

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES / SECRETARIES OF
WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN STATES HELD ON 03.06.2013**

List of participants is annexed.

At the outset, Secretary (SJ&E) deliberated in brief about the policies, programmes and schemes of the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment and emphasized on the Direct Benefit Transfer covering five major schemes of the Department. He requested all States/UTs to take steps to make the DBT successful. He outlined priority areas of the Department and requested the States/UTs to pay focused attention to them, such as survey of manual scavengers, drug abuse survey, PMAGY, need for designing specific schemes for DNTs etc. He then asked Joint Secretary (SCD) to make his presentation.

A. SCD Bureau

JS(SCD) made a presentation about the State wise SC population, as per Census,2011 and the Schemes implemented by the SCD Bureau. Thereafter, the following issues pertaining to various Schemes were discussed in the light of the presentation:-

A (i) Implementation of the PCR &PoA Acts:

Continuance of offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and low conviction rate of cases under the PoA Act, in most of the States, was a matter of concern. Cases ending in acquittal also need to be reviewed and appeals filed in superior courts, wherever required. The States/UTs must make earnest efforts for effective implementation of the PCR and PoA Acts and meetings of the State and District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees should be regularly held as specified in the Rule 16 and 17 of the PoA Rules.

The Joint Secretary, drew attention of the participating States/UTs, towards Ministry's letter dated 30.04.2013, addressed to the Principal Secretaries of SC/ST Development Departments, seeking comments on the proposal of insertion of Rule 17A in the PoA Rules, for constitution of Sub-Division Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, with nomination of social worker(s) as Member(s) in the Committees by the Central Government, and amendment in the clause(iv) of sub-rule(1) of Rule 16 and sub-rule(2) of Rule 17, for nomination of social worker(s) as member(s) by the Central Government in the State and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees respectively. He requested them to expedite their comments.

State-wise discussions were held as follows:

(i) Gujarat-

The Principal Secretary, Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of Gujarat, stated in his presentation that low conviction and high pendency rates are indeed a matter of concern. A major reason for the conviction rate being low is that the witness turn hostile. However, Gujarat has set up exclusive special courts for speedy trial of cases under the PoA act in 25 out of 26 districts. The 26th district, Dang, is covered by the court set up in adjoining District Valsad. For

facilitating effective prosecution in serious cases, State government has permitted the victims to engage private advocates. The performance of Public Prosecutors is monitored by the District Magistrates.

During 2012, a meeting of the State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (SLVMC) was held on 07.05.2012. Likewise, 104 meetings of District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (DLVMC) were held in 2012.

(ii) Maharashtra-

The Secretary, Social Justice Department, Maharashtra, stated that low conviction rate is a matter of worry. Setting up of 6 special courts for speedy trial of cases under PoA act has been agreed to by the State High Court, and the special courts will start functioning within 2 months in the District Court buildings.

Maharashtra officials were informed that the 6 monthly progress report (SMPR) and material for annual report (AR) under PCR and PoA Acts for the year 2012 were not received from the State. The officials were requested to expedite the same.

(iii) Rajasthan-

The officials from the Government of Rajasthan mentioned that one meeting of SLVMC and 129 meetings of DLVMC were held in the year 2012. SMPR for 2012 was called for from the State Govt. officials.

(iv) Goa-

The Director representing the state of Goa stated that cases registered under PoA act are very few. Two meetings of SLVMC and 4 meetings of DLMVC were held in the state during 2012. Model Contingency Plan as per the provisions of the PoA Rules has been formulated. State was asked to send SMPR for 2012 at the earliest.

(v) All the states were asked to expedite their proposals of Central Assistance for the year 2013-14 under the Scheme of implementation of the PCR and PoA Acts.

A (ii) SCA to SCSP:

JS(SCD) highlighted the objective of the Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) Scheme. He also requested the representatives from the states to furnish:

- A(ii) i.** The Utilization Certificate of the Central Assistance released upto 2012-13.
- A (ii) ii.** Information on SC families covered under the composite economic development programme and, percentage of allocation under SCSP compared to SC population in the State, in prescribed format.

A (ii) iii. Information/data of beneficiaries who were successful in crossing the poverty line after availing the benefits of the Scheme.

A (ii) iv. JS (SCD) highlighted the Ministry’s recent Guidelines issued on 02.05.2013, to earmark at least 10% of SCA funds on skill development programmes by all the States/UTs. He requested them to make a plan to conduct skill development training programmes accordingly during 2013-14.

The state-wise issues about the scheme discussed were as follows:

ISSUES	RESPONSES
<p>GUJARAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of BPL SC families assisted and those who have been able to cross poverty line during 2009-10 has not been provided. • Number of beneficiaries assisted against SCA released for 2009-10 ,2010-11, 2011-12 to be provided by the state. 	<p>The information would be forwarded shortly.</p>
<p>MAHARASHTRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information regarding SC BPL families assisted and which crossed the poverty line in 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 not received. • The figures for SCA released and number of beneficiaries for 2009-10 to be looked into as the maximum amount which can be released is Rs 10,000/- • Number of beneficiaries assisted against SCA released for 2011-12 and 2012-13 to be provided by the state. 	<p>The information would be forwarded shortly.</p> <p>The response on all the issues would be expedited after exercising proper check.</p>
<p>RAJASTHAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information awaited regarding number of BPL SC families assisted and those who have been able to cross poverty line for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. • Number of beneficiaries assisted against SCA released for 2009-10 ,2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 still awaited. 	<p>The required information would be expedited.</p>

<p>GOA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information regarding SC BPL families assisted which crossed the poverty line in 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 not received. Central Assistance not received for 2012-13 as complete information required as per Ministry's letter dated 14.02.13 not received from the state. Pending UC of Rs 2.38 lakhs and other documents as per DO letter dated 08.05.13 required from State for release of CA during 2013-14. No. of beneficiaries assisted against SCA released for 2009-10 ,2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 to be expedited. 	<p>The information would be expedited.</p>
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The Economic Advisor, M/o SJ&E, while informing about setting up of an inter ministerial committee by the Planning Commission to review the SCSP guidelines, requested all the participating States to give their comments about the implementation of the strategy in their respective states and suggestions, if any, for effective changes in the existing guidelines of the Planning Commission. He also circulated the relevant extract of the existing guidelines for enabling the representatives of states to give their comments/ suggestions.

A (iii) Survey of Manual Scavengers: JS (SCD) stated that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is steering and coordinating a survey of manual scavengers in 3546 statutory towns. As per the 'House Listing and Housing Census 2011' data, approximately 26 lakh insanitary latrines are in existence in India.

JS(SCD) also stated that as per Para 4 of Guidelines for survey, community representatives and NGOs may be involved in the Survey of Manual Scavengers for awareness campaign and preparing the list of manual scavengers, which may also be verified during the survey by enumerators.

State wise status of action taken is as follows:

S. No	State	Status of information regarding survey District			Response from the States
		Nodal Officer	Proposal for funds	Progress of Survey	
a.	Gujarat	Awaited	Rs 57.57 lakhs released on	Not received	Primary survey will be completed by end June 2013. Training for officials was held 2 weeks ago.

			30.04.13		
b.	Maharashtra	Received	Rs.130.76 lakhs released on 25.05.13	Not received	Survey will be completed by end June 2013.
c.	Rajasthan	Received	Awaited	Not received	Survey will be completed by 16 July 2013
d.	Goa	Awaited	Awaited	Not received	Goa has no manual scavengers as per 2007 survey. JS (SCD) informed that survey is to be conducted once again in view of the RGI data of 2011. State promised to do so at the earliest.

A (iv) Post Matric Scholarship for SCs :

ISSUES	RESPONSES / DECISIONS
<p>Gujarat : State was asked to forward the digitized lists of beneficiaries for DBT during the current year.</p>	The details of beneficiaries of renewal cases will be sent by end of June 13 and those of fresh cases by September, 2013.
<p>Maharashtra: The representative of the State Government requested that the entire money due to the beneficiaries may be paid by the Central Government for the DBT districts during 2013-14, instead of apportionment between state and centre. State was asked to confirm the dates for sending digitized lists of beneficiaries for DBT.</p>	<p>It is not a feasible proposition</p> <p>The details of beneficiaries of renewal cases will be sent by end June 13 end and those of fresh cases by September, 2013</p>
<p>Rajasthan : An amount of Rs 6013.35 lakhs was disbursed as Central Assistance during 2012-13 which included Rs 1476.58 lakhs as adhoc and Rs 4536.77 lakhs as regular grant.</p>	The State was requested to expedite the digitized list of beneficiaries for the year 2012-13.
<p>Goa : An amount of Rs 2.23 lakhs was disbursed as Central Assistance during 2012-13 Rs on adhoc basis. Regular CA was not released for 2012-13 as the proposal was received in end March, based on anticipated expenditure.</p>	JS(SCD) informed the state representative to send the finalized list of beneficiaries along with actual expenditure, as the year is already over and firm figures should be available with the state.

All the states were requested to send digitized lists of beneficiaries along with UCs for 2012-13 and to prepare digitized lists for 2013-14 also.

A (v) Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students studying in classes IX & X :

ISSUES	RESPONSES / DECISIONS
<p>Gujarat : An amount of Rs 1155.74 lakhs was released as Central Assistance during 2012-13.</p>	<p>State has been requested to send the proposal along with UCs and digitized lists of beneficiaries.</p>
<p>Maharashtra: No proposal received.</p>	<p>The State has, as of now, not confirmed whether it will implement the Scheme.</p>
<p>Rajasthan: An amount of Rs 4396.23 lakhs was released as Central Assistance during 2012-13.</p>	<p>State has been requested to send the proposal along with UCs and digitized lists of beneficiaries.</p>
<p>Goa: An amount of Rs 2.31 lakhs was released as Central Assistance during 2012-13.</p>	<p>There is a discrepancy between the data provided by the state government and that of the HRD Ministry. The state representative was advised to recheck and reconcile the data.</p>

All the states were requested to send digitized lists of beneficiaries along with UCs for 2012-13 and to prepare digitized lists for 2013-14 also.

A (vi) Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in ‘unclean’ occupation:

ISSUES	RESPONSES / DECISIONS
<p>Gujarat : An amount of Rs 558.44 lakhs was disbursed during 2012-13.</p>	<p>The State Govt. representative informed that the state government has additionally launched a scheme to uplift those engaged in unclean occupations by training them to become professional pundits.</p>
<p>Maharashtra: The audited figures of expenditure incurred during the last three years have not been received, so no CA has been released.</p>	<p>The State Govt. representative promised to expedite the requisite information.</p>
<p>Rajasthan : An amount of Rs 318 lakhs has been disbursed during 2012-13 as Central Assistance.</p>	<p>Digitized list of beneficiaries for 2012-13 would be forwarded shortly.</p>
<p>Goa: No CA released during 2012-13.</p>	<p>Details of arrears in r/o 2011-12 claimed in current FY not furnished. State has been advised to forward the requisite details.</p>

A (vii) . Upgradation of Merit Scheme:

JS(SCD) informed that Maharashtra and Goa were not implementing the Scheme, whereas Gujarat, Rajasthan, MP were not utilizing the allotted slots fully. The state governments were asked to submit their proposals under the Scheme for the current year expeditiously.

A (viii) BABU JAGJIVAN RAM CHHATRAWAS YOJANA

JS (SCD) impressed upon the need for construction of hostels within stipulated timeframe and submission of the pending UCs in time. The hostels sanctioned up to 2010-11 should have been completed by now but the States/UTs are lagging behind in completion of hostels in time. He also apprised the participating State Govt./UT Admn. that it would be difficult to sanction fresh hostels due to non-completion of hostels and non-furnishing of UC in time. The State Govt./UT Administration were requested to give a concrete time frame for completion of pending hostels and furnishing pending UCs so that fresh proposals for construction of hostels could be considered. Notional Allocation for 2013-14 has been communicated to State Govt./UT Admn them and they were requested to send the proposals for utilization of Notional Allocation as soon as possible. He highlighted the issues pending with State Govt. of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Goa under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna. State Govts. responses were as under:

Gujarat:

The Principal Secretary from Gujarat informed that Gujarat was able to construct only one boys hostel out of sanctioned 2 boys hostel and one girls hostel. However, the Central Assistance released for the other 2 hostels (1 girls and 1 boys) has been adjusted in 2012-13. JS(SCD) advised the other state governments to follow same procedure in the cases where construction of sanctioned hostels was not feasible.

The representative of the state also informed that integrated hostels were being constructed within the premises of the educational institutions. However, the central assistance is being utilized only for the seats earmarked for the SCs.

Maharashtra :

Principal Secretary (Social Justice) informed that the state government was constructing hostels for SCs at taluka level. Out of 42 hostels sanctioned under BJRCY, 34 were completed, 8 were pending.

The representative was asked to furnish the status of construction of all sanctioned hostels and the pending UCs. During 2012-13, proposals were received for construction of 4 girls hostel from the state. The state govt was, however, requested to furnish additional information vide Ministry's letter dated 31.12.13 and reminder dated 16.01.13, which is awaited.

Rajasthan:

Additional Director, Dept of Social Welfare, was informed that their proposal for construction of 5 girls hostel and 2 boys hostel will be processed after receipt of strict time frame

for completion of 30 pending hostels sanctioned more than 2 years ago and submission of pending UCs amounting to Rs 2614.15 lakhs

The state representative promised to furnish the requisite information and pending UCs upto the extent possible within a week's time.

Goa:

Director (Social Welfare) stated that the state had publicized the Scheme but due to low SC population, there has been no response to it.

A (ix) SCHEDULED CASTES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS (SCDCs):

State wise specific issues were discussed as follows:

ISSUES	RESPONSES
<p>Gujarat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Share capital was released last time during 2010-11. • Proposal for 2012-13 received. Central share capital could not be released to the Corporation due to recovery rate being much below the prescribed percentage of 60%. 	<p>State representative was requested to ensure forwarding of pending UCs.</p>
<p>Maharashtra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Central Share capital was released last time during 2006-07. • Request for release of Rs 180.93 crores as central share of equity was received in 10/12. • Documents like share certificate in original in r/o previously released central equity share called for from the Corporation. Incomplete reply received. 	<p>State representative was requested to ensure receipt of complete information and pending UCs.</p>
<p>Rajasthan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Central Share capital was last released during 2005-06. • State govt has not released its share of equity to the SCDC after 2005-06. • Central share capital could not be released to the Corporation due to recovery rate being much below the prescribed percentage of 60%. • SCDC informed that Central share of equity will be released after release of state share of equity by the state. 	<p>State representatives were requested to look into the issue and send reply early.</p>
<p>Goa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share Capital was released last time during 2004-05. • Central equity could not be released to the Corporation due to recovery rate being much below the prescribed percentage of 60%. • Proposal received during 2011-12 was not complete. Corporation was requested to provide complete information and documents vide letter dated 13.12.11 and reminders dated 24.04.12 and 04.10.12. 	<p>Complete information for the previous years is required to be sent by the state along with the proposal for the current year.</p>

B. Backward Classes Development

Joint Secretary (BC) made a Power-Point Presentation covering all the important issues pertaining to the Other Backward Classes in these States. She elaborated the strategy for the empowerment of backward classes being followed by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment through educational, economic and social development and dwelt upon the various schemes for the empowerment of Other Backward Classes with allocation of funds under each of these schemes during the year 2013-14.

B (ii) The following important issues relating to the development of Other Backward Classes were highlighted :

B (ii) i. It was informed that the Budget allocation for the year 2013-14 is Rs. 1,200 crore out of which Rs. 1,100 crore is for the welfare Schemes and Rs. 100 crore for the soft loans through NBCFDC.

B (ii) ii. The notional allocation of funds was already intimated to the States/UTs under the Schemes of Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and construction of OBCs hostels on 1st, 3rd and 15th May 2013 respectively.

B (ii) iii. The States were requested to send their proposals as soon as possible.

B (iii) Subsequently, Scheme wise broad issues, discussed during the session are briefly summarized in the following paragraphs :

B (iv) Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme

B (iv) i. A common refrain was the inadequate scholarship amount disbursed to the States compared to their requirement. It was informed that the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme is 'fund limited' in nature and the total budgetary allocation is Rs.150 crore. In case, at the end of the year, any State does not utilize the allotted funds fully, funds may be diverted to other States.

B (iv) ii. States were requested to send complete proposals by 30th June, 2013 under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme. However, the status of receipt of proposals from the Western States under various schemes was as under:

S.No.	Scheme	States from where proposals received	States from where proposals not received
1.	Pre-Matric Scholarship	Nil	Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan
2.	Construction of Hostels	Nil	Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan

B (v) Construction of Hostel Scheme

- B (v) i.** Joint Secretary (BC) informed that there had been savings under the Scheme on account of lack of proposals from the States, incomplete hostels and consequent non-receipt of Utilisation Certificates from the States. The Ministry was aware of the problems faced by the States both in terms of per seat cost as well as the completion schedule. Therefore, the scheme is proposed to be revised soon and efforts are on to bring the Scheme at par with that of the SCD Scheme of BJRCY.
- B (v) ii.** As the Government of Goa had not availed of the Scheme, Shri Paranjape, Director (Social Welfare), Government of Goa was requested to forward proposals for construction of hostels. Shri Paranjape, however, informed that in spite of their best efforts, demand for construction of hostel is not coming from any university, NGO etc. He, however, assured that the Government would once again try to invite proposals from various organizations concerned for construction of hostels for OBC students in the State.
- B (v) iii.** Shri Sanjay Prasad, Principal Secretary, Government of Gujarat explained that the per seat cost of construction of hostels in Gujarat came to about Rs 6.5 lakh and that their plan estimates had been approved. He was requested to expedite the proposals of hostels and send to this Ministry for immediate processing.
- B (v) iv.** Shri R.D. Shinde, Secretary (Social Welfare), Government of Maharashtra stated that the Government of Maharashtra was more worried about the recurring expenditure of a hostel. Secretary (SJ&E) clarified that if the Government of Maharashtra arranges to construct hostels by itself, Central Government may think over reimbursing the expenditure incurred on the day-to-day running of a hostel. Or, otherwise, Government of Maharashtra may suggest a new formula wherein Central Govt. may reduce funds for capital expenditure and the money thus saved may be used by the State Govt. for the purpose of running of hostels.

B (vi) Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme and Implementation of DBT

- B (vi) i.** Additional Secretary, D/SJ&E elaborated on the concept of notional allocation and committed liability. He also informed that if any State failed to come up with complete proposal against notional allocation, the remaining amount of notional allocation would be diverted to fulfill the demands of other States. The representatives of States were requested to speed up and send complete proposals, Utilization Certificates, posting of information on beneficiaries on their websites.
- B (vi) ii.** All the states were explained the need of disbursement of scholarship to all the beneficiaries through Banks/Post Offices with Aadhar seeded accounts. Representatives of State Governments highlighted difficulties/problems being faced by them in switching to the DBT system. They were, however, assured that problems would be sorted out soon. Additional Secretary, D/O SJE requested all the State Governments to speed up the work related to DBT in their respective States.

B (vi) iii. Shri Sanjay Prasad, Principal Secretary, Government of Gujarat informed that by the end of July the Government of Gujarat will be sending digitized list of all beneficiaries of the scholarship schemes to the Central Government and the MOU would be signed by the end July.

B (vi) iv. Shri R.D. Shinde, Secretary (Social Justice), Government of Maharashtra informed that their data-base is ready and soon the digitized list of the beneficiaries will be sent to the Central Government. He highlighted the fact that the State government's requirement under PMS-OBC was huge and that the Government of India share was insufficient. The State has already approached the Central Government for reimbursement of the expenditure of about Rs 1200 cr that it had spent in excess. On being pointed out that Maharashtra had not adopted the revised PMS-OBC scheme, he stated that it was due to shortage of funds that the scheme could not be adopted in its revised form. He further informed that since there are more than 11 lakh OBC students in the State and funds released by the Central Government under the scholarship schemes is not sufficient. Secretary (SJ&E) clarified that these scholarship schemes are 'fund-limited' in nature and, therefore, if State Government so desires, it may give scholarships to all eligible students from the State funds whenever it goes beyond the Central Government's funding.

B (vi) v. Representatives of Government of Rajasthan informed that they have their own e-application prepared by NIC and that they would be taking the CPSMS route. They would be sending their first list by 15th June.

B (vi) vi. Government of Goa informed that collectors were organizing camps for Aadhaar enrolment in the State and that they could forward the list of beneficiaries of renewal cases by the end of July. However, list of beneficiaries of fresh cases would have to wait till October. Nodal officer had been appointed for the Scheme.

B (vii) Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNT)

B (vii) i. It was explained that the Government was considering some positive interventions for the welfare of DNTs and the Ministry had sought some information in this regard. Information was awaited from Maharashtra.

B (vii) ii. Shri Suwa Lal, Additional Director, Government of Rajasthan explained the difficulties being encountered in making survey of DNT and making a list of such castes. The State Government has, however, constituted a DNT Board. He informed that the State Government of Rajasthan was giving special OBC status to Gujjar community which should also be recognized by the Central Government.

B (vii) iii. Shri Sanjay Prasad, Principal Secretary, Government of Gujarat informed that most of the people covered under DNT have been settled by providing them housing facility in the State. Further, the State Govt. of Gujarat is extending all benefits of the Pre-Matric Scholarship of the Central Govt. to all children of DNT.

B (vii)iv. Shri R.D. Sinde, Secretary (Social Justice), Government of Maharashtra informed that they are giving full scholarships to Vimukta Jati and Bhatakya Jati coming under the DNT.

B (vii) v. Shri Paranjape, Director (Social Welfare), Government of Goa requested that since the two OBC communities, namely, Gawli and Dangar have been changed from OBC to ST by the State Government of Goa, the M/o SJ&E should also change their status accordingly. Secretary (SJ&E) clarified that the State Government should take up the matter with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

B (viii) Issuance of caste certificate

B (viii) i It was informed that Ministry was receiving complaints about the difficulties being faced by the students for issue of caste certificates. States were asked the procedure they were following and the need for removal of bottlenecks, if any.

B (viii) ii. Shri Sanjay Prasad, Principal Secretary, Government of Gujarat informed that the work of issuing caste certificates has been decentralized in the State and these certificates are being issued by the help of computerized centers at Tehsil/Taluka level. A Screening Committee has been constituted for scrutinizing the issue of such certificates and in case a caste is to be added or deleted from the Government List, it makes the necessary recommendations.

B (viii) iii. Additional Secretary (SJ&E) requested Shri Prasad to send a write up on the procedure of issuance of OBC caste certificates in Gujarat.

B (viii) iv Shri R.D. Sinde, Secretary (Social Justice), Government of Maharashtra informed that the work related to issuance of caste certificate is being done at Sub-Division/Taluka level. He informed that for the purpose of jobs, admission to educational institutions, election etc. a candidate invariably needs caste certificate as well as caste validation certificate. The Government of Maharashtra has appointed District-level Committees for scrutinizing and confirming a caste to be included in the OBC List.

B (ix) NATIONAL BACKWARD CLASSES FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Shri A.A. Naqvi, MD, NBCFDC made a Power-Point Presentation. He requested the Government representatives to take necessary action so as recovery of the entire loans are made well in time. The representative of Government of Rajasthan, however,

informed that since the State Government often waives the loan amount given to the farmers, people are generally not inclined to pay back the loan. MD, NBCFDC, however, requested the officers from all the States to convince the borrowers to pay back the loan amount.

Decision Taken

B (x) After discussion, the following decisions were taken –

B (x) i. States/UTs were requested to send the proposals by 30th June, 2013 under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme and Construction of Hostels for OBC boys and girls.

B (x) ii. States/UTs were also requested -

- a. to update the status of payment of scholarships through Banks.
- b. to send the Physical and Financial Progress Report for the year 2011-12 and upload District-wise/Institution-wise list of beneficiaries on the website.
- c. to speed up the work related to DBT in their respective States and sign the MoU.

C. Social Defence

A brief presentation was made on the activities being carried out by Social Defence Bureau of the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment.

- C (ii)** States were informed that Department of Social Justice & Empowerment has instituted Schemes of National Award for the Institution and the Individual working for the welfare of Senior Citizens and also for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. State Governments were requested to send the nominations of suitable organizations/ individuals for the National Award.
- C (iii)** It was stated that proposals from State Governments are received very late and without the required documents. This creates problems in processing and release of funds. Therefore, the State Governments were requested to send the proposals after due diligence and well in time.
- C (iv)** Principal Secretary of the State of Gujarat informed that there are state level and district level Committee for the Senior Citizens for the prevention of beggary and State Government of Gujarat is implementing Beggary Prevention Act of Bombay. He suggested that if a Central Legislature is brought out for the rehabilitation of the beggars it should have provision similar to Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act under which juvenile are sent to children/juvenile home. On the issue of Transgender he stated that efforts should be made for mainstreaming the transgender with the family.
- C (v)** Secretary of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh informed that State is implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. Under the provision of MWPC Act, 2007, 271 cases were registered in the State out of which 143 cases are pending and rest have been disposed off. He further informed that State Government has given State level award for prevention of alcoholism.
- C (vi)** The representative of the State of Maharashtra informed that State is implementing the MWPC Act, 2007 since 2010. State has made its own policy for the Senior Citizens in 2004 which is under revision. He also informed that the information relating to survey on Drug Abuse which was to be provided by 7 of May, 2013 could not be provided in time and the same will now be provided within a week time.

D Concluding the session

Secretary, SJ&E, concluding the session, requested all the State Governments to take necessary step for implementation of Maintenance of Welfare of Parent and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. He also requested that proposal under the scheme of IPOP and Prevention of Drug Abuse should be sent in time, so that NGOs working in the sector can get the financial assistance in time. He informed that the last date for receipt of the nomination for the National Awards for Senior Citizens has been extended upto 21st June 2013 and State Government should send the nomination of outstanding individuals and institutions for the Award. He requested the State

Government of Maharashtra to provide the information required in connection with survey on Drug Abuse within a week time so that survey work is not delayed further.

Meeting ended with the thanks to the chair.

E. Gist of some important decisions taken during the meeting

- All States/UTs should invariably furnish complete proposals in time under various schemes/ programmes being implemented for the welfare of SCs, OBCs, Senior Citizens and victims of drug abuse.
- Under SCA to SCSP, States/UTs were requested to submit the pending UCs, Annual Progress Report of the previous year, Annual Action Plan 2013-14, Report on BPL families etc. immediately
- States/ UTs were requested to submit the report on survey of manual scavengers urgently.
- States/UTs which had been financially assisted under PMAGY should furnish the progress report.
- States/UTs were to submit the UCs along with the present status of construction of hostels under BJRCY.
- States/UTs should fix their committed liability under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme before sending proposals to the Ministry.
- States/UTs must forward the digitized lists of beneficiaries who have been disbursed scholarship amount in 2012-13 under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme to the children of those engaged in 'unclean' occupations.
- State Governments to speed up the work related to DBT in their respective States
- States/UTs to take necessary steps for implementation of Maintenance of Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.
- States/UTs may launch awareness campaign for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse.

Annexure

List of participants of Regional Meeting of State Secretaries of Welfare/Social Justice held on 03-06-2013

I. Officers from the Ministry

Sl. No.	Details of Participants
1.	Sh. Sudhir Bhargava, Secretary
2.	Sh. Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Addl. Secretary
3.	Shri Sanjeev Kumar, JS
4.	Ms. Ghazala Meenai, JS
5.	Shri Shyam Kapoor, JS
6.	Dr. J.C. Sharma, E.A.
7.	Shri Mukat Singh, DDG
8.	Ms. Surekha Sahu, Dir
9.	Shri S.S. Gupta, DS
10.	Shri S.K. Gupta, DS
11.	Ms. Maulishree Pandey, DS
12.	Shri T.V.A. Ram, DS
13.	Shri R.P. Puri, US
14.	Shri A.P. Singh, US
15.	Shri Pramod Chand, US
16.	Shri K.M. Temburney, Assistant Director
17.	Shri R.P. Singh, S.O.
18.	Shri Ashutosh Kr. Agrawal, SO

II. Officers from the organizations of the Ministry and invitees

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6.	NCSC	Shri Lokhan Marandi, Under Secretary		

III. Officers from the States/UTs

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4.	Gujarat	Shri R.G. Trivedi, Director Social Defence	9978405578	rgt123123@gmail.com
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