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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT
(2005-2006)**

(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2006-2007)**

SEVENTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

May, 2006/Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 16.05.2006

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 16.05.2006



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

May, 2006/Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT**

(2005-2006)

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Mohd. Shahid Akhlaque
3. Shri M. Appadurai
4. Shri Ashok Argal
5. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
6. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
7. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
8. Shri Kailash Meghwal
9. Shri Rupchand Murmu
10. Shri Jual Oram
11. Dr. Rameshwar Oraon
12. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
13. Shri T. Madhusudan Reddy
14. Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj
15. Dr. R. Senthil
16. Smt. Pratibha Singh
17. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
18. Smt. Krishna Tirath
19. Smt. Usha Verma
20. Shri K. Yerrannaidu

RAJYA SABHA

21. Shri Silvius Condpan
22. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
23. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee
24. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
25. Shri Ram Narayan Sahu
26. Shri Tarlochan Singh
27. Shri Veer Singh
28. Ms. Anusiya Uikey

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K. Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri R.K. Saxena | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Shri Bhupesh Kumar | - | Under Secretary |
| 4. | Km. M. Tunglut | - | Sr. Executive Assistant |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2005-2006) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Seventeenth Report, of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on Demands for Grants, 2006-2007.

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the current year i.e. 2006-2007 which were laid on the Table of the House on March 14, 2006. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on April 12, 2006. The Committee considered and finalized the Report at their sitting held on 11 May, 2006.

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for placing before them the detailed written notes on the subject and furnishing the information the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants and tendering evidence before the Committee.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in a consolidated form in Appendix to the Report.

NEW DELHI;

11 May, 2006
21 Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

SUMITRA MAHAJAN
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

REPORT

CHAPTER – I

REVIEW OF STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE EIGHTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2005-06) OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

1.1 The Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants (2005-06) pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was presented to Parliament on 21 April, 2005. An action taken report (Thirteenth Report, 14th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report was also presented to Parliament on 21 February, 2006.

1.2 The Eighth Report contained 20 recommendations, out of which the Government accepted 8 recommendations. In view of the replies of the Government, the Committee do not desire to pursue three recommendations; replies to four recommendations were commented upon by the Committee and replies of the Government in respect of five recommendations of the Committee are interim in nature.

1.3 The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2005-06) could not be assessed as the Minister of Tribal Affairs is yet to lay a statement in Parliament as per direction 73A. Also, the Thirteenth Action Taken Report of the Committee on the recommendations/observations contained in the Eighth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Parliament on 21 February, 2006 and

three months' time has been given to the Ministry for furnishing their action taken replies.

1.4 A gist of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report (14th Lok Sabha) and the position as indicated in its Action Taken Report are as under:

Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Rec. No.2: Timely furnishing of utilization certificates: Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated that Letter has been issued to all the State Governments for sending complete proposal along with physical progress and UCs in respect of the grant released in previous years.

Rec. No. 3: Restoration of the Schemes of Boys/Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools to Ministry: Planning Commission has since restored the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram schools for STs to the Ministry as centrally sponsored scheme.

Rec. No. 7 Grants for Development of Forest Villages: Ministry of E&F and other State Governments have been requested to submit proposals for expeditious sanction of grants for coverage of other forest villages.

Rec. No. 8 Release of SCA funds ITDP-wise: Ministry stated that progress of implementation was reviewed in the meeting held during June, 2005. All the States except Assam have agree to comply with the revised guidelines for release of SCA funds ITDP-wise. Ministry have insisted for Assam to adhere to the guidelines.

Rec. No. 9 Proposals for creation of minor irrigation facilities: Ministry have already requested the State Governments to submit proposals for creation of minor irrigation facilities. The Secretaries were again asked in the meeting held from 28th June to 1 July. The State Governments proposed to do so.

Rec. No. 12 Release of funds under post matric scholarships scheme: State Governments have been asked to send complete proposals along with utilization certificates. Detailed guidelines for proper and timely disbursement of scholarships have been issued to all State Governments. 50% grants on account basis, based on release of previous year's have been released during the year to State Governments.

Rec. No. 13 Funding pattern for Book Banks: Ministry have stated that funding pattern for Books Banks has been decided on the basis of 50:50 cost sharing between the Centre and State Governments. Funds will be released from 2005-06.

Rec. No. 14 Non-receipt of proposals and utilization certificates under upgradation of merit of ST Students: Ministry stated that letter has been issued to all the State Governments for sending complete proposals, utilization certificates, and physical progress reports. State Secretaries were also requested to expedite complete proposals in the meeting held from 28 June to 1 July, 2005.

Recommendations which have not been pursued by the Committee in view of the replies of the Government:

Rec. No. 10 Functioning of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS): Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated that they have invited proposals for opening of EMRS in the States. Assam, Meghalaya and Uttaranchal have been requested to set up autonomous societies at the earliest for running and maintaining residential schools.

Rec. No. 11 Introduction of CBSE syllabus in EMRS: Ministry stated that the issue of affiliation of EMRS with CBSE was discussed in meetings. Many States have adopted CBSE syllabus; other States informed that some more time is required. State Governments were advised to explore the possibility of developing feeder schools for this purpose.

Rec. No. 16 Monitoring and evaluation studies of Schemes : Ministry stated that they proposed to commission 13 evaluation studies during 2004-05 through reputed organizations; 8 studies could be finally sanctioned.

Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have been commented upon by the Committee:

Rec. No. 6 Monitoring and utilisation of funds under SCA to TSP: The Committee urged the Ministry to conduct review meetings with Chief Secretaries of States/UTs periodically to assess the status of utilization of funds and obtain utilization certificates of funds released earlier and vigorously pursue with the State/UTs defaulting in submission of utilization certificates.

- **Final action taken statement is awaited from Ministry.**

Rec. No. 17 and 18 Setting up of new Educational Complexes: The Committee urged the Ministry to vigorously persuade the States/UTs to send proposals for setting up new educational complexes in all the Districts identified

as having less than 10% literacy rate among ST women. Targets should be fixed so that all such Districts are covered during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan.

- **Final action taken statement is awaited from Ministry**

Rec. No. 19 Setting up of Monitoring Committees in the States: The Committee urged the Ministry to monitor the progress of constitution of the State Committees for supporting voluntary efforts for strengthening the implementation and monitoring mechanism for NGOs at the earliest.

- **Final action taken statement is awaited from Ministry**

Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government were interim in nature:

Rec. No. 1 General Performance of the Ministry: The Committee recommended that one-fourth of the budgetary allocation should be utilized at every quarter and Ministry should make all efforts to pursue the State Governments to submit their proposals early, send the utilization certificates in time and ensure that proposals are sanctioned and funds utilized evenly throughout the year.

Ministry stated that they have been diligently pursuing with the State Governments for early submission of proposals. States have been advised to send proposals complete in all respects, along with the utilization certificates of releases made at least upto the financial year 2003-04 latest by 30.7.2005.

Rec. No. 4 The Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2005: The Committee urged the Ministry to draft and finalise the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of forest Rights) Bill, 2005 in coordination/consultation with the Ministry of E&F and bring the same to Parliament at the earliest.

Ministry stated that they are in the process of finalisation of the Bill as per the established procedure.

Rec. No. 5 Formulation of National Tribal Policy: The Committee urged the Ministry to address key issues like poverty, malnutrition, Health, tribal forest interface, HDI of tribals, land alienation, resettlement etc. in the National Tribal Policy.

Ministry stated that the above issues are being addressed in the proposed National Tribal Policy, which is being finalized.

Rec. No. 15 Award of Research Fellowship in various aspects of Tribal Development: The Committee urged the Ministry to vigorously pursue the States, who have failed to send proposals so that optimum number of tribal scholars are benefited during 2005-06.

Ministry stated that advertisement was brought out in leading National and Regional News papers. Meeting will be called to select the scholars soon.

Rec. No. 20 National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation: The Committee urged the Ministry to allocate more funds to NSTFDC and make all out efforts to increase the number of beneficiaries.

Ministry stated that NABCONS was engaged for preparation of project reports in six States and the reports are under examination. Guidelines in 9 regional languages were prepared.

1.5 The Committee observe that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have agreed to comply with most of the recommendations of the Committee and are in the process of taking action on some of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report on Demands for Grants, 2005-06. The Committee, however, note that the implementation aspect, required for assessing the progress and achievements of the Ministry has not been provided by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should act upon their recommendations in right earnest and the status of implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report(Fourteenth Lok Sabha) should be communicated to the Committee so that the actual performance of the Ministry in physical and quantifiable terms could be assessed.

CHAPTER - II

INTRODUCTORY

2.1 The Committee have been informed that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was constituted in October, 1999 by bifurcation of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with the objective of providing a more focused attention on the integrated socio-economic development of the most under privileged section of the Indian society, the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in a coordinated and planned manner. During the period prior to the formation of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, matters concerning tribal welfare and development were dealt with by different Ministries of the Government of India at different points of time as stated below:

- i. As a Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs known as the TD Division from Independence to September 1985.
- ii. Ministry of Welfare: from September 1985 to May 1998.
- iii. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: from May 1998 to September 1999.

2.2 Article 366(25) of the Constitution of India refers to Scheduled Tribes as those communities who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution. This Article says that only those communities who have been declared as such by the President through an initial public notification will be considered as Scheduled Tribes. Any further amendment in the list of Scheduled Tribes is through an Act of Parliament. The list of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State. The essential characteristics, first laid down by the Lokur Committee, for a community to be identified as Scheduled Tribe, are - (a) primitive traits (b) distinctive culture (c) shyness of contact with the public at

large (d) geographical isolation and (e) backwardness-social and economic. The inclusion of a community as Scheduled Tribes is an ongoing process.

2.3 The Tribal population of the country as per the 2001 census, is 8.43 crore constituting 8.2% of the total population. The population of tribes had grown at the growth rate of 24.45 % during the period 1991-2001. More than half the Scheduled Tribes population is concentrated in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat.

2.4 Tribal communities live in about 15% of the country's areas, in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains, forests, hills and inaccessible areas. Tribal groups are at different stages of social, economic and educational development. While some tribal communities have adopted a mainstream way of life at one end of the spectrum, there are 75 Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs), at the other, who are characterized by - (a) a pre-agriculture level of technology, (b) a stagnant or declining population, (c) extremely low literacy and (d) a subsistence level of economy.

2.5 There are over 500 tribes (with many overlapping communities in more than one State) as notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India, spread over different States and Union Territories of the country, the largest number being in the State of Orissa, i.e. 62.

2.6 The main concentration of tribal population is in Central India and in the North-Eastern States. However, they have their presence in all States and Union Territories except in the States/UTs of Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Pondicherry and Chandigarh. The predominant tribal populated States of the country (tribal population more than 50% of the total population) are; Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Union Territories of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep.

2.7 According to the 2001 census, 44.70% of the ST population were cultivators, 36.9% agricultural labourers, 2.1% house hold industry workers and 16.3% were other occupation workers. As per the estimation of below the poverty line by the Planning Commission in the year 1999-2000, 45.86% of STs are living below poverty line in the rural areas and 34.75% in the urban areas.

2.8 Literacy rates among the Scheduled Tribes has increased from 29.62% to 47.10% during the period from 1991 to 2001. The literacy rate among ST male increased from 40.65% to 59.20% and the ST female literacy increased from 18.20% to 34.80% during the period from 1991-2001. The ST female literacy is lower by approximately 20% as compared to the overall female literacy of the general population.

2.9 Socio-economic and political protection for the Scheduled Tribes are also guaranteed under various articles of the Constitution of India.

MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY

2.10 The following is the mandate of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs:

1. Social security and social insurance with respect to the STs;
2. Tribal Welfare – Tribal welfare planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics and training;
3. Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare;
4. STs, including scholarship to students belonging to such tribes; and
5. Development of STs
6. (a) Scheduled Areas;
(b) Matters relating to Autonomous districts of Assam excluding roads and bridge works and ferries thereon;
(c) Regulations framed by Governors of States for Scheduled Areas and for Tribal Areas specified in part 'A' of the Table appended to paragraph 20 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution;

7. (a) Commission to report on the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the STs; and
(b) Issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the STs in any State.
8. The National Commission for STs.
9. Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (22 of 1955) and the Scheduled Castes and the STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (33 of 1989), excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences in so far as they relate to STs.

2.11 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for overall policy planning and coordination of programmes for development of Scheduled Tribes. However, sectoral programmes and schemes pertaining to development of these communities, policy, planning, monitoring, evaluation, etc. as also their coordination is the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments and UT Administrations. Each Central Ministry/ Department is the nodal Ministry or Department concerning its sector. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs however supports the efforts of the line Ministries and administers schemes and programmes for the focused supplementation in various areas, particularly in those in which Scheduled Tribes are under served.

2.12 The Demands for Grants asked for by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are given under Demand No.93. The Committee have attempted to scrutinize these demands to the extent possible and the conclusions drawn by them have been highlighted in the succeeding Chapter.

CHAPTER III
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 2006-07

A. GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE MINISTRY

3.1 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have furnished the following statement showing the Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and Actual Expenditure for the previous years along with the Budget Estimate for the current year showing separately Plan and Non-Plan Expenditure.

PLAN		Rs. (in crore)	
Year	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
2002-2003	1090.00	1012.00	1005.10
2003-2004	1087.00	900.00	893.65
2004-2005	1146.00	1069.45	1053.06
2005-2006	1498.82	1398.82	1391.9194 (provisional)
2006-2007	1656.90		

NON-PLAN			
Year	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
2002-2003	6.38	6.39	5.8511
2003-2004	10.70	11.30	7.0871
2004-2005	13.50	12.4952	9.6688
2005-2006	10.92	10.35	8.1969 (provisional)
2006-2007	10.56		

3.2 It has been observed from the above that under Plan schemes of the Ministry, BE has been reduced at the RE stage consecutively for the last three years.

3.3 On being asked to state the reasons for reduction of the budgetary allocation at RE stage particularly during 2005-06, the Ministry have stated that though the Ministry pursue the matter with the States for early submission of proposals so as to ensure sanction/release of Plan funds in an evenly spread manner throughout the year, some of the States, however, find it difficult to provide 50% matching grant under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and, therefore, generally the State Governments' requests for funds get crowded towards the latter half of the financial year. It is further stated that during the year 2005-06, the expenditure till 30 September, 2005 was Rs.575.63 crore (38.41% of the B.E.). The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act came into force from July 2004 and the releases of funds were made dependent on full utilization of funds. No funds, therefore, could be released to the entities, which have unspent balances from out of the releases made till 31 March, 2004.

3.4 The Ministry made serious efforts to bring greater financial discipline amongst States and ensure that no fresh releases are made to the defaulting entities, which have unspent balances prior to the period 31 March, 2004. However, the Ministry of Finance in a meeting taken on 7 November, 2005 imposed a cut of Rs.100.00 crore, though the Ministry was in a position to spend 30% or so in each of the third and the fourth quarter. The Ministry have protested this cut vide letter D.O. letter No.1062/US (IFD)/2003-04 dated 11th November 2005.

3.5 The Committee enquired about the steps proposed to be taken during 2006-07 so as not to suffer any cut in the BE wherein the Ministry have informed that to ensure sanction/release of plan funds is evenly spread throughout the year and to avoid crowding of funds towards the latter part of the year, the Ministry remains in constant touch with the States for early submission of project proposals. The Ministry conveys State-wise, Scheme-wise tentative allocations to

the States in the beginning of the year itself for early submission of project proposals, apart from holding the regular meetings with the States Tribal Welfare Secretaries. Last such meeting was held on 25 February, 2006.

3.6 Asked to state the reasons for non-furnishing of utilization certificates/ non-utilisation of funds by the States/UTs in time, the Ministry have stated that one of the main reasons for non-furnishing of utilization certificates/non-utilisation of funds by the States is Tribal Welfare Departments of the States not getting funds from the Finance Departments of the States well in time. Other reasons include non-availability of land, delays in according administrative and financial sanctions, etc.

3.7 When enquired whether all the States/UTs have been sending quarterly physical and financial progress reports on a regular basis, the Committee have been informed that while the States/UTs are sending physical and financial progress reports, the quarterly reports are not being received on regular basis.

3.8 The Ministry have furnished the following Statement showing the BE, RE, Actual Expenditure and percentage of expenditure incurred under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during 2005-06 (as on 31 March, 2006).

Rs.(in crore)

Major Head	Programme/Schemes	Name of the Scheme as approved by the Planning Commission	BE 2005-06	RE 2005-06	Exp. 2005-06 Upto 31.3.2006 (Provisional)	%(as per RE)	BE 2006-07
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
2225	Aid to Voluntary Organisations	Grant-in-Aid to NGO for STs including Coaching & allied Scheme and award for exemplary service	22.00	22.00	25.8293	117.41	24.00
2225	Special Incentives to NGOs performing exemplary tasks		0.35	0.35	0.25	71.43	0.50
2225	Coaching & Allied Scheme		0.40	0.40	0.21	52.50	0.50
	Total of 2225		22.75	22.75	26.2893	115.56	25.00
3601	Coaching & Allied Scheme		0.60	0.60	0.60	100.00	0.90
3602	Coaching & Allied Scheme		0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.10
	Total of 2225, 3601, 3602		23.40	23.40	26.8893	114.91	26.00
2225	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	1.40	1.40	0.7341	52.44	1.50
3601			4.00	4.00	4.85	121.25	4.00
	Total		5.40	5.40	5.5841	103.41	5.50

2225	Educational Complex in Low Literacy pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas	Educational Complex in Low Literacy pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas	6.00	6.00	6.00	121.25	32.00
2225	Price Support to TRIFED	Investment/Price Support to TRIFED	4.00	4.00	4.00	100.00	8.00
4225	Investment in TRIFED		6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
	Total		10.00	4.00	4.00	100.00	10.00
3601	State Tribal Dev. Coop. Corp. for Minor Forest Produce	State Tribal Dev. Coop. Corp. For Minor Forest Produce	10.80	10.80	12.84	118.89	16.00
2225	Village Grain Banks	Village Grain Banks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2225	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	3.75	3.75	3.75	100.00	4.00
3601			21.00	21.00	19.0241	90.59	27.50
	Total		24.75	24.75	22.7741	92.02	31.50
4225	National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corp.	Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporations	23.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.50
4225	State Tribal Development Finance Corporations		3.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
	Total		27.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.50
4225	Construction of Adivasi Bhavan	Construction of Adivasi Bhavan	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
2225	Promotion of Tribal Culture	Promotion of Tribal Culture	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30
3601			0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70
	Total 2225 & 3601		1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
2225	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students	7.95	7.95	7.95	100.00	15.90

2225	Post Matric Scholarship for STs	Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST student	0.50	0.05	0.03	60.00	0.08
2225	Book Banks						
	Total of 2225		0.50	0.05	0.03	60.00	0.80
3601	Post Matric Scholarship for STs		229.15	187.04	210.15	112.36	188.20
3601	Book Banks						
3601	Upgradation of Merit of ST Students		1.00	1.00	1.00	100.00	1.50
	Total of 3601	230.15	188.04	211.15	112.29	189.70	
	Total 2225 & 3601	230.65	188.09	211.18	112.28	189.78	
2225	Girls Hostel		0.00	1.65	1.65	100.00	8.00

2225	Boys Hostels	Scheme of Hostel for ST girls and Boys						3.00
	Total of 2225		0.00	1.65	1.65	100.00	11.00	
3601	Girls Hostel							8.00
3601	Boys Hostels		0.00	14.00	14.00	100.00		12.00
	Total of 3601		0.00	14.00	14.00	100.00	20.00	
	Total 2225 & 3601	0.00	15.65	15.65	100.00	31.00		
2225	Establishment of Ashram	Establishment of Ashram Schools	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.50
3601	Schools		0.00	6.00	6.00	100.00		15.50
	Total		0.00	6.00	6.00	100.00	16.00	
2225	Research and Training	Research Information & Mass Education, Tribal Festival and Others	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.05
2225	Supporting Projects of All-India nature or Inter-State nature for Scheduled Tribes		0.40	0.40	0.40	100.00		0.50
2225	Information and Mass Media		0.75	0.60	0.3728	62.13		0.50
2225	Organisation of Tribal Festival		0.30	0.30	0.2268	75.60		0.30
2225	Exchange of visits by Tribals		0.75	0.40	0.2866	71.65		0.50
	Total 2225		2.60	1.70	1.2862	75.659	1.85	
3601	Research and Training		2.20	2.20	2.20	100.00		4.65
	Total 2225 & 3601	4.80	3.90	3.4862	89.3897	6.50		
2225	Monitoring and Evaluation	Monitoring and Evaluation	0.30	0.30	0.30	100.00		0.50
2251	Information Technology	Information Technology	0.75	0.75	0.4457	59.43		2.00
2552	Lump-sum Provision for N.E.	Lump-sum Provision for N.E. (Revenue Section)	36.00	33.00	0.00			44.50
4522		Lump-sum Provision for N.E. (Capital Section)	3.00	0.00	0.00			0.50
	Total 2552 & 4552		39.00	33.00	0.00	0.00		45.00
	Total							
2225	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
3601			727.01	688.82	688.82	100.00		816.71
	Total		727.01	688.82	688.82	100.00		816.71
3601	Scheme Under Proviso to Art 275(1) of the Constitution	Scheme Under Proviso to Art 275(1) of the Constitution	380.00	380.00	380.00	100.00		400.00
	Total		1498.82	1398.82	1391.9194 (provisional)	99.5067		1656.90

* Rs. 32.20 crore reappropriated to schemes of GIA to NGOs, VTCs, MFP and PMS.

3.9 It has been observed from the above that the percentage of expenditure with reference to the Revised Estimate is 99.5067% upto 31 March, 2006.

3.10 However, as per information given in the Performance Budget of the Ministry, the cumulative unspent balances lying with the States under major schemes of the Ministry as on 1 January, 2006 for releases made upto 31 December, 2005 has been worked out to be Rs.1522.90 crore as per the details given below:

Rs.(in crore)		
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/Programme	Cumulative unspent balances as on 1.1.2006 for releases made upto 31.12.2005
1.	Grants-in-aid to NGOs for STs including Coaching and Allied Scheme and Award for Exemplary Service	0.20 (Coaching & Allied)
2.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas (States)	7.68
3.	Investment / Price Support to TRIFED	4.00
4.	Grants-in-aid to State Tribal Development Coop. Corporations for Minor Forest Produce operations.	18.59
5.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	23.25
6.	Scheme for PMS, Book Banks and Upgradation of Merit of ST students	185.92 (PMS) 1.89 (Upgradation)
7.	Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys	39.42
8.	Establishment of Ashram Schools	14.28
9.	Research Information, Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others	Rs. 3.00 Lakh to NSTFDC for Media Library
10.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan	628.38
11.	Schemes under First Proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution	599.26
	Total	1522.90

3.11 The Committee enquired about the reasons for the huge cumulative unspent balances lying with the Ministry and efforts made to utilize all the unspent balances. The Ministry have informed that the information in respect of the unspent balance as indicated in the Performance Budget include the funds released after 31 March 2004, which is the due date for reporting expenditure by the implementing agencies. The releases during the year 2005-06 were made with respect to the unspent balance against the funds released till 31 March 2004. The Ministry have released funds after following the provisions of the FRBM Act, i.e. not to release funds if there are unspent balances against the releases becoming due. The scheme-wise position of unspent balances as indicated in the Performance Budget also includes the funds not yet becoming due as 12 months time is given for completion of the projects.

3.12 On being asked about the status of receipt of utilization certificates from the States/UTs during 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 and whether there are instances where grants have been withheld to States/UTs under the FRBM Act, the Ministry have informed that the position of utilisation of funds under schemes of the Ministry has improved due to strict adherence on the provisions of the FRBM Act. The unspent balance out of the releases made prior to 31 March, 2004 was Rs. 868.7174 crore as on 31 March, 2005 which came down to Rs. 484.9172 as on 31 December, 2005. As regards the major programmes, under the scheme of SCA to TSP, all the funds as per BE 2005-06 have been released to State Governments based on the expenditure reported by the States of the fund released to them before 1 April, 2004. Under the scheme of Grant under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, funds could not be released to Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, and Uttaranchal and funds have been partially released to the States of Orissa and Rajasthan due to unspent balance lying with these States for the releases made prior to 1st April 2004. Under other schemes also, funds have been released only to the extent States have utilized funds becoming due.

3.13 A statement showing the BE, RE, Actual Expenditure and percentage of expenditure during 2005-2006 along with the BE for 2006-2007 under Non-Plan has been furnished as under:

Rs. (in crore)						
Major Head	Programme/scheme	BE 2005-06	RE 2005-06	Expd. 2005-06	% as per RE	BE 2006-07
3601	Grants to State Governments of Assam under Clause (A) to 2 nd proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution	0.14	0.14	0.14	100	0.14
2251	Secretariat	5.40	5.22	4.5771	87.68	5.61
2013	Discretionary Grant	0.02	0.02	0.02	100	0.02
2225	Overseas scholarship to the ST students	0.80	0.70	0.2724	38.91	0.40
2225	National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	4.56	4.27	3.1874	74.65	4.39
	Grand Total	10.92	10.35	8.1969	79.1971(prov.)	10.56

3.14 The percentage of expenditure under Non Plan is only 79.1971% over the Revised Estimate upto 31 March, 2006.

3.15 When asked to state the reasons for low utilization of funds under non-plan especially under the schemes of National Overseas Scholarships to the ST Students and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, the Ministry have stated that under the scheme of National Overseas Scholarships bills are received from the Indian Missions abroad through the Ministry of External Affairs for the payment of scholarship in respect of ST students who are pursuing studies abroad. During the year 2005-06 bills for Rs. 27.24 lakh were received which were paid. Rest of the amount from the allocation of Rs. 70.00 lakh could not be utilized due to non-receipt of bills.

3.16 So far as the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is concerned, out of the RE 2005-06 of Rs 4.27 crore the expenditure of the Commission is Rs. 3,18,74,000. The reasons for low utilization of funds under Non Plan by NCST inter alia include:-

- i. The Office of the Commission moved in its new premises at Lok Nayak Bhawan, 6th Floor in July, 2005 and the rent for the same has not been decided by the Directorate of Estates so far. In addition, the post of Vice-Chairperson, his personal staff and some other posts in the Commission are still lying vacant resulting in less expenditure.
- ii. Less expenditure under the heads wages and overtime is due to austerity measures and less medical claims.
- iii. No foreign tours were conducted by the Officers due to austerity measures.
- iv. It was decided by the Commission to publish a single Report for 2004-05 and 2005-06. No expenditure could therefore be booked on the publication of Annual Report 2004-05.

3.17 During the course of evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs also stated as under:

“As far as Overseas Scholarship to overseas students is concerned, this expenditure has been low as you mentioned. One of the reasons perhaps is that the scheme is fairly limited. It is for only certain disciplines. It lists out which disciplines it can be allowed for. We receive applications in other disciplines which we cannot give because the scheme does not allow it. We agree that expenditure has been slow and we will try to speed it up.”

3.18 The Committee observed that some of the States are finding it difficult to provide 50% matching grant under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and enquired whether the Ministry are considering to enhance their share under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes or provide 100% grants during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. They have been informed that all the Schemes/Programmes of the Ministry, including the Centrally Sponsored Schemes would be reviewed for implementation during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The issue of providing 100% grants in various Centrally Sponsored Schemes would also be reviewed and decided on the basis of the availability of funds.

3.19 The Ministry have stated that the approach and strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is still in the process of being further sharpened and finalized to focus on the overall development of STs.

3.20 Asked to state whether the Ministry is utilizing the service of experts in the field of tribal development for finalizing the approach and strategy for the

Eleventh Five Year Plan and when it is likely to be finalized, the Ministry have informed that the short term and long term issues, the major policy initiatives for solving the problems and to ensure the overall development of STs, are to be projected in the approach paper to be sent to the Planning Commission for finalisation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Ministry is finalizing the approach paper based on its assessment of the various issues pertaining to overall development of ST, as also the commitments made by the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme. The services of experts have also been taken in preparation of National Tribal Policy, components of which, after its finalisation, would also, wherever possible, go into schemes for operationalisation.

3.21 The Committee note with concern that the Budgetary allocations under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during the last three years had been slashed down consecutively at the Revised Estimate stage. During the year 2005-06, the Ministry of Finance imposed a cut of Rs. 100 crore bringing it down from Rs. 1498.82 crore to Rs. 1398.82 crore at the RE stage. The Committee are aware that the revised estimates are conveyed by the Ministry of Finance on the basis of expenditure level upto 30 September, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been able to utilize only 38.41% of the budgetary allocations during 2005-06 till 30 September, 2005 though they should have utilized 50% of the allocation by this time. Also, with the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, coming into force from July, 2004, no fresh releases have been made to those States/UTs who had unspent balances prior to the period 31 March, 2004. Therefore, keeping in view the expenditure position of the Ministry

upto September, 2005, cut in the BE has been effected by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee are not pleased with this situation as funds crucial for the development of the tribals are withheld in the process. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to plan and incur their expenditure in a proportionate manner so that it is evenly spread throughout the year. The States/UTs may be continuously pursued to (i) send their proposals right at the beginning of the financial year; (ii) release funds to their Tribal Welfare Departments in time; (iii) furnish quarterly progress reports as well as utilization certificates of funds released earlier within 12 month as per the provisions of the FRBM Act and (iv) minimize administrative and procedural delays in releasing funds. The Progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

3.22 The Committee note that utilization of funds under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during 2005-06 has been quite high with the percentage of expenditure reaching 99.5%. However, the Committee are concerned at the huge amount of unspent balances lying with the Ministry. Out of the releases made prior to 31 March, 2004, the unspent balances was Rs. 868.71 crore as on 31 March, 2005 which came down to Rs. 484.91 crore as on 31 December, 2005. The cumulative unspent balances with States, for releases made upto 31 December, 2005, was Rs. 1522.90 crore as on 1 January, 2006. Though the Ministry contended that the position of utilization of funds has improved due to strict adherence to the provisions of the FRBM Act, yet the fact that funds could not be released to the States of Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and

Uttaranchal under the scheme of Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution due to unspent balances lying with these States is a cause of serious concern. The Committee, therefore desire that as 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry should make sincere efforts and impress upon the State Governments to utilize all the unspent balances lying with them as well as funds allocated during 2006-07 within this financial year so that the amount allocated for the entire duration of the Tenth Five Year Plan could be fully utilized. The Committee also urge the Ministry to impress upon the States/UTs to comply with the provisions of the FRBM Act strictly.

3.23 The Committee note that during the year 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 42.76 lakh could not be utilized under the Non Plan Scheme of 'National Overseas Scholarships for ST Students' due to non-receipt of bills from the Indian Missions abroad for the payment of scholarships in respect of ST students pursuing studies abroad. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the Ministry of External Affairs to send the bills for overseas scholarships of ST students in time so that they could be disposed of within the financial year thereby avoiding cut at the RE stage and adhering to strict fiscal discipline.

3.24 The Committee further note that though the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes was set up in the year 2004, yet the post of Vice-Chairperson, personal staff of Vice-chairperson and other posts in the Commission are still lying vacant. The Committee, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the competent Authority at the earliest so that all the Posts sanctioned are filled up without further delay.

3.25 The Committee note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Post Matric Scholarships, Hostels for ST boys and Girls, Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas, Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others etc. where the States have to provide matching grants or bear the committed liability as in the case of Post Matric Scholarships. The Committee further note that some of the States are finding it difficult to provide 50% matching grant under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee feel that implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes is greatly hampered when the State Governments do not come forward with proposals under the scheme or find it difficult to provide their matching share. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the funding pattern of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be reviewed at the earliest and action plan formulated to provide 100% grants for Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

3.26 The Committee note that the Ministry are still in the process of finalizing its approach and strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee endorse the steps taken by the Ministry in finalising the approach paper for the Eleventh Five Year Plan based on their assessment of the various issues pertaining to overall development of STs as also the commitments made by the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme. However, keeping in view the fact that other Central Ministries/Departments, as well as the States and UTs are implementing the sectoral programmes and schemes pertaining to the development of the Scheduled Tribes, the Committee desire that a holistic view should be taken while formulating the approach and strategy for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should utilize the service of experts in the field of tribal development as well as from concerned Central Ministries/Departments, so that focused attention to the needs of the tribals may fully be addressed.

Major Head – 3601
Sub Head – 02
Head No. – 02.00.31

B. SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (SCA) TO TRIBAL SUB-PLAN (TSP)

3.27 Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan is provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the State Governments as an additive to the State Plan in areas where State Plan provisions are not normally forthcoming to bring about a more rapid economic development of tribals in the States. The Scheme was launched as early as in Fifth Five-Year Plan. Till the end of Ninth Five Year Plan, the SCA to TSP was meant for filling up of the critical gaps in the family-based income-generation activities of the TSP.

3.28 From the Tenth Five Year Plan period, the objective and scope of SCA to TSP, which was originally meant for filling up of the critical gaps in the family-based income-generation activities of the TSP, has been expanded to cover the employment-cum-income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto not only family-based, but also run by the Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The ultimate objective of extending SCA to TSP is to boost the demand-based income generation programmes and thus raise the economic and social status of tribals.

3.29 SCA is provided to 21 Tribal Sub-Plan States and 2 Union Territories including the North Eastern States of Assam, Manipur and Tripura. The Ministry provides 100% grants-in-aid to State Governments under the scheme.

2.30 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have furnished the following statement showing the Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and actual expenditure incurred under the Scheme of SCA to TSP during the last three years:-

Rs. (in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2003-04	497.00	461.30	461.30
2004-05	497.00	497.00	497.00
2005-06	727.01	688.82	688.82 (prov.)
2006-07	816.71		

3.31 Explaining the reasons for enhancing the BE for 2006-07 to Rs. 816.71 crore, the Ministry have stated that out of total allocation of Rs. 816.71 crore for 2006-07, an amount of Rs.596.71 crore is for family/ community/ SHGs/ Income Generating Schemes and Rs. 220.00 crore is for Development for Forest Villages. Thus, it may be seen that under SCA to TSP, increase has been for family/ community/ SHGs/ Income Generating Schemes. Enhanced amount under family/ community/ SHGs/ Income Generating Schemes is required to focus on the integrated and holistic development of the well-identified pockets/ clusters of tribal concentration within each State rather than spreading resources through line departments in routine and dis-integrated manner that also too thin to have any visible impact at the ground level. For the Development of Forest Villages, the BE provision of Rs. 220 crore for 2006-07 is as per original allocation made by Planning Commission while the Programme was formulated in 2004.

3.32 The Ministry have further stated that Development of Forest Villages is one of the thrust areas of tribal development during 10th Five Year Plan. The villagers in such areas are denied benefits that accrue to people living in revenue villages. The development envisaged in these villages is in terms of providing of basic minimum facilities and services like food, safe drinking water, health care, approach roads, primary education and other infrastructure facility etc. The one time relaxation given by the M/o Environment & Forests for the purpose of undertaking non-forestry activities in these villages under the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 is valid only upto 31.12.2006 and accordingly Ministry is required to provide sufficient funds for this purpose during 2006-07.

3.33 The details of funds released to each State and the number of forest villages covered till date (State-wise) are as under:

(Rs in lakh)

SI No.	State	Amount Released	No. of Villages Covered
1.	Assam	4059.00	373
2.	Chhattisgarh	4359.00	343
3.	West Bengal	2104.00	170
4.	Madhya Pradesh	6190.65	679
5.	Gujarat	1979.00	199
6.	Jharkhand	129.71	21
7.	Mizoram	202.50	27
8.	Orissa	157.14	20
	Total	19181.00	1832

3.34 When asked about the number of forest villages proposed to be covered during 2006-07 and how much funds have been allocated for the same, the Ministry have stated that during 2006-07, remaining villages for which State Governments have not submitted proposals in 2005-06 are proposed to be covered and the amount provided for the purpose is Rs 220 crore, inclusive of some funds required to be released for proposals approved during 2005-06.

3.35 The Committee further enquired whether the Ministry would be able to cover the remaining 1168 forest villages upto December, 2006 wherein they have been informed that as per information available with the Ministry of Environment & Forests, the total number of forest villages are only 2690 and even out of these some villages are in the mode of being converted to revenue villages (e.g. in Maharashtra).

3.36 The State Governments have been impressed many a time by both the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for submission of proposals in this regard. In fact the launch workshop held on 24.2.2006 was specially for this purpose and most of the State Governments had indicated that they will be submitting their proposals within a short period.

3.37 As regards steps taken to pursue those States who have not sent any proposal earlier, the Ministry have stated that no proposals have been received from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Tripura, Maharashtra and Meghalaya so far. The State Governments are being pursued vigorously by the Ministry and it is hoped that proposals from these State Governments also would be received shortly.

3.38 The Committee enquired as to how many States/UTs have so far opened separate budget heads for TSP under their Tribal Welfare Departments wherein they have been informed that the Ministry proactively advocates for pooling of resources to be earmarked under TSP component in each of the State. At the Ministry's instance, orders to this effect have also been issued by the Planning Commission directing the States to earmark funds for TSP (to be placed under a separate Budget Head – Code 796) from total State Plan outlay at least in the proportion of the ST population to the total population of the State/ UT. The guidelines also provide that the Tribal Welfare Departments will be the nodal Departments for the formulation and implementation of the Tribal Sub Plan. The Ministry is also advocating institutionalizing similar mechanism for Central Ministries.

3.39 After the issue of the guidelines, the Chief Secretaries of TSP States/ UTs were requested to draw up the Annual Plan in terms of the guidelines and ensure earmarking the funds under TSP in proportion to the Scheduled Tribe population of the State, under a separate Budget Head/ Sub Head for the Tribal Sub Plan (code 796). The replies from the States are awaited to really know the status of implementation of the guidelines including opening of a separate Budget Head.

3.40 Asked to state the efforts made to persuade the States/UTs to open a separate budget head for TSP, the Ministry have informed that they have been pro-actively advocating the pooling of resources to be earmarked under TSP component in each of the States and spending the same through a single line administration. The separate Budget Head exists in respect of a few States. The States have, however, been addressed again.

3.41 The Committee further enquired why no headway has been made regarding opening of a Separate Budget Head for TSP by States/UTs though the same had been recommended by the Committee (previously Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare) since 2000-2001. The Ministry have stated that at their instance, the Planning Commission have now issued orders emphasizing earmarking of funds at least in proportion of the ST population to the total population of the State, to be placed under a separate Budget Head and also making the Tribal Welfare Departments as the nodal Departments for the formulation and implementation of the Tribal Sub Plan. The recent orders of the Planning Commission have been conveyed to the Chief Secretaries of States for ensuring strict compliance.

3.42 The Ministry have stated that the TSP strategy also seeks to ensure an adequate flow of funds from all Central Ministries/Departments. The Planning Commission and the Ministry requested all the Central Ministries and Departments to quantify the funds from their Annual Plans in accordance with the population percentage of STs in the country.

3.43 The Central Ministries have again been requested to earmark funds under TSP in proportion to ST population (i.e. minimum, 8% which is a floor and not ceiling) for the Annual Plan and have the information sent to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Ministries have also been requested for implementation of schemes with relaxed or separately designated norms for the far-flung and inaccessible tribal areas to enable benefits to flow to STs. However, the Ministries have not been reporting the actual flow of funds to TSP.

3.44 It may be stated that, at present, there is no mechanism to watch (a) that such allocations are made; and (b) if made, are actually spent on STs and not just reported as having been notionally spent on STs. Accordingly, the Ministry have been emphasizing the need for an institutionalised mechanism such as setting up of a Committee in the Planning Commission to approve the TSP of the Central Ministries.

3.45 After the issue of guidelines by the Planning Commission to the States for making funds under TSP as non-divertible and non-lapsable, the matter has further been taken up with the Planning Commission for devising a similar mechanism for the Central Ministries by which the Ministries shall provide and report their expenditure on TSP.

3.46 As regards the status of restructuring and strengthening the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States as recommended by the Committee in an earlier report, the Ministry have stated that the feasibility of restructuring and strengthening the ITDP/ ITDA frameworks in the States is being considered.

3.47 The Committee note that 'Development of Forest Villages' is one of the thrust areas of tribal development during the Tenth Five Year Plan and till date a total of 1832 forest villages in eight States have been covered. The Committee are, however, surprised to note that though an amount of Rs. 220 crore has been allocated for the development of forest villages during 2006-07, yet the Ministry have no information about the exact number of forest villages proposed to be covered during 2006-07 and are dependant on the States, who have not even submitted proposals for the development of forest villages so far. Keeping in view the fact that 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan and that the one time relaxation given by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for undertaking non-forestry activities in the forest villages under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is valid only upto 31 December, 2006 the Committee desire that action plan for the year 2006-07, outlining the number of forest villages to be covered, location of these forest villages and anticipated expenditure per forest village should be prepared at the earliest. The Committee, also urge the Ministry to identify those forest villages not yet covered and vigorously pursue with the State Governments to send their proposals within the first quarter itself so that funds could be released early and the remaining forest villages are covered by 31 December, 2006.

3.48 The Committee note with serious concern that though the Planning Commission had issued orders directing the States to earmark funds for TSP to be placed under a separate Budget Head (code 796) from the total State Plan outlay at least in proportion to the ST population of the States/UTs, yet the Ministry have no information about the status of opening of a separate Budget Head for TSP by the States/UTs. Keeping in view the fact that the scheme of SCA to TSP has been in operation as early as the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Committee feel an urgent need to evolve a mechanism to ensure accountability as well as check diversion of TSP funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue with those States/UTs who have not opened separate Budget Head for TSP so far, at the highest level so that all the States/UTs could earmark funds under a separate Head at least in proportion to the ST population of the State for their tribal sub plans.

3.49 The Committee also desire that the Ministry should pursue Central Ministries/Departments to earmark funds for TSP in proportion to the ST population in the country i.e. at least 8% of their Annual Plans and also furnish the details of actual flow of funds to TSP. As regards setting up of an institutionalized mechanism such as setting up of a Committee in the Planning Commission to approve the TSP of Central Ministries, the Committee urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission early, at the highest level.

3.50 The Committee note that the Ministry are considering the feasibility of restructuring and strengthening the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States. The Committee are of the firm view that for effective implementation of tribal welfare programmes, frame work of ITDPs/ITDAs in the States should be suitably restructured and strengthened in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the project officers and fully endorse the steps taken in this regard. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should examine the matter in detail and work out a time bound programme for the restructuring and strengthening of the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States at the earliest.

Major Head – 2225, 2552, 3601
Minor Head – 277, 221, 360
Sub Head – 11, 04, 06
Head No. – 11.00.31, 06.00.31, 04.00.31

C. SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS, BOOK BANKS AND UPGRADATION OF MERIT OF ST STUDENTS

3.51 The objective of the scheme of Post Matric Scholarships is to provide financial assistance to students belonging to Scheduled Tribes pursuing Post-Matriculation recognized courses in recognized institutions. The scheme covers professional, technical as well as non-professional and non-technical courses at various levels and the scheme also includes correspondence courses including distance and continuing education. The scheme is implemented by the State Governments and UT Administrations, which receive 100% Central Assistance over and above the committed liability required to be borne by them from their own budgetary provisions. The committed liability is equal to the expenditure incurred in the last year of the Plan period.

3.52 The objective of the scheme of Book Banks is to provide books to deserving ST students pursuing Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Polytechnics, Law, Chartered Accountancy, MBA and Bio-Science courses. The scheme provides for sharing of textbook by two students in respect of graduate level courses and separate set of books is provided to individual students at Post Graduate level and for those pursuing Chartered Accountancy course.

3.53 The objective of the scheme of Upgradation of Merit of ST Students is to upgrade the merit of ST students by providing them remedial and special coaching in classes IX to XII. The scheme provides for 100% central assistance to the States/UTs. A package grant of Rs. 15,000/- per student per year is provided and the States/UTs are not required to bear any financial burden.

3.54 The BE under the Scheme for 2005-2006 was Rs. 230.65 crore which has been reduced to Rs. 188.09 crore at the RE stage. As on 31 March an amount of Rs. 211.18 crore has been spent. The budgetary allocation for 2006-2007 is Rs. 189.78 crore.

3.55 When asked the reasons for drastic reduction of the BE at RE stage during 2005-06, the Ministry have informed that the Planning Commission had transferred the schemes of the Boys/Girls Hostels for ST students and Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas to State Governments from the year 2005-06. Therefore, no funds were allocated under these Schemes for the year 2005-06 at BE stage. Later, it was decided that these schemes would be implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs but funds were not available under these schemes. Therefore, an amount of Rs. 20.00 crore has been allocated to Boys/Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools out of PMS Scheme allocation and hence reduction of the funds at RE stage.

Upgradation of merit of ST students

3.56 The Ministry have furnished a statement showing the number of ST students provided remedial and special coaching in classes IX to XII during the last three years as under:

		Rs.(in lakh)					
_Sl. No.	Name of the State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Amount	Bene-ficiaries	Amount	Bene-ficiaries	Amount	Bene-ficiaries
1.	Assam	0	0	9.00	60	0	0
2.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	3.00	23
3.	Orissa	40.8	272	0	0	0	0
4.	Rajasthan	7.73	51	0	0	11.36	50
5.	Tripura	2.4	16	2.40	16	0.96	16
6.	West Bengal	0	0	7.83	72	0	0
7.	Sikkim	1.5	10	2.25	15	2.85	19

8.	M.P.	0	0	0	0	77.40	516
9	Chattishgarh	21	140	17.55	140	0	0
10	Gujarat	3.45	23	0	0	4.43	34
	Total	76.88	512	39.03	303	100.00	658

3.57 It has been observed that only ten States have been released funds under the scheme.

3.58 On being asked the reasons, the Ministry have stated that proposals are received from the State Governments for grants-in-aid under the scheme of Upgradation of Merit. Proposals are considered for release of grant if proposal is complete in all respect like UC and physical progress report in respect of previous year grant etc. If proposal is not complete or proposal is not received from any of the State Government grant is not released. So the grant has been released only to those State Governments who have submitted the proposals and complete proposals also

3.59 When enquired whether there is a need to bring about improvement in the implementation of the scheme keeping in view the fact that 100% central assistance are provided and States/UT are not required to bear any financial burden. They have been informed by the Ministry that the scheme would be subjected to review at the time of formulation/finalisation of the XI Five Year Plan.

3.60 The Committee have been informed that as per the norms of the scheme, at least 30% girl students and 3% disabled students from tribal community should be included under the scheme. In the sanction order also, it is mentioned that the State Governments should follow the norms of the scheme. However, no separate data is provided by the State Governments who are implementing the scheme.

3.61 Asked whether the matter has ever been taken up with the State Governments, the Ministry have stated that no separate data regarding inclusion of 30% girl students and 3% disabled students from tribal community is provided

by the State Governments who are implementing the scheme inspite of the fact that while issuing the sanction order it is mentioned that the State Governments should follow the above norms of the scheme.

3.62 The Committee note that during 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 20 crore has been appropriated out of the allocation under Post Matric Scholarships for the scheme of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools as no funds were allocated for these schemes at BE stage. The Committee further note that the expenditure under the scheme of 'Post Matric Scholarships, Books Banks and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is Rs. 211.18, crore out of the RE of Rs. 188.09 crore leading to excess spending of Rs. 23.09 crore. The Committee are not pleased with the appropriation of funds from one scheme to another as it affects the performance of the scheme from where funds have been appropriated. The Committee feel that demand for budgetary allocation for the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools could have been made at the time of laying of Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that appropriation of funds from one scheme to another should not be resorted to; rather the Ministry of Finance should be approached for increased allocation.

3.63 The Committee note that though the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is a Central Sector Scheme where 100% Central Assistance is provided and States/UTs are not required to bear any financial burden, funds have been released only to ten States during the last three years. The Ministry have informed that grants was released only to those State Governments who have submitted complete proposals. The Committee are not satisfied with the number of States availing the scheme and desire that States should be vigorously pursued to come forward with more proposals under the scheme. The Committee also urge the Ministry to assess the performance of the scheme at the time of formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and incorporate measures for generating publicity/awareness and making the scheme more attractive.

3.64 The Committee note with regret that though the norms for the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' provides for inclusion of at least 30% girl students and 3% disabled students from tribal community, yet the State Governments have not provided separate data of the number of girl students and disabled students enrolled under the scheme. The Committee are not happy with the situation and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned State Governments and ensure that the data of girl students and disabled students availing the scheme are made available so that impact of the scheme on these two most vulnerable section of the tribal community could be assessed.

Major Head – 2225, 2552, 3601
Minor Head – 277, 221, 360
Sub Head – 05, 01, 04
Head No. – 05.00.31, 01.00.31, 04.00.31

D. DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMITIVE TRIBAL GROUPS

3.65 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have stated that a Central Sector Scheme was started during 1998-99 for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) who are characterized by a low level of literacy, declining or stagnant population, pre-agricultural level of technology and economic backwardness. Seventy-five such groups have been identified. Their problems and needs are different from other Scheduled Tribes and as they constitute the most vulnerable section among the STs, priority needs to be accorded for their protection and development. Under the scheme, funds are made available for infrastructure development, agriculture development, income generation activities, life insurance etc.

3.66 The Budgetary allocation under the Scheme was Rs.24.75 crore for the year 2005-06 which was retained at the RE stage. An amount of Rs.22.77 crore has been spent upto 31 March, 2006. The Budget Estimate for 2006-07 is Rs.31.50 crore.

3.67 Asked to explain the reasons for enhancing the budgetary allocation for the year 2006-07 by Rs.6.75 crore and the extra projects/developmental works proposed to be taken up with this enhanced allocation, the Ministry have stated that for the year 2004-05, the entire amount allocated under the BE was exhausted. As regards the funds for 2005-06, the allocation under State component was Rs.21.00 crore, out of which Rs.19.02 crore has been utilized. Rs.1.98 crore could not be utilized because of non-submission of utilization certificates for the unspent balance from various States. However, for 2005-06, funds under NGO component have been fully utilized. Hence, the enhanced budgetary allocation may not pose any extra difficulty during the financial year 2006-07. Besides, during the year 2004-05, the Ministry introduced 'Janshree

Bima Yojana' for covering earning head of each PTG family of entire country by the end of 10th Five Year Plan. The year 2006-07 is the last year of 10th Five Year Plan and it has been proposed to cover all the remaining heads of PTG families to cover during that year. It may also be stated here that Development of Primitive Tribal Groups scheme is an extremely flexible scheme and any activity involving agricultural development, cattle development, income generation, infrastructure development etc. for sustainable livelihood programmes for the PTG can be taken up under the scheme.

3.68 The Ministry have furnished information on the benefits to be provided to those whose lives have been insured for a period of 5 years at no premium payment from them under the Janshree Bima Yojana as under:

- Payment of Rs. 50,000/- to nearest kith and kin of life insured in case of accidental death or permanent disability caused;
- Payment of Rs. 20,000/- to the nearest kith and kin in case of natural death;
- Permanent disability due to accident – Rs. 50,000/-
- Payment of Rs. 25,000/- in case of partial disability, and
- Educational grant of Rs.300/- per quarter for 2 children of the life insured studying in class IX and above.

3.69 The Ministry have furnished the following Statement showing amount released and beneficiaries covered during 2004-05 & 2005-06 under Janshree Bima Yojana:

Rs.(in lakh)

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount released during 2004-05	No. of PTG families to be covered	No. of PTG families covered so far	Amount released during 2005-06	No. of PTG families to be covered	No. of PTG families covered so far	Total No. of PTG families covered
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9=5+8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60.00	12000	12000	120.00	24000	0	12000
2.	Bihar	5.00	1000	0	10.00	2000	0	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	40.00	8000	7866	90.00	18000	0	7866
4.	Gujarat	25.00	5000	3537	50.00	10000	0	3537
5.	Jharkhand	70.00	14000	0	145.00	29000	0	0
6.	Kerala	2.50	500	500	5.00	1000	1000	1500
7.	Karnataka	10.00	2000	2000	20.00	4000	4000	6000
8.	Madhya Pradesh	100.00	20000	20000	200.00	40000	40000	60000
9.	Maharashtra	70.00	14000	0	140.00	28000	0	0
10.	Manipur	10.00	2000	0	2.50	500	0	0
11.	Orissa	12.50	2500	2500	25.00	5000	5000	7500
12.	Rajasthan	12.50	2500	0	25.00	5000	0	0
13.	Tamil Nadu	40.00	8000	8000	80.00	16000	0	8000
14.	Tripura	25.00	5000	5000	50.00	10000	0	5000
15.	Uttaranchal/UP	2.50	500	0	7.10	1420	0	0
16.	West Bengal	15.00	3000	0	30.00	6000	0	0
17.	A & N Islands	0.00	0	0	0.40	80	0	0
	Total	500	100000	61403	1000.00	200000	50000	111403

3.70 The Committee enquired whether the exact number of PTG families to be covered under the Janshree Bima Yojana Life Insurance Scheme has been assessed and whether the Ministry will be able to cover all the PTG families during the Tenth Plan. The Ministry have informed that the assessment of PTG families is based on the data available as per 1991 Census, after taking 5 members in a family as a unit. Accordingly, 5.00 lakh PTG families have been assessed for coverage through out the country; out of which the Ministry has released funds to States/UTs to cover 3.00 lakh PTG families during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The remaining families are to be covered during 2006-07.

3.71 As regards difficulties faced in the implementation of the scheme, the Ministry have stated that none of the States have reported any problem in implementing the scheme of Janshree Bima Yojana. However, Life Insurance Corporation of India has reported about non-furnishing of individual details of head of each PTG family required to be covered by the respective State/UT Governments.

3.72 The Committee enquired as to how many States have conducted base line surveys of PTGs so far wherein they have been informed that the State Governments of Manipur and Rajasthan have submitted the base line survey reports. In respect of West Bengal and Uttaranchal, the report is not complete. The other States are yet to furnish their reports. The matter was reviewed by Secretary (TA) in the State Tribal Welfare Secretaries' meeting held at New Delhi on 25 February, 2006 and the States were requested to expedite submission of their reports.

3.73 Asked whether definite time frame should be fixed for completing the baseline survey on PTGs by the States, the Ministry have stated that the State Governments will be requested to expedite the submission of baseline survey report on priority within the current financial year.

3.74 The Committee note that the Ministry have introduced an insurance scheme for Primitive Tribal Groups i.e. 'Janshree Bima Yojana' during 2004-05 with the objective of covering the earning head of each PTG family by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Out of 5 lakh PTG families assessed for coverage under the scheme, funds have been released for covering 3 lakh PTG families during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Committee express apprehension that the Ministry would not be able to cover the remaining 2 lakh PTG families during 2006-07, the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to prepare specific action plan expeditiously for bringing all the PTG families under insurance cover during the financial year 2006-07 and monitor the progress achieved at the highest level.

3.75 The Committee express dissatisfaction at the slow progress made by the States/UTs in conducting base line survey on Primitive Tribal Groups. The Ministry have informed that only two States viz., Manipur and Rajasthan have submitted the survey reports; in the case of West Bengal and Uttaranchal, the reports submitted by them are incomplete. The Committee take serious view of the fact that majority of the States/UTs are not giving priority to conduct the survey and desire that those States/UTs should be pursued at the highest level so that base line survey on the Primitive Tribal Groups are completed during 2006-07.

Major Head – 2225, 2252, 3601
Minor Head – 800, 221, 360
Sub Head – 11,08,03
Head No. – 11.00.31, 08.00.31, 03.00.31

E. VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES IN TRIBAL AREAS.

3.76 The Scheme was launched in 1992-93. The main aim of this scheme is to develop the skill of the tribal youth in order to gain employment/self employment opportunities. This scheme is implemented through the State Governments/UT Administrations, Institutions or Organizations set up by Government as autonomous bodies, educational and other institutions like local bodies and cooperative societies and Non-Governmental Organizations. Each centre may cater to five vocational courses in traditional skills depending upon the employment potential of the area. Each trainee is attached at the end of training to a Master Craftsman in semi-urban/urban area for a period of six months to learn his/her skill by practical experience. There is provision for a monthly stipend and raw material for the trainees.

3.77 The Ministry have furnished the following statement showing the BE, RE and Actual expenditure incurred under the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas' as under:-

Rs. (In crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2003-2004	8.00	6.00	5.18
2004-2005	8.50	6.00	5.07
2005-2006	5.40	5.40	5.5841 (prov.)
2006-2007	5.50		

3.78 On being asked to state why the BE for the years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 are kept low as compared to 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, the Ministry have informed that the scheme is implemented through State Governments and NGOs also and separate allocation is made for both the components. The

Education Section deals with the State Governments only. There is no shortfall in the allocation of State Government component. Complete proposals have not been received in adequate number from the States for Voluntary Organisations, which necessitated the scaling down of earmarking of funds.

3.79 A statement showing the number of Vocational Training Centres set up, number of trainees trained and voluntary organizations involved during the last three years (year-wise and State-wise) is as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2002-2003			2003-2004			2004-05			2005-06		
		Amt.	Center	Beneficiaries	Amt.	Center	Beneficiaries	Amt.	Center	Beneficiaries	Amt.	Center	Beneficiaries
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	107.6	9	900	0	0	0	107.90	9	900
2	Assam	44.26	10	500	0	0	0	62.53	10	500	65.37	10	500
3	Gujarat	29.79	13	614	141.46	13	1300	145.68	13	1415	0	0	0
4	Jammu & Kashmir	46.71	2	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.50	1	50
5	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	66.73	10	1000	68.26	10	1000
6	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	40.50	3	300			
7	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57.00	10	500
8	Maharashtra	0	0	0	73.52	15	779	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Mizoram	36	3	300	61.08	5	500	0	0	0	64.78	5	500
11	Orissa	64.15	15	750	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Tripura	54	8	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	West Bengal	6.13	1	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	63.60	4	400
14	Chhattisgarh	118.95	13	1300	0	0	0	134.55	12	1200	0	0	0
15	Sikkim	0	0	0	16.34	3	100	0	0	0	42.57	10	300
	Total	399.99	65	3964	400	45	3579	450.00	48	3415	485.00	59	4150

3.80 The Committee enquired whether the Ministry have obtained the data of trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses wherein the Ministry have informed that they had written to all the State Government for furnishing the data regarding trainees who have gained employment after completion of Vocational courses. Some of the State

Governments have furnished this information. However, information has not been provided in the prescribed proforma and most of the State Governments are providing incomplete information. Therefore, further clarifications have been sought from these State Governments and their replies are awaited. The information furnished by some of the State Governments in the prescribed proforma is as under: -

Name of the State Govt.	Year	No. of Trainees passed out	Self Employed.	Employed with the Organization (paid employment)	Total Employed
Madhya Pradesh	2000-01	21	02		02
	2001-02	187	15		15
	2002-03	231	11		11
	2003-04	189	26		26
	2004-05	434	75		75
Andhra Pradesh	Up to 2004-05	2224	1496	452	1948
Gujarat	1999-2000		276		
	2000-01	436	377	-	377
	2001-02	440	267		267
	2002-03	479	302		302
	2003-04	283	208		208
	2004-05	414	221		221
	2004-05	2052	1375		1375
Jammu and Kashmir	2003-04	280	25	9	34
Sikkim	2003-04	78	54	-	54

3.81 It has further been stated that the States were requested to send the requisite information. The same is awaited. However, the Ministry have commissioned a study to assess the success of the VTC scheme.

3.82 On being asked to state the efforts made by the Ministry to persuade the remaining States to obtain the data of trainees getting self employment after completion of the Vocational Courses, the Ministry have informed that they are pursuing the matter with the defaulting States through regular reminders to these State Governments. Matter is also emphasized during the course of the review meeting with the State Secretaries.

3.83 When asked about the Vocational courses offered under the Scheme and whether these courses are in tune with the changing global market, the Ministry have informed that there are no pre-fixed vocational courses under the scheme of VTC in tribal areas. While formulating the proposals for courses under this scheme, the State Govt. have to keep in mind that the various trades are chosen depending upon the existing infrastructure as well as the employment potential in the proximity of proposed location. Accordingly, apart from the traditional courses some of the State Governments like Sikkim, H.P., M.P., Tripura and Chattisgarh etc are also offering Computer Training Course in tune with the changing global market.

3.84 Generally, 5 trades are offered for the trainees. Depending upon their requirement, normally training is given in trades like (i) Typing & Shorthand, (ii) Motor Winding, (iii) Scooter repairing, (iv) Computer Training (v) Cane and Bamboo artifacts Training,(vi) TV/Fridge repairing (vii) Tailoring etc.

3.85 The trades offered are tailored as per the requirements of the ST trainees in tribal, rural and semi-urban areas for their sustainability.

3.86 The Committee note with dismay that only five States viz., Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim have furnished the data of Trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses for tribal youths. The Committee further note that the Ministry have commissioned a study to assess the success of the VTC scheme. In the opinion of the Committee, the impact of the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas' can be assessed only if the complete data of successfully employed tribal youths trained in the vocational courses are made available. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to make sincere efforts to persuade the

remaining States/UTs to obtain the data of trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses at the earliest.

3.87 The Committee note that under the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas', traditional courses like Typing & shorthand, Cane and Bamboo artifacts training, Tailoring etc. are offered to the tribal youths to enable them to find employment/self employment. Apart from the traditional courses, some of the State Governments like Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura and Chhattisgarh are also offering computer training courses. In the era of globalisation and advanced technology , the Committee feel that the Vocational Courses offered under the scheme should be in tune with the changing global scenario and urge the Ministry to persuade the remaining States to introduce Computer Training and courses in Information Technology, in addition to the traditional courses offered under the scheme.

Major Head – 4225, 4552
Minor Head – 102, 117
Sub Head – 13, 01
Head No. – 13.00.54, 01.0054

F. SUPPORT TO NATIONAL/STATES ST FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

3.88 The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and development corporation (NSTFDC) was set up in April 2001 as a government company under section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (A company not for profit). It is the apex institution for financing scheme(s)/project(s) for economic development of the scheduled tribes. The broad objectives of NSTFDC are to provide financial assistance for identified trades/business/professions and other economic activities of importance, upgradation of skills and to make the existing State Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporations more effective. In furtherance to meet the above objectives NSTFDC provides finance for viable income generating scheme(s)/project(s) costing up to Rs. 10.00 lakhs per unit/profit centre through the State Channelising agencies (SCAs) and also provides grants for skill development programmes, besides facilitating upgradation of skills of officers of State Channelising Agencies through periodic training programmes.

3.89 State Tribal Development Finance Corporations mobilize finance for economic development of Scheduled Tribes living below the poverty line. The State Corporations mainly take up employment oriented schemes in the areas of (i) Agriculture and allied sector (ii) Minor irrigation (iii) Trades and Services (iv) Transport and (v) Self Employment schemes. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided to the State Corporations as 49% share capital investment, the remaining 51% being borne by the State governments.

3.90 The Ministry have furnished the following statement showing the BE, RE and actual expenditure incurred under the scheme during the last three years:-

Rs. (In crore)			
Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2003-2004	37.50	14.54	17.29
2004-2005	35.50	35.50	24.75
2005-2006	27.00	0.00	0.00
2006-2007	11.50		

3.91 When asked why no amount has been allocated at the RE stage and no expenditure incurred during 2005-2006 as well as the reasons for drastic reduction of the BE from Rs. 27 crore during 2005-2006 to Rs. 11.50 crore during 2006-2007, they Ministry have stated that no amount could be released by the Ministry to STDCs as the proposals received from STDCs were incomplete. In so far as NSTFDC is concerned, they are already having adequate funds released in earlier years. The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) in its meeting held on 17.12.2004 decided to get the NSTFDC evaluated and then clear future releases. The evaluation study taken up by the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission is in final stages. No funds could, therefore be released during 2005-06. Provision of Rs 11.50 crore in the budget estimates for 2006-07 should be adequate for the requirements of NSTFDC and STDCs. If required, the matter would be reviewed at R.E. stage.

3.92 The Ministry, in their Performance Budget have stated that the State Government guarantees issued in favour of the combined Corporation i.e NSFDC for both SCs and STs required transfer/bifurcation of the same in favour of NSTFDC. The process has not yet been completed fully. The availability of Government guarantee being one of the requirements for release of funds is also being in the way of stepping up of operations of the Corporation.

3.93 On being asked the efforts made to bifurcate the State Government guarantees issued in favour of NSFDC (combined Corporation for both SCs and STs) at the earliest for enhancing NSTFDC's operations the Ministry have stated that upon receipt of bifurcation order, the matter of bifurcation of loans and State Government Guarantees issued in favour of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) (combined corporation for both SCs and STs), bifurcation/transfer was taken up by the Ministry initially with the State Governments in March 2001. Periodically, matter has been pursued with the concerned State Channelising Agency(ies)/ State Government(s) for transfer/bifurcation of State Government Guarantee.

3.94 NSFDC (erstwhile combined corporation) has also been requested by NSTFDC in August 2001 for execution of legal documents including Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for sharing/transfer of State Government Guarantee. Thereafter, NSTFDC has on various occasions pursued the matter with NSFDC, the last such a reference made was in February 2006.

Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana(AMSY)

3.95 The Committee have been informed that NSTFDC has launched 'Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana'(AMSY) for providing concessional financial assistance exclusively for the economic development of Scheduled Tribe women beneficiaries, for projects/schemes costing upto Rs. 50,000 per unit.

3.96 The State-wise details of women beneficiaries and amount of funds disbursed under 'Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana' during the last three years has been furnished as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States	Name of SCA	Year	Amount Released	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan SCs and STs Finance & Development Cooperative Corporation	2003-04 2004-05 2005-06	16.88 20.63 78.75	46 55 210
2.	Tripura	Tripura ST Cooperative Development Corporation Ltd.	2003-04	11.50	30
3.	West Bengal	West Bengal SCs and STs Development and Finance Corporation	2003-04 2004-05 2005-06	314.11 691.46 301.03	3126 6877 2999
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh ST Cooperative Finance Corporation	2004-05 2005-06	475.48 71.10	2288 237
5.	Kerala	Kerala State Development Corporation for SCs & STs Ltd.	2004-05 2005-06	3.50 5.25	10 15
6.	Maharashtra	Shabri Adivasi Vitta Va Vikas Nigam	2004-05 2005-06	6.33 11.99	49 100
7.	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh Rajya Sahkari Anusuchit Jati Vitta Avan Vikas Nigam	2005-06	42.75	95
8.	Sikkim	Sikkim SCs, STs & BCs Development Corporation Ltd.	2005-06	30.07	67
9.	Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal Bahudeshiya Evam Vikas Nigam	2005-06	8.66	2

3.97 The Committee are constrained to note that even five years after the incorporation of NSTFDC as a separate entity in the year 2001, consequent to the bifurcation of NSFDC (previously combined Corporation for both SCs and STs), the process of transfer/bifurcation of State Government guarantees issued in favour of the combined Corporation has not yet been fully completed. The Committee further note that NSTFDC has not been able to step up its operations as availability of State Government guarantee is one of the requirement for release of funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to convene a meeting of concerned State Governments/State Channelising Agencies and NSFDC and work out a mechanism for sharing/transfer of State Government Guarantee and execution of legal requirements at the earliest.

3.98 The Committee note that the Ministry have launched the scheme of 'Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana' exclusively for the economic development of ST women for providing concessional financial assistance to the beneficiaries for projects/schemes costing upto Rs. 50,000 per unit. However, the number of women beneficiaries covered under the scheme has not been satisfactory. Only nine States viz. Rajasthan, Tripura, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal have availed of the scheme so far. The amount of funds released during 2005-06 is Rs. 549.60 lakh as compared to Rs. 1197.40 lakh during 2004-05 and number of beneficiaries covered have gone down from 9279 during 2004-05 to 3725 during 2005-06. The Committee view the situation seriously and urge the Ministry to make all out efforts to increase

the coverage of ST women by providing adequate funds and generating awareness about the scheme among the ST women. The remaining States who have not availed of the scheme so far should also be persuaded to come forward with proposals during 2006-07.

Major Head – 4225
Minor Head – 102
Sub Head – 15
Head No. – 15.00.50

G. CONSTRUCTION OF ADIVASI BHAVAN

3.99 The Ministry have stated that Adivasi Bhavan will be able to give a platform to tribals for show-casing their tribal and folk arts and culture and at the same time give a chance for inter-exposure amongst tribals as also give a window for tribal culture for non-tribals. It will also house documentation of history, art and culture relating to tribals.

3.100 The Scheme of Construction of Adivasi Bhavan was started in 2004-05 with a budgetary allocation of Rs. 7 crore which was reduced to Rs. 0.01 crore at the RE stage. During 2005-06, the Budget Estimate was Rs.0.01 crore and the same has been retained as the Revised Estimate for the year. However, no expenditure has been incurred under the Scheme. The reason for shortfall is that land has not been allotted so far for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan. The budgetary allocation for 2006-07 is Rs.0.01 crore.

3.101 Explaining the reason why it has taken such a long time to allot the land for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan and the latest position in this regard, the Ministry have informed that the then Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his Independence Day 2003 speech, on the occasion of the 56th anniversary of India's independence, made an announcement that "The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will construct an Adivasi Bhavan in New Delhi". Towards implementation of this announcement, the Ministry had approached the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, on 11.9.2003, to allot 2000 sq. meters of land in Kotla Road, Rouse Avenue where suitable land was reportedly available. The matter was followed up at Minister level on 5.12.2003.

3.102 The Cabinet Committee on Accommodation in its meeting held on 7.1.2004, directed the Department of Urban Development to allot a suitable land in a central area to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for constructing the Adivasi Bhavan. Pursuant to this decision, the Directorate of Estates advised the Ministry on 30.1.2004 to approach the Land & Development Office (L&DO) for allotment of suitable land. The Ministry took up the matter with the L&DO on 8.3.2004 but no land was allotted, despite several reminders. The Prime Minister's Office also wrote to the Secretary (Urban Development) on 2.1.2006 to direct L&DO to allot the requisite land to the Ministry urgently. Thereupon, the Minister of Tribal Affairs took up the matter with the Minister of Urban Development on 1.3.2006 for early allotment of the requisite land and also suggested that a joint team of officers of both the Ministries could visit the possible sites, if considered necessary.

3.103 The Ministry of Urban Development has informed the Ministry on 23.2.2006, expressing their inability to allot any independent plot of land to this Ministry due to acute shortage of land meant for Government Office Accommodation in Delhi, and have desired the Ministry to communicate to the Directorate of Estates the exact requirement of office space for allotment in Integrated Central Government Office Complexes to be constructed by CPWD for General Pool Office Accommodation.

3.104 The Ministry have further stated that since the proposed Adivasi Bhavan would be a Centre for showcasing the tribal culture, tribal artifacts, besides having facilities like a Library for housing literature on tribal life styles, customs and traditions, an Auditorium for cultural performances/dances by tribal artists, an outlet for display/marketing of tribal products and handicrafts, a Conference Room for holding meetings/seminars on tribal specific issues, etc., the Ministry is again taking up the matter with the Ministry of Urban Development for allotment of an independent plot of land.

3.105 The Ministry have, thus, not been able to achieve any progress towards construction of an Adivasi Bhavan in New Delhi mainly due to inability of the Ministry of Urban Development to allot any suitable land. Action in this regard would be possible only after a suitable land is allotted by the Ministry of Urban Development. A time frame cannot be indicated at this stage.

3.106 For construction of Adivasi Bhavan, a budgetary allocation of Rs.7.00 crore was kept in the year 2004-05. However, due to non-availability of land by the Ministry of Urban Development, for construction of Adivasi Bhavan, token provision has been retained from R.E. 2004-05 onwards to keep the Head of Account operational.

3.107 The Ministry have further stated that they are again taking up the matter at the level of Minister with the Ministry of Urban Development for allotment of an independent plot of land. Further action can be taken only after a suitable land is allotted by the Ministry of Urban Development.

3.108 The Committee note with concern that three years since the Prime Minister announced on 15 August, 2003 that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would construct an Adivasi Bhavan in New Delhi, the Ministry have not been able to achieve any progress towards construction of the Adivasi Bhavan due to inability of the Ministry of Urban Development to allot any suitable land. The Committee further note that the Ministry of Urban Development, citing acute shortage of land meant for Government office accommodation in Delhi have desired the Ministry to communicate to the Directorate of Estates the exact requirement of office space for allotment in Integrated Central Government office complexes. The Committee agree that an independent plot of land is required for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan as it would be a Centre for show-casing the tribal folk arts, culture and tribal artifacts and will be housing documentation of tribal history, art and culture. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the matter expeditiously with the Ministry of Urban Development and impress upon them, the need to allocate a suitable land for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan on priority.

Major Head – 2225, 3601
Minor Head – 800
Sub Head – 24, 08
Head No. – 24.00.31, 08.00.31

H. PROMOTION OF TRIBAL CULTURE

3.109 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have informed that they are in the process of launching a new Scheme for support, promotion, expansion and dissemination of art and culture and traditional sporting events of Scheduled Tribe communities. The finalization of the Scheme will also involve consultation with scholars and tribal leaders.

3.110 The Scheme of promotion of Tribal Culture was started in 2004-2005 with a budgetary allocation of Rs. 1.50 crore which was reduced to Rs. 0.02 crore at the RE stage. The BE during 2005-2006 was Rs. 1 crore but no amount has been allocated at the RE stage. The Ministry have stated that the scheme for promotion of tribal culture is to be formulated. The Budget Estimate for 2006-2007 is Rs 1 crore.

3.111 The Committee enquired about the reason for the long delay in formulating the scheme of promotion of Tribal Culture though an allocation was first made in the BE 2004-2005 as well as the latest position in this regard. The Ministry have informed that to help decide on the contents to be proposed in the scheme for Promotion of Tribal Culture, a conference was held, which was attended by ST Representatives of the Parliament, Ministers-in-charge of Tribal Affairs in the States and representatives from Established Voluntary Agencies (EVAs). There is another Scheme of this Ministry “Research Information, Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and others” and a similar scheme of the Ministry of Culture, namely, Scheme for Financial Assistance for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture, having activities similar/ common to the ones proposed under the scheme.

3.112 The Ministry have further stated that as Tenth Five Year Plan is ending, taking into account the views/ comments of the participants of the Seminar, the Ministry will take a final view about projecting this Scheme in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, an approach paper for which is under preparation.

3.113 Asked whether existing schemes of the Ministry as well as schemes of similar nature implemented by other Ministries have not been properly assessed before launching a new scheme, the Ministry have stated that the Schemes of the Ministry are assessed in the beginning of every Five Year Plan with a view to decide its continuation or otherwise, apart from monitoring and evaluation of the Schemes. Taking the comments elicited in the conference, which was participated by the ST representatives of Parliament, Minister In-charge of Tribal Welfare in the States, reputed NGOs etc. as also other similar schemes, the Ministry will take a final view about projecting the scheme of Promotion of Tribal Culture in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, when other schemes will also be subjected to assessment for their continuation or otherwise.

3.114 The Committee are surprised to note that though an allocation was first kept in the budget 2004-05 for the scheme of 'Promotion of Tribal Culture', the scope and contents of the proposed scheme have not yet been formulated. The Committee further note that the activities and functions proposed under 'Promotion of Tribal Culture' are quite similar to the scheme of 'Research Information, Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others' currently implemented by the Ministry and the scheme of 'Financial Assistance for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture' implemented by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry will take a final view about projecting the scheme for Promotion of Tribal Culture in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, strongly feel that the Ministry should have thoroughly assessed its viability before launching the scheme

for “Promotion of Tribal Culture.” The Committee, therefore, recommend that before launching a new scheme, the Ministry should make thorough assessment of the present needs of the tribal people, problems encountered by them, and how far the existing schemes of the Ministry are able to address these problems and what more needs to be done so that the objective of providing a more focused attention on the integrated socio-economic and cultural development of the Scheduled Tribes is achieved in a coordinated and planned manner.

NEW DELHI;

11 May, 2006
21 Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

SUMITRA MAHAJAN
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

ANNEXURE I

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON 12th APRIL, 2006

The Committee met from 14.30 hrs. to 15.30 hrs. in Committee Room No. '62', Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri M. Appadurai
3. Shri Ashok Argal
4. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
5. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
6. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

RAJYA SABHA

7. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
8. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
9. Shri Tarlochan Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A.K. Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.K. Saxena - Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Under Secretary

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

1.	Ms. Meena Gupta	-	Secretary
2.	Shri. Rajeev Kumar	-	Joint Secretary
3.	Smt. Ruchira Pant	-	Joint Secretary
4.	Shri H.K. Sharma	-	Dy. Director General (Stat)
5.	Shri. Mrutunjay Sahoo	-	Joint Secretary
6.	Shri. P. Sudhir Kumar	-	CCA
7.	Shri. B.S. Kharmawphalang	-	Director
8.	Shri Bharat Lal	-	Director
9.	Shri Wilfred Lakra	-	M D (TRIFED)
10.	Ms. S. Bhavani	-	CMD (NSTFDC)

At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members, Secretary and other officials of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and asked them to brief the Members on the schemes/programmes implemented by the Ministry in terms of allocations made and expenditure incurred thereon and the targets achieved during the financial year 2005-2006 and budget provision for 2006-2007. She pointed out that though the percentage of expenditure under Plan Schemes has reached 99% during 2005-2006, the cumulative unspent balances under major schemes of the Ministry as on 1st January, 2006 for releases made upto 31 December, 2005 had been very high i.e., Rs. 1522.90 crore and enquired about the efforts being made by the Ministry to utilize all the unspent balances. She also observed that the non-Plan expenditure during 2005-06 had been low, especially under the schemes of National Overseas Scholarships to the ST students and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

Hon'ble Chairperson then requested the Ministry to apprise them about the steps taken to ensure that the fiscal discipline stipulated under the FRBM Act and Rules thereunder are strictly complied with by the States and whether enhancing the Central Share or providing 100% grants to the States could be considered in the case of Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. She also expressed surprise that the Ministry have no information as to

how many States have opened separate Budget Head for TSP and desired to know the efforts being made in that regard.

Thereafter, the members raised queries which *inter alia* include (i) General Performance of the Ministry (ii) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (iii) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for ST Students (iv) Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (v) Hostel facilities for ST Boys and Girls (vi) Schemes under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution (vii) National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations. The Secretary and senior officials of the Ministry responded to the queries of the Members. Hon'ble Chairperson directed the Secretary to send written replies to the queries of Members for which ready information was not available with them.

Hon'ble Chairperson thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views in a candid manner.

A Verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE II

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON 11TH
MAY, 2006**

The Committee met from 15.00 hrs. to 16.30 hrs. in Committee Room 'D',
Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

- 1. Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - Chairperson**

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
3. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
4. Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj
5. Smt. Pratibha Singh
6. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

RAJYA SABHA

7. Shri Silvius Condpan
8. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
9. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee
10. Shri Ram Narayan Sahu
11. Shri Tarlochan Singh
12. Shri Veer Singh
13. Ms. Anusiya Uikey

Contd2/-----

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A.K Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.K. Saxena - Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Under Secretary

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that they were meeting to consider and adopt three Draft Reports of the Committee viz, subject Report on the 'National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation(NBCFDC)' and two Reports on Demands for Grants (2006-07) pertaining to the Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment and Tribal Affairs.

3. XX XX XX XX

4. XX XX XX XX

5. The Committee then took up the draft Seventeenth Report on Demands for Grants, 2006-07 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and adopted the same without any amendment.

6. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalise the Reports and present the same to Parliament on their behalf.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS

Sl.No.	Para No.	Recommendation/Observations
1	2	3
1	1.5	<p>The Committee observe that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have agreed to comply with most of the recommendations of the Committee and are in the process of taking action on some of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report on Demands for Grants, 2005-06. The Committee, however, note that the implementation aspect, required for assessing the progress and achievements of the Ministry has not been provided by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should act upon their recommendations in right earnest and the status of implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report(Fourteenth Lok Sabha) should be communicated to the Committee so that the actual performance of the Ministry in physical and quantifiable terms could be assessed.</p>
2	3.21	<p>The Committee note with concern that the Budgetary allocations under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during the last three years had been slashed down consecutively at the Revised Estimate stage. During the year 2005-06, the Ministry of Finance imposed a cut of Rs. 100 crore bringing it down from Rs. 1498.82 crore to Rs. 1398.82 crore at the RE stage. The Committee are aware that the revised estimates are conveyed by the Ministry of Finance on the basis of expenditure level upto 30 September, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been able to utilize only 38.41% of the budgetary allocations during 2005-06 till 30 September, 2005 though they should have utilized 50% of the allocation by this time. Also, with the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, coming into force from July, 2004, no fresh releases have been made to those States/UTs who had unspent balances prior to the period 31 March, 2004. Therefore, keeping in view the expenditure position of the Ministry upto September, 2005, cut in the BE has been effected by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee are not pleased with this situation as funds crucial for the development of the tribals are withheld in the process. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to plan and incur their expenditure in a proportionate manner so that it is evenly spread throughout the year. The States/UTs may be continuously pursued to (i) send their proposals right at the beginning of the financial year; (ii) release funds to their Tribal Welfare Departments in time; (iii) furnish quarterly</p>

progress reports as well as utilization certificates of funds released earlier within 12 month as per the provisions of the FRBM Act and (iv) minimize administrative and procedural delays in releasing funds. The Progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

- 3 3.22 The Committee note that utilization of funds under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during 2005-06 has been quite high with the percentage of expenditure reaching 99.5%. However, the Committee are concerned at the huge amount of unspent balances lying with the Ministry. Out of the releases made prior to 31 March, 2004, the unspent balances was Rs. 868.71 crore as on 31 March, 2005 which came down to Rs. 484.91 crore as on 31 December, 2005. The cumulative unspent balances with States, for releases made upto 31 December, 2005, was Rs. 1522.90 crore as on 1 January, 2006. Though the Ministry contended that the position of utilization of funds has improved due to strict adherence to the provisions of the FRBM Act, yet the fact that funds could not be released to the States of Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal under the scheme of Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution due to unspent balances lying with these States is a cause of serious concern. The Committee, therefore desire that as 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry should make sincere efforts and impress upon the State Governments to utilize all the unspent balances lying with them as well as funds allocated during 2006-07 within this financial year so that the amount allocated for the entire duration of the Tenth Five Year Plan could be fully utilized. The Committee also urge the Ministry to impress upon the States/UTs to comply with the provisions of the FRBM Act strictly.
- 4 3.23 The Committee note that during the year 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 42.76 lakh could not be utilized under the Non Plan Scheme of 'National Overseas Scholarships for ST Students' due to non-receipt of bills from the Indian Missions abroad for the payment of scholarships in respect of ST students pursuing studies abroad. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the Ministry of External Affairs to send the bills for overseas scholarships of ST students in time so that they could be disposed of within the financial year thereby avoiding cut at the RE stage and adhering to strict fiscal discipline.
- 5 3.24 The Committee further note that though the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes was set up in the year 2004, yet the post of Vice-Chairperson, personal staff of Vice-chairperson and other posts in the Commission are

still lying vacant. The Committee, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the competent Authority at the earliest so that all the Posts sanctioned are filled up without further delay.

- 6 3.25 The Committee note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Post Matric Scholarships, Hostels for ST boys and Girls, Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas, Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others etc. where the States have to provide matching grants or bear the committed liability as in the case of Post Matric Scholarships. The Committee further note that some of the States are finding it difficult to provide 50% matching grant under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee feel that implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes is greatly hampered when the State Governments do not come forward with proposals under the scheme or find it difficult to provide their matching share. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the funding pattern of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be reviewed at the earliest and action plan formulated to provide 100% grants for Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.
- 7 3.26 The Committee note that the Ministry are still in the process of finalizing its approach and strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee endorse the steps taken by the Ministry in finalising the approach paper for the Eleventh Five Year Plan based on their assessment of the various issues pertaining to overall development of STs as also the commitments made by the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme. However, keeping in view the fact that other Central Ministries/Departments, as well as the States and UTs are implementing the sectoral programmes and schemes pertaining to the development of the Scheduled Tribes, the Committee desire that a holistic view should be taken while formulating the approach and strategy for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should utilize the service of experts in the field of tribal development as well as from concerned Central Ministries/Departments, so that focused attention to the needs of the tribals may fully be addressed.
- 8 3.47 The Committee note that 'Development of Forest Villages' is one of the thrust areas of tribal development during the Tenth Five Year Plan and till date a total of 1832 forest villages in eight States have been covered. The

Committee are, however, surprised to note that though an amount of Rs. 220 crore has been allocated for the development of forest villages during 2006-07, yet the Ministry have no information about the exact number of forest villages proposed to be covered during 2006-07 and are dependant on the States, who have not even submitted proposals for the development of forest villages so far. Keeping in view the fact that 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan and that the one time relaxation given by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for undertaking non-forestry activities in the forest villages under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is valid only upto 31 December, 2006 the Committee desire that action plan for the year 2006-07, outlining the number of forest villages to be covered, location of these forest villages and anticipated expenditure per forest village should be prepared at the earliest. The Committee, also urge the Ministry to identify those forest villages not yet covered and vigorously pursue with the State Governments to send their proposals within the first quarter itself so that funds could be released early and the remaining forest villages are covered by 31 December, 2006.

- 9 3.48 The Committee note with serious concern that though the Planning Commission had issued orders directing the States to earmark funds for TSP to be placed under a separate Budget Head (code 796) from the total State Plan outlay at least in proportion to the ST population of the States/UTs, yet the Ministry have no information about the status of opening of a separate Budget Head for TSP by the States/UTs. Keeping in view the fact that the scheme of SCA to TSP has been in operation as early as the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Committee feel an urgent need to evolve a mechanism to ensure accountability as well as check diversion of TSP funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue with those States/UTs who have not opened separate Budget Head for TSP so far, at the highest level so that all the States/UTs could earmark funds under a separate Head at least in proportion to the ST population of the State for their tribal sub plans.
- 10 3.49 The Committee also desire that the Ministry should pursue Central Ministries/Departments to earmark funds for TSP in proportion to the ST population in the country i.e. at least 8% of their Annual Plans and also furnish the details of actual flow of funds to TSP. As regards setting up of an institutionalized mechanism such as setting up of a Committee in the Planning Commission to approve the TSP of Central Ministries, the Committee urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning

Commission early, at the highest level.

- 11 3.50 The Committee note that the Ministry are considering the feasibility of restructuring and strengthening the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States. The Committee are of the firm view that for effective implementation of tribal welfare programmes, frame work of ITDPs/ITDAs in the States should be suitably restructured and strengthened in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the project officers and fully endorse the steps taken in this regard. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should examine the matter in detail and work out a time bound programme for the restructuring and strengthening of the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States at the earliest.
- 12 3.62 The Committee note that during 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 20 crore has been appropriated out of the allocation under Post Matric Scholarships for the scheme of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools as no funds were allocated for these schemes at BE stage. The Committee further note that the expenditure under the scheme of 'Post Matric Scholarships, Books Banks and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is Rs. 211.18, crore out of the RE of Rs. 188.09 crore leading to excess spending of Rs. 23.09 crore. The Committee are not pleased with the appropriation of funds from one scheme to another as it affects the performance of the scheme from where funds have been appropriated. The Committee feel that demand for budgetary allocation for the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools could have been made at the time of laying of Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that appropriation of funds from one scheme to another should not be resorted to; rather the Ministry of Finance should be approached for increased allocation.
- 13 3.63 The Committee note that though the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is a Central Sector Scheme where 100% Central Assistance is provided and States/UTs are not required to bear any financial burden, funds have been released only to ten States during the last three years. The Ministry have informed that grants was released only to those State Governments who have submitted complete proposals. The Committee are not satisfied with the number of States availing the scheme and desire that States should be vigorously pursued to come forward with more proposals under the scheme. The Committee also urge the Ministry to assess the performance of the scheme at the time of formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and incorporate measures for

generating publicity/awareness and making the scheme more attractive.

- 14 3.64 The Committee note with regret that though the norms for the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' provides for inclusion of at least 30% girl students and 3% disabled students from tribal community, yet the State Governments have not provided separate data of the number of girl students and disabled students enrolled under the scheme. The Committee are not happy with the situation and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned State Governments and ensure that the data of girl students and disabled students availing the scheme are made available so that impact of the scheme on these two most vulnerable section of the tribal community could be assessed.
- 15 3.74 The Committee note that the Ministry have introduced an insurance scheme for Primitive Tribal Groups i.e. 'Janshree Bima Yojana' during 2004-05 with the objective of covering the earning head of each PTG family by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Out of 5 lakh PTG families assessed for coverage under the scheme, funds have been released for covering 3 lakh PTG families during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Committee express apprehension that the Ministry would not be able to cover the remaining 2 lakh PTG families during 2006-07, the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to prepare specific action plan expeditiously for bringing all the PTG families under insurance cover during the financial year 2006-07 and monitor the progress achieved at the highest level.
- 16 3.75 The Committee express dissatisfaction at the slow progress made by the States/UTs in conducting base line survey on Primitive Tribal Groups. The Ministry have informed that only two States viz., Manipur and Rajasthan have submitted the survey reports; in the case of West Bengal and Uttaranchal, the reports submitted by them are incomplete. The Committee take serious view of the fact that majority of the States/UTs are not giving priority to conduct the survey and desire that those States/UTs should be pursued at the highest level so that base line survey on the Primitive Tribal Groups are completed during 2006-07.
- 17 3.86 The Committee note with dismay that only five States viz., Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim have furnished the data of Trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses for tribal youths. The Committee further note that the Ministry have commissioned a study

to assess the success of the VTC scheme. In the opinion of the Committee, the impact of the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas' can be assessed only if the complete data of successfully employed tribal youths trained in the vocational courses are made available. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to make sincere efforts to persuade the remaining States/UTs to obtain the data of trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses at the earliest.

- 18 3.87 The Committee note that under the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas', traditional courses like Typing & shorthand, Cane and Bamboo artifacts training, Tailoring etc. are offered to the tribal youths to enable them to find employment/self employment. Apart from the traditional courses, some of the State Governments like Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura and Chhattisgarh are also offering computer training courses. In the era of globalisation and advanced technology, the Committee feel that the Vocational Courses offered under the scheme should be in tune with the changing global scenario and urge the Ministry to persuade the remaining States to introduce Computer Training and courses in Information Technology, in addition to the traditional courses offered under the scheme.
- 19 3.97 The Committee are constrained to note that even five years after the incorporation of NSTFDC as a separate entity in the year 2001, consequent to the bifurcation of NSFDC (previously combined Corporation for both SCs and STs), the process of transfer/bifurcation of State Government guarantees issued in favour of the combined Corporation has not yet been fully completed. The Committee further note that NSTFDC has not been able to step up its operations as availability of State Government guarantee is one of the requirement for release of funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to convene a meeting of concerned State Governments/State Channelising Agencies and NSFDC and work out a mechanism for sharing/transfer of State Government Guarantee and execution of legal requirements at the earliest.
- 20 3.98 The Committee note that the Ministry have launched the scheme of 'Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana' exclusively for the economic development of ST women for providing concessional financial assistance to the beneficiaries for projects/schemes costing upto Rs. 50,000 per unit. However, the number of women beneficiaries covered under the scheme has not been satisfactory. Only nine States viz. Rajasthan, Tripura, West Bengal,

Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal have availed of the scheme so far. The amount of funds released during 2005-06 is Rs. 549.60 lakh as compared to Rs. 1197.40 lakh during 2004-05 and number of beneficiaries covered have gone down from 9279 during 2004-05 to 3725 during 2005-06. The Committee view the situation seriously and urge the Ministry to make all out efforts to increase the coverage of ST women by providing adequate funds and generating awareness about the scheme among the ST women. The remaining States who have not availed of the scheme so far should also be persuaded to come forward with proposals during 2006-07.

21 3.108 The Committee note with concern that three years since the Prime Minister announced on 15 August, 2003 that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would construct an Adivasi Bhavan in New Delhi, the Ministry have not been able to achieve any progress towards construction of the Adivasi Bhavan due to inability of the Ministry of Urban Development to allot any suitable land. The Committee further note that the Ministry of Urban Development, citing acute shortage of land meant for Government office accommodation in Delhi have desired the Ministry to communicate to the Directorate of Estates the exact requirement of office space for allotment in Integrated Central Government office complexes. The Committee agree that an independent plot of land is required for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan as it would be a Centre for show-casing the tribal folk arts, culture and tribal artifacts and will be housing documentation of tribal history, art and culture. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the matter expeditiously with the Ministry of Urban Development and impress upon them, the need to allocate a suitable land for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan on priority.

22 3.114 The Committee are surprised to note that though an allocation was first kept in the budget 2004-05 for the scheme of 'Promotion of Tribal Culture', the scope and contents of the proposed scheme have not yet been formulated. The Committee further note that the activities and functions proposed under 'Promotion of Tribal Culture' are quite similar to the scheme of 'Research Information, Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others' currently implemented by the Ministry and the scheme of 'Financial Assistance for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture' implemented by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry will take a final view about projecting the scheme for Promotion of Tribal Culture in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, strongly feel that the Ministry should have thoroughly assessed its viability before launching the scheme for "Promotion of Tribal

Culture.” The Committee, therefore, recommend that before launching a new scheme, the Ministry should make thorough assessment of the present needs of the tribal people, problems encountered by them, and how far the existing schemes of the Ministry are able to address these problems and what more needs to be done so that the objective of providing a more focused attention on the integrated socio-economic and cultural development of the Scheduled Tribes is achieved in a coordinated and planned manner.