

The important activities of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment during September, 2016, were as follows:-

1. The Scheme for providing Aids and Assisted Living Devices to Senior Citizens below Poverty Line” has been approved by the Hon’ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. The fourth meeting of Central Monitoring Committee constituted under the Prohibition of Empowerment of Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013) was held on 21.09.2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment. The Committee reviewed the progress of implementation of the Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013).
3. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 26.09.2016 between Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and National Remote Sensing Centre, India Space Research Organisation, Department of Space, Government of India. The MoU covers (i) development of android based mobile application for collection of Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) asset details; (ii) development of an interface on Bhuvan Platform to receive Mobile geo-tagged data for providing facility for moderation and display of assets; (iii) capacity building of the Ministry officials for enabling data collection; (iv) collection, compilation and moderation of data of the target groups; and (v) linking the data of the target groups with administrative boundaries. The project is proposed to be executed in one year as per prescribed time schedule. However, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is valid for two years from the date of signing for monitoring and incorporation of additional data.
4. Out of our Plan Budget of Rs.6500 crores, Rs.4667 crore were released by September end 2016. This is 71.8% of our Plan Budget. However, there is an arrear demand of Rs. 8000 crores under Post Matric Scholarship (SC) of which a minimum of Rs.5400 crores which accounts for entire arrears upto 2015-16 & 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of current year’s demand is required urgently. The issue of Post Matric Scholarship (SC) arrears has been taken up with Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. An EFC note has been forwarded for taking up the meeting to consider suggested improvements in the scheme, as well as enhanced allocation to meet the arrear demands before BE/RE discussion is held for this Ministry.

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