CHAPTER VII

PART I

BRIEF RESUME OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE ERSTWHILE COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES AND THE ERSTWHILE COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES IN THEIR VARIOUS REPORTS (1951-1991)

The problems relating to welfare and development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been investigated from various angles in the past by the Special Officer appointed under Article 338 of the Constitution (Known as the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) and the non-statutory multi-member Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes initially set up in August 1978. The Commissioner for SC & ST who presented his first Report to the President in 1952 has in all submitted 30 Reports, the last one relating to the year 1990-91 not yet having been printed and presented to the Parliament. The first non-statutory Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes set up in August 1978 had submitted its last (Eighth) Report for the year 1986-87. The reconstituted National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes set up in September 1987 was not required to submit any Annual Report as its main function was to conduct research studies. A large number of almost identical recommendations have been made by them on all subjects specifically covering various safeguards provided for SC & ST in the Constitution, economic development programmes including various aspects of agriculture and land problems, social development, elimination of untouchability, harassment and atrocities, educational and political development and a number of other miscellaneous subjects. Though the Government have taken action on many of these recommendations, a large number of them still remain to be implemented or formally rejected. Since this is the first Report of the Constitutional Commission, it will be useful to recapitulate some of the important recommendations made by the above mentioned organisations over the years. A brief resume of some of the important recommendations based on the action taken statements in respect of various Reports as prepared by the Ministry of Welfare is given in the following paragraphs:

7.2 Among the recommendations were ones regarding Constitutional status to the Commission, making it mandatory for the Government to consult the Commission on all major policy issues relating to the welfare and development of SC & ST, giving it the status and powers as a Commission of Inquiry under the Commission of Inquiries Act, 1952, associating the Commission in the planning process, empowering it to monitor and evaluate developmental programmes for SC & ST etc. While these recommendations have since been accepted by the Government and implemented while setting up the present Constitutional Commission; some other important recommendations regarding provision of adequate staff to the Commission for its headquarters as well as the field offices and placing of adequate
funds at the Commission’s disposal with powers to sanction the same to independent agencies and research scholars for work on the problems of SC & ST remain to be accepted.

7.3 A large number of recommendations on various programmes for economic development of SC & ST were made. Their perusal reveals that most of them remain unimplemented. Important and useful recommendations have been made in respect of economic development programmes suggesting that the schemes should be need based and action oriented but hardly any serious effort has been made in reorienting various economic development schemes which continue to be of routine and stereotyped nature. The recommendation that the Special Central Assistance for the SCP and the TSP should be non-divertible and non-lapsable is yet to be implemented. Recommendations relating to land problems, particularly those regarding allotment of surplus land, distribution of pattas, updating of land records, prompt disposal of cases of land alienation, etc., remain to be implemented by the Government. Similarly, a number of significant recommendations relating to rights of tribals in forests, excise policy, initiating steps to check harassment of tribals at the hands of Forest and police officials, speedy rehabilitation and payment of compensation, etc., to oustees of major dams/projects have yet to find favour with the Government.

7.4 Recommendations relating to reorientating various poverty alleviation programmes, removing anomalies and duplication by different agencies by coordinating and integrating the programmes required urgent attention of the Government, but nothing tangible has been done even though these were reiterated in the subsequent Reports.

7.5 In social development sector a large number of recommendations regarding urgent need to provide adequate civic amenities like safe drinking water, basic medical facilities, houses and house sites and programmes for sweepers and scavengers have been made.

7.6 More important recommendations under this sector relate to measures for eradication of untouchability and prevention of atrocities against SC & ST. The Government have since enacted a Central legislation, viz., the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The Government of India have also since passed the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993 (notified on 4-9-93) in order to wean away scavengers from the obnoxious practice of carrying nightsoil as headload and to rehabilitate the liberated scavengers and their families in alternative gainful occupations.

7.7 The Government have implemented some of the more important recommendations relating to development of education and improvement of literacy, particularly among females belonging to SC & ST by revising upward the rates of Post-matric Scholarships and also those of Pre-matric Scholarships for
children of those engaged in unclean occupations. Emphasis on opening of more Ashram type schools and modifying the pattern of the scheme of hostels for SC & ST boys and girls by enhancing the rates of grant admissible per inmate are some of the steps taken by the Government in encouraging education among children of these communities. Yet some important recommendations regarding eligibility criteria for award of Post-matric Scholarships in respect of waiving off the condition of two child norm, specially for girls, have not been accepted yet.

7.8 A number of important recommendations regarding the need to bring forward a suitable legislation for revision of the existing lists of SC & ST to remove anomalies, checking the activities of moneylenders and other malpractices and exploitation of SC & ST, freeing them from bondage as labourers and ensuring minimum wages, etc., are yet to be accepted and implemented by the Government. Recommendations regarding effective steps to be taken against violation of services safeguards by the Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings and educational institutions have not been implemented fully. Similarly, recommendations made for having an adequate and efficient administrative machinery for work relating to welfare and development of SC & ST in the various States have not so far been implemented.

7.9 Though the erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes submitted 30 Reports, his 28th Report for the year 1986-87 is considered to be a comprehensive and important Report as it raised some basic issues for the first time. This Commission reiterates the recommendations contained therein.

7.10 The 28th Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes contains 34 major recommendations on various subjects. Action has been taken by the Government on 27 recommendations some of which have either been fully or partly implemented.

7.11 All the four recommendations relating to the PCR Act to enforce it more stringently have been accepted by the Government of India who have also written to the State Governments in the matter. Two major recommendations on land issues with 13 sub-recommendations have been made and the Government of India have brought these to the notice of the State Governments/UT Administrations for suitable action.

7.12 The Commissioner for SC & ST made significant recommendations regarding occupation of forest land by tribals and their role in the management of forests. The Ministry of Welfare has explained the various steps taken by the Government in this direction indicating the provisions made in the National Forest Policy and the recommendations made in the Conference of the State Forest Ministers as well as those in the Working Group on Development of Scheduled Tribes during the Seventh Plan. The State Governments have since been requested to implement these
recommendations. The recommendations relating to improvement in the working conditions of unorganised labour, fixing suitable criteria for minimum wages, etc., have since been accepted and the Government have constituted a Committee to suggest criteria for fixing minimum wages. Besides, the State Governments have been suitably addressed in the matter.

7.13 The Government of India have initiated action on the various recommendations relating to improvement in the working conditions of scavengers, leather workers and others engaged in similar unclean occupations to rehabilitate them in alternative gainful occupations. The Government have enacted a legislation known as the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993, which was notified in the Official Gazette on 4-9-93 but the Commission had not been constituted till the end of July 1994. The schemes for rehabilitation of scavengers in other gainful occupations are already under way in the various State Governments through the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporations.

7.14 The Ministry of Human Resource Development has initiated a number of steps for implementing the recommendations made for educational development of SC & ST specially for bridging the gap between SC & ST and others at all stages of education. The Ministry of Welfare has also sponsored a few studies to identify low literacy pockets in tribal areas in some States for formulation of suitable action plans. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been started to improve literacy among tribal girls. The recommendation relating to enhancement of the rates of the Government of India Post-matric Scholarships for SC & ST was accepted and the rates were increased with effect from 1-7-89.

7.15 Important recommendations regarding representation of SC & ST in services relate to making a comprehensive law on reservations along with suitable rules and preparation of a comprehensive manual on them instead of merely compiling various circulars. Both these recommendations have not been accepted by the Department of Personnel & Training as reported by the Ministry of Welfare.

7.16 The Government have explained in the action taken statement that claims of communities for inclusion in or exclusion from the lists of SC & ST involve recommendations of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. Besides, the Central Government examine all these proposals on the basis of ethnographic notes and views of sociologists and anthropologists. Though some of the lists were amended after 1976, the process is continuing. The Government have not accepted the recommendation that all SC & ST students at the end of their school education should be issued permanent community certificates along with computer numbers. It has been clarified that since community certificates are not issued by the educational institutions, it was not possible to accept this recommendation.

7.17 The Government have taken action on the recommendations...
relating to providing funds for the SCP and the SCA and creating of separate budget heads for these funds by writing to the concerned States/Union Territories. The Government have also since accepted the recommendation regarding preparation of separate Sub-Plans for dispersed tribal people by each State/Union Territory. The recommendation relating to suitably enhancing the SCA for tribal development by about 75% in the Seventh Plan has been implemented.

7.18 The Commissioner for SC & ST has made significant recommendations for removal of all forms of exploitation of the tribal people at the hands of middlemen. These relate to excise policy, forest, credit and marketing. The Government have taken action on these recommendations by writing to the States impressing upon them to follow the Centre's guidelines.

7.19 It was recommended in the 28th Report of the Commissioner that the highest priority should be given to elimination of exploitation and programmes relating to education and health. It was also recommended that universalisation of elementary education and improving standard of education should be the first charge on the outlays of the TSP and all the programmes should be fully integrated so that they reached the people in the form of undifferentiated package and should be executed through a unified agency. The Government have informed that they have given top priority to tribal education, particularly at the elementary level, and to reduce drop-out rates by opening Ashram Schools, Ashramshalas, Kanya Ashrams, etc. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing financial assistance to the State Governments was taken up from the year 1990-91. Project Officers incharge of ITDPs/MADA Pockets/Clusters/Primitive Groups have been made responsible for implementation of all programmes. They also coordinate all the developmental activities in the project areas.

7.20 It was recommended in the 28th Report that planning from below should be the guiding spirit of the TSP and package of programmes at the level of ITDP should be prepared entirely with reference to the needs of the people in each ITDP. It was also recommended that areas and population in each ITDP facing special problems such as more backward areas, zones of influence of industrial and mining complex, urban growth centres, hunting and gathering communities should be identified and micro plans prepared for them within the ITDP. The Ministry of Welfare has informed that all the State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to strengthen the ITDP/Project Administration and make them viable units of planning and implementation. Allocation of the SCA is being made ITDP-wise to various States. Priority has also been given to improve road network, supply of drinking water, etc. The backward areas and communities having special problems have been identified for special treatment. In the Report it was recommended that all ITDPs in the States with full details of sectoral as well as scheme-wise outlays and expenditure should be presented separately as a supplement to the budget demand relating to the TSP in that State. This
recommendation has been brought to the notice of the concerned State Governments by the Ministry of Welfare. It was recommended in the 28th Report that all ongoing projects pending consideration with the Government at different levels might be reviewed and it might be ensured that safeguards provided for the tribal people in the Constitution were honoured in their real spirit. The Government have informed that in respect of major and medium irrigation projects Secretary (Welfare) is a member of the Techno Advisory Committee which accords approval to irrigation projects implemented by the States and the Ministry has been reviewing the rehabilitation component and making suggestions to the Committee for ensuring adequate socio-economic rehabilitation of displaced tribals. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has also issued guidelines that in case of projects involving displacement of SC & ST population a plan for their socio-economic rehabilitation should be prepared. The Ministry of Welfare has also formulated a comprehensive draft National Policy for Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribals which is reported to be under consideration. In the said 28th Report it has been recommended that a systematic review of Primitive Groups should be undertaken, particularly of those who are still struggling for survival like hunters and food gatherers or shifting cultivators. The Government should constitute an expert group for them at the national level comprising social scientists, medical and nutritional experts and administrators. It was also recommended that institutes like the AIIMS and the National Institute of Nutrition should be associated for providing necessary support for biological survival of the Primitive Groups by way of identifying the problems which they faced. The Government have informed that streamlining of programmes for these groups has been kept in view and the Government have constituted an expert group to consider the special situation of PTGs of A & N Islands. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also taken up welfare programmes for them. AIIMS (New Delhi), NIHPW (New Delhi), JIPMER (Pondicherry), NIH under ICMR (Hyderabad) and RMRS under ICMR (Jabalpur) have also taken up studies on genetic and biological problems of some primitive tribes in different parts of the country.

7.21 The recommendation to extend the policy of positive discrimination to non-Government enterprises in the organised sector has been brought to the notice of all State Governments/UT Administrations by the Government of India for necessary action.

7.22 An important recommendation relating to tribals displaced on account of setting up of mining, industrial and hydroelectric projects in tribal areas has been made suggesting that special measures should be taken to ensure that a reasonable share in the new assets being created in the tribal areas accrues to the tribal people.

7.23 It has also been particularly recommended that 50% of house sites, residential buildings and commercial establishments should be reserved for members of SC & ST.
7.24 The Government have clarified that the guidelines issued by the Bureau of Public Enterprises contain suitable provisions for helping tribals whose lands were acquired for public purposes. Housing being a State subject the State Governments have been suitably addressed in the matter.

7.25 The Commissioner for SC & ST has made some broad recommendations in respect of the Scheduled Areas like extension of ordinary laws to these areas, review by the Supreme Court in case of non-action by the executive, upgrading administration in the Scheduled Areas and for making comprehensive regulations for peace and good government in these areas. The Government of India have explained that since the Tribes Advisory Councils exist in all the Scheduled Area States, they are the proper forum for review of various laws to be extended to the Scheduled Areas. The Ministry of Welfare has already written to the concerned Scheduled Area States to implement the recommendations of the Maheshwar Prasad Committee to follow single line administration in the Scheduled Areas. Some States like Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have already introduced single line administration. As for upgrading the level of administrative structure in the Scheduled Areas, the Ninth Finance Commission had been given broad based terms of reference to consider financial needs of the States having Scheduled Areas.
PART II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

CHAPTER II

1. The Commission has not been able to start functioning effectively in respect of several Constitutional provisions due to gross insufficiency of the staff. The staff proposals submitted to the Ministry of Welfare are yet to be sanctioned.

(Para 2.10)

CHAPTER III

2. The rate of growth of literacy among SC and ST has been increasing steadily but the gap in the literacy rate between SC and ST on the one hand and non-SC/ST communities on the other has also been widening. In order to bridge the gap much more concerted efforts are required. There is a wide disparity of literacy rates between non-SC/ST population and SC and ST and even between the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and also between males and females.

(Para 3.6)

3. There is considerable differential among the different Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes within a State. It is, therefore, suggested that based on 1981 and 1991 Census data, the various States should identify the educationally weaker castes/tribes in their States and take up special measures to improve their literacy and educational level. It should be ensured, through a time-bound programme, that they are at least brought at par with the average literacy rate of SC & ST in the State concerned.

(Para 3.8)

4. Although the rate of growth of female literacy amongst SC and ST has been showing an upward trend, yet the gap in the female literacy rate between SC and ST on the one hand and non-SC/ST communities on the other has widened. The concerned State Governments should take immediate steps to identify those castes/tribes which have a female literacy rate far below the average SC/ST female literacy rate in the State. Special concerted efforts are needed to improve the literacy rate and educational level among those communities which are conspicuously lagging behind as compared to other SC/ST communities in the matter of literacy rate.

(Para 3.10)

5. Various State Governments/UT Administrations may undertake similar types of experiment as the Shiksha Karmi Project run by the Government of Rajasthan.

(Para 3.10)

6. The of reporting enrolment in terms of enrolment ratio does not give a clear picture. It would be better if in the educational statistics figures are so collected that the number of children below the eligible age-group (6-11) and
over that age-group are separately reported so that it may be possible to know the precise coverage of children in the 6-11 agr-group.

(Para 3.13)

7. Many families engaged in unclean occupations like scavenging are not aware of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of pre-matric scholarships for children of those engaged in unclean occupations. It should be given wide publicity and parents engaged in such unclean occupations motivated to send their children to schools.

(Para 3.20)

8. A review may be undertaken of the rates of the Government of India Post-matric Scholarships and income level of parents to determine eligibility as the rates were last revised in 1989.

(Para 3.23)

9. The Governments of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J&K, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Pondicherry did not avail of the funds under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Book Banks during 1992-93. All the State Governments should submit complete proposals well in time to make full use of the funds available with the Ministry of Welfare.

(Para 3.26)

10. The condition of the Girls' Hostels and the Boys' Hostels for SC & ST in almost all the States is generally far from satisfactory. It is desirable that regular monitoring and periodical evaluation of their functioning may be undertaken in order to identify the shortcomings and take remedial measures to improve their working.

(Para 3.29)

11. The State Governments should ensure that whenever new hostels are opened or the existing ones expanded they should not be exclusively meant for either SC or ST. Each hostel should have both SC & ST students and preferably some non-SC/ST students as well.

(Para 3.29)

12. As in 1991 Census the percentage of SC & ST in the country's population has increased from 15.47% and 7.85% to 16.33% and 8.08% respectively, the number of seats reserved for them in various educational and technical institutions should be raised accordingly. The Ministry of HRD and the UGC should issue fresh guidelines in this regard to all the Universities and State Governments.

(Para 3.31)

13. The SCT Unit of the UGC has not yet been able to tabulate data for undergraduate and postgraduate courses beyond 1979-80. All the Universities/colleges must avoid delay in furnishing the data to the UGC.

(Para 3.34)

CHAPTER IV

14. All States/UTs should make provision in the divisible component of the Plan outlay for the TSP and the SCP not only in proportion to the ST and the SC population but in a higher proportion than their population percentages in view of their backwardness and their having been deprived of developmental
benefits in the past. (Paras 4.10 and 4.16)

15. The SC/ST Finance & Development Corporations should simplify the present cumbersome procedure and minimise the period taken for processing of applications. Regular monitoring and evaluation of the projects and easy repayment schedules should be in-built in the system. (Para 4.24)

16. The coverage of SC & ST under TRYSEM needs to be stepped up in the remaining period of the Eighth Plan in order to achieve the target of 50% during the Plan period. (Para 4.29)

17. The State Governments may undertake surveys without further delay to identify all the scavengers so that by the end of the Eighth Plan they are fully liberated from their hereditary degrading and inhuman practice of manually removing nightsoil. (Para 4.36)

18. SC & ST may be given proportionately higher weightage in terms of area distributed under ceiling surplus land. There is also need to redefine the standard acre in the laws of the different States taking into account the change in the value of land after irrigation facility. (Para 4.38)

19. Whenever land ownership is settled in favour of SC & ST persons it should be immediately entered in the record of rights and actual possession given to allottees with simultaneous protection by the law enforcement authorities. (Para 4.38)

20. Some of the provisions of the SC and the ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, safeguard the interests of SC & ST in the matter of land. It is desirable to make use of such provisions and refers litigations to the Special Courts set up under the Act to settle the cases expeditiously. (Para 4.38)

CHAPTER V

21. Apprehensions have been expressed that in order to restrict the induction of SC & ST to the level of reserved quota, those candidates selected irrespective of their merit could be kept at the bottom of the panels for recruitment. One way of providing a safeguard against such possibility is to withhold the identity of SC/ST candidates at the time of interview. Once the merit list is drawn for all the candidates interviewed, the SC and ST may be identified, and those selected on merit adjusted against unreserved quota as per Government instructions. (Para 5.16)

22. To safeguard the interests of SC and ST officers in promotions by selection within Group A posts in terms of the existing concession available to them, there is an immediate need to modify those instructions to provide that officers belonging to SC and ST who are rated above average and are senior enough to be covered by the number of vacancies are included in the select list on the basis of seniority-cum-
fitness.

(Para 5.21)

23. The percentages of reservation for SC and ST for promotion in Group C and D posts under the Central Establishments should be revised so as to correspond with the local/regional percentages provided for them at the stage of recruitment to those outside Delhi. Alternatively, the unutilised reserved vacancies under respective categories of posts filled by promotion may be allowed to be exchanged between SC and ST in the same year instead of in the third year of carry forward, as has already been allowed in favour of ST by the Government in the case of unfilled promotion vacancies reserved for SC in the services under the Union Territories of Lakshadweep, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Andaman & Nicobar Islands with large population of the Scheduled Tribes.

(Para 5.23)

24. The safeguard available to SC/ST against reversion on account of sealed cover cases may be restored and incorporated in the revised guidelines on DPCs issued in 1989 as well as in the orders about the procedure to be followed in the matter of promotion of Government servants against whom disciplinary/Court proceedings are pending. It is also recommended that where reversion in any grade becomes necessary after promotion either on account of reduction in staff or on account of sealed cover case or even on account of reversion of an officer from the higher grade/deputation/transfer or on account of any other reason, orders need to be issued that the reversions should be made in such a manner that the total number of reservation for SC and ST in any select list is not reduced.

(Para 5.26)

25. The Government should not only protect the backlog of reservations as distinct share of SC and ST ignoring 50% ceiling but also enhance the existing percentages of reservation from 15% and 7.5% to 16.5% and 8.0% for SC and ST respectively as per their population percentages according to 1991 Census, by amending the Constitution or by suitable legislation.

(Para 5.31)

26. The usefulness of the system of monitoring implementation of reservation orders by the public enterprises as laid down by the Department of Public Enterprises on 25-4-1991 can be ensured if the Joint Secretary/Chief of Personnel Department is directed to submit his progress report on the achievements made and remedial measures undertaken during the preceding calendar year and keep the National Commission fully posted.

(Para 5.37)

27. To ensure that evaluation of CRs on SC/ST officers is fair, just and unbiased the system of writing CRs needs to be reviewed and suitably modified to provide that the Reviewing Officer may invite the SC/ST officer getting average/adverse ratings for discussion. This would afford an opportunity to SC/ST employees to know their standing and to represent in case they feel aggrieved. The Reporting/Reviewing Officer should also suggest possible lines of development of the
CHAPTER VI

28. With a view to ensuring that complaints in cases of atrocities on SC & ST are registered by the police, it is suggested that the Post Masters of the local Post Offices having telegraph facilities may be authorised to record complaints of victims and pass on the same telegraphically, at Government cost, to the concerned Special Police Station for registering the case. The services of the Gram Panchayat could also be utilised for reporting such cases to the concerned Police Stations. If necessary, the Post Master or the Gram Panchayat head (by whatever name called) may be declared honorary police officers.

29. In cases which result in acquittal on technical grounds or due to administrative or other lapses, the Public Prosecutor should reexamine the case and file an appeal to ensure justice to the aggrieved SC/ST persons.

30. In order to create awareness of the SC and the ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, amongst the police it is suggested that the subject of atrocities on SC and ST including the PAA should be included in the syllabus in the Departmental examinations and also in their orientation/refresher courses.

31. There is greater incidence of atrocities in rural areas than in urban areas. Therefore, wide publicity through mass media should be given to create awareness amongst rural people about the various provisions of the SC and the ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. Voluntary social organisations should also be motivated to propagate against the evils of untouchability and publicise the provisions of the PCR Act and the PAA.

32. As a preventive measure the State Governments should identify atrocity-prone areas and take appropriate precautionary measures to check occurrence of any such incident. Special Collectors may be appointed in districts having atrocity-prone areas so that the problem can be tackled on priority basis.

33. Atrocities on SC/ST persons are generally committed on account of land disputes between them and others, their demand for minimum wages and their resentment against bonded labour. It is, therefore, necessary that the local administration must take early action in resolving such problems faced by SC & ST so that such potential incidents are nipped in the bud.

34. Special courts as provided in the SC and the ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, should be set up in all the concerned States as quickly as possible.

35. In some States the family of a person killed in a communal or
caste riot is granted at least Rs.1 lakh as relief. It would, therefore, be reasonable to provide monetary relief of at least Rs.1 lakh to the family of a Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe person killed in a case of atrocity, particularly if the deceased was an earning member or physically fit to earn. Those States which have not followed the practice of providing monetary relief and rehabilitation facilities to victims of atrocities may also do so.

(Para 6.47)

36. The Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has recommended twice to re-entrust the subject of 'atrocities' to the Ministry of Home Affairs. This subject should be transferred from the Ministry of Welfare to the Ministry of Home Affairs without further delay in the interests of SC & ST.

(Para 6.47)