

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

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2018-19)**

FIFTY-SECOND REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 2018/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 8.03.2018

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 8.03.2018



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NEW DELHI**

March, 2018/Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)

CONTENTS

		PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2017-18)		(iv)
INTRODUCTION		(vi)
REPORT		
CHAPTER - I	INTRODUCTORY	1
CHAPTER – II	BUDGETARY PROVISIONS AND UTILIZATION	3
CHAPTER – III	SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (SCA) TO TRIBAL SUB-SCHEME (TSS)	12
CHAPTER – IV	GRANTS UNDER FIRST PROVISO TO ARTICLE 275 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA	18
	(a) EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS (EMRS)	23
CHAPTER – V	POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR ST STUDENTS	30
CHAPTER – VI	SUPPORT TO TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (TRI)	36
CHAPTER – VII	NATIONAL SCHEDULED TRIBES FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NSTFDC)	44
ANNEXURES		
I.	MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18) HELD ON 20.02.2018	52
II.	MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18) HELD ON 7.03.2018	55
APPENDIX		
	STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS	57

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

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

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

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
23. Shri Munvvar Saleem Chaudhary
24. Shri Chunibhai Kanjibhai Gohel
25. Shri Ahamed Hassan
26. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
27. Dr. Narendra Jadhav
28. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
29. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
30. Smt. Chhaya Verma
31. Shri Ramkumar Verma

* Prof. A. Seetaram Naik changed his nomination w.e.f. 03.11.2017.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director
4. Shri Maneesh Mohan Kamble - Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18) having been authorized by the Committee do present on their behalf this Fifty-Second Report on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2018-19' pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which were laid on the Table of the House on 9th February, 2018. After obtaining the Budget Documents, Explanatory Notes, etc., the Committee took evidence of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 20th February, 2018. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at the sitting held on 7th March, 2018.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for tendering oral evidence and placing before them the detailed written notes and post evidence information as desired by the Committee in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants(2018-19).

4. For ease of reference, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI;

7 March, 2018
16 Phalgun, 1939 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

REPORT
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTORY

1.1 Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) was constituted in 1999.

Following is the mandate of the Ministry:

- Welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes
- Protection of legal rights
- Protection and promotion of tribal culture and heritage
- Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan/STC based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Aayog.

1.2 Programmes and Schemes of the Ministry are as under :

- Direct Intervention
- Filling critical gaps in institutions & programmes and supplementing the efforts of other Central Ministries, State Governments and Voluntary Organizations.

1.3 Schemes implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Direct Intervention by Mota

- Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)
- Minimum Support Price for Minor Forest Produce (MSP for MFP)
- Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation
- Support to Tribal Research Institutes
- Tribal Festival, Research, information and Mass Education
- Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products
- Monitoring and Evaluation

1.4 Schemes implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Gap filling, Supplementing efforts of Others:

- Pre-Matric Scholarship
- Post-Matric Scholarship
- Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Schemes (SCA to TSS)
- Grants under proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution
- Ashram School
- Boys and Girls Hostel
- Vocational Training
- Aid to Voluntary Organisations Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes
- National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students
- Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad

CHAPTER II

BUDGETARY PROVISIONS AND UTILIZATION

2.1 The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2018-19 are given under Demand No. 96. The detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 9th February, 2018. The Ministry have furnished the following statement showing the Budgetary Estimates (BE), Revised Estimates (RE) and Actual Expenditure (AE) for the last three years along with the Budgetary Estimates for 2018-19 under Scheme-wise and Non-Scheme-wise expenditure.

Scheme-wise Expenditure

(Rs. in Crore)

Head	Year	BE	RE	AE	Percentage of Expenditure over RE
Scheme-wise Expenditure	2015-16	4792.19	4550.00	4472.60	98.30
	2016-17	4800.00	4798.63	4793.96	99.90
	2017-18	5300.14	5293.30	4297.87 as on 15.02.2018	81.19
	2018-19	5957.18	-	-	-
Non-Scheme-wise Expenditure	2015-16	27.02	23.80	22.58	94.87
	2016-17	26.50	27.87	22.69	81.41
	2017-18	29.18	36.02	25.74 as on 15.02.2018	71.46
	2018-19	42.82	-	-	-

2.2 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs furnished the following statement showing BE, RE and AE incurred during the years 2015-16 to 2017-18 alongwith BE for the year 2018-19 on various tribal welfare schemes - (Rs. in crore)

Sl. No	Name of Scheme	BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE*	EXP (Up to 31.12.17)	BE 2018-19
2015-16				2016-17				2017-18			
1	SCA to TSS	1250.00	1132.27	1132.17	1250.00	1200.00	1195.03	1350.00	1350.00	1125.02	1350.00
2	Grants under Article 275 (1)	1367.00	1392.78	1392.46	1400.00	1260.00	1265.86	1500.01	1500.00	1259.89	1800.01
3	Support to NSTFDC	70.00	63.33	63.33	70.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	55.00	30.00	65.00
4	Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojna	200.00	200.00	200.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
5	Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the Scheduled Tribes	77.00	75.65	75.05	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	64.70	130.00
6	Vocational Training Centers (NGOs)										
7	Strengthening of Educational among ST Girls										
8	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PTG)	217.35	217.35	213.54	200.00	340.00	340.21	270.00	240.00	190.60	260.00
9	Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products-TRIFED	50.00	40.00	34.85	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	44.95	21.51	54.15
10	Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	28.50	11.00	11.50	21.00	17.00	15.11	80.00	55.00	44.41	100.00
11	Minimum Support Price for Minor Forest Produce (MSP for MFP)	307.00	143.00	117.69	158.00	3.00	2.00	100.00	25.00	0.00	130.00

12	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students	50.00	48.81	46.84	50.00	80.00	79.98	120.00	100.00	64.86	100.00
13	Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad	1.00	0.72	0.39	1.00	0.39	0.39	1.00	1.00	0.70	2.00
14	Tribal Festivals, Research Information & Mass Education	10.20	10.20	7.87	17.39	6.39	4.69	12.04	6.35	0.48	25.00
15	Monitoring and Evaluation	4.50	2.25	1.56	8.00	2.00	1.39	3.00	3.00	0.98	5.00
16	Information Technology	2.80	1.00	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Improving Development Programmes in the Tribal Areas	2.00	1.00	1.34	0.39	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
18	Pre-Matric Scholarship							265.00	318.00	220.85	350.00
19	Post-Matric Scholarship							1347.07	1436.00	935.27	1586.00
20	Boys & Girls Hostels							10.00	7.00	6.00	0.00
21	Ashram Schools							10.00	7.00	7.00	0.00
22	Vocational Training Centers							3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	**Umbrella Scheme for Development of STs: Tribal Education	1154.84	1210.64	1173.67	1454.22	1659.84	1659.31				
	Grand Total	4792.19	4550.00	4472.60	4800.00	4798.63	4793.96	5300.14	5293.30	3972.27	5957.18

* Tentative Figures based on RE 2017-18 and BE 2018-19

** Umbrella Scheme for education includes:

- (i) PMS, Book and Upgradation of Merit
- (ii) Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students
- (iii) Boys & Girls Hostels
- (iv) Ashram Schools
- (v) Vocational Training Centres

2.3 The Ministry have furnished the information showing Proposed Outlay and Approved Annual Outlay for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Division	Proposed Outlay 2017-18	Approved Annual Outlay 2017-18 (BE)	Proposed Outlay 2018-19	Approved annual Outlay 2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Centrally sponsored Schemes	5636.41	4997.82	6239.52	5636.03
2	Central Sector Schemes/ Projects	271.00	277.20	308.00	287.15
3	Misc. (Secretariat + TRIFED etc.)	68.18	54.30	111.75	76.82
	Grand Total	5975.59	5329.32	6659.27	6000.00

2.4 The Ministry have stated that they had submitted a requirement of Rs. 6659.27 crore to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure as against which, the Ministry of Finance allocated Rs. 6000.00 crore (scheme + non-scheme) for the year 2018-19, against the projected requirement of the Ministry. Due to this reduced allocation the State's share shall reduce and offset the rationalization of demands made by the State Governments and converge the resources available with the State Tribal Sub-Scheme Funds.

2.5 During evidence, when enquired about non-utilization of budgetary allocation under MSP to Minor Forest Produce (MFP), the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated as under:

"The Scheme for Minimum Support Price (MSP) is triggered only when the market price starts falling below the MSP. A revolving fund is set up in a 75:25 ratio and if there is a loss in auctioning of the MFP procured, i.e. when MFP has been

purchased at MSP and sold at prices less than MSP, then the losses suffered will be shared between Centre and State in the ratio 75:25. Whenever a State suffers a loss, the Centre tops it up with their share of 75%. So far none of the State have come back to the Ministry seeking topping of funds on account of loss."

2.6 The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs during evidence explained about achievement of National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for last three years as:-

Year	Funds Released (Rs. in Crore)	No. of Beneficiaries
2014-15	0.99	20
2015-16	0.39	15
2016-17	0.39	16

2.7 When asked about the strategy chalked out by the Ministry to avoid under utilization of funds in various schemes in 2017-18, the Ministry submitted as under:

"The Ministry have started the process of holding of PAC meetings early in the financial year which helps in the clearing of the proposals of State Governments timely followed by releases of funds. Besides, online processing of proposals and release of funds have been introduced in various schemes for greater transparency and faster release of funds."

2.8 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been taking various steps since last 2 years to minimize the hurdles faced by tribal beneficiaries to avail benefits under various Schemes meant for them. When asked about the steps taken by the Ministry to minimize the hurdles, the Ministry stated as under:-

- "(i) Guidelines of the Schemes implemented by the Ministry as well as Annual Reports have been uploaded on the Ministry's Website.

- (ii) Sanction Orders of the project to be implemented in the States under a particular Scheme are uploaded on the Ministry's website.
- (iii) Scholarships are provided directly in the accounts of the students.
- (iv) Nine schemes being implemented by the Ministry has been board on DBT.
- (v) With regard to implementation of Forest Rights Act, 2006, training and awareness programmes are organized at Gram Panchayat level by the States.
- (vi) State Governments are also advised to ensure that concerned Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) should be duly informed about the projects/ programmes relating to Tribal Development to be implemented in the area of jurisdiction. It is also advised to ensure that meetings of Gram Sabha are conducted on regular interval as per norms in such areas.
- (vii) Developed NFST portal and hosted the same on Ministry NIC server for inviting fresh applications online.
- (viii) Various student queries are being resolved through coordination with PFMS, Banks and NSP teams.
- (ix) Linking of Aadhar with the tribal beneficiaries In the individual beneficiary projects are advised to the State Governments."

2.9 The Ministry further stated that for monitoring the performance of various schemes/programmes the following steps have been taken:

- (i) During PAC meetings progress of the earlier releases is ascertained from the State Government officials.
- (ii) Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds as per the norms of GFR.
- (iii) Progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained.
- (iv) Officers while visiting States/UTs also ascertain the progress of implementation of various schemes/ programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

- (v) Meetings/ Conferences are convened at the Central level with State officials for ensuring timely submission of proposals, speeding up of implementation of the schemes/ programmes, and reviewing the physical and financial progress.

2.10 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have revised the Guidelines for the Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRI)' during the current year 2017-18. The Guidelines, inter alia, prescribes for an APEX Committee for appraisal and Approval of project proposals of Tribal Research Institutes (TRI). The Committee is chaired by Secretary (Tribal Affairs) with members from M/o Culture, Tourism, Skill Development and NITI Aayog as also Principal Secretary/ Secretary-in-Charge and Director TRI. TRIs would be responsible to prepare proposal and detailed action plan for the year alongwith budgetary requirement and submit it to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs through State Tribal Welfare Department.

2.11 It was pointed out to the Ministry during evidence that there is no grooming or coaching centres for Tribal sports and hence there is a lack of Tribal sports persons being selected at the international level. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs replied "a Tribal Sports Complex is in its planning stage in every EMRS, which has a tribal majority, and we will try to have a sports institution for a particular game, like archery, football or hockey."

2.12 The Committee note that the Ministry have utilised 98.30 and 99.90 per cent Budget allocation for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee commend the Ministry for this. The Budget allocation for 2018-19 has, therefore, been increased to Rs. 5957.18 crore (Scheme) from Rs. 5300.14 crore in 2017-18 as a result thereof. The Committee find that funds allocated for the Scheme of support to NSTFDC, Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products, National Fellowship and Scholarship for higher education of ST students, Tribal Festivals Research, Information and Mass Education, Pre-Matric Scholarship Schemes have been utilized only 50 per cent till 31.12.2017 which is indeed not a happy situation. The Committee note that lack of training institutes in the field of sports like archery, hockey, swimming, football etc. lead to non-inclusion of tribal sportspersons on the international diasporas and hence meritorious sportspersons from tribal belt are deprived of the recognition that they are entitled to. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, during the evidence, admitted that tribal sportspersons are deprived of a facility of training institutes and the Ministry is planning to built one institute in every district having tribal majority. The Committee while appreciating such move of the Ministry recommend the Ministry to allocate sufficient funds for development of all Sports Institutes equipped with facilities of track and field events as well as indoor sports for the use of tribal sportspersons in every district having 50 per cent majority of tribal population, so that tribal sportspersons of these regions are not bereft of these facilities.

2.13 The Committee are constrained to note that National Overseas Scholarship Scheme has not achieved desired results during the 12th Five Year Plan and the number students going abroad have not been more than 20 in the last five years. The Committee would like to know the reasons for the same. The Committee find that the Ministry have levied very stringent norms in the process of selection of candidates under the Scheme. The Ministry have conceded the fact that various rounds of interviews and selection processes are conducted for the students going abroad which may be one of the reasons. The Committee feel that the interview norms as well as selection procedure need to be relaxed if more tribal students are to be promoted and given benefits of the Scheme. The Committee also feel that the round of interviews is a very subjective issue and is certainly not a parameter of students calibre. The Committee recommend that a student who has secured admission in the foreign universities should not be strictly judged on the ground of interviews alone. The Committee also desire that entire selection procedure/norms need to be revisited and made uncomplicated.

CHAPTER - III

SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (SCA) TO TRIBAL SUB-SCHEME (TSS)

3.1 Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) is 100% grant from Central Government since 1977-78. It is charged to Consolidated Fund of India (except grants for NE States, a voted item) and is an additive to State Plan funds and efforts for Tribal Development. This grant is utilized for economic development of ITDP, ITDA, MADA, Clusters, PVTGs and dispersed tribal population.

3.2 Grant is provided to 23 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

Institutional Mechanism

- i. At the State level, Apex Level Committee (ALC) or a Tribal Advisory Council (TAC) should be with Chief Minister as Chairperson and Minister of Nodal Department as Vice-Chairman. It will meet once in six months.
- ii. Executive Committee should be with Chief Secretary as its Chairperson and Principal Secretary of all line departments as its Members and Principal Secretary of the Nodal Department as Member Secretary. It will meet once in three months.
- iii. District Planning and Monitoring Committee (DPMC) should be with DC as its Chairman and Project offices of ITDP/ITDA as its Secretary, District level officers of concerned line departments as its members.

Approval Process

3.3 A Mechanism of Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) has been introduced by the Ministry in 2014 for appraisal and approval of projects of State Governments under SCA to TSS. The Committee is headed by Secretary (Tribal Affairs) with representatives of State Governments, Financial Advisor of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, NITI Aayog, other Central Ministries/Departments etc. This has helped in ensuring consultation with the

States, convergence with other resources of State TSP, transparency in the process of appraisal of fund releases and ensuring optimal utilisation of limited financial resources. As many as 28 PAC meetings were held during the year 2017 to consider the proposals of the State Governments.

3.4 Objectives of SCA to TSS

- (i) Human resource development by enhancing their access to education and health services.
- (ii) Enhanced quality of life by providing basic amenities in tribal areas / localities including housing (mostly to be covered under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana / State Schemes).
- (iii) Substantial reduction in poverty and unemployment, creation of productive assets and income generation opportunities.
- (iv) Enhanced capacity to avail opportunities, gain rights and entitlements and improved facilities at par with other areas, and
- (v) Protection against exploitation and oppression

3.5 Primarily, activities of non-recurring nature (including infrastructure and equipment with at least three years life time) are supported under these schemes. Recurring component of such programmes / schemes are to be borne by State funds / TSP allocation. ST Communities with similar livelihood pattern / traditional occupation (i.e. income source same for tribal household economy) should be clubbed together for the purpose of planning under SCA to TSS. Major infrastructure sector, like road connectivity, electricity, drinking water, major irrigation projects, housing would not be a priority for funding under SCA to TSS, as substantive part of State Plan funds go into these programmes.

3.6 The Ministry have furnished the following statement showing the BE, RE and AE incurred under the scheme of SCA to TSS for the last three years as well as BE for 2018-19:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
2015-16	1250.00	1132.27	1132.17
2016-17	1250.00	1200.00	1195.03
2017-18	1350.00	1325.00	1133.00 (as on 15.02.2018)
2018-19	1350.00	-	-

3.7 On being enquired about the plan of action to ensure full utilization of the allocated amount of Rs. 1350 crore in the year 2017-18, the Ministry in a written note stated as under:

"The Ministry maintained the Quarterly Expenditure Progress (QEP) under the scheme as per the stipulations of Ministry of Finance. As on 15.02.2018, an amount of Rs. 1133.00 Crore has been released to the States against total allocation of Rs. 1350.00 Crore (RE Stage), which is about 84% of the total allocation. Remaining balance of Rs. 217.00 crore will be utilized comfortably by sanctioning funds to the approved activities of various State Governments."

3.8 On being enquired about allocation and expenditure under SCA to TSS for the last two years, the Ministry provided details as follows:-

(Rs. in crore)

S. NO	States	2015-16		2016-17	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	Andhra Pradesh	3500.00	3500.00	5000.42	5000.42
2	Assam	5844.00	5844.00	3407.80	3407.80
3	Bihar	1368.26	1368.26	743.74	743.74
4	Chhattisgarh	10809.64	10809.64	11717.82	11717.82
5	Goa	0.00	0.00	455.68	455.68
6	Gujarat	10566.50	10566.50	9488.00	9488.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	475.00	475.00	1959.39	1959.39
8	Jammu & Kashmir	2000.00	2000.00	3671.61	3671.61

9	Jharkhand	10000.00	10000.00	9820.75	9820.75
10	Karnataka	4370.00	4370.00	5100.00	5100.00
11	Kerala	357.50	357.50	808.09	808.09
12	Madhya Pradesh	11501.21	11501.21	19236.61	19236.61
13	Maharashtra	12514.91	12514.91	9547.00	9547.00
14	Manipur	1100.00	1100.00	2260.00	2260.00
15	Odisha	14728.52	14728.52	11806.27	11806.27
16	Rajasthan	10190.00	10190.00	11072.90	11072.90
17	Sikkim	353.00	353.00	1497.62	1497.62
18	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
19	Telangana	4000.00	4000.00	3845.35	3845.35
20	Tripura	2400.07	2400.07	1345.76	1345.76
21	Uttar Pradesh	905.51	905.51	121.92	121.92
22	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	West Bengal	6233.00	6233.00	5995.50	5995.50
Grand Total		113217.12	113217.12	119502.23	119502.23

3.9 The Committee asked why the Ministry proposed to enhance BE for the year 2018-19 for the TSS Scheme when amount allocated during 2015-16 and 2016-17 are not been fully utilized, the Ministry in its reply submitted that,

" The funds under SCA to TSS were utilized in full during last three years. There is a liability of previous approved activities amounting to the tune of Rs. 150.00 crores on the part of the Ministry under the said scheme. It was proposed to enhance the BE to the tune of 5% i.e. Rs. 1417.50 crore to the last year BE. However, depending upon the availability of funds, Rs. 1350.00 crore has been allocated under the Scheme."

3.10 During the course of oral evidence it was pointed out to the Ministry officials that allocation of budget for Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) in the past year have not been in proportion to the tribals in the country as was recommended by the various expert committees in the past. Major portion of funds has also not been spent under the Scheme and hence there is a demand from the tribal communities and their organizations for establishment of revenue committees at the local levels to review the success of Tribal Sub-Scheme.

3.11 The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated, "the apportionment of funds is done by the NITI Aayog and the Finance Ministry, which is about 7.3 per cent of the total outlay that is earmarked for the Tribal Sub-Scheme as it is called and various Ministries have been given the percentage.

3.12 When asked about the status of online monitoring system and mechanism implemented to keep a check on diversion of funds under TSS the Ministry furnished information as under:

"An online monitoring system has been developed and put in place with web address <http://stcmis.gov.in>. The framework envisages monitoring of allocations for welfare of STs under the schemes, monitoring of expenditure vis-a-vis allocations, monitoring of physical performance and outcome monitoring."

3.13 Further on the issue of diversion of funds the Ministry stated as under:

"The allocation under schemes for welfare of STs has already been allotted a separate budget head i.e. 796 for avoiding possibility of diversion of funds. Utilization of TSP funds [now called as Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)] is the sole responsibility of concerned Central Ministries/ Departments. Through the online monitoring system (<http://stcmis.gov.in>) release of funds to the State Governments and progress of completion of projects are scrutinized. In Ministry / Department having STC funds, nodal officers have been nominated to look after the utilization of TSP funds. Ministry of Tribal Affairs also takes meeting with the Nodal Officer at intervals to review the utilization of STC funds."

3.14 The Committee observe that the ultimate objective of SCA to TSS is to raise the economic and social status of tribals. The Committee find that allocations made under the SCA to TSS have been fully utilized by the Ministry during 2015-16 and 2016-17 which is credible. The Committee desire that more funds should be sought at the RE stage for the year 2018-19 as these funds of SCA to TSS have been utilized for enhance quality of life by providing basic amenities in tribal areas, creation of productive assets and income generating opportunities are carried out through this Scheme.

3.15 The Committee note that no funds have been released to the State of Goa and Tamil Nadu in 2015-16 and the State of Uttarakhand has not received any fund during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee desire to know the reasons for not allocating funds to these States and the steps taken by the Ministry to allocate funds to these States too.

CHAPTER - IV

GRANTS UNDER FIRST PROVISIO TO ARTICLE 275 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

4.1 This is a Special Area Programme and 100% grants are provided to States. Under the programme, Grants are released to States, having ST population for raising the level of Administration in Scheduled Areas and for the welfare of tribal people. Funds are released to States based on proposals received from the States Governments depending on the felt needs of ST population to bridge the gap in infrastructure activities in sectors like education, health and agriculture etc. and for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) in the States.

4.2 Grant is provided to 27 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

4.3 The Ministry have issued revised Guidelines for Inter-State allocation of funds and implementation of Programmes / Activities under Proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India during 2016-17 and onwards on 20th June, 2016. The guidelines which inter alia stipulates following provisions:

(A) Criteria for Inter-State Allocation

From 2016-17 onwards, allocation of funds among 27 states under Article 275(1) of the Constitution shall be made in following manner:

- i. 50% based on State ST population,
- ii. 25% based on tribal areas covered under ITDPs / ITDAs. A few States where no ITDP / ITDA has been constituted, area of concerned Block / Panchayat Samiti (Middle level PRI), where ST population is 50% or more would be taken into account, and from 2017-18 and onwards, above tribal area would include geographical area of
 - (i) ITDPs

- (ii) MADA Pockets, and
- (iii) Cluster Pockets as per 2011 Census basis.
- iii. Remaining 25% of allocation would be as per an analysis of outcome-based performance of concerned States.

(B) Criteria for Inter-District Allocation

- (i) 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % on population
- (ii) 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % on Area. (i.e., on 2:1 proportion based on population: area)

Only such area needs to be taken into account where ST population is more than 50% of total population of such District / Sub-Division / Block / revenue Village.

Intra-State (Sectoral activities, community, area-wise) Prioritization and Allocation: Priority must be accorded as under:

	Activity		Fund Allocation
(i)	Education	–	40 - 50%
(ii)	Health	–	10 - 15%
(iii)	Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry (AH), Fisheries, Dairy & others in Primary Sector	–	20 - 30%
(iv)	Other income generating schemes to augment Tribal household economy	–	10 - 15%
(v)	Administrative structure (incl. manpower) / Institutional framework & Research studies	–	< 5 - 10%
	Total:		100%

(C) Institutional Mechanism

- (i) At the State level, Apex Level Committee (ALC) or a Tribal Advisory Council (TAC) should be constituted with Chief Minister as Chairperson and Minister of Nodal Department as Vice-Chairman. It will meet once in six months.

- (ii) Executive Committee should be constituted with Chief Secretary as its Chairperson and Principal Secretary of all line departments as its Members and Principal Secretary of the Nodal Department as Member Secretary. It will meet once in three months.
- (iii) District Planning and Monitoring Committee (DPMC) should be constituted with DC as its Chairman and Project offices of ITDP/ITDA as its Secretary, District level officers of concerned line departments as its members.

(D) Approval Process:

A Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in Ministry of Tribal Affairs headed by Secretary (Tribal Affairs) with representatives of State Governments, some line Ministries, Financial Advisor of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, NITI Aayog, etc. appraises and approves the proposals for allocation under various schemes of the Ministry including provisions under Article 275(1) Grants.

4.4 The statement showing BE, RE and AE under the Scheme of Grants Under Article 275 (1) for the last three years alongwith BE for 2018-19.

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2015-16	1367.00	1392.78	1392.46
2016-17	1400.00	1260.00	1265.86
2017-18	1500.01	1500.00	1259.89
2018-19	1800.01	-	-

4.5 The Ministry have submitted the following information pertaining to utilization of funds for 2017-18:

Year	BE (2017-18)	Released on 31.12.2017	Anticipated Release (from 1.01.2018 to 31.03.2018)
Articled 275(1)	1500.00	1259.94	240.06

The Ministry informed that they are in the process of releasing funds to various State/UT Governments as per their requirements and hence anticipated the release of 240.06 crores by the end of financial year 2017-18

4.6 Statement showing State-wise release of funds under Grants-in-Aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India during 2012-13 to 2017-18 (as on 31.12.2017) is given below: –

Release of Funds under Art. 275(1) of the Constitution during 2012-13 to 2017-18

(Rs. in Lakh)

S. N.	States/UTs	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (as on 31.12.2017)
1	2	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Andhra Pradesh	4834.00	350.00	2139.00	5500.00	2869.43	3591.11
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	832.19	1880.40	3000.80	6580.53	5660.80
3	Assam	0.00	3540.25	0.00	0.00	844.12	0.00
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00	586.00	0.00	1467.58	991.89
5	Chhattisgarh	8534.00	9172.11	10778.00	11904.31	10488.52	8248.92
6	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	450.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	4629.60	10275.69	8592.45	11680.00	9739.02	10270.41
8	Himachal Pradesh	474.00	474.00	190.99	523.20	1595.87	1968.02
9	Jammu & Kashmir	150.34	1146.75	0.00	2000.00	3539.66	3049.06
10	Jharkhand	7369.50	9280.40	9873.00	12202.96	9489.38	9489.05
11	Karnataka	4800.00	4800.00	4880.40	6300.00	4664.00	5881.74
12	Kerala	510.00	510.00	748.94	1085.44	695.58	221.76
13	Madhya Pradesh	16518.04	15793.47	17321.42	14845.15	14971.43	19405.19
14	Maharashtra	2911.00	12489.00	11701.29	13374.00	11536.53	12862.24
15	Manipur	1031.00	1031.00	1600.01	1216.00	1694.40	1858.54
16	Mezhalaya	0.00	2924.38	2334.03	1507.67	1576.21	3603.40
17	Mizoram	810.75	1133.61	1877.78	3617.37	1927.49	2504.41
18	Nagaland	2454.00	2886.93	2067.15	5469.34	6368.00	2025.11
19	Orissa	11283.99	14706.50	12728.22	15200.00	11954.96	11826.82
20	Rajasthan	7737.98	9437.80	9755.92	11000.00	10341.39	10240.58
21	Sikkim	272.58	302.90	370.30	1250.30	1147.00	405.30
22	Tamil Nadu	0.00	901.00	639.60	852.80	798.24	378.00
23	Telangana	0.00	0.00	3894.40	6090.00	3608.05	4486.32
24	Tripura	1375.00	1355.00	1218.99	1600.68	1280.99	1627.85
25	Uttar Pradesh	200.00	0.00	743.49	1514.74	1138.62	189.00
26	Uttarakhand	0.00	267.00	1530.36	92.02	0.00	677.56
27	West Bengal	6104.00	6104.00	5747.00	7000.00	5814.37	4504.51
	Grand Total	81999.78	109713.98	113264.14	139226.78	126581.37	125967.59

4.7 When asked about physical target and achievement for the last three years under the Scheme the Ministry stated, "The grants are being of gap filling nature and not confined to any specific kind of quantifiable measures. Priority for the activities to be taken up is decided by respective State Governments. as per needs from time to time. Targets are actually not fixed by the Ministry, or is feasible for the Ministry to indicate physical targets/achievements."

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

4.8 With the objective of providing quality education to the tribal students, it was decided during 1997-98 to utilize a part of the grant under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India for setting up of Model Residential Schools from Class VI to Class XII. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) with the capacity of 480 students in each school are set up in the States/ UTs under the programme under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India on the pattern of Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalayas (RPVVs) of Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, the Kasturba Gandhi BalikaVidyalayas and the KendriyaVidyalayas. The objective of EMRS is to provide quality middle and high level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas, not only to enable them to avail of reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in government, public and private sectors, but also to have access to the best opportunities in education at par with the non ST population.

4.9 As per EMRS Guidelines, 2010, at least one EMRS is to be set in each Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) / Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) having 50% ST population in the area. The capital cost for setting up the school complex, including hostels and staff quarters has been earmarked as Rs. 12.00 crore with a provision to go up to Rs.16.00 crore in hill areas, deserts and islands. Recurring cost during the first year for schools would @ Rs. 42000/-per child, with provision of raising it by 10% every second year to compensate for inflation etc.

4.10 As on 12.01.2018, 271 Eklavya Model Residential Schools have been sanctioned by the Ministry in various parts of the country. Out of which, 190 EMRSs are fully functional with 54,320 students studying at present and the remaining 81 EMRSs are under construction.

4.11 During the budget speech on 1st of February, 2018 the Hon'ble Finance Minister has announced that "Government is committed to provide the best quality education to the tribal children in their own environment. To realize this mission, it has been decided that by the year 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Ekalavya Model Residential School.

4.12 On being enquired about whether any plan has been chalked out by the Ministry to provide an EMRS in every Block with more than 50% population or at least 20,000 tribal people by 2022, the Ministry in a written note for achieving the target replied as under :

"There are 564 blocks across the country with more than 50% population and at least 20,000 tribal population. Out of 564 blocks, EMRSs in 102 blocks have already been sanctioned. At present, the broad structure for setting up and operationalizing vis-a-vis existing guidelines is under consideration. It is contemplated to sanction 130 EMRSs every year during 2018-19 to 2020-21 and 72 to cover remaining 462 blocks till 2022."

4.13 When asked about the physical targets set for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 in respect of number of EMRS constructed and number of beneficiaries, the Ministry furnished information as under:

"This is a demand driven proposal. Whenever the State Government seeks any EMRS, it is sanctioned by the Ministry subject to approval by Project Appraisal Committee and availability of funds. A total number of 14 EMRS have been sanctioned during financial year 2017-18. So far as physical target during 2018-

19 is concerned, a total target of 130 EMRS is being set by the Ministry to achieve the target of recent announcement on EMRSs in each tribal block."

4.14 State wise list of EMRSs sanctioned by the Ministry so far and status of those of functional as on date is given as below:

**No. of EMRSs sanctioned and functional so far under Article 275(1) of the Constitution
(as on 31.12.2017)**

S No.	State	No. of EMRSs sanction	Functional EMRSs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	07	02
3.	Assam	04	0
4.	Bihar	02	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	25	25
6.	Goa	1	0
7.	Gujarat	27	27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	01	01
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	05	0
10.	Jharkhand	21	07
11.	Karnataka	12	09
12.	Kerala	03	02
13.	Madhya Pradesh	29	29
14.	Maharashtra	18	16
15.	Manipur	05	03
16.	Mizoram	06	02
17.	Nagaland	05	03
18.	Odisha	27	13
19.	Rajasthan	18	15
20.	Sikkim	04	04
21.	Tamil Nadu	07	05
22.	Telangana	11	09
23.	Tripura	06	04
24.	Uttar Pradesh	04	02
25.	Uttarakhand	02	01
26.	West Bengal	07	07
Total		271	190

4.15 Statement of release of recurring and nonrecurring funds to the State Governments during 2017-18 as on 31.12.2017 is given below:



**State wise release of Funds for EMRSs during 2017-18
(as on 31.12.2017)**

(Rs. in Lakh)

<i>S.N.</i>	<i>States</i>	<i>2017-18</i>		
		<i>Recurring</i>	<i>Non Recurring</i>	<i>Total Release for EMRS</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	757.26	2033.85	2791.11
2	Arunachal Pradesh	100.80	2600.00	2700.80
3	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Bihar	0.00	900.00	900.00
5	Chhattisgarh	2326.84	3471.00	5797.84
6	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	3930.78	1650.00	5580.78
8	Himachal Pradesh	88.02	600.00	688.02
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	800.00	800.00
10	Jharkhand	1082.24	2943.76	4026.00
11	Karnataka	856.38	40.00	896.38
12	Kerala	244.02	400.00	644.02
13	Madhya Pradesh	3727.28	1680.00	5407.28
14	Maharashtra	1688.40	3250.00	4938.40
15	Manipur	302.40	839.00	1141.40
16	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Mizoram	168.00	1200.00	1368.00
18	Naga land	252.60	645.00	897.60
19	Odisha	2242.80	4000.00	6242.80
20	Rajasthan	1970.00	1000.00	2970.00
21	Sikkim	354.00	0.00	354.00
22	Tamil Nadu	0.00	264.00	264.00
23	Telangana	1377.00	2488.57	3865.57
24	Tripura	778.18	705.00	1483.18
25	Uttar Pradesh	252.00	700.00	952.00
26	Uttarakhand	445.15	220.00	665.15
27	West Bengal	1049.16	0.00	1049.16
Total		23993.31	32430.18	56423.49



4.16 On being enquired about any survey to confirm/check how many tribal students are actually studying in EMRS and complaints received for running of EMRS from any of the State/UT Governments in the last five years, the Ministry replied that regular inspection visits of EMRS have been conducted. The Ministry has not received any complaint with regard to EMRS.

4.17 When asked about the teachers and staff of EMRS, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs during evidence replied, "There is a plan to ensure that a national level body is in place for monitoring the recruitment process of teachers and pay scales etc. The Ministry is in process of preparing guidelines for this so that the EMRS are run on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalayas".

4.18 Further the Ministry were asked about the status of monitoring of EMRS in the country and the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs replied as under:

"The Ministry has brought a lot of changes in the system including inspections of buildings, students, scholarships released etc. The funds are released only after a photographic proof of the stage of completion of buildings and scholarships are released only after entire details of the candidates like name, class, school and bank account are received by the Ministry. The funds are released to the State and State gives them to the beneficiaries. "

4.19 The Committee observe that the objective of the EMRS Scheme is welfare of Tribals and upgradation of the level of administration in Scheduled areas. The Ministry have been making use of a major part of the funds allocated in the Scheme for educational activities but at the same time, other parameters like Health, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and other Primary Sector activities are being sidelined by the Ministry. The Committee strongly feel that these are the areas that have to be focused on during this current year of 2018-19 as a holistic approach to Grants under article 275(1) Scheme will help achieve an upliftment in socio-economic status of tribals as a whole and not by being focused on some particular Scheme.

4.20 The Committee observe that the objective of the EMRS Scheme is to provide quality middle and high level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas, not only to enable them to avail reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in Government and private sectors, but also to have access to the best opportunities in education at par with the non-ST population. The Committee find that 14 new EMRS have been sanctioned during the financial year 2017-18 and target of 130 EMRS has been fixed for the year 2018-19. The Committee feel that the construction of 130 EMRS is a unrealistic target as compared with last year's sanctioned target of 14 EMRS. The Committee desire that apart from setting up of new EMRS, the Ministry should mainly focus on the qualitative and quantitative education and providing other facilities like infrastructure, teachers and staff in the existing EMRS.

4.21 The Committee note that the Ministry are planning to establish a national level body for monitoring the recruitment process of teachers and pay scales etc. in EMRS. The Ministry are also in process of preparing guidelines so that EMRS could be run on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalayas. The Committee desire that while finalization of these guidelines more attention should be given to quality of education and facilities provided to the students and these guidelines should be students friendly.

CHAPTER - V

POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP (PMS SCHEME) FOR ST STUDENTS.

5.1 The objective of the Scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at Post-Matriculation or Post-Secondary levels to enable them to complete their education. The Scheme has been revised w.e.f. 01.07.2010 with some modifications. The Scheme is open to all ST students whose parents' Annual Income is Rs. 2.50 lakh or less w.e.f. 01.04.2013 and the Scholarships are awarded through the Government of the State/Union Territory where the beneficiary is domiciled.

5.2 Salient features:

- (i) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.
- (ii) Central assistance is 75:25 (90:10 for NER and Hilly States) to all State Governments/UTs Administration
- (iii) The Scheme provides financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at post matriculation or post-secondary stage.
- (iv) Scholarships are available for studies in India only.
- (v) The State Government and UT to which the applicant actually belongs awards the scholarship.
- (vi) The scheme also covers Central assistance to States/UTs for setting up Book Banks.

5.3 Eligibility:

- Scholarships are paid to students whose parents'/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum.
- All children of the same parents/guardian are eligible.
- Scheduled Tribe candidates who have passed the matriculation or higher secondary or any higher examination of a recognized University or Board of Secondary Education are eligible.

- The scholarships are available for the study of all recognized post matriculation or post-secondary courses in recognized institutions except certain identified training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses etc.
- Students studying through correspondence courses are eligible.
- The scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend.
- Students who have received coaching in any of the pre-examination training centres with financial assistance from the Government will not be eligible.

5.4 Benefits available to ST students

- Scholars are paid Fees for enrolment/registration, tuition, games, Union, Library, Magazine, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the Institution or University/Board.
- Study tours charges upto a maximum of Rs. 1600/- per annum.
- Thesis typing and printing charges upto a maximum of Rs. 1600/- for the research scholars.
- Additional allowances to the ST students with disabilities at the prescribed rates for different degree of disability.
- Annual allowance of Rs.1200/- for essential/prescribed books, besides reimbursement of course fees to correspondence course students.

5.5 It has been noted that as against the target of 10.10 lakh students, 20.34 lakh students had received Post Matric Scholarship in 2015-16. Similarly, in 2016-17 against the same target of 10.10 lakh students, 18.51 lakh students got scholarship.

5.6 When asked about the details of funds allocated under the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the Ministry replied as under:

(Rs.in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	Exp
2015-16	1154.84	1210.14	857.14
2016-17	1454.22	1659.84	1555.67
2017-18 (as on 12.2.2018) (separate allocation)	1347.07	1436.00	1159.45

2018-19	1586		
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"For the year 2015-16 and 2016-17, there was no separate allocation of funds under Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) scheme, as PMS scheme was part of Umbrella Scheme for Tribal Education. From the year 2017-18, separate budgetary allocation for PMS has been earmarked.

5.7 When asked about the State-wise details of beneficiaries under the PMS Scheme (gender-wise) for the last three years, the Ministry in their written reply have stated as under:

"The gender-wise beneficiary details under the scheme is not maintained. However, State Governments have been requested to furnish the data. In addition, State Governments will also be requested at the time of consideration of Annual Plan for 2018-19 for Post Matric Scholarship scheme, to provide gender-wise beneficiary details before formal approval is accorded."

5.8 On being enquired about any survey being conducted to know difficulties encountered by the students for availing benefits of the scheme, the Ministry in a written note replied as under:

"Post Matric Scholarship scheme was evaluated by National Institute of Rural Development in the year 2013. The major findings of the report are as follows:

- (i) The scheme is benefiting the target group and Scholarship is helping the students to continue their education.
- (ii) Most of the students are not having adequate awareness about the scheme.
- (iii) Delay in disbursement of scholarships
- (iv) Online processing of applications should be strengthened with Aadhar enabled bank accounts for disbursement of scholarships to students.
- (v) Income ceiling of parents/ guardians should be increased from Rs.2 lakhs to Rs.3.5 lakhs.

5.9 When asked about the action taken on the findings of the study, the Ministry have stated that based on the findings and suggestions, the annual parental income ceiling

under the scheme Post Matric Scholarship for ST students was increased in May 2013, from Rs.2 lakhs to 2.50 lakhs w.e.f. 1.4.2013, and the State Governments were also requested to ensure that ST students under the scheme have bank accounts to enable payment of scholarship amount into the bank accounts of beneficiaries."

5.10. Explaining about the Scholarships in detail the Secretary continued, "We have started the monitoring of Scholarships disbursed and have started getting the records. These kinds of detailing are being monitored by the Ministry and a software has been created for direct transfer of amounts. The figures are automatically updated to monitor what exactly has been spent and where."

5.11 The Committee note that the revised Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme has been in force from 1.04.2013. Despite revamping the Scheme in 2013 tribal students are still facing hurdles in receiving the scholarship amounts and hence face a lot of difficulties in completing their education. The Scheme was evaluated by National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) in 2013 and the major drawbacks were highlighted as delay in disbursement of Scholarships and students not having adequate awareness about the Scheme. The Committee note with serious concern these two issues have not been addressed in an effective manner by the Ministry as yet and the delay in disbursement in Scholarships is still persistent even after the revamping of the Scheme. The advertisement and publicity of the Scheme has not garnered an effective response as the Revised Estimates for the last three years has not been fully utilized and there is a shortfall every year. A separate budgetary allocation has also been made in the Scheme from the year 2017-18 and still the Actual Expenditure is less than Revised Estimates. The Committee desire the Ministry to ensure that requisite scholarship amount is deposited in the bank accounts of students with minimum delay and a time frame should be set up for receiving the scholarship amount from the date of online application of scholarship. A Grievance Cell may also be set up to address the problems and hurdles faced by the tribal students for receiving scholarship amounts.

5.12 The Committee observe that Scholarships for the year 2017-18 are still pending and only 20% of funds of the total dues are disbursed till now. An amount of Rs. 400 crore is being rolled over in the next years' budget. The Committee find

that in the year 2015-16 against an expenditure of Rs. 857.14 crore, 20.3 lakh students received scholarships and whereas in year 2016-17 against an expenditure of Rs. 1555.67 crore, 18.51 lakh students got scholarships. The Committee feel that these are virtual figures being submitted by the Ministry and after utilization of double the amount of funds in year 2016-17 as compared to 2015-16 still the number of beneficiaries is less. The Committee further urge the Ministry to evaluate the utilization and number of beneficiaries for both the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 and submit a report to the Committee. The Committee strongly urge the Ministry to prepare a list of beneficiaries under the Post-Matric Scheme as soon as online applications of the students are received by the Ministry. This will help in finalizing the Scholarship amount as well as disbursement before the start of academic year of the beneficiaries and the concept of roll over funds will be a history. A list of Government approved Universities/Colleges alongwith volunteers may also be published on the website of the Ministry to help students in filling up of online forms and explaining benefits of the Post-Matric Scheme.

CHAPTER - VI

SUPPORT TO TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES (TRI)

6.1 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up by various State Governments. TRIs are established and administratively supported by concerned State Governments. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has taken a decision to continue the scheme "Support to TRIs" with revised financial norms and identified interventions. The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research & Documentation activities and Training & Capacity Building programmes, etc. It is envisaged that TRIs should work as body of knowledge & research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals / institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

Coverage of the Scheme

6.2 At present, TRIs function in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura and UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. New TRIs will be set up in the States where no TRI exists.

6.3 On being enquired about the new initiatives taken under the Scheme for the year 2017-18, the Ministry in a written note stated that as per Guidelines issued by the Ministry in December, 2017, activities to be undertaken under the scheme 'Support to TRIs' are as under:

(i) Building Infrastructure

(a) State-of-the-Art building for TRIs/ National TRIs

- (b) Repairs /Augmentation / Upgradation of existing TRI Building excluding routine maintenance like house-keeping, day to day maintenance, utility bills etc.
 - (c) Support for setting up of Tribal Museum / Memorials including virtual museums.
 - (d) Support for setting up of libraries including Digital Repositories.
 - (e) Conference Hall, Training / Resource Centers, training hostels in TRI building.
 - (f) Setting up of tribal food cafe, Artisans Corner, Exhibition-cum- Sale outlets of tribal art & artifacts, souvenirs, etc. in TRI/Museum campus, or at other places in the State.
- (ii) Research & Documentation (including Audio/ Video/ Virtual Reality (VR)/ Augmented Reality (AR) & new technologies):
- (a) Tribal welfare measure
 - (b) Success stories.
 - (c) Tribal Profile.
 - (d) Tribal language, culture, traditions, customs, art & artefacts, traditional medicinal practices, tribal myth & stories, tribal cuisines and other special characteristics and
 - (e) Monitoring and evaluation of various government interventions.
 - (f) Development and printing of primers in local tribal languages.
 - (g) Any other aspects relating to tribal art, tradition and culture
- (iii) Training and Capacity building:
- (a) Laws/constitutional provisions in respect of Scheduled areas / tribal rights. (including FRA, PESA, Prevention of Atrocity Act, L&RR, Land Acquisition etc.)

- (b) Capacity building of functionaries and tribal representatives on socio-economic programs.
 - (c) Capacity building of Artisans- Art & craft, Metal craft, painting, dance/drama, textiles, handicrafts as well as value addition to art, craft and designs etc. This can include kits and tools etc.
 - (d) Conducting of Seminars, Conferences, Workshops on various tribal related issues.
 - (e) Think tank related activities.
- (iv) Organization of Festival / Yatra:
- Many tribal festivals/ yatras etc. are celebrated in States which can be publicized at National Level to attract more tourists, TRIs may propose such festivals/ yatras etc. for supplementary support under the scheme.
- (v) Exchange of visits by tribals:
- TRI shall arrange visit to other parts of the State / Country to get a wider perspective of culture and traditions, to learn about socio- economic development / best practices of other areas and to see how TRIs can be managed more efficiently and to see how socio-economic development can happen without losing core culture etc.
- (vi) It has been envisaged that a National Level Institute under Ministry of Tribal Affairs could probably be set up to coordinate the activities of TRIs across the country, and to undertake National Level Activities.
- (vii) Ministry of Tribal Affairs have developed a web portal to be used as Tribal Repository (www.tribal.nic.in/repository) to preserve documents, audio visuals etc. relating to tribals and tribal cultural heritage. Each TRI shall have its own web portal. All documentation to be put there as well as Ministry of Tribal Affairs repository.
- (viii) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India will carry out concurrent monitoring through physical and financial reports and visits by officers of the Ministry to review the scheme.

6.4 When asked about the criteria for allocation of funds to TRIs the Ministry stated that there is no uniformity of requirements among TRIs. Some of the TRIs have their own building, some others are running in rented building. Similarly, some TRIs have libraries, museums, etc., on the other hand some others do not have. It is thus not feasible to lay down a strict criteria for allocation of funds to States. Funding under this Scheme would, however, be 100% Grant-in-Aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee. TRIs would be responsible to prepare proposal and detailed action plan for the year along with budgetary requirement and submit it to the Ministry through State Tribal Welfare Department.

6.5 The Ministry has furnished the following figures regarding BE, RE and AE for the last three years and BE for 2018-19 under the Scheme:

(Rs. in crore)

	BE	RE	AE
2015-16	28.50	11.00	11.50
2016-17	21.00	17.00	15.11
2017-18	80.00	55.00	44.41
2018-19	100.00	-	-

6.6 When enquired about the increased allocation for support to TRIs for the year 2018-19, the Ministry in a written note stated as under:

" As per Guidelines for the Scheme 'Support to TRI' issued in December, 2017, new TRIs will be set up where no TRI exist. TRIs are to be set up in 27 States excluding Punjab, Haryana (where notified ST are not there). Presently, TRIs are functional at 21 States / UTs. TRI is not functional in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram Meghalaya and Bihar. Further, among the functional TRIs, 9 States do not have their own building. These States are Tripura, Karnataka, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Funds under this Scheme will be provided to the

States for construction of TRI building. Further, committed liabilities towards construction of museums approved by the NLC in the States of Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh will be funded under the Scheme. Besides, core activities of existing TRIs i.e. Research & Documentation, Training & Capacity Building, Tribal Festival / Yatras, Exchange Visit of Tribals and other innovative projects/initiatives submitted by the State Governments will be supported under the Scheme. Keeping in view the envisaged work, allocation of budget under the Scheme has been increased during 2018-19."

6.7 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) are established and administratively supported by concerned State Governments. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has taken a decision to continue the scheme "Support to TRIs" with revised financial norms and identified interventions. The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research & Documentation activities and Training & Capacity Building programmes, etc. It is envisaged that TRIs should work as body of knowledge & research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals and persons / institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

6.8 On the reasons for low utilization of funds during the last three years and increased allocation in the Scheme for 2018-19, the Ministry has stated that, "Low utilization of fund during last three years was due to delay in receipt of bills relating to organization of Tribal festival from stake holders."

6.9 Explaining further the Ministry stated, "Bills awaited from TRIFED with regards to Aadi Mahotsav, UC pending from TRIFED. Ministry is preparing Annual Media Plan which includes organisation of festivals at National level, State level and District level, organization of Photo competition, Tribal awards and periodic dissemination of

information to the public regarding achievements of the Ministry in various fields. It is expected that Ministry will be able to expend the budgetary allocation."

6.10 Innovative projects/initiatives/activities which can help the tribals or tribal majority area. There is no uniformity of requirements among TRIs. Some of the TRIs have their own building, some others are running in rented building. Similarly, some TRIs have libraries, museums, etc., on the other hand some others do not have. It is thus not feasible to lay down a strict criteria for allocation of funds to States. Funding under this Scheme would, however, be 100% Grant-in-Aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee. TRIs would be responsible to prepare proposal and detailed action plan for the year along with budgetary requirement and submit it to the Ministry through State Tribal Welfare Department.

6.11 During the course of oral evidence, it was pointed out to the Ministry that development of a 'Community Hall' which can have multipurpose benefit like, for rehearsal of tribal dance group, musical group etc. and also marriage functions can take place in the same. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated, "In the revised TRI Guidelines being framed by the Ministry, development of a 'Community Centre' is considered under the TRI Grant and the requisition for construction of Community Centre can be sent to local TRI centre."

6.12 On being enquired about the monitoring mechanism is followed to assess the working of Institutes/Organizations being funded under Support to TRI Scheme, the Ministry replied as under:

- (i) "Progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are asked from State Governments.
- (ii) Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds as per the norms of GFR.

- (iii) Officers while visiting States / UTs also ascertain the progress of implementation of various schemes / programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (iv) Meetings / Conferences are convened at the Central level with State Officials for ensuring timely submission of proposals, speeding up of implementation of the schemes / programmes, and reviewing the physical and financial progress.
- (v) During the meeting for approval of projects of TRIs, the progress of work approved previously is reviewed.

Further, As per Guidelines for the scheme 'Support to TRI' issued in December 2017, following provisions have been made for monitoring of the Scheme:

- (i) Each TRI shall have its own web portal. All documentation to be put there as well as Ministry of Tribal Affairs repository.
- (ii) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India will carry out concurrent monitoring through physical and financial reports and visits by officers of the Ministry to review the scheme.
- (iii) The scheme will be evaluated by Ministry of Tribal Affairs before the end of 2019-20 period."

6.13 The Ministry has submitted during 2014-15 to 2016-17, a total of 64 seminars/conferences and 109 training programmes were conducted under the scheme Support to TRI.

6.14 The Committee find that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are giving Grants-in-Aid to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) as these Institutes provide planning inputs to the State Governments, conduct research and documentation, training and capacity building, organize festivals/yatras and set-up Tribal Museums, Memorials, Libraries etc. The Committee note that out of twenty one existing TRIs, funds were not released to nine TRIs in the States of Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Manipur, A&N Islands, Maharashtra, UP and Himachal Pradesh due to pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) of previous years. The Committee take very serious note of non-submission of UCs by the States as it shows that the Ministry could not pursue these States and more incapable exerting pressure on them. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take stringent measures against the erring TRIs/ States. The Committee also urge the Ministry to pursue with the beneficiary TRIs to upload details of funds received and utilized by them.

6.15 The Committee note in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Bihar no TRIs is functional and some of the TRIs do not have their own buildings. As TRIs have pivotal role to protect and nourish the tribal heritage & culture by preserving their tribal arts, tribal dances and music, the Committee desire that the Ministry should establish TRIs in State of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Bihar and allocate more funds to those TRIs who do not have their own buildings.

CHAPTER -VII

NATIONAL SCHEDULED TRIBES FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

7.1 National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) is an apex organization set up exclusively for economic development of Scheduled Tribes. This corporation was incorporated as a Govt. Company under Ministry of Tribal Affairs and granted license under Section 25 (now Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013) of the Companies Act, 1956. It is managed by the Board of Directors with representation from Central Government, State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) and eminent persons representing Scheduled Tribes, etc. The Corporation plays a leading role in economic upliftment of Scheduled Tribes by providing financial assistance at concessional rates of interest.

7.2 The Ministry has furnished the details regarding BE, RE and AE of last three years along with BE of 2018-19 of the NSTFDC as under:-

(Rs. in Crore)			
Year	BE	RE	AE
2015-16	70.00	63.33	63.33
2016.17	70.00	60.00	60.00
2017-18	60.00	55.00	30.00
2018-19	64.11		

7.3 When asked about the targets for number of beneficiaries the last 3 years *vis-a-vis* achievements under the Scheme, the Ministry submitted as under:-

Year	Target	Achievement
2014-15	53,000	29,655
2015-16	57,000	92,824
2016-17	60,000	1,07,026

7.4 The Corporation provides financial assistance for income generation activities and marketing support assistance for economic upliftment of Scheduled Tribes. The details of schemes of NSTFDC are as under:

- a. **Term Loan scheme:** NSTFDC provides Term Loan for viable schemes costing upto Rs.25 lakhs per unit. NSTFDC provides financial assistance upto 90% of the cost of the scheme and the balance is met by way of subsidy/ promoter's contribution/ margin money.
- b. **Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY):** This is an exclusive scheme for economic development of Scheduled Tribe women. Under the scheme, NSTFDC provides loan upto 90% for scheme costing upto Rs.1 lakh at highly concessional interest rate of 4% per annum.
- c. **Micro Credit Scheme:** This is an exclusive scheme for Self Help Groups for meeting small loan requirement of ST members. Under the scheme, the Corporation provides loans upto Rs.50,000/- per member and Rs.5 lakhs per SHG.
- d. **Adivasi Shiksha Rrinn Yojana:** This is an Education Loan scheme to enable ST students to meet expenditure for pursuing technical and professional education including Ph.D. in India. The Corporation provides financial assistance upto Rs.5.00 lakh at concessional interest rate of 6% per annum. Ministry of Human Resources Development, Govt. of India provides interest subsidy for this scheme, whereby, no interest is payable by a student during the course period and one year or six months after getting the job, as the case may be.
- e. **Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme:** The objective of the scheme is to generate awareness, provide training to beneficiaries, give NSTFDC's concessional financial assistance, assist in market linkage, etc., to the Scheduled Tribes forest dwellers vested land rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006. Under the scheme, NSTFDC provides loan upto 90% for schemes costing up to Rs.1 lakh at concessional interest rate of 6% payable by the beneficiaries.

- f. **Marketing Support Assistance:** The Corporation provides financial assistance to meet Working Capital requirement of agencies engaged in procurement and marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and other tribal products.
- g. **Financial assistance extended by NSTFDC by way of Grant For Skill and entrepreneurial development programme:** In order to create opportunities for Self-employment / employment, financial assistance in the form of grant is provided for skill and entrepreneurial development of eligible Scheduled Tribes.

Lending Norms for various Schemes of NSTFDC

S. No.	Types of Assistance	Unit upto cost	NSTFDC's	Interest payable per annum	
				By SCAs	By Beneficiaries
1.	Term Loan Scheme	Rs. 25 Lakh	90% of Unit Cost	3% (upto Rs 5 Lakh per unit as NSTFDC	6%
				5% (Above Rs5 lakh and upto Rs. 10 Lakh per unit as NSTFDC share)	8%
				7%	10%
				(Above Rs.10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 Lakh per unit as NSTFDC share)	
2.	Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY)	Rs. 1 Lakh	90% of unit cost	2%	4%
3.	Micro Credit Scheme	Rs. 50,000 per member and Rs. 5 lakh per SHG	100%	3%	6% (payable by SHGs)
4.	Adivasi Shiksha Rin Yojana (ASRY)	Rs. 5 lakh	90% of loan amount	3%	6%
5.	Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme	Rs. 1 lakh	90% of loan amount	3%	6%
6.	Scheme for Self Help Groups (SHGs)	Rs. 25 lakh	90% of loan amount	In line with interest rates applicable for Term loan scheme	

7.5 The State-wise details of funds disbursed and number of beneficiaries under various Schemes of NSTFDC are as follows:-

Term Loan

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18 (as on 31.01.2018)	
		Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Andhra Pradesh	691.3	155	2889.96	500
2	Arunachal Pradesh	971.93	12,014	-	-
3	Chhattisgarh	472.25	252	917.30	345
4	Gujarat	1,812.62	14,868	3,129.56	3,185
5	Himachal Pradesh	40.50	2,068	26.31	17
6	Jammu & Kashmir	127.50	100	-	-
7	Jharkhand	403.31	3,858	4.05	7
8	Karnataka	-	-	-	-
9	Kerala	125.86	143	53.16	47
10	Madhya Pradesh	1,084.70	942	45.48	87
11	Meghalaya	244.64	983	258.07	953
12	Mizoram	2,277.87	26,935	1,971.09	1,340
13	Nagaland	79.50	22	1,204.76	322
14	Odisha	128.37	255	207.68	858
15	Rajasthan	1,211.75	1,267	237.54	244
16	Sikkim	623.90	230	57.80	50
17	Tripura	4,365.83	3,594	2,471.58	1,409
18	Uttarakhand	21.60	18	-	-
19	West Bengal	263.90	200	-	-
	Total	14947.33	67904	13474.34	9364

Micro Credit Finance

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18 (as on 31.01.2018)	
		Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Arunachal Pradesh	44.80	292	-	-
2	Assam	172.32	2,982	19.06	123
3	Gujarat	-	-	-	-
4	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-
5	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	2.00	6
6	Manipur	-	-	-	-
7	Mizoram	-	-	-	-
8	Odisha	25.23	240	83.43	670
9	Rajasthan	-	-	1.75	7
10	Telangana	5,000.00	21,000	-	-
11	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-
12	West Bengal	394.80	3,948	295.30	2,953
	Total (MCF)	5,637.15	28,462	401.54	3,759

Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18 (as on 31.01.2018)	
		Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Chhattisgarh	22.50	51	-	-
2	Gujarat	2,000.00	10,000	-	-
3	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
4	Jammu & Kashmir	45.00	50	-	-
5	Jharkhand	7.50	50	-	-
6	Kerala	4.05	9	1.80	4
7	Rajasthan	195.30	207	23.40	26
8	Tripura	45.00	50	-	-
9	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-
10	West Bengal	14.94	166	7.20	80
	Total (AMSY)	2,334.29	10,583	32.40	110

Education Loan (ASRY)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18 (as on 31.01.2018)	
		Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Chhattisgarh	11.72	4	3.13	
2	Gujarat	35.60	15		
3	Himachal Pradesh	1.80	1	15.18	7
4	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-
5	Jharkhand	1.10	-	-	-
6	Rajasthan	2.43	1	3.35	1
7	Tripura	17.48		101.25	59
8	West Bengal	73.97	56	131.42	47
	Total (ASRY)	144.10	77	254.33	114

7.6 On being enquired about the monitoring mechanism followed by the Ministry for ensuring the disbursement of funds by NSTFDC to beneficiaries and about the special mechanism adopted by NSTFDC for creating awareness among tribals, the Ministry in a

written note replied, that in order to ensure that funds are disbursed properly to the beneficiaries, the Ministry ensures that officers of NSTFDC make periodic visits to the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs), conduct awareness camps and furnish utilization certificate/ share certificate against funds released. NSTFDC has launched e-portal on 04.09.2017."

7.7 The Committee find that NSTFDC provides financial assistance for income generation activities and marketing support assistance for economic upliftment of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee are happy to note that allocation for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 has been fully utilized. The Committee note that beneficiaries of Adivasi Shiksha Rin Yojana are only from eight States and beneficiaries of Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana are from ten States while beneficiaries under Micro Credit Scheme are from twelve States. The Committee wonder why these schemes do not have beneficiaries from remaining States too. The Ministry owe an explanation to the Committee for this asymmetrical nature of beneficiaries. The Committee desire that efforts should be made to ensure that all these Schemes are implemented across the country having tribal population.

NEW DELHI;

7 March, 2018
16 Phalguna, 1939 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee
on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18) HELD ON TUESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2018

The Committee met from 1430 hrs. to 1630 hrs. in Committee Room No. 2, PHA Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
5. Shri Jhina Hikaka
6. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
7. Smt. K. Maragatham
8. Shri Kariya Munda
9. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
10. Dr. Udit Raj
11. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
12. Smt. Satabdi Roy

RAJYA SABHA

13. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
14. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
15. Smt. Chhaya Verma
16. Shri Ramkumar Verma

SECRETARIAT

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

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Ms. Leena Nair	Secretary
2.	Shri Rajesh Aggarwal	Joint Secretary
3.	Shri Vinod Kumar Tiwari	Joint Secretary
4.	Ms. Meera Ranjan Tshering	Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser
5.	Smt. Vishu Maini	DDG (Stats)
6.	Shri Jaideep Singh Kochhar	Economic Adviser

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee and the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the sitting of the Committee convened to have discussion on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to their Ministry. Impressing upon the witnesses to keep the proceedings of the Committee 'Confidential', the Chairperson asked the Secretary Ministry of Tribal Affairs to give an overview of the subject matter.

3. The Secretary accordingly briefed the Committee about overall performance of the Ministry, detailing the budgetary allocations, actual expenditure incurred/physical targets achieved under various schemes/programmes with the help of a power point presentation. The broad issues discussed at the meeting relating to Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Ministry are as follows:-

- (i) Under-utilization of funds under important schemes of the Ministry during 2017-18.
- (ii) Need for establishment of Tribal Sports Institutes for training of Tribal Sportspersons.
- (iii) Implementation of National Overseas Scholarship Scheme.
- (iv) Delay in disbursement of Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarships.

- (v) Construction of new EMRS in every block with more than 50 per cent Tribal population by the year 2022.

4. The Secretary also responded to the queries raised by the Members to the extent possible. The Chairperson then directed the Secretary to furnish written replies to the unanswered queries raised by Members to the Secretariat by 22nd February, 2018 for early finalization of the Report.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views on various issues raised by the Members.

A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting has been kept on record.

The witnesses then withdrew.

(The Committee then adjourned)

MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH, 2018

The Committee met from 1000 hrs. to 1045 hrs. in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 113, First Floor, Block-B, PHA Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Kantilal Bhuria
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
5. Smt. K. Maragatham
6. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
7. Dr. Udit Raj
8. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
9. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
10. Prof. Sadhu Singh
11. Smt. Mamata Thakur
12. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava

RAJYA SABHA

13. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
14. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
15. Smt. Chhaya Verma
16. Shri Ramkumar Verma

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director

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

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

(i) ****

(ii) ****

(iii) Fifty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(iv) ****

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

The Committee then adjourned.

**** Not related with the Report.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. No.	Para	Observations/Recommendations
1	2.12	<p>The Committee note that the Ministry have utilised 98.30 and 99.90 per cent Budget allocation for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee commend the Ministry for this. The Budget allocation for 2018-19 has, therefore, been increased to Rs. 5957.18 crore (Scheme) from Rs. 5300.14 crore in 2017-18 as a result thereof. The Committee find that funds allocated for the Scheme of support to NSTFDC, Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products, National Fellowship and Scholarship for higher education of ST students, Tribal Festivals Research, Information and Mass Education, Pre-Matric Scholarship Schemes have been utilized only 50 per cent till 31.12.2017 which is indeed not a happy situation. The Committee note that lack of training institutes in the field of sports like archery, hockey, swimming, football etc. lead to non-inclusion of tribal sportspersons on the international diasporas and hence meritorious sportspersons from tribal belt are deprived of the recognition that they are entitled to. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, during the evidence, admitted that tribal sportspersons are deprived of a facility of training institutes and the Ministry is planning to build one institute in every district having tribal majority. The Committee while appreciating such move of the Ministry recommend the Ministry to allocate sufficient funds for development of all Sports Institutes equipped with facilities of track and field events as well as indoor sports for the use of tribal sportspersons in every district having 50 per cent majority of tribal population, so that tribal sportspersons of these regions are not bereft of these facilities.</p>

- 2 2.13 The Committee are constrained to note that National Overseas Scholarship Scheme has not achieved desired results during the 12th Five Year Plan and the number students going abroad have not been more than 20 in the last five years. The Committee would like to know the reasons for the same. The Committee find that the Ministry have levied very stringent norms in the process of selection of candidates under the Scheme. The Ministry have conceded the fact that various rounds of interviews and selection processes are conducted for the students going abroad which may be one of the reasons. The Committee feel that the interview norms as well as selection procedure need to be relaxed if more tribal students are to be promoted and given benefits of the Scheme. The Committee also feel that the round of interviews is a very subjective issue and is certainly not a parameter of students calibre. The Committee recommend that a student who has secured admission in the foreign universities should not be strictly judged on the ground of interviews alone. The Committee also desire that entire selection procedure/norms need to be revisited and made uncomplicated.
- 3 3.14 The Committee observe that the ultimate objective of SCA to TSS is to raise the economic and social status of tribals. The Committee find that allocations made under the SCA to TSS have been fully utilized by the Ministry during 2015-16 and 2016-17 which is credible. The Committee desire that more funds should be sought at the RE stage for the year 2018-19 as these funds of SCA to TSS have been utilized for enhance quality of life by providing basic amenities in tribal areas, creation of productive assets and income generating opportunities are carried out through this Scheme.
- 4 3.15 The Committee note that no funds have been released to the State of Goa and Tamil Nadu in 2015-16 and the State of

Uttarakhand has not received any fund during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee desire to know the reasons for not allocating funds to these States and the steps taken by the Ministry to allocate funds to these States too.

- | | | |
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| 5 | 4.19 | The Committee observe that the objective of the EMRS Scheme is welfare of Tribals and upgradation of the level of administration in Scheduled areas. The Ministry have been making use of a major part of the funds allocated in the Scheme for educational activities but at the same time, other parameters like Health, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and other Primary Sector activities are being sidelined by the Ministry. The Committee strongly feel that these are the areas that have to be focused on during this current year of 2018-19 as a holistic approach to Grants under article 275(1) Scheme will help achieve an upliftment in socio-economic status of tribals as a whole and not by being focused on some particular Scheme. |
| 6 | 4.20 | The Committee observe that the objective of the EMRS Scheme is to provide quality middle and high level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas, not only to enable them to avail reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in Government and private sectors, but also to have access to the best opportunities in education at par with the non-ST population. The Committee find that 14 new EMRS have been sanctioned during the financial year 2017-18 and target of 130 EMRS has been fixed for the year 2018-19. The Committee feel that the construction of 130 EMRS is a unrealistic target as compared with last year's sanctioned target of 14 EMRS. The Committee desire that apart from setting up of new EMRS, the Ministry should mainly focus on the qualitative and quantitative education and providing other facilities like |

infrastructure, teachers and staff in the existing EMRS.

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| 7 | 4.21 | The Committee note that the Ministry are planning to establish a national level body for monitoring the recruitment process of teachers and pay scales etc. in EMRS. The Ministry are also in process of preparing guidelines so that EMRS could be run on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalayas. The Committee desire that while finalization of these guidelines more attention should be given to quality of education and facilities provided to the students and these guidelines should be students friendly. |
| 8 | 5.11 | The Committee note that the revised Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme has been in force from 1.04.2013. Despite revamping the Scheme in 2013 tribal students are still facing hurdles in receiving the scholarship amounts and hence face a lot of difficulties in completing their education. The Scheme was evaluated by National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) in 2013 and the major draw backs were highlighted as delay in disbursement of Scholarships and students not having adequate awareness about the Scheme. The Committee note with serious concern these two issues have not been addressed in an effective manner by the Ministry as yet and the delay in disbursement in Scholarships is still persistent even after the revamping of the Scheme. The advertisement and publicity of the Scheme has not garnered an effective response as the Revised Estimates for the last three years has not been fully utilized and there is a shortfall every year. A separate budgetary allocation has also been made in the Scheme from the year 2017-18 and still the Actual Expenditure is less than Revised Estimates. The Committee desire the Ministry to ensure that requisite scholarship amount is deposited in the bank accounts of students with minimum delay and a time frame should be set up for |

receiving the scholarship amount from the date of online application of scholarship. A Grievance Cell may also be set up to address the problems and hurdles faced by the tribal students for receiving scholarship amounts.

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| 9 | 5.12 | <p>The Committee observe that Scholarships for the year 2017-18 are still pending and only 20% of funds of the total dues are disbursed till now. An amount of Rs. 400 crore is being rolled over in the next years' budget. The Committee find that in the year 2015-16 against an expenditure of Rs. 857.14 crore, 20.3 lakh students received scholarships and whereas in year 2016-17 against an expenditure of Rs. 1555.67 crore, 18.51 lakh students got scholarships. The Committee feel that these are virtual figures being submitted by the Ministry and after utilization of double the amount of funds in year 2016-17 as compared to 2015-16 still the number of beneficiaries is less. The Committee further urge the Ministry to evaluate the utilization and number of beneficiaries for both the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 and submit a report to the Committee. The Committee strongly urge the Ministry to prepare a list of beneficiaries under the Post-Matric Scheme as soon as online applications of the students are received by the Ministry. This will help in finalizing the Scholarship amount as well as disbursement before the start of academic year of the beneficiaries and the concept of roll over funds will be a history. A list of Government approved Universities/Colleges alongwith volunteers may also be published on the website of the Ministry to help students in filling up of online forms and explaining benefits of the Post-Matric Scheme.</p> |
| 10 | 6.14 | <p>The Committee find that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are giving Grants-in-Aid to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) as these Institutes provide planning inputs to the</p> |

State Governments, conduct research and documentation, training and capacity building, organize festivals/yatras and set-up Tribal Museums, Memorials, Libraries etc. The Committee note that out of twenty one existing TRIs, funds were not released to nine TRIs in the States of Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Manipur, A&N Islands, Maharashtra, UP and Himachal Pradesh due to pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) of previous years. The Committee take very serious note of non-submission of UCs by the States as it shows that the Ministry could not pursue these States and more incapable exerting pressure on them. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take stringent measures against the erring TRIs/ States. The Committee also urge the Ministry to pursue with the beneficiary TRIs to upload details of funds received and utilized by them.

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| 11 | 6.15 | The Committee note in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Bihar no TRIs is functional and some of the TRIs do not have their own buildings. As TRIs have pivotal role to protect and nourish the tribal heritage & culture by preserving their tribal arts, tribal dances and music, the Committee desire that the Ministry should establish TRIs in State of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Bihar and allocate more funds to those TRIs who do not have their own buildings. |
| 12 | 7.7 | The Committee find that NSTFDC provides financial assistance for income generation activities and marketing support assistance for economic upliftment of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee are happy to note that allocation for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 has been fully utilized. The Committee note that beneficiaries of Adivasi Shiksha Rinn Yojana are only from eight States and beneficiaries of Adivasi Mahila |

Sashaktikaran Yojana are from ten States while beneficiaries under Micro Credit Scheme are from twelve States. The Committee wonder why these schemes do not have beneficiaries from remaining States too. The Ministry owe an explanation to the Committee for this asymmetrical nature of beneficiaries. The Committee desire that efforts should be made to ensure that all these Schemes are implemented across the country having tribal population.