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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2017-2018)**

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

**(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT)**

Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fiftieth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment).

FIFTY-SEVENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

FIFTY-SEVENTH REPORT

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(2017-2018)

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(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
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Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.08.2018

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 09.08.2018



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL
JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18)**

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
5. Shri Jhina Hikaka
6. Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
7. Shri Sadashiv Kisan Lokhande
8. Smt. K. Maragatham
9. Shri Kariya Munda
10. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
11. Dr. Udit Raj
12. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
13. Smt. Satabdi Roy
14. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
15. Prof. Sadhu Singh
16. Smt. Mamata Thakur
17. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
18. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav
- *19. Dr. Karan Singh Yadav
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
- #23. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
24. Shri Chunibhai Kanjibhai Gohel
25. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
26. Dr. Narendra Jadhav
- **27. Smt. Kanta Kardam
28. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
29. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
30. Smt. Chhaya Verma
31. Shri Ramkumar Verma

* Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 14.03.2018

** Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 02.06.2018

Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 23.06.2018 in place of Shri Ahamed Hassan.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director
4. Smt. Shilpa Kant - Sr. Executive Assistant

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, do present this Fifty-seventh Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fiftieth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on 'Demands for Grants - 2018-19' relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment).

2. The Fiftieth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 8th March, 2018. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment) furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 13th June, 2018. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 7th August, 2018.

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

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

NEW DELHI;

7 August, 2018
16 Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1 The Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in the Fiftieth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2018-19)" of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment).

1.2 The Fiftieth Report was presented to Lok Sabha/laid in Rajya Sabha on 8th March, 2018. It contained 14 Observations/Recommendations. Action Taken Replies of Government in respect of all the Observations/Recommendations have been received and are categorized as under: -

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

Paragraph Nos. 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 3.13, 3.15, 3.24, 3.42, 4.6 and 4.16

(Total 9 - Chapter II)

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

Paragraph No. 5.13

(Total 1 - Chapter III)

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which require reiteration:

Paragraph Nos. 3.14 and 5.12.

(Total 2 - Chapter IV)

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

Paragraph Nos. 3.32 and 3.33.

(Total 2 - Chapter V)

1.3 The Committee desire that Action Taken Replies on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken notes in respect of the Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report for which interim reply has been given by the Government may be furnished at the earliest and in any case not later than three months after the presentation of this Report.

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

A. Proper and effective implementation of the 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards'.

Recommendation (Para 3.13)

1.5 The Committee noted that the 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards' aims to provide financial assistance to the children of the parents traditionally engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards like scavengers of dry latrines, tanners, flayers, sweepers, rag-pickers and sweepers having traditional links with scavenging and those engaged in cleaning of manholes or open drains. The Committee were constrained to find that for such a crucial scheme, there was very less budgetary allocation during the last few years. The Committee observed that this was because the States were not showing interest in identifying the eligible candidates and subsequently sending the proposals for demand of funds to execute the Scheme over and above their committed liability. As the RE under this Scheme was extremely low and the States were not sending proposals, the Committee urged the Department to pursue the States/UTs to implement this Scheme more effectively by creating more awareness about this Scheme specially in rural areas so that more number of candidates are selected to avail scholarship under this scheme.

Reply of the Government

1.6 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply have stated:-

“The Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards has been approved by the competent authority for continuation of Scheme from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (Co terminus with Fourteenth Finance Commission with following main modification in order to yield better results);

- (i) The Scholarship may also cover the children whose parents are engaged in hazardous cleaning as defined in section 2(i) (d) of Manual Scavenger’s Act 2013.
- (ii) The scholarship rate for day scholars has been increased from Rs. 110/- per month to Rs. 225/- per month.
- (iii) National Safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) will be coordinating agency between Central Government and States/UTs administration for effective implementation of scheme. NSKFDC will oversee, monitor and provide support;
 - (a) To ensure enrolment of children covered under this scheme.
 - (b) To provide assistance to enrolled children in filling the scholarship forms and submitting it to the school authority.
 - (c) Coordinate with State Government agencies for processing, verification and disbursement of scholarship on line.
 - (d) To organize special camps and special enrolment drive for motivating parents to send their children to school regularly and to not let them drop out.

Further the Budget Estimate under this scheme has been increased from Rs. 2.70 crore in 2017-18 to Rs. 5.00 crore in 2018-19. The central assistance will be released based on proposal received from States/UTs under this scheme.”

1.7 The Committee observe that in pursuance of their recommendation, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has taken appropriate measures for proper and effective implementation of the Scheme of 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards' by revising the scholarship rate for day scholars from Rs. 110/- per month to Rs. 225/- per month, covering the children of the parents engaged in hazardous cleaning as defined in section 2(i) (d) of Manual Scavenger's Act 2013 under the Scheme, organizing special camps and special enrolment drive for motivating parents to send their children to school regularly and to not let them drop out, etc. The Committee commend the efforts of the Department and feel that the Department must go extra miles to implement this Scheme seriously as the States are not rendering adequate number of proposals for utilization of funds under this Scheme and this is the only Scheme for SC children at primary level. The Committee would, therefore, like to know the latest status about the number of beneficiaries, State-wise, till date.

B. Spreading more awareness for wide coverage of students under 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards'.

Recommendation (Para 3.14)

1.8 The Committee found that the children who are eligible under this Scheme but are not identified by the State Governments will not be able to avail the scholarship from any other Educational Scheme of the Department also as there is no other Scheme at the primary level for SC students other than Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students studying in Class IX and X which is a Scheme for secondary level education. The Committee, therefore, felt that the proper and effective implementation of this Scheme is imperative as this is the only Scheme which can educationally empower the children of marginalized and downtrodden section of our society. As the States were not very keen in implementing this Scheme, was it not possible for the Department to give the publicity to this Scheme through electronic Media, Newspapers (including vernacular press) and invite applications on Ministry's website or on portal of this Scheme, so that the Department can directly give Scholarship to these children. The Committee desired the Department to explore this route/avenue.

Reply of the Government

1.9 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply have stated:-

“The scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards is a Centrally Sponsored scheme and accordingly State Government/UT administrations are the implementing agency for calling of applications, selection of eligible beneficiaries and disbursal of scholarship to beneficiaries. However, for effective implementation and monitoring of this scheme, National Safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) under this Ministry has been nominated as the coordinating agency between Central Government and States/UTs Administration to provide support in enrolment of students, special drive/camps for motivating parents to send their children to school.”

1.10 The Committee note that there is no other Scheme for SC students at primary level other than 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards'. Therefore, it is extremely essential to implement this Scheme properly and effectively all over the Country. Although, National Safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) has been nominated by the Department to implement and monitor the Scheme effectively, still the Committee find that the Corporation has not able to provide desired results as there is no sizeable increase in the number of students in the last few years and the funds allocated for this Scheme are also very less. The Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Department to spread more awareness of this Scheme through electronic media as well as Newspapers (including vernacular press) and invite applications on Ministry's website or on portal of this Scheme so that large number of SC students at Pre-Matric level could avail the benefits provided through this Scheme.

C. Non-utilisation of funds under 'National Overseas Scholarship Scheme '.

Recommendation (Para 3.24)

1.11 The Committee noted that National Overseas Scholarship Scheme run by the Department for Scheduled Caste Students is one of its kind which provides assistance to selected Scheduled Caste, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes, landless agricultural labourers and traditional artisans' students for pursuing higher studies of Master level courses and PhD programmes abroad in specified fields of study. The Committee were constrained to note that there was nearly no utilisation of allocated funds in 2017-18 i.e. only Rs. 21 lakh had been utilised out of Rs. 15 crore till 31.01.2018. Considering the fact that Ministry of External Affairs is also involved while disbursing funds to the beneficiaries as admissible/due scholarship funds in the form of Tuition Fees/Maintenance allowances, contingency allowances, etc. the Committee desired the Department to resolve the accounting issues within Ministry of External Affairs at the earliest and pursue them to book the expenditure under relevant head as soon as possible so that the funds do not remain unutilised. The Committee also desired to know what would be the implications and complications, if the Department implemented the entire Scheme from start to giving Scholarship directly to our Embassies/High Commissions abroad instead of routing the Scheme through MEA. If there are not many hurdles the Committee desired the Department to take the entire Scheme in its hand so to obviate any such glitches.

Reply of the Government

1.12 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply have stated:-

"Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment authorizes funds to the different missions based on the number of students pursuing studies abroad at regular intervals during each financial year. Booking of expenditure out of the authorized amount is made by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) for booking of the funds vide D.O letter dated 13th November, 2017. As suggested by the Principal Chief Controller of Accounts, MEA, a total sum of Rs. 14.35 crore has been authorized to various Indian Missions abroad directly through Public Finance Management System(PFMS).

It may be added here that the Ministry is already disbursing the scholarship to the candidates through the Indian Embassies/Missions situated in the concerned foreign countries. It is also pertinent to mention here that low utilization does not impact the regular release of Maintenance Allowance/other allowances to the Students abroad and reimbursement of fees to the Universities/Institutes directly by the Indian Missions abroad.”

1.13 The Committee note that under National Overseas Scholarship Scheme only Rs. 21 lakh had been utilised out of Rs. 15 crore till 31.01.2018. However, within last two months of the financial year 2017-18, more than Rs. 14 crore was utilised by the Department. The Committee deprecate this attitude of the Ministry to spend the allocated funds in a very short span at the end of the financial year in an inconsistent, uneven and disjointed manner. The Committee feel that if the Department is disbursing the scholarship to the candidates through the Indian Embassies/Missions situated in the concerned foreign countries involving Ministry of External Affairs without any hindrance then there should be even disbursement of scholarships amongst the candidates throughout the year. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should set up an effective mechanism for selection of the eligible candidates and disbursement of scholarship money as soon as the candidates applies for the scholarship and not at the very end of the financial year.

D. Setting up of strong and effective mechanism to ensure optimum utilisation of funds under 'Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes Entrepreneurs'.

Recommendation (Para 3.42)

1.14 The Committee noted that Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes Entrepreneurs is the only Scheme to promote entrepreneurship amongst the Scheduled Castes, and to increase financial inclusion for SC entrepreneurs so as to motivate them for further growth in the society. Since introduction of the Scheme in 2014-15, the allocation for this Scheme is on wane. In 2015-16, the BE of Rs.102.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 0.01 crore because Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Limited, the implementation agency of this Scheme, could not spend the allocated funds. Since then very less amount had been allocated under this Scheme every year and there was 'nil' utilisation in 2017-18. Taking note of the fact that this scheme is entirely a new approach by the Department in the field of promotion of entrepreneurship among Scheduled Castes which is a laudable step for their economic development, the Committee recommended the Department to set up a strong and effective mechanism to ensure that the allocated funds were utilised in full. The Committee also desired the Department to take measures for creating awareness about this Scheme through print and electronic media so that more people are benefitted and the funds do not go unutilised. The Committee were also of the opinion that as the Department had enhanced the BE to Rs. 140 crore in 2018-19 and there is a visible trend of non/less utilisation of funds, serious efforts should be made to ensure optimum utilisation of funds under this Scheme in 2018-19.

Reply of the Government

1.15 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply have stated:-

“The recommendation/observation of the Committee has been noted. Accordingly, the scheme has been revised, the rate of interest has been reduced and the eligibility criteria has been relaxed. As a result, the receipt of number of applications has increased under the scheme which will lead to full utilization of funds.”

1.16 The Committee note that in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee, the Scheme of Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes Entrepreneurs has been revised by the Department, the rate of interest has also been reduced and the eligibility criteria for this Scheme has been relaxed. The Committee are happy to note that the Department has taken necessary steps on their part for proper and effective implementation of Scheme as well as full utilization of funds. However, keeping in view of the earlier performance of this Scheme, the Committee would like to be apprised of the latest number of beneficiaries, State-wise, under this Scheme.

E. Less or 'nil' expenditure of funds under various Schemes of 'Integrated Programme for Old Persons (IPOP)'.

Recommendation (Para 5.12)

1.17 The Committee noted that Integrated Programme for Old Persons (IPOP) is a significant Scheme which deals with improving the quality of life of senior citizens by providing basic amenities through providing financial assistance upto 90 per cent of the project cost to the Government/Non-Governmental Organizations/ Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies etc. for running and maintaining Old Age Homes, Daycare Centres and Mobile Medicare Units. The Committee were constrained to observe the details of the funds allocated and utilised under various programmes of this Scheme. The Committee found that there were seven Schemes integrated as one Scheme for Senior Citizens and there was no expenditure in six Schemes in the last three years except for 'Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP'. The Committee failed to understand that when there was expenditure in only one Scheme of IPOP for the last three years what were other Schemes meant for without any allocation or expenditure. The Committee recommended that if several schemes, integrated as one Scheme, were not being implemented properly and if there was only one Scheme under IPOP in which funds could be utilised then the Department should consider disintegration of IPOP and allot funds under separate heads and then utilise them effectively.

Reply of the Government

1.18 The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply have stated:-

“The Working Group on Social Welfare, constituted by the then Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog) for formulation of XII Five Year plan (2012-17), has made recommendations for undertaking the following new Schemes/Programmes:-

- (1) Awareness generation for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007
- (2) Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens
- (3) Creation of a National Trust for the Aged
- (4) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at District level

- (5) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at National level
- (6) Implementation of National Policy on Senior Citizens.

As per recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, four plan schemes as mentioned below, have been merged with the relevant components/programmes of the scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons:-

- (1) Awareness generation for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007
- (2) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at District level
- (3) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at National level
- (4) Implementation of National Policy on Senior Citizens.

Following two proposals were dropped, as per the recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee:-

- (i) Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens
- (ii) Creation of a National Trust for the Aged.

It is further stated that apart from the budgetary allocation to the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP), renamed as Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSr.C)), meagre funds were allocated to the above-said schemes during 2015-16 and no allocation have been made thereafter for the above-said schemes.”

1.19 The Committee noted that the Integrated Programme for Old Persons (IPOP) which has now been renamed as Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSr.C) is a significant Scheme which deals with improving the quality of life of senior citizens in which there are seven Schemes integrated as one Scheme for Senior Citizens and there was no expenditure in six Schemes in the last three years except for 'Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP'. The Committee in their earlier recommendation had urged the Department to consider disintegration of IPOP and allot funds under separate heads and then utilise them effectively. The Department, instead of taking action on the said recommendation of the Committee, has only mentioned the names of the Schemes which have been integrated under IPOP and admitted that meagre funds were allocated to the above-said schemes during 2015-16 and no allocation has been made thereafter for the above-said schemes. The Committee fail to fathom what solution the Department has sought to deal with the problem of allocation of meagre funds and to utilize full amount of the allocated funds. The Committee are dismayed with this lackadaisical approach of the Department. The Committee exhort the Department to take measures to raise the funds for this Integrated Scheme and pursue the Ministry of Finance for the same. The Committee also reiterate its earlier recommendation and desire that the Department should take this Scheme seriously and explore ways to utilize funds in every Scheme of IPOP. If need be, the Department may disintegrate the Scheme of IPOP and allocate funds under separate heads for its effective utilization.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para 2.14)

2.1 The Committee clap the Department for utilisation of fund upto 99.5 per cent of the total Budget for the year 2016-17. However, the Committee note that during 2017-18 under-utilisation of allocated funds has been mainly under the North-East Head of some Schemes. There is 10 per cent mandatory allocation for Schemes and as there is low demand by some of these States, this allocated amount for NE States was not fully utilised. The Committee appreciate the efforts of the Department in pursuing the Ministry of Development of North-East Region (DoNER) to relax 10 per cent mandatory allocation to 5 per cent. Taking note of the fact that Ministry of DoNER have no objection regarding exemption sought by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Committee desire that the Department should go extra miles and pursue Ministry of DoNER vigorously to relax this 10 per cent mandatory allocation to 5 per cent for SCs in North East Region in the next financial year positively. This would help utilization of these funds on the other Schemes of the Department.

Reply of the Government

2.2 With respect to relaxation of 10 percent mandatory allocation to 5 per cent for schemes for SCs in North East Region, it is informed that as per the Office Memorandum dated 10th January, 2014 of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, the lump sum provision for the North East Region had been exempted/permitted to 2% of the total allocation in a year for Scheduled Caste

development with respect to relaxation for schemes for backward classes, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region vide their Office Memorandum No.11012/6/2017-O/o Economic Adviser dated 28th November, 2017 has informed that in case the Department is unable to spend 10% of the budget provision under the schemes of Backward Classes, it is in authority to re-appropriate it to other schemes of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has also intimated that they have no objection with respect to the exemption sought from earmarking of 10% of the Budget provision under the scheme for Backward Classes, as long as Department of Social Justice and Empowerment adheres to 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) expenditure in North Eastern Region (NER).

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 2.15)

2.3 The Committee further note that besides under utilisation of funds by NE States, pending UCs regarding almost all the major educational and financial schemes of the Department is a major reason for the unreleased grants which results in underutilization of allocated funds. The Committee are fed up with the same excuses and explanations of the Department year after year. The Committee find that in the last 4 years no infallible steps have been taken to resolve the issues that lead to shortfall in expenditure. The Committee wonder if the existing mechanism is not yielding any

positive results why the Department is not resorting to other measures to deal with defaulter States/UTs. As there is already very nominal utilization of funds in the schemes of the Department in NER, the Committee desire the Department to at least take this matter seriously and pursue these States to send UCs in time so that funds could be released in time.

Reply of the Government

2.4 The matter regarding submission of utilization certificates (UCs) and proposals from North East States is taken up on priority basis in the Department. Regular meetings are held with the Senior Officers of the States/ UT Administrations to pursue with them to submit the necessary documents in order to release the funds under the schemes. North East States were also informed to send proposals alongwith UCs vide this Department's letter dated 29th June, 2017, 13th October, 2017, 2nd May, 2018 and 9th May, 2018.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 2.16)

2.5 The Committee find that there are pending arrears to the tune of approximately Rs.8600 crore under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes out of which Rs. 5983 crore are still pending with the Department in 2017-18. The Committee note that the Department has no choice but to move to the Cabinet for extra funds. The

Committee are satisfied with the efforts of the Department to clear these arrears. The Committee are of the considered view that though Ministry of Finance have agreed to clear the pending arrears yet the Department must pursue this matter seriously so that remaining arrears are cleared once for all.

Reply of the Government

2.6 As per the recommendations of Expenditure Finance Committee, a proposal was placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) seeking approval for continuation of Post Matric Scholarship scheme to Scheduled Caste Students for three years i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20 and higher allocation of funds for clearing the arrears and some modifications for better implementation of this scheme. CCEA in its meeting held on 4th April, 2018 has approved the proposal of this scheme. Accordingly this Ministry has issued revised guidelines of Post Matric Scholarship scheme to Scheduled Caste Students on 3rd May, 2018 to all States/UTs. All the States/UTs have been requested to furnish the details as per the revised guidelines in order to enable this department to work out the actual pending arrears and release the same at the earliest.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 3.13)

2.7 The Committee note that the 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards' aims to provide financial assistance to the children of the parents traditionally engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards like scavengers of dry latrines, tanners, flayers, sweepers, rag-pickers and sweepers having traditional links with scavenging and those engaged in cleaning of manholes or open drains. The Committee are constrained to find that for such a crucial scheme, there is very less budgetary allocation during the last few years. The Committee observe that this is because the States are not showing interest in identifying the eligible candidates and subsequently sending the proposals for demand of funds to execute the Scheme over and above their committed liability. As the RE under this Scheme is extremely low and the States are not sending proposals, the Committee urge the Department to pursue the States/UTs to implement this Scheme more effectively by creating more awareness about this Scheme specially in rural areas so that more number of candidates are selected to avail scholarship under this scheme.

Reply of the Government

2.8 The Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards has been approved by the competent authority for continuation of Scheme from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (Co terminus with Fourteenth Finance Commission with following main modification in order to yield better results);

(I) The Scholarship may also cover the children whose parents are engaged in hazardous cleaning as defined in section 2(i) (d) of Manual Scavenger's Act 2013.

(II) The scholarship rate for day scholars has been increased from Rs. 110/- per month to Rs. 225/- per month.

(III) National Safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) will be coordinating agency between Central Government and States/UTs administration for effective implementation of scheme. NSKFDC will oversee, monitor and provide support;

(a) To ensure enrolment of children covered under this scheme.

(b) To provide assistance to enrolled children in filling the scholarship forms and submitting it to the school authority.

(c) Coordinate with State Government agencies for processing, verification and disbursement of scholarship on line.

(d) To organize special camps and special enrolment drive for motivating parents to send their children to school regularly and to not let them drop out.

Further the Budget Estimate under this scheme has been increased from Rs. 2.70 crore in 2017-18 to Rs. 5.00 crore in 2018-19. The central assistance will be released based on proposal received from States/UTs under this scheme.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para 1.7 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Recommendation (Para 3.15)

2.9 The Committee further observe that the proposal for revision of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards for better implementation through National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) is also in process. The Committee desire that the revision may be done at the earliest and the Committee be informed of the same.

Reply of the Government

2.10 The rates of the scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarships for the children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards have been revised as detailed in reply to Para 3.13. The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) have been nominated as the coordinating agency.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 3.24)

2.11 The Committee note that National Overseas Scholarship Scheme run by the Department for Scheduled Caste Students is one of its kind which provides assistance to selected Scheduled Caste, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes, landless agricultural labourers and traditional artisans' students for pursuing higher studies of Master level courses and PhD programmes abroad in specified fields of study. The Committee are constrained to note that there is nearly no utilisation of allocated funds in 2017-18 i.e. only Rs. 21 lakh have been utilised out of Rs. 15 crore till 31.01.2018. Considering the fact that Ministry of External Affairs is also involved while disbursing funds to the beneficiaries as admissible/due scholarship funds in the form of Tuition Fees/Maintenance allowances, contingency allowances, etc. the Committee desire the Department to resolve the accounting issues within Ministry of External Affairs at the earliest and pursue them to book the expenditure under relevant head as soon as possible so that the funds do not remain unutilised. The Committee also desire to know what would be the implications and complications, if the Department implements the entire Scheme from start to giving Scholarship directly to our Embassies/High Commissions abroad instead of routing the Scheme through MEA. If there are not many hurdles the Committee desire the Department to take the entire Scheme in its hand so to obviate any such glitches.

Reply of the Government

2.12 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment authorizes funds to the different missions based on the number of students pursuing studies abroad at regular intervals

during each financial year. Booking of expenditure out of the authorized amount is made by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) for booking of the funds vide D.O letter dated 13th November, 2017. As suggested by the Principal Chief Controller of Accounts, MEA, a total sum of Rs. 14.35 crore has been authorized to various Indian Missions abroad directly through Public Finance Management System(PFMS).

2.13 It may be added here that the Ministry is already disbursing the scholarship to the candidates through the Indian Embassies/Missions situated in the concerned foreign countries. It is also pertinent to mention here that low utilization does not impact the regular release of Maintenance Allowance/other allowances to the Students abroad and reimbursement of fees to the Universities/Institutes directly by the Indian Missions abroad.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para 1.13 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Recommendation (Para 3.42)

2.14 The Committee note that Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes Entrepreneurs is the only Scheme to promote entrepreneurship amongst the Scheduled

Castes, and to increase financial inclusion for SC entrepreneurs so as to motivate them for further growth in the society. Since introduction of the Scheme in 2014-15, the allocation for this Scheme is on wane. In 2015-16, the BE of Rs.102.00 crore was reduced to Rs. 0.01 crore because Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Limited, the implementation agency of this Scheme, could not spent the allocated funds. Since then very less amount has been allocated under this Scheme every year and there is 'nil' utilisation in 2017-18. Taking note of the fact that this scheme is entirely a new approach by the Department in the field of promotion of entrepreneurship among Scheduled Castes which is a laudable step for their economic development, the Committee recommend the Department to set up a strong and effective mechanism to ensure that the allocated funds are utilised in full. The Committee also desire the Department to take measures for creating awareness about this Scheme through print and electronic media so that more people are benefitted and the funds do not go unutilised. The Committee are also of the opinion that as the Department has enhanced the BE to Rs. 140 crore in 2018-19 and there is a visible trend of non/less utilisation of funds, serious efforts should be made to ensure optimum utilisation of funds under this Scheme in 2018-19.

Reply of the Government

2.15 The recommendation/observation of the Committee has been noted. Accordingly, the scheme has been revised, the rate of interest has been reduced and the eligibility criteria has been relaxed. As a result, the receipt of number of applications has increased under the scheme which will lead to full utilization of funds

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O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Date 13th June, 2018

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para 1.16 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Recommendation (Para 4.6)

2.16 The Committee note that Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Economically Backward Classes (EBC) Students is meant for educational upliftment of EBCs. The Committee are dismayed to find that allocation under the Scheme is less than the demand from the States i.e. Rs. 10 crore have been allocated as RE under this Scheme in 2017-18 whereas the demand of the States/UTs is around Rs. 86 crore. The same thing happened in 2016-17. The Committee find that this is a crucial Scheme for educationally uplift the EBCs and bring them into the mainstream and the States/UTs are also showing interest and selecting candidates under this Scheme and putting forth demand for funds to the Department. The Committee are happy to note that the Budget allocation of Rs. 103 crore under the Scheme for the year 2018-19 has been enhanced of 903 per cent from the allocation of 2017-18. The Committee expect that the enhanced funds will be utilized fully. As the Scheme has been launched in the year 2014-15 and welfare of EBCs also comes within the mandate of the Department, the Committee urge upon the Department to request Ministry of Finance to allocate more funds under the Division of Other Backward Classes so that the Department could

implement various Schemes meant for OBCs/EBCs effectively and Schemes can also be funded adequately.

Reply of the Government

2.17 From the current year 2018-19, under the Dr. Ambedkar Post-Matric Scholarship scheme for EBC Students, Notional Allocation (N.A) of the budget estimate has been made Region-wise on the basis of total population of the States/UTs and the same have been communicated to States/UTs. Funds are released to States/UTs on receipt of complete proposals in all respects. All the States/UTs have been requested to send the complete proposal alongwith Utilization Certificate (as per GFR 2017) of the grants released in previous years for release of grant-in-aid for the current financial year 2018-19 vide letter dated 7th May, 2018. The proposals are awaited from States/Uts. As regards enhancement of allocation, there is sufficient fund under Dr. Ambedkar Post-Matric Scholarship scheme for EBC Students. For other schemes being implemented for OBCs and EBCs, budget allocation has been increased from Rs 1237.30 crore in 2017-18 to Rs 1745.00 crore in 2018-19 .This is a remarkable increase of 41.04%.. For, further, enhancement of budget, the matter will be taken up with Ministry of Finance.

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O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 4.16)

2.18 The Committee are shocked to observe that under the Scheme of Construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls, the hostels in the State of Chhattisgarh have been sanctioned/constructed in those areas where there is 'nil' OBC population and these areas are replete with tribals or naxals. The objective of this Scheme is to provide hostel facilities to students belonging to socially and educationally backward classes, especially from rural areas, to enable them to pursue secondary and higher education. Why the Department did not ensure on its own whether the population of OBC exists there or not, is beyond Committee's comprehension. The Committee are further informed by the Secretary of the Department that the grants for construction of the hostels are given to States/UTs only after checking that the land on which the hostels are to be built should belong to the Department of Social Welfare of that State. Considering the fact that the proposals for the Hostels forwarded by the States are for at least 60 per cent for OBC candidates and 40 per cent for SC/ST candidates, the Committee urge upon the Department to first verify the fact that this criterion is followed diligently and a sizeable number of OBC candidates reside there to avail this facility, before granting the funds for construction of hostels otherwise the very purpose of the Scheme is defeated.

Reply of the Government

2.19 The Department has taken note of the fact that the proposals under the Scheme of Construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls received from the States/UTs will be verified for the criteria that the State/UT has at least 60 percent for OBC candidates.

The criterion will be followed diligently before granting the funds and it will be ensured that sizeable number of OBC candidates reside there to avail this facility. For this, letter to all States/UTs are being sent.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

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Dated 13th June, 2018

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Para 5.13)

3.1 The Committee further find that a sizeable amount of the funds allocated under the Scheme of 'Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP' is being utilised for Rashtriya Vayoshree Scheme. The Committee feel that as 'Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP' under which there is remarkable allocation as well as utilisation of funds *vis-a-vis* other Schemes of IPOP, the funds allocated under this Scheme should not be diverted to or used for another Scheme. The Committee desire that when the Department has created a separate head for Rashtriya Vayoshree Scheme it should separately allocate funds for this Scheme.

Reply of the Government

3.2 The funds allocated under IPOP Scheme have not been utilised for the Scheme of Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana (RVY), a Central Sector Scheme introduced from 01.04.2017 for providing physical aids and assisted living devices to the Senior Citizens belonging to BPL Category, since Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana was a new Scheme which is funded from Senior Citizens Welfare Funds and accounting procedure of the Scheme was not finalized, therefore apart from budgetary allocation to IPOP Scheme, additional demand of Rs.16.00 Crore for the Scheme of Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana was sought under the Scheme of IPOP and utilized for Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana. It

may therefore, be seen that the funds allocated in the IPOP have been utilized for IPOP only.

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O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Para 3.14)

4.1 The Committee find that the children who are eligible under this Scheme but are not identified by the State Governments will not be able to avail the scholarship from any other Educational Scheme of the Department also as there is no other Scheme at the primary level for SC students other than Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students studying in Class IX and X which is a Scheme for secondary level education. The Committee, therefore, feel that the proper and effective implementation of this Scheme is imperative as this is the only Scheme which can educationally empower the children of marginalized and downtrodden section of our society. As the States are not very keen in implementing this Scheme, is it not possible for the Department to give the publicity to this Scheme through electronic Media, Newspapers (including vernacular press) and invite applications on Ministry's website or on portal of this Scheme, so that the Department can directly give Scholarship to these children. The Committee desire the Department to explore this route/avenue.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards is a Centrally Sponsored scheme and accordingly State Government/UT administrations are the implementing

agency for calling of applications, selection of eligible beneficiaries and disbursal of scholarship to beneficiaries. However, for effective implementation and monitoring of this scheme, National Safai Karmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) under this Ministry has been nominated as the coordinating agency between Central Government and States/UTs Administration to provide support in enrolment of students, special drive/camps for motivating parents to send their children to school.

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O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para 1.10 of Chapter I of the Report.)

Recommendation (Para 5.12)

4.3 The Committee note that Integrated Programme for Old Persons (IPOP) is a significant Scheme which deals with improving the quality of life of senior citizens by providing basic amenities through providing financial assistance upto 90 per cent of the project cost to the Government/Non-Governmental Organizations/ Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies etc. for running and maintaining Old Age Homes, Daycare Centres and Mobile Medicare Units. The Committee are constrained to observe the details of the funds allocated and utilised under various programmes of this Scheme. The Committee find that there are seven Schemes integrated as one Scheme for

Senior Citizens and there is no expenditure in six Schemes in the last three years except for 'Assistance to NGOs under the Scheme of IPOP'. The Committee fail to understand that when there is expenditure in only one Scheme of IPOP for the last three years what are other Schemes meant for without any allocation or expenditure. The Committee recommend that if several schemes, integrated as one Scheme, are not being implemented properly and if there is only one Scheme under IPOP in which funds could be utilised then the Department should consider disintegration of IPOP and allot funds under separate heads and then utilise them effectively.

Reply of the Government

4.4 The Working Group on Social Welfare, constituted by the then Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog) for formulation of XII Five Year plan (2012-17), has made recommendations for undertaking the following new Schemes/Programmes:-

1. Awareness generation for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act,2007
2. Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens
3. Creation of a National Trust for the Aged
4. Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at District level
5. Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at National level
6. Implementation of National Policy on Senior Citizens.

4.5 As per recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, four plan schemes as mentioned below, have been merged with the relevant components/programmes of the scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons:-

- (I) Awareness generation for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007
- (ii) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at District level
- (iii) Setting up of Helpline and Counseling Centers for Senior Citizens at National level
- (iv) Implementation of National Policy on Senior Citizens.

4.6 Following two proposals were dropped, as per the recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee:-

- (a) Setting up of a National Commission for Senior Citizens
- (b) Creation of a National Trust for the Aged.

4.7 It is further stated that apart from the budgetary allocation to the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP), renamed as Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSr.C)), meagre funds were allocated to the above-said schemes during 2015-16 and no allocation have been made thereafter for the above-said schemes.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para 1.19 of Chapter I of the Report.)

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation (Para 3.32)

5.1 The Committee note that the Self Employment Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) is a vital Scheme for economic and social upliftment of the manual scavengers with the objective of identifying and rehabilitating manual scavengers and their dependents throughout the country. The Committee note that the scheme entirely depends on survey of manual scavengers throughout the country who can be rehabilitated under this Scheme. The Committee find that Census-2011 reported existence of 26,06,278 insanitary latrines in the country, of which 7,94,390 were serviced manually. After the release of Census-2011 data of insanitary latrines, a decision was taken to carry out survey of manual scavengers in 3546 statutory cities/towns where the Census-2011 had pointed out existence of insanitary latrines. While the survey was in progress, Parliament had enacted "The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013), in September, 2013, after which the ongoing survey in the States/UTs was not pursued further and hence desired results could not come. The Committee are dismayed to find that 12737 manual scavengers were identified till January 2017 and this year, till 17.01.2018, a total of 13639 manual scavengers have been identified throughout the country that means only 902 manual scavengers have been identified this year which is a very poor performance by the States. As the Department has constituted a task force

to undertake National Survey on Manual Scavengers and there is still an existence of manual scavengers, the Committee desire the Department to take this matter seriously, give it topmost priority and identify more and more manual scavengers at least at par with the findings of Census 2011 data of insanitary latrines which was more than 26 lakh.

Reply of the Government

5.2 Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation have reported that after survey of 2,59,754 Gram Panchayats 2,78,729 insanitary latrines were identified of which 2,69,029 have been converted into sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Mission upto 19.02.2018. In addition, the social organizations working for the community of manual scavengers have also been reporting existence of unidentified manual scavengers in some part of the country. On the basis of above data, it has been decided to undertake a National Survey in 170 districts of 18 States to identify all those persons who were cleaning the insanitary latrines which have been converted into insanitary latrines and also those who are still engaged as manual scavengers in some areas. The survey is coordinated by National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) through survey teams consisting of District Coordinators drawn from social organizations of the community and district nodal officers appointed by State Government. The survey is being conducted in camp mode by organizing survey camps in each district.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

Recommendation (Para 3.33)

5.3 The Committer wonder how this Scheme is running without spending a single penny from the budgetary allocation. The Committee observe that NSKFDC is the nodal agency which is funding 'Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS)' and now, as informed by the Department, NSKFDC will be funding another Scheme 'Pre Matric Scheme for the Children of those Engaged in Occupations Involving Cleaning and Prone to Health Hazards'. The Committee are not at all satisfied with the performance of the NSKFDC as the Corporation has utilized merely Rs. 5.00 crore out of the allocated Budget of Rs. 44.83 crore till 31.01.2018 . The Committee fail to understand that the BE for 2018-19 has also been reduced to Rs. 30 crore by the Department. As this Scheme is meant for the economic and social upliftment of the manual scavengers who are most educationally and economically backward and downtrodden section of our civil society, the Committee urge the Department to seriously take up this Scheme and request the Ministry of Finance to raise the allocation under the head of NSKFDC so that the funds are sufficient for both the Schemes. The Committee also desire that the monitoring, evaluation study on the working of NSKFDC should be done at the earliest so that the Schemes run by the Corporation could be implemented properly with the desired results.

Reply of the Government

5.4 Funds to the extent of Rs. 35 crores and Rs.5 crores were released under Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) from the budget allocation of 2013-14 and 2017-18 respectively to National Safai Karamcharis Finance

and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) for providing rehabilitation benefits to the identified manual scavengers. NSKFDC also had a corpus of funds from the unspent balance of funds released prior to 2013-14 under the pre-revised scheme of SRMS. The following expenditure has been incurred during the year 2013-14 to 2017-18 under SRMS to provide rehabilitation benefits to the identified manual scavengers:

(Rs. In lakh)

Financial Year	Benefit under SRMS			
	Onetime cash assistance	Skill development training	Capital subsidy	Total
2013-14	65.20	0.00	0.00	65.20
2014-15	496.40	12.16	48.50	557.06
2015-16	3450.80	55.24	238.92	3744.96
2016-17	626.80	455.99	165.72	1248.51
2017-18	514.40	451.60	113.00	1079.00
Total	5153.60	974.99	566.14	6694.73

5.5 As regards associating NSKFDC in the implementation of 'Pre-matric scholarship scheme the Children of those engaged in occupation involving cleaning and prone to health hazards', NSKFDC would not be involved in the utilization of funds under this scheme. Funds would continue to be released to the States on the basis of proposal received from the State Government. However, NSKFDC would be acting as a coordinating agency between Central Government and State Government/UT Administration to provide support in the enrolment of students by carrying out special drives and organizing camps to motivate the parents to enroll their children in the schools and also check dropouts after their enrolment.

5.6 As regards evaluation study on working of the NSKFDC a combined evaluation study on “Functioning of Financial Corporations of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment including NSKFDC has been undertaken through Aravali Institute of Development Research, Jaipur. The Institute has submitted the draft report on 25th May, 2018 and the same is being examined. The report is yet to be accepted by the competent authority.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)

O.M. No.1-5/2018- Budget.

Dated 13th June, 2018

NEW DELHI;

7 August, 2018
16 Shrawana, 1940 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

ANNEXURE

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON TUESDAY, 7th AUGUST, 2018**

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 113, PHA Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
3. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
4. Smt. K. Maragatham
5. Dr. Udit Raj
6. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
7. Smt. Satabdi Roy
8. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
9. Prof. Sadhu Singh
10. Smt. Mamata Thakur
11. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
12. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav
13. Dr. Karan Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

14. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
15. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
16. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
17. Dr. Narendra Jadhav
18. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
19. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
20. Smt. Chhaya Verma
21. Shri Ramkumar Verma

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
2. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director

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

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

(i) **** **** ****

(ii) **** **** ****

(iii) **** **** ****

(iv) 57th Report on Action Taken on 50th Report on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment).

(v) **** **** ****

(vi) **** **** ****

(vii) **** **** ****

(viii) **** **** ****

(ix) **** **** ****

4. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions, if any, on the draft Reports. The Reports were adopted by the Committee without any amendments. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize these draft Reports in the light of consequential changes that might arise out of factual verification of the draft Reports and to present the same to both the Houses.

The Committee then adjourned.

**** Not related with the Report.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTIETH REPORT (SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT ON 'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2017-18) OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	14	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 3.13, 3.15, 3.24, 3.42, 4.6 and 4.16)	9	64.29
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply: (Paragraph No. 5.13)	1	7.15
IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which require reiteration: (Paragraph Nos. 3.14 and 5.12)	2	14.28
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Paragraph Nos. 3.32 and 3.33)	2	14.28