

Minutes of the State Level Review Meeting of Madhya Pradesh by National Commission for Scheduled Castes with Chief Secretary and other senior officers of Government of Madhya Pradesh.

- The National Commission for Scheduled Castes team headed by Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria, Hon'ble Chairman; Dr. L. Murugan, Hon'ble Vice-Chairman; Shri K. Ramulu, Dr. Yogendra Paswan and Dr. (Ms.) Swaraj Vidwan, Hon'ble Members; Shri Pritam Singh, IAS, Secretary, NCSC and other officers from Delhi and Hyderabad visited Bhopal and held State Level Review of Madhya Pradesh State.
- The Hon'ble Minister for Scheduled Caste Welfare, Chief Secretary and other senior officers of the level of Additional Chief Secretaries, Special Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries, Secretaries, Commissioners, Directors, etc. of Government of Madhya Pradesh participated in the review meeting conducted by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.
- The Commission also met with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and discussed the policy matters which are being implemented in the state as well as in the Central Government.
- The Chief Secretary, while welcoming the Commission stated that the Madhya Pradesh Government is set for fast development in various sectors and looked forward for Commission's pro active observations and advises to strengthen their activities for upliftment of the socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes.
- The Hon'ble Chairman in his opening remarks briefed about the mandate of the Commission. He stated that, the benefits will reach the target people if there is a good coordination between the policy makers and the implementing agencies. In this context, he mentioned that nearly 5,000 crores were unspent by 10 departments in Uttar Pradesh and the developmental activities have been drastically hampered due to this. He also pointed out that 40% of total budget allocation for SCs in Maharashtra was not spend and these unspent amount can be used for laying roads, providing drinking facilities, establishment of schools, etc. It is all done due to lack of proper planning and coordination. He emphasized that proper planning, monitoring, execution and evaluation of the Schemes are very essential at every stage of performing the activities.

- The Principal Secretary (SC Welfare Department) gave a presentation highlighting the status of schemes of the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Observations & Recommendations:

1.8.2 Literacy:

- The Hon'ble Chairman noted that, the female literacy rate is very low and enquired about the measures taken for increasing the literacy rate. In response to this, the Principal Secretary (SCW) stated that the Madhya Pradesh Government is the first state in the country which is implementing compulsory education long back before implementation of Right to Education Act. He stated that the special schools are being opened up in the localities, where the number of SC/ST students are 25, whereas it is 40 in the case of general category. Accordingly, more than one lakh schools are being functioning in the state.
- The Hon'ble Chairman, NCSC emphasized that providing education is the most vital element for upliftment the socio-economic conditions of the downtrodden society of the people.
- Hon'ble Member, Shri K. Ramulu advised that the introduction of English Medium Schools are very essential in villages from First Class itself. He gave the successful story of Gurukul Education in Telangana State. The Hon'ble Chairman also stated that there are nearly 50 English Medium Schools in each district of Uttar Pradesh.
- In response to these queries, the PS (SCW) stated that the Madhya Pradesh Government has started Gyanodhya Residential Schools, which are giving good results and these are functioning at regional level and they wanted to start at district level also.
- Hon'ble Member, Shri K. Ramulu advised for establishment of study circles for preparing competitive examinations.
- The Secretary, NCSC stated that the enrollment of admissions are being decreased from primary to middle and also from middle to high school and the same is also noticed in the case of Graduate and Post Graduate enrollment and asked the reasons for it. He further requested to analyze reasons for poor admissions. He suggested that the secondary

schools might be located far away from the households. He also advised them to verify Child Birth Register records of last 6-7 years.

- In response to these remarks, PS (SCW) stated that they wanted to conduct special drive for increasing the enrollment. He also mentioned that low birth rate is also one of the reasons for poor admissions.
- The Government of Madhya Pradesh expressed the difficulty pertaining to Post Matric Scholarships. The Government of India is involving in sharing the burden of Post Matric Scholarships, if the expenditure exceeds the committed liability. The Secretary, NCSC informed the august house that the Commission has recommended 100% sponsorship of committed liability by the Government of India and advised the Government to address a letter to the Commission for pursuing the same with the Government of India.
- The Secretary, NCSC also recommended the Government for providing good infrastructural facilities in schools and colleges. The Secretary, Higher Education stated that Government is planning to close small colleges by starting big colleges so as to avoid transportation problem also.
- The Secretary, NCSC asked for details about the SCs BPL families and number of exclusions of SC families from BPL families. The PS (SCW) told that no one was left out of BPL and as per the latest guidelines the numbers are small.

1.8.3 PMAY:

- The Hon'ble Chairman expressed displeasure that the percentage of houses allotted to SC population are declining from 2016-17 onwards. He recommended that the number of beneficiaries is to be increased.
- The Secretary (Housing) informed that the percentage of allocation of houses to SC population is at par with their percentage of population i.e. 15.6%
- The Hon'ble Chairman mentioned that the percentage of SC population below the poverty line (BPL) is 22.5% and accordingly allocation of houses are also to be done. The Chief Secretary stated that he will look into the matter and will take care of the recommendation of the Commission.

- The Hon'ble Chairman stated that, the Hon'ble Prime Minister wanted that everybody should have their own house and accordingly the Government has to take steps to achieve the objective.

1.8.4 Health:

- The Government of Madhya Pradesh has not provided the beneficiary list of SCs under NRHM, Ayushman Bharat. The Hon'ble Chairman asked to furnish the percentage of SC beneficiaries to the Commission. The Chief Secretary noted the remarks of the Hon'ble Chairman and he replied that he will submit the information. He also informed that nearly 1.15 crore people have been provided with gold cards and all groups of BPL are being covered under this programme.
- The Hon'ble Member (KR) advised that the infrastructural facilities of Government hospitals are also to be on par with private hospitals and accordingly the M.P. Government has to take measures, to improve the facilities.

1.8.5 MUDRA & Stand Up India Loans:

- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman pointed out that there is huge difference between the applications received and accepted by Bank in all the three years and it is more significant in the year 2016-17. He also enquired about the number of bank branches in the State and list of beneficiaries of availing loans of one crore or more than one crore under Stand Up India loans. He also enquired about the pending cases to be provided with loan even after subsidy was granted by the Government of India. He also recommended that at least one beneficiary with one or more than one crore loan from SC should be covered by each branch of the Bank. He asked to furnish the beneficiaries list. The Convener, SLBC informed that there are 4 parallel schemes are operating in the state.
- The Secretary, NCSC asked to furnish the list of beneficiaries in all the schemes. The Secretary, NCSC also asked to furnish the minutes of the SLBC meetings along with action taken report for the last 3 meetings.

1.8.6 Hand Pumps:

- The Commission observed that the installation of handpumps are very less. On this point the Secretary (Housing) informed that most of the villages are covered with Ground Water Supply Schemes or Individual Water Supply Schemes.

1.8.7 Hostels:

- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman enquired about the hostels, which are well equipped with CCTV, RO Water, Dining tables, library facilities, computer and internet facilities and video conferencing facilities and also whether they are implementing biometric attendance or not. The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman also enquired about the number of times that eggs are provided to the hostel mates.
- In response to these queries, the Chief Secretary informed that the biometric attendance will be introduced in all the hostels and the installation of CCTV in Boys Hostels will also be undertaken. He also informed that with good protein food like soya beans is a part of diet.
- The Commission asked the State Government to furnish the action taken report on introduction of biometric attendance, CCTV in Boys Hostels also to the Commission.

1.8.8 Land Scheme:

- The Government stated that Bhudhikar Patra (Ownership paper) is being given to the house owners. The Commission also wanted detailed information on it.

1.8.9 MNREGA:

- The Hon'ble Chairman also advised that the authorities should ensure that the job cards are in possession of the beneficiaries and not held with Panchayat officials.
- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman enquired about the percentage of SC families, which were provided with 100 days work.
- The Chief Secretary replied that they are providing 100 days work or more than it to the extent of nearly 13.31 lakh families and it is around 17% of the total work force.
- The Secretary, NCSC asked about the average man working hours as well as the number of minimum working days and maximum working days provided to the beneficiaries.

- The Chief Secretary informed that the minimum and maximum working days are nearly 100 and 150 days respectively. He also said that the payment of wages is done within 15 days of the execution of the work. The payment is also done based on Aadhaar.
- The Chief Secretary informed that the Government is taking more plantation work with less machinery work under this scheme.
- In reply to Secretary, NCSC, they informed that the overall average wage rate per day is Rs. 255.86, whereas the prescribed rate is Rs. 174.

1.8.10 SCSP:

- The Hon'ble Chairman pointed out that the allocation amount to the SCs is 14.21% of total allocation in 2016-17, but the expenditure incurred is only 11.28% and around Rs. 3,000 crore were not spent and the same trend is observed in 2017-18. He instructed the Government to see that the expenditure has to be incurred as per the allocation and also find out the reasons for not incurring the amount.
- The Chief Secretary stated that, there is a special Tribal Welfare Department for Scheduled Tribes, whose population is only 8% of the total population, but no special department for SCs even though their percentage of population is 16% of the total population. He also informed that the Government is planning to have separate department for Scheduled Castes, which may be coming as an agenda in the upcoming cabinet meeting.
- The Commission also observed that there is a huge gap between allocation and expenditure of the Central Sector Schemes and the expenditure is only 50% of the total allocation in 2018-19.
- The Chief Secretary informed that Madhya Pradesh Tribal Area Development Project gives money to STs and SCs and now the Government is considering a proposal to separate both within 15 days.
- The Vice-Chairman asked the reasons for less expenditure when compared to allocation in SC Specific Schemes also. In response to this, the Chief Secretary informed that the amount is not spent due to vacancies in the teaching posts and will submit the report to the Commission.

1.8.11 Manual Scavenging:

- The Hon'ble Chairman asked about manual scavenging. The Chief Secretary replied that there is a ban on manual scavenging in Madhya Pradesh from the last 15 years and they are provided with other alternate employment like Taxi, Auto, etc. by providing loans to them.
- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman enquired about the number of contract/outsourcing labourers of SC Community, who are working as Sweepers. The Addl. Commissioner did not have complete information and said that he will furnish the information to the Commission. The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman instructed to call Urban Development Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh to NCSC, New Delhi, with data on manual scavenging.

1.8.12 Service Safeguards:

- The Commission observed that there are nearly 2464 backlog vacancies in the Government and asked the reasons for not filling up of the vacancies. The Addl. Chief Secretary answered that there is a stay in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and it is posted for hearing on 15.10.2019 and the Government will put all efforts to lift the stay. The special recruitment drive for filling up the backlog vacancies will be done by June 2020.
- The Commission also observed that the percentage of SCs representation in Group 'A' cadre is very low and instructed the Government to take up special drive for filling up these posts.
- The Principal Secretary (SCW) informed that they will fill up all the backlog vacancies in Group 'A' and Group 'B' cadre.
- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman asked about the action on false caste certificate cases and also pointed out that the number of cases are also more (138). The Chief Secretary replied that the Tribal Research Institute (TRI) is conducting field level enquiry and he told that he will expedite the action and will submit the report within 3 months.
- The Hon'ble Vice-Chairman enquired about the implementation of reservation in the Industrial Department and the Government replied that they were implementing reservation and now they are going to adopt new policy. The Commission asked them to furnish new policy.

- Hon'ble Vice-Chairman asked the Government that any innovative measures are being adopted by the State Government to uplift the socio-economic conditions of the SCs. The Principal Secretary (SCW) informed that the Government has established Gyanodhya Residential Schools, where the admission starts from 3rd class onwards.
- The Hon'ble Member (KR) advised that the compassionate appointments are also to be undertaken while filling up of the backlog vacancies.

Points identified for action

1.8.13 Education:

- The Commission observed that the literacy rate among female SC is far below the national average. The enrollment of students admission are declining in primary, middle, secondary, under graduate and post graduate courses. The Commission advised the Government to take measures for improving the situation.
- The State Government stated that they wanted to introduce special drive measures for enhancing the enrollment of students, details to be informed to the Commission.
- The Commission recommended for establishment of English Medium Schools in villages.
- The Government stated that Gnanodaya Residential Schools are being functioning at regional level and now they wanted to start at district level. The action taken on this will be submitted to the Commission.

1.8.14 Scholarships:

- The Government wanted that the Post Matric Scholarships (PMS) should be sponsored by Government of India.
- The Commission informed that it recommended 100% sponsorship by the Government of India and also instructed the Government to address a letter to the Commission for taking further necessary action.

1.8.15 PMAY:

- The allotment of houses to SC population was low and measures to improve the same to at least 22% of total allocation are to be communicated to the Commission.
- The Government said that it will look into the matter and the allotment of the houses will be taken in future, as per the recommendations of the Commission.

1.8.16 Health:

- The percentage of SC beneficiaries under NRHM and Ayushman Bharat to be furnished to the Commission.

1.8.17 MUDRA Loans& Stand Up India Scheme:

- To furnish to the Commission list of beneficiaries, who availed one and more than one crore loan from each branch of the banks, and the minutes of the last 3 SLBC meetings.

1.8.18 Hostels:

- Action taken to introduce biometric devices in all the hostels along with CCTVs in all the boys and girls hostels.

1.8.19 Land Schemes:

- The Commission wanted detailed information on it and the Government said that the information will be provided to the Commission.

1.8.20 SCSP:

- The Commission felt that the allocation amount is very low and the expenditure incurred out of the total allocated amount is also very low and asked the reasons for it.
- The Government informed that they wanted to create separate department for Scheduled Castes and it will be coming as an agenda in upcoming cabinet meeting for monitoring, execution and implementation of the Sub Plan.

1.8.21 Manual Scavenging:

- The Commission wanted the number of contractlabourers, who are working as Sweepers. The Government is lacking information on it and informed that they will furnish the information on it.
- The Urban Development Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh will come to NCSC, New Delhi, with data on manual scavenging and action taken on cases of deaths due to manual cleaning of sewers.

1.8.22 False Caste Certificate Cases:

- The Commission felt that the number of false caste certificate cases are more and enquired about the action that was taken on this issue.
- The Government told that it will expedite the action and will submit the report within 3 months.

1.8.23 Industrial Department:

- The Commission enquired about the implementation of rule of reservation in the Industrial Department.
- The Government replied that they are going to launch new policy and the same will be furnished to the Commission.

1.8.24 Service Safeguards:

- The Commission observed that the number of backlogs are more, the percentage of SC employees in Group 'A' and 'B' are low.
- The Government stated that there is a stay in the Hon'ble Court and they are working to get the stay vacated and after that they would take up promotions in Group 'A' and 'B' cadre.
- The Government also stated that they will fill up all backlog vacancies by June 2020.