

TOUR REPORT

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TO THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH

FROM 13.01.2016 TO 16.01.2016.

I have visited Vishakapatnam, Guntur, Amravathi and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh accompanied by Shri Dwarka Karol, Director, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar from 13.01.2016 to 16.01.2016 as per the tour programme communicated vide Wireless Message No.VC/NCST/Tour/2016/1 dated 08.01.2016 to the Government of Andhra Pradesh and conducted review meetings with the Management of Vishakapatnam Steel Plant, Vishakapatnam Port Trust, made field visit and held District Level Review meetings with various District level officials to review the status of developmental programmes meant for the Scheduled Tribes in the State.

13.01.2016

Meeting with the delegates of ST & SC Employees Welfare Association of RINL, Visakhapatnam.

On the same day at 6.00 PM met the delegates of the SC & ST Employees Welfare Association of RINL (Steel Plant), Visakhapatnam. The purpose of meeting was to receive grievances from the ST employees Unions regarding problems faced by them. The following Unions/Associations participated in the meeting and put forth their grievances. The Office bearers of the Association informed that there are 17900 employees in the Steel Plant out of which approximately 2900 belongs to SCs and 1340 belongs to STs. The Association was established in the year 2006 with 15 Office bearers consisting of 10 Members belong to SCs and 5 from ST community.

Representation made by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant SC & ST Employees Welfare Association:

The following grievances were discussed in detail:

1. Protection of 'JO' to 'AE' (2004-2009) batches notional seniority.

The Chairman and Managing Director, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant stated that the Policy for promotion from Non-Executive to Non-unionized supervisory cadre and executive cadre was implemented in the year 1995. During initial years there has been no necessity of providing concessions to SC/ST as every one was getting promoted. In the later years, as the vacancies got reduced it was decided in 2009 to provide concessions to SCs/STs in interview qualifying marks and also in enlarging the zone of consideration of ACRs from 3 years to 5 years. It is not administratively feasible to extend the relaxed standards introduced in 2009 retrospectively, as reopening of such cases now may have serious repercussions with respect to seniority as well as promotions of already promoted executives.

2. Pay fixation for ST Junior Officers promoted in between 01.01.2012 to 30.06.2012.

The CMD stated that Twenty Four (24) employees were promoted to JO grade notionally w.e.f. 30.06.2012. The pay fixation of the 24 employees would result in a situation where senior draw lesser pay. Recently SAIL has issued guidelines vide letter No. PER/EC/1213, Dt. 29.12.2015 to resolve the pay anomaly of the

senior Junior Officers in SAIL plants. Accordingly, a committee has been constituted in RINL to address the issue suitably.

The management of the VSP has been directed to examine the matter and to give the comments to the Commission within a period of three months in this regard.

3. Anomaly in promotion of Junior Officers.
 - The non-executives who were otherwise eligible for Junior Officer promotion as on 30.06.2010 were split into two batches, one batch who were given promotion with effect from 30.06.2010 and other two batches who were given promotion with effect from 30.06.2011 based on the vacancies available to be operated.
 - Management and Association agreed to meet again for discussion in the matter in detail. The non-executives who were otherwise eligible for Junior Officer promotion as on 30.06.2010 were split into two batches, one batch who were given promotion with effect from 30.06.2010 and other two batches who were given promotion with effect from 30.06.2011 based on the vacancies available to be operated.
4. Providing reservation in Displaced Persons (DP) quota and reduce cut off marks for SC/ST candidates.
 - Reservation for SC, ST, OBC and PWD categories is a statutory requirement whereas earmarking posts for displaced persons is non-statutory and based on the executive cadre. As such it is not feasible to give extension of additional relaxation to DP-SC/ST candidates which will give rise to an anomalous situation where non-DP SC & ST candidates with higher marks will get disqualified, whereas DP-SC & ST candidates with less marks will get selected.
 - The Management of RINL has been instructed to give it in writing the same.
5. Representation of SC/STs among contract workers.
 - Private Entrepreneurs are the direct employers of the contract labour in Visakhapatnam. Role of VSP as principal employer is restricted to implementation of statutory provisions by the contractor. In the absence of any mandatory provision, VSP is not in a position to direct the private agencies to engage SC/ST workers. However they are being advised through HODs to induct SCs and STs while engaging contract workers.
6. Implementation of Reservation in Group-A posts.
 - Reservation in promotion in RINL, Visakhapatnam governed by the Presidential Directives. In respect of promotion made by selection within Group-A, there is no reservation except certain concessions which are extended for promotion from Junior Officer(J-0) to Assistant Executive(E-0) to Jr. Manager(E-1) and from Jr. Manager(E-1) till Manager (E-4) rank. Promotions to higher level posts irrespective of category (General/SC/ST) are effected on the basis of availability of vacancies, the need to fill such vacancy and also, availability of eligible candidates in the feeder grade.
 - The matter regarding promotion of one AGM of ST category to the post of DGM was raised by the Association. The management agreed to review the case. Reservation in promotion in RINL, Visakhapatnam governed by the

Presidential Directives. In respect of promotion made by selection within Group-A, there is no reservation except certain concessions which are extended for promotion from Junior Officer (J-0) to Assistant Executive (E-0) to Jr. Manager(E-1) and from Jr. Manager (E-1) till Manager (E-4) rank. Promotions to higher level posts irrespective of category (General/SC/ST) are effected on the basis of availability of vacancy, the need to fill such vacancy and also, availability of eligible candidates in the feeder grade.

- The matter regarding promotion of one AGM of ST category to the post of DGM was raised by the Association. The management agreed to review the case.

7. SC / ST representatives in Performance Review Committee (PRC).

- The constitution of all the Performance Review Committees (PRC) in RINL, Visakhapatnam is position based and these committees are headed by executives at the level of HODs / General Managers / Executive Directors / Functional Directors etc for award of final appraisal rating to the executive concerned as assessed by his / her Reporting Officer and Reviewing Officer during the year under review.

8. Sanctioning of additional budget for construction of association office building.

- The Chairman & Managing Director has submitted that with an amount of Rs.11.6 Lakhs for construction of SC/ST office building was started with three rooms with a plan for extension of vertical and horizontal expansion in future based on the budget availability.

9. Providing coaching facility for SC & ST Non employees.

- Coaching facility has been organized for SC & ST candidates.

10. Extend HBA facility for ST Employees at tribal areas to construct houses.

- Financial institutions and banks are reluctant to extend House Building Loans in tribal areas because of the restrictions imposed by the 'Land Transfer Regulatory Act of 1970' in disposal of the property in case of default payment. As such, as per the request made by the association to revive HBA exclusively for STs, it has been desired and has requested the RINL board to examine the possibility of giving HBA to ST employees. The CMD has stated that the issue will be examined keeping in view various implications.

11. Nomination of SC/ST employees for Foreign Training Programme / Seminars.

- The CMD has stated that under the Presidential Directives, there is a guideline to earmark 25% of seats for officers of SCs and STs wherever possible for institutional training by the PSEs. The same guideline is kept in view while nominating employees for training within training within India and abroad. During the last four years out of total 470 employees sent on foreign training 85 (18%) belong to SC and 34 (7%) belong to ST category. CMD VSP has been directed to issue suitable instructions to the HODs to take care of ST/SC employees while nominating for Foreign Training Programme.

12. Providing a park in the name of freedom fighter Birsa Munda and installation of Statue of Birsa Munda.

Ravi Thakur

शक्ति ठाकुर/RAVI THAKUR
उपाध्यक्ष/Vice Chairperson
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- The CMD has stated that the issue was presented to the Board of Directors. The BOD desired that the matter be examined by external experts. The expert committee opined that VSP management should desist from the practice of raising statues or even providing space for erecting statues. The Board while agreeing to the views of the experts suggested ascertaining the stand of the Govt. of India on the issue which is still awaited.

13. Providing parks in the names of freedom fighters, statues of Gurram Jashuva, Ekalavya, Mother Teresa and Manya Sree Kansiram.

- The Chairman & Managing Director has informed that about 10 statues of great personalities installed so far in Ukkunagaram and management is denying installing the above statues referring the RINL board of Directors decision. The Management was directed to obtain the stand of the Government of India in the matter.

14. Allocation of separate CSR funds to SC & ST Areas.

- The CMD has informed that already building for girls studying college level has been constructed at MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam under the control of Tribal Welfare Department.
- Chairman & Managing Director has been directed to send a list of buildings constructed under CSR funds.

Representation made by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant ST Employees Welfare Association:

The representatives of the Association brought to the notice that in the recent combined elections for SCs and STs, the ST community was deprived of their legitimate rights in not giving any important posts in the Association. As per the oral agreement, ST Association is supposed to get the post of General Secretary or President in the total 5 posts offered in the written agreement / bye laws. The above said procedure was followed in the earlier elections and not followed in the recently conducted election of 2014. As such, the majority of STs were not participated in the voting of the Election held during 2014. As such, they requested for recognition of a Union exclusively for STs to get benefit of their rights.

Chairman & Managing Director, RINL, Visakhapatnam has been directed to submit the comments / action taken report to the Commission and to explain in detail about the service matters and regulations to the SC/ST Unions and also to take necessary action as per guidelines.

(Action: CMD, RINL, Vishakapatanam)

14.01.2016

Review meeting with the Management and SC/ST Welfare Association of Visakhapatnam Port Trust.

Held review meeting with the Management as well as with SC/ST Welfare Association of Vishakapatanam Port Trust on 14.01.2016 at 11.30 AM.

Ravi Thakur

रवि ठाकुर/RAVI THAKUR
उपाध्यक्ष/Vice Chairperson
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At the outset, Shri M. T. Krishna Babu, Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust welcomed the Commission and introduced all the Heads of Department under his control and explained the history, structure, functions, and capabilities of the Visakhapatnam Port through a Power Point Presentation.

The Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust further submitted about the navigational facilities, composition of berths, layout, Iron ore handling facilities, Efficiency parameters, Crude oil & products, Details of Storage units, Development, Geographical significance and other initiatives etc. A question was raised about the Public Private Partnerships of the Port Trust and it has been submitted by them that:

- a) Monitoring by government if everything is privatized – In response, the Chairman, VPT has stated that the Port Trust monitors the efficiency of the private partner through certain output parameters. If there has been any inefficiency noticed penalty would be levied accordingly.
- b) Any parameters for appointment of staff – In response, the Chairman, VPT has stated that the port trust has no control on appointments made by private partners for the works undertaken. However, the personnel appointed are protected by labour laws.

The issue of staff quarter, schools and hospitals facilities being provided by the Port Trust came for discussion and it was submitted that there are 2500 Nos. of Staff Quarters, two Schools for the children of outsiders and one 80-bedded Hospital which is well equipped.

The Chairman, VPT has also informed that around 14000 employees are being provided with pension and medical facility and fund is being maintained for the purpose. Board is with a view to allocate certain amount exclusively for pensioners so that it will not become a burden to port to pay the pension even during financial difficulties.

In the said meeting, the Office Bearers of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust SC & ST Employees Welfare Association submitted the following issues for redressal:

1. Non-Implementation of DOPT ON 36021/9/76-SC, Dt.10.02.1977 and OM No.36011/18/81-ESTT(SCT), Dt.16.07.1981, wherein it has been mentioned that the adequate percentage to be mentioned in each appointment, even daily rated staff also.

The Chairman, VPT informed that 605 pool khalasis were considered only on adhoc basis by giving consolidated pay to the dependants of employees who were retired on the ground of medical invalidation. As there were no ST employees retired on medical invalidation, no appointment were due to STs.

2. The Govt. of India has issued special drive OM No.36038/1/2004-ESTT(RES), Dt.05.08.2004, for filling up of the backlog points(special drive) duly giving cut off date for completion of recruitment process in various categories in all Ministries/Departments.
 - The Chairman VPT has informed that only technical posts were also filled as per guidelines and requirement and for other category posts, the Ministry of Shipping is not agreeing due to financial constraints.

3. Filling up the post of Assistant Foremen Ele/CME-Dept., ST vacancy by eligible ST candidate Shri. Chittibabu, CME Department.

- The Chairman VPT has informed that 7 years required for eligibility of promotion and 1/3rd service relaxation is considered for SC/ST. In spite of relaxation of service, the said candidate is yet to complete the requisite period of service for consideration of promotion.
 - The Association requested the management to consider the SC/ST candidates by giving concessions in terms of educational qualifications and period of experience for getting promotions to higher grades. They also informed that the SC/ST category employees percentage is very low in higher grade posts and requested the Management to take all the necessary action to fill the concerned posts.
 - The Hon'ble Vice Chairman of the Commission advised the VPT Management to work out and implement such actions in filling higher category vacancies and also giving promotions. He also enquired about the special training, nominating for HRD programmes for SC/ST candidates to acquire the necessary skills.
4. Filling up the post of Electrician Grade-I by eligible ST candidate Shri B.Srinuele Grade-II/CME Dept. His Educational Qualifications B.Tech (EEE)
 - The Chairman VPT has informed that there are no vacancies for the said promotion posts.
 5. Filling up of the post of Peon by eligible ST candidate in CE Dept.
 - The Chairman VPT has informed that selection was done and a candidate has been selected, but he has given his unwillingness. The Chairman suggested to prepare a merit list for considering the next eligible person in case of unwilling of first candidate.
 6. Filling up the post of Anti Malaria Jamedar by eligible ST candidate in CMO Dept.
 - The Chairman VPT informed that candidates are not available for filling up the post. The Association requested to consider candidates from other Departments to fill up the above vacancies.
 7. Filling up the post of Senior Assistant ST point by eligible ST candidate immediately.
 8. Filling up of the post of Pool Khalasis by eligible master list candidates.
 9. The Management is not serious about strict implementation of reservation rule in adhoc appointments.
 10. As per extent rules and OM or directive to ban the SC/ST backlog shortfall vacancies.
 11. There are so many cases of harassment, prosecution and victimization of SC/STs which needs serious view against the culprits.

VPT management has been advised to take action on the concerned. It has also been enquired whether any cases are pending / booked under SC/ST atrocities Act. The Chairman, VPT stated that there are no such cases booked under SC / ST

atrocities act. He further informed that an enquiry committee has been constituted to find out the facts about harassment on female employees. The Chairman of the VPT assured that strict action shall be taken after receipt of the committee's report.

12. No Socio Economic fund has been spent for SC/ST since 1998. Requested for allocation of such funds towards taking up activities in SC/ST neighbourhoods.
13. In order to render 100% justice to SC/ST, the union has represented that Trusteeship may be considered for SC/ST persons.
14. Filling up of the post of Mazdoor, TM Department SC backlog vacancy by eligible senior most master list candidates.

The Chairman, VPT informed that this matter shall be taken care off by the Head of Department. He also informed that the representatives of SC/ST Association can approach the concerned establishment sections to see the roster points to clarify their doubts.

15. No progress in implementation of ST point for filling up of the vacancy of Traffic Inspector (Comml.) by eligible ST candidate in Traffic department even-though the Chairman VPT has already given positive response.
The Chairman, VPT assured that the posts will be filled as per prevailing guidelines.
16. Filling up of the post of Driver Gr-I in MCC section/CME Department by eligible ST candidate Shri O.Balaraju against ST reserved vacancy immediately.
The Chairman, VPT stated that the concerned HOD will take up the subject matter.
17. Filling up the post of senior Time keeper BG.Locos section CME department by eligible ST candidate by Shri B.Somanna immediately.
18. Filling up the post of Sr. Dresser ST point by eligible senior most ST candidate Smt. B. Venkata Lakshmi, FNO, CHD/TM Dept., and also grant of MACP increment as she has rendered 20 years of service in the same cadre as sanitary khalasi/FNO.
Chairman, VPT assured that the matter will be examined by the Management.

Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust has been directed to submit a detailed report on all the above issues represented by the SC/ST employees Association.

(Action: Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust)

Meeting with various Associations / Unions in the Platinum Jubilee Guest House Conference Hall, Andhra University on 14.01.2016

On the same day afternoon, met various Associations / Unions in the Platinum Jubilee Guest House Conference Hall, Andhra University, Vishakapatnam.

he following Associations/Unions met the Commission for STs:

1. Joint Association, AU ST Teaching, Non-Teaching staff and students.
2. Dandakaranya Liberation Organization.
3. Hindustan Shipyard SC and ST Employees Welfare Association.
4. AU ST Employees Welfare Association.

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5. ABAVP, Visakhapatnam
 6. AP ST Employees Welfare Association
 7. Contract Residential Teacher union of Ashram Schools Paderu
 8. BHPV ST Employees Welfare Association
 9. BHPV SC & ST Employees Welfare Association
 10. JAC(constituted for opposing bauxite excavation)
 11. Adivasi Reservation Samrakshna Seva Sangham, AP.
 12. AP Girijana Sangham, Visakhapatnam District Committee
 13. CPI(Marxist), Visakhapatnam District Committee
 14. BJP ST Morcha, Greater Visakhapatnam & other representatives from various unions.

Hon'ble MLA, Ms. Paderu addressed the gathering and brought the following issues to the notice of National Commission for STs:

1. Excavation of Bauxite – She has stated that mining bauxite would cause severe environmental problems and also the livelihood of poor tribal would be affected. That the people are being harassed both by Police and Maoists. She has requested to take up the issues with the concerned authorities to stop bauxite mining in the interest of the tribals of the area.

[Action: DGP, Andhra Pradesh]

2. Back log posts were not filled through DSC.
The tribal associations informed that thousands of tribal youth have completed their B.Ed. There are so many vacancies of teaching staff in Schools. Government of AP is not taking timely action to fill up the vacancies. The education of tribal children is under jeopardy due to non filling up of the post of teaching staff.

(Action: Education Department, Government of AP)

3. Contract Residential Teachers working in Ashram Schools requested to hike their salaries, but no action has been taken by the Government.
The representatives have explained that they are working with very less salary and the salary needs to be hiked keeping in view the rise in consumer commodities.
4. Even though the Maoists claimed that they have murdered Shri Sagina Venkataramana, Ex Sarpanch, Jarrela Panchayat of Gudem Kotha Veedhimandal of Visakhapatnam District, at about 100 innocent tribal villagers have been arrested in this connection. The Hon'ble MLA, Ms. Paderu went to the G.K.Veedhi police station accompanied by two local people namely Sri Adapa Vishnumurthy and Sri Ugrangi Prasad and other public representatives in this regard. The two individuals have been retained at the police station for interrogation stating that they will be sent soon after completion of interrogation. But, even after a lapse of 6 days, they were neither released nor produced before the Court of Law and their whereabouts are not revealed even to the MLA, Ms. Paderu.

The issue was discussed with Joint Collector, Visakhapatnam and the Joint Collector has stated that he has spoken to the Superintendent of Police and that about 11 people were presented in the Court and the remaining people would be released soon. Joint Collector was directed to report the status of the whereabouts of the two individuals.

[Action: District Administration & Superintendent Police, Visakhapatnam]

Discussion with the representatives of the Andhra University:

Dr. Venu from Andhra University has addressed the gathering and represented the following issues raised by the Joint Association, AU Schedule Tribe Teaching, non teaching and students:

1. Setting up of ST Commission for AP State.
2. Nominate the name of an ST legislature as Welfare Minister for AP state as the existing ST Welfare Minister does not belong to ST community.
3. Filling up of all the existing ST backlog posts immediately.
4. The ST students pursuing their studies through distance education mode are not getting post matric scholarships from AP Govt. for their course fees since 2005. Whereas, the same Govt. has been paying scholarships to SC students.
5. Andhra University is regularly appointing Assistant Professor (Contract), Guest Faculty and Non teaching staff through 28 days and time scale mode. So for all these recruitments, AU has not followed any ST reservations, even though eligible candidates are available. In this regard, it has been requested to direct the VC, Andhra University to implement reservations in such appointments.
6. Government of Andhra Pradesh has not appointed any faculty Member as Vice Chancellor, Registrars and Executive Council Members to any of the Universities of AP State.
7. Establishment of development council for most backward tribal people living in hill and plain areas of AP.
8. To establish Tribal Central University in tribal area of AP.
9. To establish tribal libraries in all the state and central universities of AP.
10. To establish coaching centre for Civil Services and other allied competitive examinations under each ITDA.
11. To establish Engineering Colleges, Medical Colleges and other post graduate centres in most backward tribal areas like Paderu, Rampachodavaram, etc.
12. To take stringent disciplinary action against officials who are not implementing the tribal schemes and not improving the lives of tribals.

I could see a lot of transparency and brotherhood among the administration and the employees and that the duty of the National Commission for STs is that of a watchdog to see that the policies for benefit and protections of STs are implemented well. He has further stated that the Commission works according to rules and parameters laid down by the Government. If any problem arises, the issues would be brought to the notice of the Govt. through concerned officers.

(Action: VC, Andhra University & State Govt.)

District Level Review Meeting with the Collector and District Magistrate, Visakhapatnam, Superintendent of Police and other District Level Officers:

A review meeting was held with the District Level Officials of the Visakhapatnam in the Collectorate Meeting Hall to know the developmental programmes meant for STs in the District. The following District Level Officers were present during the meeting.

1. Joint Collector, Visakhapatnam
2. Managing Director, GCC, Visakhapatnam
3. Executive Engineer(TW), ITDA, Paderu
4. Deputy Director(TW), ITDA, Paderu
5. APD, NREGS, Paderu



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6. APD, Velugu, Paderu
7. Assistant Project Officer(PVTG), ITDA, Paderu
8. Assistant Director(ADAH), Paderu
9. Executive Engineer(RWS), Paderu
10. ACP, Visakhapatnam City – SC/ST Cell
11. ACP, Urban – SC/ST Cell

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At the outset, Shri J. Nivas, Joint Collector, Visakhapatnam introduced all the District Officers who were attended the meeting. A presentation was given on the developmental activities with regard to ITDA, Paderu on Educational activities, Medical and Health, Coffee project under MNREGS, Agriculture, Horticulture, TRICOR schemes, Skill Development, Engineering works, Integrated Action Plan, PR engineering. Works, SMI works, Rural Water Supply and GCC activities.

I have stated that the Government of Andhra Pradesh should increase the budget in Agriculture and Horticulture Sectors and also should increase subsidy on Seeds and to ensure availability of Seeds.

Shri Ravi Prakash, Managing Director, Girijan Cooperative Corporation through another presentation explained about the activities of GCC and how the tribals are benefitting and protecting the tribals from private middlemen. He narrated about the new Coffee project started by them in the Girijan Cooperative Corporation. He also added that next year the GCC will increase the Minimum Support Price of Forest Products procured through tribals.

I have interacted with all the District Level Officers of various departments and discussed in detail.

Details of dropout students of TW Educational Institutions, infrastructure facilities, drinking water facilities and diseases faced by the children residing in hostels were enquired about. To this, Deputy Director (TW), ITDA, Paderu has stated that dropout students were admitted in the Schools and all the institutions are having toilet blocks with running water supply. Drinking water facilities were provided through Reverse Osmosis plant in 75 Tribal welfare Institutions. Hostellers are facing diseases like anaemia, Malaria. Regular checkups have been done in all Educational Institutions and malaria spraying is done in all institutions. The Medical Officer is checking the boarders once in a month. He further informed that Best Available School(BAS) concept is there with a view to provide quality education in private institutions. The students of different ST sub-castes will be selected through lottery system.

The Deputy Director(TW), ITDA, Paderu stated that the ST students reading in the Educational Institutions are encouraged in sports activities in National Events and government is setting up one Archery Academy in Araku valley of Visakhapatnam District. With a view to provide nutritious food to the boarders residing in hostels, nutritious food is being served to them.

With regard to MGNREGS works, the Assistant Project Director (Velugu) informed that Micro finance loans has been provided through banks, own captive investment, Providing multiple finance from banks, with the World bank assistance providing livelihood project under shrinidhi. Under this scheme any SHG can access through.

With regard to health, the ADMHO has explained that the common diseases prevalent in the agency area are Malaria, anaemia, hypertension and tuberculosis. He

further explained that a regional TB control centre is available in the city of Visakhapatnam. Regarding maternal health, he has stated all PHC are equipped with ambulance support. That in order to reduce home delivery cases, a call centre has been established in the ITDA premises at Paderu. He has further stated that there are about 26 contract doctors working in the hospitals. He further stated that 4 CHCs do not have specialists and that hospitals need drinking water facility.

(Action: District Administration & Health Department, Govt. of AP)

Regarding Agriculture in the agency area, the Assistant Director, Agriculture Dept. has stated that out of the total agricultural land available, 35% of the land is irrigated. He has further explained that 49 big tractors worth 8 lakhs have been given on 50% subsidy and subsidy is also given for other agricultural implements and seeds to aid the farmers. He further stated that trainings are imparted to farmers on a regular basis.

The Deputy Superintendent of Police, SC/ST cells of City and Rural areas have stated the branches function especially for redressal of grievances of SCs/STs and for protection of their rights. They have been directed to send a report on the status of atrocity cases to the Commission.

(Action: Home Department, Govt. of A.P.)

The Executive Engineer (TW), Paderu stated that construction of certain roads is being taken in selected habitations by his office through schemes such as NABARD, IAP, etc.

The Executive Engineer (RWS), Paderu stated that out of 3752 habitations, 40% of them are being covered by drinking water schemes and that 60% of the habitations are not being covered. He has further stated that 76 solar pump sets have been sanctioned out of which 13 were completed with a unit cost of Rs.5.1 lakhs.

The Registrar, Andhra University stated that the University has 90 years of history and that since its inception reservation policy is being implemented by them as per Govt. guidelines.

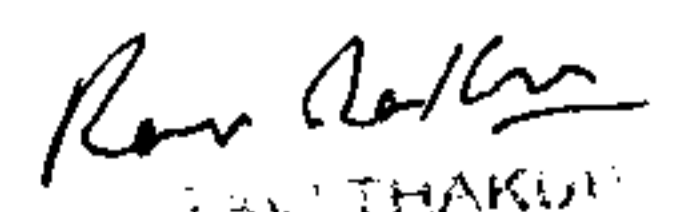
15.01.2016

Meeting with S.T. Association Leaders, S.T. Employees Associations & S.T. people was held on 15.01.2016 in the State Guest House Meeting Hall, Vijayawada:

Several ST Associations & Leaders met me on 15.01.2016 in the State Guest House Meeting Hall, Vijayawada. The District Tribal Welfare Officer Shri Krishna & Assistant Tribal Welfare Officer, Vijayawada were present in the meeting. Addressed all the leaders of ST Associations and wished them on the eve of Pongal Festival. In the said meeting released the Diary of A.P. Vidyut ST Employees Association.

The representatives of Scheduled Tribes Development Welfare Association, Vijayawada requested to provide Skill Development Training Centres for Competitive Exams like Civil, Groups (APSPSC – I,II,IV). The representatives of A.P. Girijana Seva Sangam – requested to fill-up Backlog vacancies and Forest land dwellers (ROFR).

During discussion, it was brought to the notice that due to forming of new State, new Capital is formed. Many people have lost their lands. The Government has issued B-


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Form Pattas 40-50 years back for SC's & ST's for their livelihood. The Government is yet to give the compensation for their lands.

(Action: Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh)

It was brought to the notice that there are two areas in the State i.e., 1.ITDA Area and 2.Non-ITDA Area. The Government is providing lot of funds for ITDA area and not for Non-ITDA area i.e., Plain areas. In Vijayawada Municipal Corporation there are 59 Wards with 2.93% of ST Population but only one ward has allotted for S.Ts for Politics like Corporators, ZPTC's etc., and due importance has not been given by the Government on their representation. The Reservation Policy is not followed by the District Level authorities.

Further, the NSFDC scheme which was implemented in SC & ST Finance Development Corporation previously, has not been implemented for the last 4-5 years. At the state level there is a separate Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation. Similarly for the tribals at the state level TRICOR (Scheduled Tribe Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited, Hyderabad) is there. But the tribal corporation has no separate entity at the district level, on par with SC Corporation and BC Corporation.

During the meeting it was brought to the notice that Banks are not interested to grant loan on the balance of subsidy amount to the tribals (specially in PVTGs) due to their poor economic conditions. Regarding all economic support schemes relating to Bank Linked many Banks are not come forward to give loans. The Association requested to issue guidelines without Bank linked and direct subsidy to the beneficiary.

(Action: Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh)

Shri Shankar Naik, a tribal leader informed that the Government has released lot of funds in the budget and only 6% tribals are living in the State of undivided Andhra Pradesh. There are some ST People who do not know about Government houses, lands and loans. They are not having houses, they are sleeping beside drainages. The DTWO, Krishna, Shri Shiva Prasad informed that the budget is available for subsidy of loans under TRICOR, but the Bank Managers are not interested to give the bank consent.

(Action: Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh)

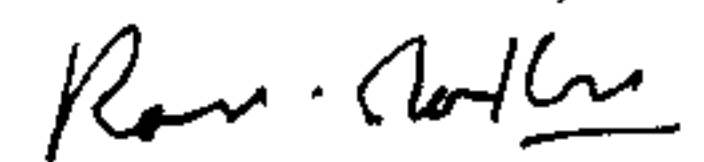
Shri. B. Ramaswamy, a tribal leader brought the following issues before the Commission.

- The ST Corporation has been giving the loans, but the ground work has not been monitored. There are some mediators taking the loans on behalf of intended beneficiaries and demanded to take the necessary action on these mediators.
- The State Government has to release the white paper on release of budget in every 6 months on implementation of funds used from Central and State Governments.

Office bearers of the Associations were directed to give specific representations on their grievances to the Commission. It was assured them that the problems shall be dissolved in a democratic way. The ST Commission is a Constitutional body. All Grievances will be examined and necessary action will be taken accordingly.

A meeting was scheduled on 15.01.2016 at 15.30 hrs. with the District Collector, Commissioner of Police, Vijayawada, Superintendent of Police, Krishna District, Commissioner, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. But the said meeting was not convened by the District Administration. The reasons were not known to the Commission.

(Action: Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh)



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Meeting with the District Officers on the State Level Awareness Programme on Constitutional Rights for SCs & STs held in the Z.P. Meeting Hall, Guntur.

Held meeting with District Level Officers on the State Level Awareness Programme on Constitutional Rights for SCs & STs on 16.01.2016 in the Zila Parishad Meeting Hall, Guntur. The Joint Collector, Guntur introduced the Commission followed by tribal leaders of different Associations. Shri Nuusavathu Vishnu Naik represented as follows:

- The Thandas located at a distance of 4-5 Kms to the Gram Panchayats, the Sugali Thandas may be converted as Gram Panchayats based on the ST population.
- There is no road and safe drinking water facilities to the Sugali Thandas. Further, the Thandas are far away from Developmental Activities provided by the District authorities.
- The rehabilitation measures have not been completed so far at the time of construction of projects i.e. Nagarjuna Sagar (1954) at Pulichintala. They have requested for completion of rehabilitation measures.
- Regarding 'Podu' cultivation for Forest lands there is no rights provided to the Scheduled Tribes. They are provided forest land Pattas to the ineligible ST bogus beneficiaries. The authorities are only providing ROFR Land Pattas based on the satellite imageries. In this regard, the Additional Joint Collector (Joint-Collector-II) Guntur has clarified that the District Administration formed a Committee for regularising the encroachment in forest area and title deeds were issued and regularized for 2570 encroachers nearly 5,500 cents of forest land in Guntur District and issued household pattas to the tribals. There are some bits which are under litigation.
- There is no Scheduled Tribe representative in Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at District Level in Guntur District. The Additional District Magistrate, who is present in the meeting stated that the matter has already been brought to the notice of the Collector.
- Employees belongs to the tribal communities should be posted to the departments where schemes are undertaken for the welfare of the tribals.

The President "Ekalavya Sangham" brought to the notice of the Commission that :

- Land may be allotted for construction of "Girijana Bhavan" at the District Head Quarters.
- Membership be given to STs in SC/ST sub plan committees based on the population. The budget allocation should also be on the population basis.
- The hostel inmates have not provided proper boarding and lodging facilities especially the rice in the lowest cost and quality also not maintained.
- Regarding providing job facilities with false caste certificates the police authorities have not taken action against the offenders and not registering cases.
- The Tribal Sub Plan has not been implemented in a proper way.
- Regarding Bellamkonda Mandal Ramanjaneyapuram Thanda house sites were not regularized and the permission for digging bore wells is not issued by the concerned authorities.
- Regarding the RoFR Act who has the Title Deeds they were allowed for cultivation. They are not allowed the STs for cultivation. i.e., who have not encroached any land in satellite imageries before 2005.



- The ST leaders have stated that regarding construction of "Girijana Bhavan", although funds are available, no site is allotted till date for starting the construction work. It is proposed that near Inspection Bungalow 27 cents Z.P. land is available and the same can be allotted for Girijan Bhawan.
- In Piduguralla Mandal Seetharam Puram Thanda the Scheduled Tribes living with their families years together, have not been regularised by the Government till date.
- In Guntur Municipal Corporation area Mutyala Reddy Nagar nearly 105 S.T. families were living and the authorities are not giving house site pattas to these families.
- In Kondaveedu village of Yedlapadu (Md) Guntur District, the land encroached by STs previously is at present in the possession of non-tribals. They demanded to vacate the said land and restore it to the tribals.
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(Action: Collector & Dist.Magistrate,Guntur)

Sri Nakka Venkateswarlu, Girijanalkya Vedika, Guntur stated that in Guntur District the Scheduled Tribes population in 57 Mandals is highest in comparison to the other districts. But the problem is that most of the Tribals have not at least the 'AADHAAR' cards. Due to this problem the developmental schemes which were provided by the Government officials were not reached the Scheduled Tribes for which they have suffered. They have requested the Commission to issue instruction to the Collector & District Magistrate to conduct every month review meeting on the issues for solving of various problems especially pertaining to the Scheduled Tribes. In addition, the following points were raised in the meeting by the participants.

- The Toilets and Bathrooms are not sufficient in Tribal Hostels and requested for construction of additional toilets and bathrooms for inmates in every hostel.
- In Sattenapalli municipal area, the tribals have not provided the house site pattas for "CHENCHU FAMILIES".
- Rule of reservation was not implemented in all Government departments and requested for taking necessary action for implementing the rule of reservation in all departments functioning in this District.

The Additional Joint Collector (Joint Collector-II), who was present in the meeting, stated that the issues / problems will be perused as per the instructions issued by the Commission for Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi. It has been stated by me that we are living in a democratic country and Government makes rules and regulations accordingly and has also informed the participants about the grievance redressal mechanism followed by the Commission.

The Collector and District Magistrates of the respective districts are required to be present in the meeting with the Commission. But in the tour of the Commission, no Collectors attended the meetings which has been viewed seriously by the Commission.

(Action: Chief Secretary, Government of AP)

Ravi Thakur

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