

1/1/2007 C. Cell

Minutes of the meeting of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes held on 31.1.2007 at 2.00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Commission

A meeting of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes was held on 31.1.2007 at 2.00 P.M. under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Shri Kunwar Singh, Chairperson of the Commission in the Conference Room of the Commission. The meeting was attended by Ven. Lama Lobzang and Shri Buduru Srinivasulu, Members of the Commission. Hon'ble Shri Rajendra Singh Rajukhedi, Vice-Chairman being on tour could not attend the meeting. Smt. Prem Bai Mandavi, Member also could not attend the meeting as she was to proceed on tour to the States of Chhatisgarh and Maharashtra. Shri K.K. Gupta, Secretary, Shri K.N. Singh, Joint Secretary, Shri R.C. Durga, Director, Dr. G.S. Somawat, Director, Regional Office of the Commission at Jaipur, Shri R.P. Meena, PS to Chairman, Shri Sohan Lal, A.D., Shri Tripurari Rai, A.D., Miss P. Syiemileh, A.D. Regional Office of the Commission at Shillong, Shri R.K. Dubey, R.O., Regional Office of the Commission at Bhopal (also incharge of Raipur Regional Office), Shri Balak Ram, R.O. Shri S.P. Meena, R.O., Shri N. Balasubramanian, R.O., Shri S.C. Sharma, S.O. (Admn.) and Shri A.C. Sood, A.D. (O.L.) also attended the meeting. The gist of the decisions taken/points discussed in the meeting are as follows:-

- (i) The Commission reviewed the action taken position with reference to its decisions taken in its meetings held on 20.7. 2006, 10.11.2006 and 20.12.2006. The Commission desired that action on amending the Rules of Procedure of the Commission may be expedited. The Commission was informed that J.S., NCST had not received any suggestions so far from the Hon'ble Members, and officers of the Commission. The officers were requested to send their suggestions to J.S. NCST at the earliest.
- (ii) The Commission noted that there had not been any improvement in the filling up of the vacant posts in the Commission and, therefore, it was decided that a meeting of Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Castes may be convened to ascertain the position regarding action being taken by them to fill up the vacant posts in the Commission.
- (iii) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment may be requested to apprise the Commission of the action taken by them on the minutes of the meeting held on 16.11.2006 in the Conference Hall of NCSC under the Chairmanship of Secretary, NCSC to discuss the encadrement of the Joint Cadre posts in the Indian Statistical Service/Subordinate Statistical Service (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation) and which was attended by Secretary, NCST and officers from both the Commissions and from the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and

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Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The Commission desired that a d.o. letter may be sent to the Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment requesting for early follow up action on the minutes particularly in respect of the creation of a non-functional selection grade to provide for promotional avenues to the Directors and revision of the Recruitment Rules.

- (iv) The names of such officers belonging to the Joint Cadre posts working in the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes who have given their consent for encadrement of the posts being held by them in the Indian Statistical Service/Subordinate Statistical Service may be sent to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the cadre controlling authority of these posts at the earliest requesting them to forward the same along with their no objection to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for necessary action at their end.
- (v) The Commission noted that a number of cases in relation to socio-economic matters had been taken up with the State Govts. and were not being followed up with reminders at regular intervals for getting early replies from them. It was desired that in all such pending cases, the concerned State Govts. may be reminded at specified intervals to expedite their replies.
- (vi) The Commission was informed that a copy of the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of Chhatisgarh at Bilaspur in the case of Ajit Jogi in W.P. No.2080/2001 had been obtained, studied and put up for perusal of the Commission. The Commission desired that the Ministry of Law & Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) may be requested to advise the Commission whether an appeal should be preferred against the judgment in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in regard to the observations of the Hon'ble High Court of Chhatisgarh about the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (vii) The Commission noted that it had held several hearings in the past and the minutes of these hearings had been sent to the respective organizations and in most of the cases, the action taken position on the minutes had not been sent to the Commission. The Commission desired that the concerned organizations should be regularly reminded to expedite the action on the recommendations of the Commission and also apprise the Commission of the same.
- (viii) The Commission noted that the NIC had not yet accorded their clearance to the final draft of the Commission's website. The Commission was informed that the NIC had informed that the website was under third stage of audit and security check and that this process was likely to be completed in the next one or two weeks. The Commission expressed

unhappiness on the inordinate delay being made by NIC in providing the final draft, and desired that NIC may be asked to accord the required clearance within a week and further necessary action taken to get it launched by 15 February, 2007. The Commission also noted that a sum of over Rs.1.64 lakhs had already been paid to NIC as per their demand and they had failed to deliver the goods in time. The Commission desired that in case the final draft is not given to the Commission in a week's time, necessary action should be taken to retrace the steps in this regard and to withdraw the money already paid to NIC.

- (ix) The Commission expressed unhappiness on delay in submission of the minutes of the hearing held in the Chamber of Hon'ble Chairman on 9.1.2007 in case of Smt. D. Nagamani and others and desired that in future it should be ensured that the minutes of the hearings were submitted within a week after the hearing. The Commission also desired that a Committee consisting of Ven. Lama Lobzang and J.S. NCST may enquire into the reasons for delay in putting up the minutes and submit a report in this regard to the Chairman in three days time by Director (RU-III & IV)
- (x) On the issue of creation of data bank on various issues related to Scheduled Tribes, the Commission noted that the requisite information had been received only from five-six States. The Commission desired that the defaulter States may be requested to send the data by 15 February, 2007.
- (xi) As regards office automation and computer networking, the Commission noted that action had been initiated for procuring a server computer for installing it in the Control Room for monitoring the disposal of petitions and that technical proposals along with financial estimates had been invited from reputed companies like HP, HCL, DELL and IBM for developing a suitable software having regard to the Commission's requirements.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.