974 are not available with the State Govt. The Committee are of the view that in the absence of such basic data it is not possible to make a realistic assessment about the progress in road construction effected during the sub-Plan period 1974—80. The Committee, therefore, suggest that the State Govt. of Orissa should make appropriate arrangements immediately to set up a monitoring cell at the State level for the compilation and maintenance of statistics relating to development programmes in the sub-Plan area. The Committee need hardly stress that even though there are many agencies for construction of different types of roads, each such agency should be required to send half-yearly returns to the Monitoring Cell about the progress made in the construction of roads under their charge.

Reply of Government

Steps are being taken to monitor the progress of construction of roads in the tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31-12-1982].

Recommendation No. 54 (Para No. 5.105)

The Committee also suggest that Government of Orissa and the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) should undertake a joint survey to find whether any specific areas under tribal sub-Plan can be linked by rail with the main markets and growth centres keeping in view the prospects of economic development of these areas. In the Committees opinion the question of earning revenue by Railways in the immediate future should not aclipse the main issue of economic prosperity of the tribal people.

Reply of Government

Following new railway lines are at various stages of construction in the State of Orissa:—

- (1) Koraput-Rayaguda
- (2) Daitari-Keonjhar

In addition, survey/reassessment are being made for the following new lines:—

- (1) Sambalpur-Talcher
- (2) Rupsa-Bangriposi

2. These sanctioned projects would open up predominantly tribal areas and help in their development.

3. The question whether the earnings may or may not be considered for taking the decision of construction of new lines would require to be referred to the Planning Commission or the Railway Convention Committee.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 58 (Para No. 4.142)

The Committee are happy to note that the TDCC has found an export outlet for the tamarind and they suggest that avenues for exporting other forest produce should also be explored. The export of forest produce will not only bring foreign exchange to the country but also provide employment opportunities to the tribal population.

Reply of Government

Export outlet for other forest produce is being explored.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 59 (Para No. 5.143)

The Committee unhappy to note that there are only 682 Sch-Tribes among 2821 employed in the LAMPS. The Committee suggest that more employment opportunities should be given to the tribals in the LSMPS which have been set up in tribal areas primarily for the benefit of the Scheduled Tribes.

Reply of Government

In case of future appointment due opportunity will be provided to the tribals.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 60 (Para No. 5.161)

The Committee are unhappy that though the sub-Plan area in Orissa has many important major industries and mining complexes, yet these industries have not provided employment opportunities to

the tribals so as to improve their economic condition. The Committee suggest that the Ministry of Home Affairs should impress upon the Public Sector Undertakings located in tribal areas to step up the intake of local Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste candidates both as regular employees and as apprentices. The Committee need hardly stress that it is the moral duty of Public Sector Undertakings to do their utmost to absorb trained Sch. Caste/Sch. Tribe apprentices in different trades in their respective organisations. The State Government should set up Industrial Training Institutes in Tribal areas to the maximum extent possible and also keep a watch that the Training Institutes and polytechnics in the State turn out maximum number of trainees in those trades for which there is demand in the Public Sector Undertakings. For this purpose there should be close liaison between the State Industries Deptt. and the Public Sector Undertaking. The State Government should also give adequate publicity among tribals about the training|employment opportunities available to them in major industries located in sub-plan area.

Reply of Government

The Orissa Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes) Amendment Bill, 1982 has been passed in the Orissa Legislative Assembly on 8-4-1982. In the Amendment Bill provision has been made to make the Reservation Rules applicable to the Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings etc.

New Industrial Training Institutes are being set up in the tribal areas. For instance, a Poly Technic School has been established at Rayagada in Koraput district and a new ITI has been opened in Phulbani district during 81-82. A new ITI has also been opened in Bolangir district. It will cater to the needs of Bolangir district and adjoining districts.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 61 (Para No. 5.161A)

The Committee recommend that the tribal families who have been displaced as a result of setting up of major industries in the tribal areas should be given adequate compensation on a priority basis and necessary arrangements should be made both for their rehabilitation and providing them employment in those major industries.

Reply of Government

State Govt. have reported that the action on the recommendation is being taken.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to know whether all the displaced tribals have been properly rehabilitated and given suitable employment.

Recommendation No. 62 (Para No. 5.162)

The Committee noted that there is good potential for tassar production in the Sub-Plan area of Orissa and the State Government has already taken steps towards the development of this industry. The Committee suggest that silk manufacture should also be developed on a large scale in the tribal area under the guidance of Central Silk Board.

Reply of Government

Recognising the potential that exists for tassar sericulture industry in the tribal areas of Orissa, Government of India have included Orissa as one of the seven States for implementation of an Inter-State Tassar Project at an outlay of Rs. 10.50 crores during the Sixth Plan period. Of this amount, Orissa State will receive a share of Rs. 1.50 crores. With the implementation of this Project infrastructural facilities in tassar silk areas of Orissa will be created. These facilities include plantation of host Arjun trees for tassar-rearing, setting up of pilot production Centres, grainage for silk-worm egg production, cold storage for preserving eggs, cocoon market complex, training in reeling activities for tassar tribal families and assistance to State level organisations for marketing of cocoons and raw silk. The Project as a whole is being implemented under the overall guidance of Central Silk Board.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982.]

Recommendation No. 64 (Para No. 5.164)

The Committee suggest that Government of Orissa should identify particular cottage industries which have good potential for development in sub-Plan area and encourage the tribals to develop those industries by providing them credit, marketing and training facilities. Necessary guidance and technical know-how should also be provided to the tribals to improve the quality of their products.

The Committee feel that some of the crafts with necessary financial support can supplement the income of the tribal people and if any government agency provides fair price to the craftsmen for their products they can utilise their art as a permanent source of income.

Reply of Government

State Government have reported that particular cottage industries which have got potential for development in sub-Plan area have been identified and necessary assistance and training facilities are being provided to the tribal youths to develop those industries.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The State Government should ensure that adequate marketing facilities are available to tribal craftsmen for the sale of their products.

Recommendation No. 65 (Para No. 5.178)

The Committee note that the Govt. of Orissa is taking steps to record forest villages as revenue villages. The Committee recommend that this work should be completed immediately and all social economic developmental programmes undertaken in revenue villages should be extended to Forest Villages.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted and settlement operations by the State Government are in progress for action in this direction.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 68 (Para No. 5.181)

The Committee note that the collection charges of forest produce paid to tribals is fixed by the Collector depending upon the prevailing market prices. The Committee hope that the State Govt. will ensure that the collection charges are adequate in the context of rising prices of commodities.

Reply of Government

The Recommendation has been noted by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 69 (Para No. 5.191)

The Committee are glad to note that Horticulture has been accepted as a Major Thirst Programme in the Tribal sub-Plan area in Orissa and a method known as *in situ* plantation which is based on a low cost technology has been developed for large scale fruit plantation in high lands and hill slopes in tribal areas. This method has become very popular among the tribals and during the last six years (1974—80), over 17,840.84 acres of land has been successfully developed under Horticulture plantation scheme. The State Govt. also impart training to tribal boys in Horticulture technology. The Committee further note that plantations which were raised during 1975-76 and side-grafted during 1977-78 have started bearing fruits and in another three or four years they will reach economical bearing stage. The Committee hope that in order to uplift the tribals economically this programme will be continued during the Sixth Plan with greater vigour and at the same time the State Govt. will ensure that there is no exploitation of tribals by middlemen in the disposal of their fruits. In the committee's opinion marketing of fruits should be entrusted to various cooperative societies.

Reply of Government

During the Sixth Plan period horticultural plantations in the Tribal sub-Plan areas are continuing.

Steps have been taken to arrange marketing of fruits like Orange, Pineapple, banana grown by tribals through TDCC and other Cooperatives.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 71 (Para No. 5.193)

The Committee suggest that a large portion of the forest revenue should be spent on the development of tribal areas and tribal people.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 72 (Para No. 5.194)

The horticulture, there is scope for development of both long term and short term fruits depending upon the agroclimatic condi-

tions and irrigation facilities. The Committee recommend that as far as possible there should be mixed fruit approach i.e. plantations of both short and long term fruits should be grown so that the tribal people have not to wait for long for getting return from the plantations.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted, subject to the compatibility of trees with particular agro-ecological conditions.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 74 (Para No. 5.208)

The Committee are concerned to note that although there is tremendous scope for development of poultry, Goat keeping in the sub-plan area yet these programmes have not picked up well and the poultry farming has been a total failure. The Committee suggest that before launching such programmes proper training must be imparted to the beneficiaries in regard to the maintenance of birds, animals etc. Besides this, a periodical review of each programme should also be made to find out the extent of its success or failure.

Reply of Government

Efficiency Audit Organisation of the State Govt. has recently reviewed the progress of implementation of the goatery programme in the sub-plan areas. The report is under consideration of the State Govt. State Govts. have been requested to take full advantage of programmes like TRYSEM to impart training to beneficiaries in regard to maintenance of birds, animals etc.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 75 (Para No. 5.209)

The Committee feel that there should not be too much emphasis on importing new varieties of animals in the tribal areas as their survival is sometimes difficult on account of lack of training of the local people in handling those animals and also due to insufficient arrangements for supply of feed and veterinary aid. The Committee, therefore, suggest that animal husbandry programmes for the tribal areas should aim at improving the local breeds of birds/animals by the method of cross-breeding so that the local breed gets upgraded at lesser cost.

Reply of Government

New varieties of animals are not imported to the tribal areas. Steps have been taken to upgrade the local breed of animals by cross breeding artificial insemination. Under goat programme instead of importing Beetal Bricks from outside the State, it has been decided to supply bucks of selective breed like Black Bengal for the northern districts and Kalinga bucks for the southern districts which are available in adjoining areas and which can thrive well in the tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 76 (Para No. 5.210)

The Committee recommend that as suggested during evidence by the representative of the Planning Commission, the Govt. may take up the duck development programme in the tribal sub-plan area.

Reply of Government

Ducks development programme is under implementation in some selected tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 77 (Para No. 5.277)

The Committee note that the scope of development of fishery in tribal areas is extremely limited due to inadequate water areas for development of pisciculture. The Committee suggest that, as pointed out by the representative of Govt. of Orissa during evidence, the possibility of developing fishery in the reservoirs of medium irrigation projects should be explored.

Reply of Government

There are 3,334 reservoirs (Major, Medium and Minor) in the State. Of them, the fishery rights of 21 reservoirs have been transferred to the Fisheries Deptt. Pisciculture development has been taken up in 25 reservoirs. Out of 21 reservoirs transferred to Fisheries Deptt., Pisciculture has been taken up in all the reservoirs except Haldia in Mayurbhanj. For reservoir fisheries development, a Plan scheme has been taken up in the Sixth Plan period with an outlay of Rs. 15.00 lakhs. The current year's provision (1982-83) is Rs. 3.85 lakhs out of which Rs. 2.10 lakhs has been quantified for

tribal sub-Plan. The strategy is to construct rearing tanks near the reservoir for systematic stocking and leasing them to Co-operative Societies for exploitation.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 79 (Para No. 5.217)

The Committee are in full agreement with the recommendation of the Working Group that the unit of planning for drinking water supply for the tribal areas should be a hamlet.

Reply of Government

The Ministry of Works and Housing has already addressed all the State Governments/Union Territories requesting them that while indentifying the problem-Villages in the Tribal Areas the units should be 'hamlet' rather than a village. Copy of the letter is at Appendix II.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

Recommendation No. 80 (Para No. 5.221)

The Committee feel surprised that many colonies built for tribal people by the tribal Welfare Deptt. are deserted. This only shows that Deptt. which is responsible for the Welfare of tribals has no clear idea about the needs and preferences of the tribal people. The Committee need hardly stress that it is no use spending money on costly housing programmes without ascertaining the wishes of the local people who have actually to reside in these houses. The Committee suggest that tribal people should be encouraged to build their own houses and Govt. should provide necessary help in the form of building material.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted by the State Government for adoption.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December 1982]

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation No. 6 (Para No. 1.39)

The Committee note that as per the constitutional provision, out of 20 members of the Tribes Advisory Council in Orissa, fifteen are MLAs belonging to Scheduled Tribes and the remaining 5 members are non-MLAs. The Committee hope that while nominating non-tribals as members to the Tribes Advisory Council, it will be kept in view that they have interest in the welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes and they have the time and energy to devote to the work of the Council. The Committee have been informed during evidence by the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs that the question whether non-tribals can be nominated to the Tribes Advisory Council has been referred to the Ministry of Law for its opinion. The Committee would like to be apprised of the opinion given by the Ministry of Law in this regard.

Reply of Government

The Ministry of Law & Justice have opined that para 4 of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution require that three-fourths of the total number of members of the Council shall be filled either by the representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State or in case the number of such representations in the Legislative Assembly of the State falls short of the three-fourths, by other member of those tribes, i.e. persons belonging to a scheduled tribe community.

Thus, para 4 of the Scheduled is silent about the remaining one-fourth. It can, therefore, be concluded that after taking three-fourths members in the Tribes Advisory Council in the above manner, the remaining members in the Council can be either tribals or non-tribals.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like the State Government to ensure that remaining one-fourth members nominated to the Tribes Advisory Council are conversant with the problems of the Scheduled Tribes and they have the time and energy to devote to the work of the Council.

Recommendation No. 12 (Para No. 2.31)

The Committee note that several authorities are concerned with the implementation of various programmes at ITDP level in Orissa. The Collector of the district is the head of the development team and he is responsible for timely implementation of schemes in the district. The Committee need hardly stress that unless there is complete coordination and cooperation among the various departments, speedy progress cannot be achieved in the projects. The Committee are, therefore, of the opinion that there should be a single authority with adequate administrative and financial powers at the ITDP level. The Committee trust that a proposal in this regard which is already under examination by the Government of Orissa would be given a concrete shape very quickly.

Reply of Government

The Collector is the Chairman of the Project Level Committee constituted at the ITDP level. The concerned District Level Officers are members of the Project Level Committee. A senior Class I Officer is appointed as Project Administrator of the ITDP. The Collector as head of the development team of the district is able to keep coordination among different departmental officers and sort out the bottlenecks wherever faced. BDO's of the development blocks in the ITDP area have been brought under the administrative control of Project Administrator of ITDP. The State Government feel that the existing system is working well.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December, 1982]

Recommendation No. 14 (Para 2.33)

The Committee have been informed during evidence that in Madhya Pradesh the Block Development Officers are under the Project Officer. This is an important aspect which should be taken into account by the Orissa Government in order to improve the administrative set up of the ITDP level in Orissa. The Committee recommend that the officers who are responsible for implementing

the various schemes/programmes in the ITDPs should be made accountable for the actual achievement to the Project Officer as the Committee are of the view that the single line administrative set up would be more effective for implementing schemes in the ITDPs.

Reply of Government

The Project Administrators of ITDPs have been empowered to initiate confidential character rolls of the Block Development Officers working within their respective ITDP area. This will enable the Project Administrator to exercise effective administrative control over the B.D.Os. The Collector of the district who is the Chairman of the Project Level Committee of the ITDP is competent to exercise effective supervisory and coordinating control over the officers of different departments implementing ITDP programmes in exercise of the powers delegated to him by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Recommendation No. 25 (Para No. 4.13)

The Committee note that in spite of the fact that Government of Orissa has taken various legislative measures to stop the transfer of tribal lands to non-tribals, a very large number of cases of land alienation are still pending disposal. The Committee suggested that all pending cases may be disposed of within a period of six months. The Committee also recommended that exemplary punishment should be awarded to unscrupulous persons who indulge in illegal and benami land transactions in order to stop this practice for ever. The State Government should evolve a suitable machinery for direction of cases of illegal transfer of tribal land.

Reply of Government

For implementation of the provision of Regulation 2 of 1956 and Sections 23 and 23A of O.L.R. Act, 1960, the progress achieved since enforcement upto the month ending March, 1982 is indicated below:

Regulation	O.L.R.	Total
2 of 1956	Act, 1960	

From the above table it would be seen that out of 82,079 cases only 7,164 number of cases are pending till March, 1982. This pendency cover the whole State. However, the competent authorities have been instructed from time to time to expedite disposal. Strict instructions have been issued recently to dispose of all such cases under the O.L.R. Act positively by the end of March, 1983.

The Committee's recommendation for inflicting punishment on unscrupulous persons who indulge in benami transactions is under consideration of Government.

Regarding Committee's suggestion for evolving a suitable machinery for detection of cases of illegal transfer of land, it may be stated that the field staff of Revenue and H&TW. Deptt., are at present engaged in detecting cases of illegal transfer of land and their detection work is being reviewed on a monthly basis by the Collectors and Revenue Divisional Commissioners.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to be apprised of the decision of the Government on Committee's recommendation for inflicting punishment on unscrupulous persons who indulge in benami transactions.

Recommendation No. 29 (Para No. 4.26)

The Committee also feel that total cost of rehabilitation assistance per bonded labourer fixed at Rs. 4000/- is inadequate in view of the existing cost of living. The Committee, therefore, suggest that this amount should be increased up to Rs. 10,000/- which should be payable immediately on a person being declared as bonded labourer so that he is able to stand on his own feet and does not revert to the practice of bonded labour.

Reply of Government

The Government of India have fixed the ceiling of assistance per bonded labourer at Rs. 4000/-. It has been the experience of the State Government that the ceiling of Rs. 4000/- for each bonded labour beneficiary is inadequate. Government of India were therefore moved to double the existing ceiling of assistance but they had not agreed to enhance the ceiling. The State Govt. is there-

fore providing balance of funds required to ensure proper rehabilitation of bonded labour beneficiaries under the ERRP Programme in excess of the ceiling limit of Rs. 4000/-.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

It should be ensured that financial assistance and other benefits provided for rehabilitation of bonded labourer are sufficient so that he does not relapse into the evil practice.

Recommendation No. 45 (Para No. 5.80)

The Committee also suggest that in order to bridge the gap between the literacy level of non-tribals and tribals, elementary education should be given the highest priority under the minimum Needs Programme in the Sixth Five Year Plan ensuring that each tribal child gets the facility of primary education in his own village and it should not be necessary for him to cover any distance for the purpose. Likewise, a massive programme for the adult education among tribals should also be launched.

Reply of Government

To implement the programme of universalisation of primary education priority is given to the elementary education. Under the minimum needs programme a child will not be required to walk more than mile to attend a primary school. A massive programme for non-formal education among tribals is under implementation during the current plan period.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Recommendation No. 47 (Para No. 5.82)

The Committee fail to understand why two separate Departments i.e. the Education Department and the Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department, are doing the same type of work in the field of education in tribal sub-plan area of Orissa. The Committee feel that two departments doing the same type of work leads not only to confusion but also to lack of coordination. In order to avoid such divided responsibility between them, the Committee suggest that only the Department of Education should be made responsible for the implementation of various programmes relating to education

in tribal areas. The expenditure on Education for Ashram Schools should not be made from the budget of the Tribal Welfare Department but from the budget of the Education Department.

Reply of Government

The H. & T.W. Department are managing the residential type of schools. But the Education Department have got no such residential schools. For the purpose of better administration of these residential schools the State Government feel that the management of the schools should not be transferred to Education & Youth Services Department.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Recommendation No. 63 (Para No. 5.163)

The Committee also note that under tribal sub-Plan Bee-keeping programme was started in 1976 and at present 100 bee-keeping centres are functioning in 21 LTDPs. The Committee constrain to observe that there has not been proper planning and monitoring of the bee-keeping programme in the tribal sub-plan area with the result that the programmes has helped the tribal people to increase their annual income by Rs. 44 only during 79-80 whereas the money spent on staff salaries during the period was of the order of Rs. 2,50,000-/. The Committee suggest that the Progress of bee-keeping programme should be reviewed first in the light of the expenditure incurred thereon during the period 1976-80 and then a final decision should be taken whether it is worthwhile to increase the number of such centres to 300 during the Sixth plan.

Reply of Government

State Government have reported that the bee-keeping Programme in the Tribal sub-Plan area has been taken on an extensive scale and it is yielding better results.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

The State Government should ensure that the funds allocated for bee-keeping actually help in raising the economic standard of the tribals.

Recommendation No. 78 (Para No. 5.216)

The Committee note that Government of Orissa have provided drinking water facilities in 7650 villages out of 10468 problem villages, identified by the State Public Health Department. The Committee further note that no hamlet-wise survey has been conducted by the State Government but it is estimated that the total number of hamlets in tribal sub-plan areas is around 15000 out of which drinking water facilities have been provided in 8000 hamlets.

Reply of Government

Universal Bench Mark Survey has been conducted in the tribal sub-Plan areas. After the survey report is made available the information about the tribal hamlets having no drinking water facility will be known. However, with special central assistance of Govt. of India, steps have been taken to provide drinking water facility in the tribal hamlets which do not qualify for provision of drinking water facility under Minimum Needs Programme.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee stress that drinking water facility should be provided in each hamlet in the tribal areas during the Sixth Five Year Plan period.

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation No. 3 (Para No. 1.22)

The Committee have been informed that Universal Bench Mark Survey has recently been completed by the Tribal and Harijan Research Institute of the Government of Orissa to assess the percentage of tribals living below the poverty line. They welcome the proposal of the Government of Orissa to bring 50 per cent tribal population above the poverty line during the Sixth Plan Period. The Committee hope that all-out efforts would be made by the Government of Orissa to achieve this target and requisite assistance would also be provided by the Union Government to help the State Government in achieving their aim.

Recommendation No. 4 (Para No. 1.23)

The representative of the Planning Commission has stated during evidence before the Committee that recommendation of the Working Group about bringing 50 per cent of tribals above the poverty line during the Sixth Plan was not accepted by the Planning Commission because they fear that this object might not be fulfilled due to various factors. The Committee are not happy about two divergent views expressed by the State Government and the Planning Commission in this regard. The Committee, no doubt, agree that exact targets in terms of figures cannot be fixed in such ventures, but at the same time, such matters have to be sorted out after mutual discussion and after making an in depth study of the whole matter. The Committee, therefore, recommend that representatives of the State Government, Planning Commission and Ministry of Home Affairs should go into the question jointly whether 50 per cent of the tribals can be brought above the poverty line by the end of the Sixth Plan and then devise necessary schemes and programmes accordingly for implementation. The Committee need hardly stress that creation of adequate infrastructure for implementation of various developmental programmes is the very foundation of the Planning process and such appraisal has to be made in a realistic manner. The Committee also recommend that the Planning Commission (Department of Statistics) should maintain separate

data regarding development and achievements made in the tribal areas for the purpose of future planning and discussion with the authorities of the State Government.

Reply of Government

The Report of the Working Group on Tribal Development recommended that "In the Sixth Plan the most urgent task would be to create in the economic field, impact of an order which will enable 50 per cent scheduled tribe families to cross over the poverty line, requiring increase in productivity levels in the field of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, industry, etc." Planning Commission examined this recommendation carefully. It was, however, felt that, since approach to tribal development is to formulate area-based plans with focus on scheduled tribe families, it may not be possible to fulfil the objective of enabling 50 per cent of scheduled tribe families to cross the poverty line as mentioned in the recommendation, in a single five year Plan. The difficulty envisaged in adopting this recommendation as a national norms was that, creation of infrastructure like credit, marketing, communication, electrification, health and educational services etc. have not yet developed fully in tribal areas while integrated family-oriented programmes are still in an embryonic stage apart from over-all constraints of financial resources. In view of this, to set a target of taking 50 per cent ST families above the poverty line cannot be feasible and it would generate a false hope.

However, any particular State having this objective in view, while implementing tribal development programmes and making maximum possible efforts towards achieving it is commended. In this context Orissa's objective to enable 4.25 lakh families (i.e., 50 per cent of total Scheduled Tribe families) to cross the poverty line by the end of this Plan is welcome and the Union Government would assist the State Government in their effort for achieving their aim.

In the recent detailed discussion of Orissa's Sixth Five Year Plan for tribal development, it was, however, noticed that 4.25 lakh of scheduled tribe families to be helped to cross the poverty line, has been targetted by the State Government on the assumption of a much larger special Central assistance than Orissa is entitled to as per formula of distribution of special Central assistance. The State Government stated that their target will need to be scaled down if special Central assistance proposed was not made available. While

discussing the State's proposals a number of lacunae in Plan Document which would preclude achievement of taking 50 per cent ST families above the poverty line, have been noticed. The State Government has yet to identify families below the poverty line and spell out the methodology by which the identification would be done. Further, account as to effort by different sectors of development, e.g., agriculture, animal husbandry, small scale industries etc., for the development of individual families and their impact on improving the level of living of tribal population has to be worked out.

The suggestion that the Department of Statistics should maintain separate data regarding development and achievements made in the tribal areas has been noted and the Department is already on the task of compiling separate data for tribal areas.

[Planning Commission O.M. No. PC/BC/15-1(7)-A/ORI-80,
dated July, 31, 1981.]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, Para 1.4.

Recommendation No. 8 (Para No. 2.9)

The Committee regret to note that the performance of the Central Ministries in regard to quantification and earmarking of funds for their sectoral programme to be implemented in the tribal areas has not been upto the mark in spite of the fact that necessary guidelines were issued by the Planning Commission as far back as 1977. The Committee feel that a special responsibility rests on the Central Ministries as they are expected to play a positive role and the role of a leader in the tribal development in respect of their respective sectors. The Committee need hardly emphasise that all the concerned Ministries of Government of India should evolve suitable programmes for the development of tribal areas in consultation with the Government of Orissa, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Planning Commission, quantify funds for the on-going schemes and for new schemes to be implemented and about appropriate strategy for their effective implementation so that there is perceptible improvement in the quality of life of the tribal people during the Sixth Plan period. The Committee desire that there should be proper monitoring of various developmental schemes being implemented in Tribal areas in order to assess their performance and achievements.

Reply of Government

Planning Commission have already written to the various Central Ministries/Departments in regard to their responsibilities for programmes to be implemented for the tribal areas/people. (A copy of letter addressed is at Appendix III.

[Planning Commission O.M. No. PC/BC/15—1(7)/A/ORI-80,
dated July, 31, 1981].

Further Reply of Government

(PLANNING COMMISSION—BACKWARD CLASSES DIVISION)

D.O. No. PC/BC/11—7(1)-81—Vol. II dated 27th July, 1981 in regard to their responsibilities for programmes to be implemented for the tribal areas/people was addressed to the following Ministries/Departments:—

1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.
2. Department of Food.
3. Ministry of Communications.
4. Ministry of Rural Development.
5. Ministry of Education and Culture.
6. Ministry of Commerce.
7. Ministry of Social Welfare.
8. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
9. Ministry of Irrigation.
10. Ministry of Civil Supplies.
11. Ministry of Labour.
12. Department of Power.
13. Department of Industrial Development.
14. Ministry of Shipping and Transport.
15. Ministry of Works and Housing.

The Planning Commission have further stated that since the preparation of Tribal sub-Plans in respect of Central Ministries was then just initiated, the information furnished

by the concerned Central Ministries was not adequate. Summary of the information furnished by the Ministries/Departments is given below:—

Whether schemes identified for tribal areas	Schemes identified for ITD Project Areas of Orissa.	Amount Quantified for ITDP Orissa.	Monitoring arrangements & assessment of the Programme done by the Ministry.
1	2	3	4
1. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION			
1. Crop oriented Programme	<i>Crop oriented Programmes.</i> 1. 129 demonstration of one hectre each in tribal Districts of Mayurbhanj, Koraput Ganjam & Kalahandi	Not quantified	The concerned Divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation have taken steps to organise a reporting system for monitoring the schemes relating to Scheduled Tribes/Scheduled Castes. A cell has been in existence to deal with programmes for the development of SCs/STs. Quarterly progress review meetings are organised by the various subject matter Divisions and in these meetings the progress of SCP & STG are reviewed.
2. Fisheries	<i>Fisheries</i> 1. Fish Farmers's Development Agency implemented in Ganjam District 2. Development of Infrastructural facilities in coastal fishing villages. 3. Assistance to State Fisheries Corporation		
3. Dry Land Farming.	Under Integrated Dry land Agricultural Development benefit accrues to all farmers including tribals.	Not quantified	
4. Soil and Water Conservation.	Soil Conservation in catchments of River Valley Project Machkund.	Not quantified.	
5. Cooperation	Participation in the share capital of 43 LAMPs during 1980-81	Rs. 12.69 lakhs.	
6. Agricultural Credit.	By the end of Sixth Plan cooperative credit to the weaker sections including SCs and STs would be to the extent of 50% of such credit.		

1	2	3	4
7. Forestry.	Social Forestry and Rural Five-Wood Plantation.	Rs. 14.22	Not quantified.

2. *Indian Council of Agricultural Research*

The I.C.A.R. has identified the schemes & quantified out-lays for Sixth Plan for SCP & TSP

Not furnished. Not furnished.

3. *Department of Food*

- | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|-----------------|
| (i) Establishment of Food and Nutrition Processing Centres. | 1. Under the scheme Save Grain Campaign one SGG Team is located in Orissa. | Not quantified | Not quantified. |
| (ii) Development of model villages in tribal areas under the Save Grain campaign. | It is conducting one course or STs. The intake of trainees is 50 persons every year | | |
| (iii) Supply of Foodgrains at subsidised rates in tract inhabited by the Primitive Groups among tribals. | 2. For the scheme of development of model villages, the proposal was forwarded to the State Govt. | | |

4. *Ministry of Labour*

The Ministry of Labour not framed any scheme for tribal development in any State including Orissa.

5. *Ministry of Health & Family Welfare*

The Ministry had identified schemes and quantified outlays for Sixth Plan for TSP and SCP.

No separate information available for Orissa. 118 PHC and 568 sub-centres are functioning in Tribal areas of Orissa.

Not quantified Not quantified.

6. *Ministry of Irrigation*

There is no central activity in irrigation except for exploratory drilling by the Central Ground Water Board.

The Ministry mentioned the Irrigation Projects of upper Kolab, Eastern Santsiguda of Orissa implemented under the State Plan.

7. *Department of Power*

There is no centrally sponsored programme in respect of rural electrification.

8. *Ministry of Civil Supplies*

Oil seeds/Oil of trees of forest origin Rs. 170 lakhs for Sixth Plan.

1	2	3	4
<i>9. Department of Textiles</i>			
Marketing and services Extension Centre in district of Samabalpur Orissa.	Rs. 1.00 lakhs for 1981-82.	There is no machinery for monitoring the programmes in tribal areas. No assessment has been made.	
<i>10. Ministry of Social Welfare</i>			
1. Integrated Child Development services (ICDS) 2. Functional Literacy for Adult Women (FLAW).	1. ICDS-6 Projects; 2. FLAW-6 Projects	1980-81 (grant released) Projects (ICDS) Rs. 17,02,900 FLAW Projects Rs. 4,02,500	Monitored by the Social Welfare Ministry through monthly progress reports.
<i>11. Ministry of Shipping & Transport]</i>			
The Ministry do not have sub-Plan for Tribal areas.			
<i>12. Deptt. of Industrial Development</i>			
Schemes have been identified for the tribal-sub-Plan.	No information has been furnished.		
<i>13. Ministry of Rural Development</i>			
1. Integrated Rural Development Project (IRDP)	Not furnished	not quantified	Not furnished
<i>Families Assisted Total SC/ST</i>			
1980-81	1000749	32117	
1981-82	138367	55175	
2. Agricultural Marketing 10% of the outlay will be spent on backward tribal area.	Not furnished.	Not quantified	Not furnished
3. National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) 10% of the allocation earmarked for programmes directly benefiting SC & ST	Not furnished	Not quantified	Not furnished
4. Financial assistance to assignees of land. Allocation in proportion to the area distributed.	Not furnished	Not quantified	Not furnished

1	2	3	4
14. <i>Ministry of Commerce—Deptt. of Textile</i>			
Marketing and Service Extension Centre in district of Sambalpur Orissa.	Rs. 1.00 lakh for 1981-82	There is no machinery for monitoring the programmes in tribal areas. No assessment has been made.	
15. <i>Ministry of Communication</i>			
16. <i>Ministry of Education and Culture</i>			
17. <i>Ministry of Works and Housing</i>			
No information furnished.			

[Planning Commission O.M. No. PC/BC/15—1(7)/A-ORI-80 dated 16/17-2-1983 and 6-3-1983].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.7.

Recommendation No. 16 (Para No. 3.17)

The Committee are distressed to note that exercises in assessing the problems of the tribal areas by the Union Ministries are still at a preliminary stage and the disaggregation of outlays in the case of certain programmes are merely notional. The Committee feel that it is no use treating a malady without its proper diagnosis and impress upon the concerned Ministries of Central Government to make periodical assessments of the achievements made under various development programmes being implemented in the tribal areas. After making an assessment about various programmes the Ministries should provide adequate funds for extending those programmes during the Sixth Plan period in order that desired results are achieved for the uplift of poor tribals. The Committee are not happy that the Central Ministries who were required to quantify the flow of benefits from their sectoral programmes to the tribal areas failed to discharge their duty with the result that no clear picture has emerged regarding the impact of various programmes executed under Tribal Sub-Plan for which funds have been provided partly or wholly by the Central Government.

Reply of Government

The question of quantification of funds for Tribal areas by the Central Ministries is being pursued actively with them and this has

been taken up with the Central Ministries at a very high level. Discussions have already been held with the Central Ministries. Some Ministries have already quantified funds.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81—TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.10.

Recommendation No. 26 (Para No. 4.14)

The Committee suggest that while taking up settlement operation, Government of Orissa must ensure that allotment of land to each tribal family is an economic unit so as to sustain the family and help them to become economically independent.

Reply of Government

Government have fixed the limit of 2 acres for settlement of unobjectionable encroachment in favour of landless persons for agricultural purposes. Under the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960, provision has also been made for allotment of surplus land not exceeding 0.70 standard acres to landless persons in accordance with the priority fixed thereunder.

The sub-Plan approach during the 6th Five Year Plan is to strike a balance between area development and coverage of individual beneficiaries. The objective is to ensure that atleast 50 per cent of the tribal families are given adequate financial and technical assistance under different income generating schemes to enable them to earn substantial additional income.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81—TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.13.

Recommendation No. 27 (Para No. 4.24)

The Committee are distressed to note that the Government of Orissa has not so far conducted any systematic survey regarding the number of tribals who had fallen prey to the bonded labour system in the State. The Committee fail to understand how the State Government propose to eradicate this evil practice stated to be prevalent mostly in the southern districts of Koraput, Kalahandi, Ganjam and Phulbari unless a survey is conducted to assess the magnitude of

the problem. The Committee, therefore, recommend that early steps should be taken by the State Government to identify the bonded labourers through a systematic survey.

Reply of Government

After dovetailing the scheme of Bonded Labourers' identification and Rehabilitation with the E.R.R.P. Programme there may be no necessity to engage any special agency to survey the incidence of bonded labour. According to the E.R.R.P. Programme the bonded labourers are identify by the village Committee. Any attempt to identify bonded labourers through a systematic survey might consume time and money without bringing out any thing more tangible and beneficial than what is actually being done under the process of selecting through the village committee as envisaged under the E.R.R.P. Programme.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81—TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.16.

Recommendation No. 28 (Para No. 4.25)

The Committee further note that the State Govt. have decided to link up the programme of identification of bonded labour with the Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Programme scheme under which it is anticipated that out of 10 families to be selected at least two families may qualify to be included in the category of bonded labourers. The Committee are not convinced of the strategy of the State Govt. in this regard and would urge that an independent survey may be conducted immediately. The Committee do not feel happy that in spite of the fact that the Central Legislation about abolition of bonded labour system came into force in Orissa with effect from 25-10-75 still in the entire State only 354 bonded labourers were detected. This only shows the scant regard the Govt. of Orissa had shown to the Central Legislation.

Reply of Government

Certain difficulties were encountered earlier in absence of a suitable mechanism in identifying bonded labourers. In accordance with instructions of Government of India to dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers with other ongoing schemes in the State and with identification of bonded labourers to identify accelerated due to the process bonded labours

under the programme of ERRP after satisfying the definition of bonded labourers as in Section 2(G) of the Bonded Labour System Abolition Act, 1976.

Consequent upon linkage of this scheme with that of ERRP it has been possible to accelerate the process of identification of bonded labourers and it may be noted that in certain districts like Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, Sundergarh and Bolangir where the incidence of bonded labourers was not reported earlier, a large number of Bonded labourers from the list of ERRP beneficiaries could be identified. Government of India have appreciated the process of identification of bonded labourers through the programme of ERRP. By the end of April, 1982 out of 21,307 suspected cases of bonded labourers, 11,738 have been identified and freed and of these 720 bonded labourers have been rehabilitated. Besides, 6045 bonded labourers are in the process of rehabilitation. This appreciable increase in the number of bonded labourers identified and rehabilitated during the period is on account of dovetailing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers with ERRP Programme. Hence the question of making independent survey on identification of bonded labourers has not been considered necessary by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.19.

Recommendation No. 31 (Para No. 4.44)

The Committee note that with a view to protect the tribal from exploitation by the liquor venders as per the recommendation of the Central Prohibition Committee, the Govt. of Orissa had adopted the policy of progressive closure of liquor shops in Tribal concentration areas as early as 1-4-74 and subsequently they closed 366 liquor shops by the end of 1979-80. The Committee are constrained to observe the Govt. of Orissa have reversed that policy and have stopped further closure of liquor shops. On the contrary during 1980-81 they decided to increase the number of liquor shops and also reduced the number of dry days from 64 to 53 on the plea of promoting temperance among tribals. For the year 1981-82, Government of Orissa have already taken a decision not to close any liquor shop on account of prohibition. The Committee are not happy about the shift in the prohibition policy of the State Government as they feel that loss in revenue can be made up from other sources.

It is quite surprising that the State Govt. seems to be very anxious to supply liquor bottles to the tribals rather than attending to the problem of supplying clean drinking water to them. The Committee therefore recommend that the natural policy of discontinuance of commercial vending of liquor in areas of tribal concentration should not be given up and the Govt. of Orissa should review their decision that during 1981-82 no liquor shops will be closed, and if necessary some shops may be opened to check illicit distillation and trade.

Reply of Government

Keeping in view the Excise Policy adopted by the neighbouring States, the Govt. of Orissa adopted the Excise Policy for the year 1981-82 and decided not to close any more liquor shops on account of prohibition. It was further decided not to reopen the liquor shops already closed and while opening new shops. All possible steps are being taken to safeguard the interest of tribals. Besides, the number of dry days have also been reduced from 64 to 53 in a year in order to check illicit sale of liquor in dry days for safeguarding Government revenue.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN Dated the 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.22.

Recommendation No. 37 (Para No. 5.27)

The Committee are surprised that no survey has been undertaken to assess the quantum of land affected by Podu cultivation in Orissa. The Committee recommend that a survey should be conducted immediately to assess the magnitude of the problem so that development programmes can be planned accordingly.

Reply of Government

Though detailed survey has not been undertaken to assess the quantum of land affected by Podu cultivation in Orissa, fairly accurate information regarding extent of the area under shifting cultivation can be obtained from the Vegetation maps of India which have been prepared by the Institute Francis, Pondicherry. The measurement of the patches shows in the maps under shifting cultivation in different vegetational zones comes to about 26793.335 sq. K.Ms. which means that about 17 per cent of the total geographical area of the State of Orissa is affected by shifting cultivation. The

coverage under shifting cultivation includes not only the Swidden plots but also immediate adjacent areas which are seriously affected by the practice of shifting cultivation.

According to a recent study under FAO/UNFPA Project (RAS/77/POI) on 'Population Data regarding Forestry Communities practising shifting cultivation' following area has been indicated for Orissa State:—

State	Area under shifting cultivation in a year (ha)	Shifting Cultivation cycle	Estimated total Area under shifting cultivation (ha)
Orissa	5,29,800 or 5298.00 Square Kilometer	7	3708,600 or 37086.00 Square Kilometer

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December, 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please See Chapter I, para 1.25.

Recommendation No. 38 (Para No. 5.28)

The Committee note that a scheme for planation of fruit bearing trees on podu ravaged lands and for prevention of shifting cultivation has been formulated by the State Govt. The Committee hope that in order to make the scheme a success proper attention will be given to the selection of fruit bearing trees depending upon the soil in a particular area and other agro-climatic conditions etc. which will go a long way in raising the economic standards of the tribals. The Committee are not happy that the tribals have been given only the right to enjoy the fruits of plantations and they have not been made the owners of the land. The Committee feel that so long as the ownership right in land is not vested in the tribals they may not work wholeheartedly for the development of plantations which may adversely affect the implementation of the whole scheme.

Reply of Government

Ordinarily the hill slopes are podu ravaged areas which are within the boundary of reserved forest. The fruit plants raised in the podu ravaged areas will be given to the tribals practising podu cultivation under usufructuary right. It may not be possible to vest in

tribals the ownership right in the land lying in the reserved forest area as this might lead to subsequent deforestation for immediate personal gains.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated the 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.28.

Recommendation No. 50 (Para No. 5.102)

The Committee are distressed to note that the roads have not been included in the core sector and very limited funds have been allocated to the State Govt. of Orissa under the 5th Five Year Plan with the result that even the existing roads could not be maintained. The Committee fail to understand as to how in the absence of proper road communication facilities, the tribal will be able to get a fair price for their produce and how far the protective measures adopted by Govt. against exploitation of tribals can be enforced effectively. The Committee recommended that more funds should be provided by Govt. of India under the Minimum needs programme for construction of roads in the tribal areas.

Reply of Government

The importance of the Roads Programme has been accepted by the Planning Commission and an allocation of Rs. 6.5 crores is available in the Plan provision of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for the development of roads in Tribal Areas under the Central Sector Roads Programme for 1980—85. Some State Governments have sent proposals for allocation of these funds and the Government of Orissa can also take advantage of this fund.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.33.

Recommendation No. 51 (Para No. 5.102A)

The Committee need hardly stress that the tribals of sub-Plan area should be covered by a net work of roads connecting the block headquarters sub-divisional H.Qrs. and district H. Qrs. with market

and other growth centres and Govt. of Orissa should give the highest priority to this programme. While implementing the programme of construction of roads, Govt. of Orissa should ensure that bridges are also provided on the roads wherever these are necessary.

Reply of Government

State Plan funds available for development of communication in the State and particularly, in the Tribal areas are not adequate to meet the need fully. However, the State Government have taken steps to provide bridges on the roads wherever necessary according to availability of funds.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.33.

Recommendation No. 53 (Para No. 5.104)

The Committee suggest that construction of roads in Forest areas should be the responsibility of the Forest Deptt. as these roads also help in the Development of forests and moreover the public Works Deptt. has limited capacity to construct roads in the remote tribal areas.

Reply of Government

It is actually found that the roads wing of the P.W.D. and National High-way are better organised to do road works than the Forest Department.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.36.

Recommendation No. 55 (Para No. 5.139)

The Committee note that as recommended by the Bawa Committee, the Government of Orissa have organised 223 Large Sized Multipurpose Societies (LAMPS) covering 118 blocks in the sub-Plan area to meet the requirements of tribals relating to production and consumption credit, supply of seeds and other agricultural inputs,

supply of consumer goods and marketing of their agricultural and minor forest produce in order to save them from the exploitation of money lenders-cum-traders and middlemen who are a major impediment in the socio-economic progress of the tribals. The Committee also note that the Orissa State Tribal Development Coop. Corporation is working since 1972 with the main object of collection of surplus agricultural produce/minor forest produce from tribals and distribution of essential commodities/ consumer articles to them through the F.P. shops. However, the Govt. of Orissa have decided to transfer these F.P. shops to LAMPS with effect from 1-7-1979. The State Govt. have also decided to entrust the responsibility of implementing the public distribution scheme and other commodities in the sub-Plan areas to TDCC for which it has been declared as Apex Organisation with the LAMPS as its primaries. The Committee would like the State Govt. to ensure that there is no confusion/overlapping in the activities of the two organisations i.e. the TDCC and LAMPS and proper coordination is maintained between them. The State Govt. should also ensure that proper check is exercised in the working of LAMPS and there is no scope for exploitation of tribals by the staff working in LAMPS.

Reply of Government

The State Government have constituted a Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner, Agriculture and Rural Development for ensuring better coordination between the LAMPS and TDCC in the field of collection of minor forest produce, surplus agricultural produce, distribution of consumer articles and marketing of minor forest produce or surplus agricultural produce. Secretary, H.&T.W. Department, Secretary, Agriculture and Co-operation and the RCS, Orissa are the members of this Coordination Committee.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.39.

Recommendation No. 56 (Para No. 5.140)

The Committee are distressed to learn that the accounts of the State Tribal Development Coop. Corporation (earlier known as Society) for the period 1972-74 and thereafter have not been audited. The audit of accounts for the period 1972-74 taken up by Chartered Accountants in Jan. 1975 has not been completed so far. as

there appears to be some difficulty in the availability of records. The Committee note that a Committee headed by Sri Guru Charan Nayak, MLA was appointed to review the working etc. of the TDCC. Although the Committee had submitted its report in May, 1976 it is still under consideration of the Government. The Committee recommend that the working of the TDCC should be thoroughly examined and its accounts should be audited without any further loss of time to ensure that there is no misappropriation of public money. Government should also fix responsibility on the concerned officers for the serious lapse in not getting the accounts audited from year to year.

Reply of Government

Urgency of need to update the audit of the accounts of Orissa Tribal Development Corporation has been impressed on the State Government. In the recent meeting for finalisation of State Tribal sub-plan 1982-83, Chief Secretary of Orissa has been especially requested in this regard. Special steps are being taken for audit of the accounts of the TDCC, Orissa by the Audit Organisation of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Orissa.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.42.

Recommendation No. 57 (Para No. 5.141)

The Committee find that under the present arrangements LAMPS are operating as agents of the TDCC. The Committee feel that since there has been no proper evaluation of the working of TDCC itself how this apex body can supervise the activities of 223 LAMPS. The State Govt. should consider this aspect in depth and ensure adequate supervision of the Working of both TDCC and the LAMPS.

Reply of Government

The Coordination Committee presided over by Commissioner, Agriculture and Rural Development, Orissa constituted by the State Government will look into this.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I para 1.39.

Recommendation No. 70 (Para No. 5.192)

The Committee recommend that instead of giving limited ownership rights to the tribals they should be made fullfledged owners of the places of land on which fruits are grown by them. This will not only give them a feeling of economic stability but also encourage them to work tirelessly on their "own land".

Reply of Government

Ordinarily the hill slopes are podu ravaged areas which are within the boundary of reserved forest. The fruit plants raised in the podu ravaged areas will be given to the tribals practising podu cultivation under usufructury right. It may not be possible to vest in tribals the ownership right in the land lying in the reserved forest as this might lead to subsequent deforestation for immediate personal gains.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.28.

Recommendation No. 73 (Para No. 5.195)

The Committee suggest that Govt. should also consider the feasibility of setting up Fruit processing plants in areas where there is scope for large scale production of fruits.

Reply of Government

This is under consideration of the State Govt.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.45

Recommendation No. 81 (Para No. 5.225)

The Committee are in agreement with the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Sch. Tribes that rural electrification is important for development of tribal areas. In the absence of necessary information about the progress achieved in rural electrification during the Fifth Plan period in Tribal sub-plan area of Orissa, it is difficult

for the committee to come to any definite conclusion. The Committee however feel that rural electrifications should be given top priority during the Sixth Plan period and more funds should be earmarked for rural electrification programme in tribal areas both by the Central and State Governments.

Reply of Government

There are 18,272 inhabited Revenue villages in the sub-plan area covering 118 blocks, out of which till the end of 1979-80, 4021 villages were electrified. During the 6th Plan period it is proposed to electrify 3007 villages more in the sub-plan area. Thus by the end of 80—85, 7628 villages will be electrified in the sub-plan area.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN
dated 31st December 1982]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I, para 1.48

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation No. 9 (Para No. 2.10)

The Committee feel that a vital role in tribal development as well as assessment of the achievements made as a result of various schemes/programmes is to be played by the Ministry of Home Affairs which is the nodal organisation at the central level for the development of entire tribal areas in the country. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry of Home Affairs to effectively coordinate the activities of all the Central Ministries with the concerned State Governments as they alone can watch the balanced development of the tribal areas. The Committee recommend that in the Ministry of Home Affairs, a separate Department for Tribal Welfare should be set up so that there can be proper evaluation of the progress made in various developmental programmes being implemented in the different tribal regions of the country.

Reply of Government

The Ministry of Home Affairs is already in correspondences with the Central Ministries to ascertain the steps taken by them for the development of Tribal Areas. The concerned Central Ministries have been asked to prepare sub-Plans for Tribal Areas, and the matter being pursued with them. The question of having a separate department for Tribal Welfare, within the Ministry of Home Affairs, is under consideration.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/61-TDN
dated 31st December 1962]

Comments of the Committee

As the question of having a separate Department for Tribal Welfare is pending since long, the Committee suggest that an early decision should be taken in this regard. They would also like to be informed of the final decision in the matter.

Recommendation No. 15 (Para No. 2.34)

The Committee understand that in Madhya Pradesh there is a Baster District Development Authority on the lines of Dandakaranya Development Authority to look after the development of that tribal district. The Committee recommend that Government of Orissa should examine the possibility of setting up Koraput District Development Authority to look after the development of tribals in Koraput.

Reply of Government

The question of setting up Koraput District Development Authority to look after the Development of the tribals in Koraput is under consideration of the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated
31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee trust that the State Government will take final decision in the matter urgently.

Recommendation No. 20 (Para No. 3.26)

The Committee are unhappy to learn that all the Union Ministries concerned with the work of tribal development have not established cells for monitoring of development programmes undertaken in the tribal areas although the Planning Commission have specifically suggested that in the guidelines issued by them to various Ministries that the Central Ministries must make their own arrangements for suitable nominating of programmes in tribal areas. The Committee are also concerned to note that the Ministry of Home Affairs who shoulder major responsibility so far as tribal development is concerned also do not have adequate arrangements for monitoring various schemes/programmes in tribal area. The Committee strongly recommend that all the concerned Central Ministries should establish with adequate staff for monitoring and evaluation of their sectoral programmes in tribal areas, because expenditure of funds without monitoring is of no use.

Reply of Government

The question of setting up Cells for Monitoring of programme of Tribal Sub-plan is being pursued with the Central Ministries actively at a high level. In the Ministry of Home Affairs a Monitoring Cell has been set up.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN, dated
31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be informed if monitoring Cells have been set up in the Central Ministries.

Recommendation No. 42 (Para No. 5.51)

The Committee are surprised to note that different types of Minor Irrigation Project schemes i.e. Minor Irrigation (Flow), Minod Irrigation (Lift), Minor Irrigation (Dug-wells) and very small Minor Irrigation (Flow) with less than 60 acres ayacut are implemented by different agencies. The Committee suggest that one single agency should be made responsible for handling the execution of Minor Irrigation schemes so that there is no problem regarding coordination among the different agencies and any overlapping between two or more schemes is avoided.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is under consideration, though no serious coordination problems and overlapping problems have been encountered in tribal areas.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be apprised of the final action taken by the State Government on the recommendation.

Recommendation No. 44 (Para No. 5.79)

The Committee suggest that while planning school buildings in the tribal areas necessary provision should be made for constructing laboratories, libraries, teachers' quarters etc. even at a later stage if the limitation of funds does not permit their construction initially. The Committee recommend that in sparsely populated areas Ashram Schools or residential schools should be provided and in less sparsely populated areas, hostel facilities should be provided. Besides giving scholarships, stipends, free text books etc. to students Govt. should also consider the desirability of giving some monetary incentive to the tribal parents so that they do not feel the absence of the child from home to attend to their domestic chores or to earn a paltry sum of money. The Committee hope that these measures, if taken sincerely, will help reduce the rate of drop-outs at various stages of education which is very high at present.

Reply of Government

At the primary school level in addition to providing residential facility regular attendance scholarships are also given to induce students to come to schools regularly. Garments are also supplied to the students of Sevashrams in addition to free text books. The question of giving monetary incentive to the tribal parents for allowing their children to attend the school is under consideration of the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN, dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee should be informed of the final decision in the matter.

Recommendation No. 66 (Para No. 5.179)

The Committee note that the tribals are allowed to collect the forest produce like Mahua, Tamarind, and Sal. In some of the Reserve Forests even edible fruits, roots, creepers, thatch grass, Sabai grass are allowed free to them. The Committee suggest that a uniform policy should be adopted in all the reserve forests so that harmonious relations are maintained between the forest authorities and the tribals and the tribal do not feel that their traditional rights and privileges are being encroached upon.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is being studied for consideration by the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN, dated 31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to know the final action taken in the matter.

Recommendation No. 67 (Para No. 5.180)

The Committee suggest that the Govt. should consider planting more trees bearing oil seeds in the forests so that edible oils could be extracted from them and the foreign exchange being spent on the import of edible oils is saved.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is under consideration of the State Government.

[Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 16015/22/81-TDN, dated
31st December, 1982.]

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be informed of the final action taken by the State Government.

NEW DELHI;
March, 24, 1983

Chaitra 3, 1905 (Saka)

A. C. DAS,
Chairman,
Committee on the Welfare of
Scheduled Castes and
Scheduled Tribes.

Koraput	1	5	2	6	2	73	19	92	22	2053	22			
Puri	1	9	..	10	224	67	21	34	..	122	19			
Sambalpur	2	7	..	9	202	49	35	..	84	22	1845			
Sundargarh	1	16	..	17	54	31	7	27	35	16	858			
TOTAL	25	59	15	1	100	212	616	174	118	6	914	24	21351	27

Note R - Rural Centre.

SU Semi-urban Centre

U - Urban Centre

M/Pt - Metropolitan / Port Towns

APPBO - Average population per bank office.

APPENDIX II

No. Z-20017/2/81-PHE

Government of India

Ministry of Works and Housing

New Delhi, dated the 6th July, 1981.

To

The Chief Secretaries of all State Govts. and Union Territories Administrations.

Sub: Recommendation No. 262 of the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1978-79—Provision of Safe Drinking Water Supply in the Tribal areas.

Sir,

In supersession of this Ministry's letter No. Z-20017/2/81-PHE, dated, the 3rd April, 1981, on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to reproduce the contents of the Recommendation No. 262 of the 26th report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1978-79 as under:—

Recommendation No. 262

8.89. The protected supply of drinking water should be provided in tribal areas where it is lacking and the existing source should be improved. In the identification of problem villages in the tribal areas the units should be hamlet rather than a village.

8.90. It is observed that various State Govts./Union Territories Administrations are not maintaining separate data regarding coverage of Scheduled Tribes under Drinking Water Supply Schemes. It is, therefore, not possible to know the exact coverage of this community under the programmes. Separate statistics should be maintained for this community so that a realistic plan for drinking water supply arrangements for Scheduled Tribes community including target may be possible on priority basis.

The above recommendation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been under consideration of the

Govt. of India for sometimes past. The need for formulating special component Plans for Scheduled Tribes has already been stressed by the Prime Minister to ensure the flow of benefits from development programmes to this weaker and deprived section of the population. The Working Group on Development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the 6th Plan has also made a number of recommendations in this connection.

High priority has been given in the Sixth Plan to the provision of safe drinking water to the problem villages where the position is more acute. An outlay of Rs. 2,007.11 crores has been provided in the Plan for this purpose. Of this outlay, Rs. 1,407.11 crores are in the State Plans (Minimum Needs Programme) and Rs. 600 crores in the Central Plans (Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme). The Sixth Plan document states that the approach will be to provide at least one source of drinking water in every village identified as a scarcity or health problem village.

Keeping in view of the above facts, the State Govts./Union Territories are requested to take urgent steps in the matter of providing safe drinking water to the tribal communities as indicated below:—

1. The protected supply of drinking water should be provided in tribal areas where it is lacking and the existing sources should be improved.

2. In the identification of problem villages in the tribal areas, the units should be hamlet rather than a village.

3. Separate data may be maintained for Scheduled Castes communities so that a realistic plan for drinking water supply for this community may be drawn up and target fixed on priority basis.

4. The number of Scheduled Tribes villages with and without drinking water facilities may please be collected and furnished to the Adviser, CPHEEO, Ministry of Works and Housing, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.

It will be highly appreciated, if the steps taken by the State Govts. etc. are intimated to this Ministry at regular intervals.

Yours faithfully,

'Sd/-

(L. M. MENEZES)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India.

APPENDIX III

D.O. No. PC/BC/11-7(1)/81-Vol. II

Manmohan Singh
Member-Secretary

Planning Commission
Yojana Bhawan, Parliament St.
New Delhi, the 27th July 1981.

My dear

In continuation of my earlier letter No. PC/BC/11-1(7)81 dated May 14, 1981, I enclose a copy of the Recommendation No. 2.9 of the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Orissa. As will be evident from the Recommendation, the Committee desires that not only the sectoral outlays be indicated for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but that a special responsibility rests on Central Ministries to play a positive role in the tribal development in their respective sectors. Further, it has been emphasised that all the concerned Ministries of the Government of India should evolve suitable programmes for development of tribal areas in consultation with Government of Orissa. They also desire that there should be proper monitoring of various developmental schemes being implemented for tribal areas in order to assess performance and achievements.

In view of the Recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee, you are requested to furnish information on (a) outlays and programmes implemented under your Ministry in the Tribal sub-plan areas in Orissa; (b) whether your Ministry have set up any machinery to monitor programmes in tribal areas of States having tribal sub-plans; and (c) whether any assessment of the programmes being implemented in tribal areas under your Ministry particularly Orissa, has been done so far. The information has to be furnished to the Parliamentary Committee by 1st August, 1981.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
(Manmohan Singh)

APPENDIX IV

(Vide para 4 of Introduction)

Analysis of the action taken by Government on recommendations contained in the 99th Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

I.	Total number of recommendations	61
II.	Recommendations/observations that have been accepted by Government <i>Vide</i> recommendations at Serial Number 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41, 43, 46, 48, 49, 52, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 68, 69, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79 & 80).	
	Number	46
	Percentage to total	57
III.	Recommendations/observations which the committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Governments replies (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Serial Number, 6, 12, 14, 25, 29, 45, 47, 63, & 78).	
	Numbers	9
	Percentage to total	11
IV.	Recommendations/observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration (<i>vide</i> recommen- dations at Serial Number 3, 4, 8, 16, 26, 27, 28, 31, 37, 38, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 57, 70, 73, & 81).	
	Numbers	19
	Percentage to total	23
V.	Recommendations/observations in respect of which final replies of Govern- ment have not been received (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Serial numbers 9, 15, 20, 42, 44, 66 & 67).	
	Numbers	7
	Percentage to total	9

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