No. Review-26/Arunachal Pradesh/2017/RU-II
Government of India
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

6th floor, 'B' Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan
Khan Market, New Delhi-110 003
Date:- 05.03.2020

To
The Chief Secretary,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,
Civil Secretariat,
Itanagar-791111(Arunachal Pradesh).

2. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director,
N.H.P.C., Office Complex,
Sector-33, Faridabad-121003.
Haryana.

Sub:- Report and Recommendations under article 338A(5) (e) of the Constitution on the measures to be taken by Review of Arunachal Pradesh State for the effective implementation of Constitutional Safeguards and Other measures for the protection, Welfare and Socio-Economic Development of the Scheduled Tribes.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to forwards herewith a copy of Report of the Review Meeting held on 27.11.2019 to 30.11.2019 under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on the above mentioned subject.

2. It is requested to furnish the information along with Action Taken Report to this Commission on the recommendations made in the Report and recommendations within 30 days positively.

Encl:- As above

Yours faithfully,

(S.P. Meena)
Assistant Director
Tel: 24645826

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment Department and Tribal Affairs, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Civil Secretariat, Itanagar-791111.
2. SPPS to Secretary, PA to JS, PA to Director/Assistant Director (RU-II).
3. SAS, NIC for uploading on NCST’s website.
Report and recommendations under Article 338A(5)(e) of the Constitution on the measures to be taken by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for the effective implementation of constitutional safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes.

No. Review-26/Arunachal Pradesh 2017-RU.II
Date of Review: 27th November, 2019.

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is a constitutional body set up under Article 338A of the Constitution to investigate and monitor all matters relating to protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes in the country. As per Constitutional provision, the Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy decisions affecting Scheduled Tribes. The Commission is required to present to the President reports annually and any time as considered fit upon working of those safeguards such reports are to be laid before each House of the Parliament along with memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

2. In pursuance of the above constitutional mandate, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes visited State of Arunachal Pradesh from 27th to 30th November, 2019. The Commission was led by Dr. Nand Kumar Sai, Hon’ble Chairperson accompanied by Hon’ble Member Shri H.K.
Damor and Shri H.C. Vasava and Shri K. Touthang, Joint Secretary to the Government of India and Shri S.P. Meena, Assistant Director. The Commission Itanagar on 27th November, 2019.

3. Arunachal Pradesh is a strategic State surrounded by three international borders of Bhutan, Myanmar and China. Arunachal Pradesh is predominantly tribal State with 69 per cent of Scheduled Tribe population. There are 26 notified tribes in the States. In the State of Arunachal Pradesh, all tribes in the State including 16 communities notified as Scheduled Tribes in the State.

4. Immediately after reaching Itanagar, the Commission called on the Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and held discussion. Thereafter, the Commission met the local tribal leaders, NGOs and civil society workers. They raised the following issues:
   - Increase the number of seats in medical college.
   - Increase the number of seats in NIT at Papum Pare.
   - Development of road infrastructure in the State.
   - Setting up of an Agriculture University in the State.
   - Fencing on Myanmar border.
   - Encouraging the Jhum cultivation.
   - Opening of IIT.
They also stressed that the Government should not withdraw the British East Frontier Regulation Act 1873. It should be continued.

5. The Hon'ble Governor suggested that 2 boy and 2 girl students of Boroi community be sponsored to study progressive farming at Kurukshetra
University. The Governor also suggested that a meeting of Ministries of Home and DONER be called regarding issue of organic farming, Jhum cultivation and Citizen (Amendment) Bill. Besides, Boroi tribe is a backward tribe, some sort of skill training be institutionalized for them.

6. The Commission held a review meeting with Chief Secretary on 27th November, 2019 and other senior officers of the State on issues concerning Scheduled Tribes. While discussing the problems/issues related to Scheduled Tribes, the Commission raised the issues raised by local tribal leaders, NGOs and civil society workers, as stated above. The Commission suggested telecommunication, road infrastructure, education, etc should be improved/updated. The State Government assured that they will send the proposals to the concerned authorities for necessary action.
7. The Commission also had a meeting with officers of NHPC at Itanagar on 27th November, 2019. The officers of NHPC stated that for setting up Hydel Projects in the State, the consultation with the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh are going on. The NHPC requested to the Commission to take up the matter with the State Government for extending all cooperation to NHPC.

8. The Commission had an occasion to visit Tawang and interacted with local tribes on 28th November, 2019. The Commission also met the Chief of Mongpa Samaj at Tawang. Here too, people stressed the need for continuation of British East Frontier Regulation Act, 1873. Tawang is
situated at a very high altitude. Therefore, the local people suggested that the facility of helicopter be extended. Since Bhutan is nearer to Tawang, they raised that the border of Bhutan should be opened for people residing in Tawang for local needs.

9. On 29th November, 2019, the Commission had field visits to Sera village and saw Anganwadi Centre, Tribal Hostel, Child care centre, Old Age Home. The Commission had a District Review meeting with District Commissioner of Tawang. In this District Review Meeting, similar issues were raised by local tribal leaders, NGOs and Civil Society. 99 per cent of population of Tawang are Buddhists and are nationalistic.

10. The Commission, therefore, recommends that the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh should take all measures to protect the identity of Scheduled Tribes and send proposals to concerned authorities in the Government of India/State for:

i. Improvement of road infrastructure;

ii. Better telecommunication system and connectivity;

iii. Payment of adequate compensation to the Scheduled Tribes whose land has been acquired by NHAI for construction of roads as per rules.

iv. Increase in number of seats in the Medical college.

v. Opening of IIT and agriculture university.

vi. Fencing on Mynmar border.

vii. Commissioning of construction of Airport in the State.

viii. British East Frontier Regulation Act 1873 should be continued.
Report and recommendations under Article 338A(5)(e) of the Constitution on the measures to be taken by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for the effective implementation of constitutional safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes.

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