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National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Tour report of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi to Prakasham District to review the implementation of Constitutional Safeguards, Welfare and Development Schemes for Scheduled Tribes on 28th and 29th September 2024

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Tour report of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi to Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh to review the implementation of Constitutional Safeguards, Welfare and Development Schemes for Scheduled Tribes on 28th and 29th September 2024

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is a constitutional body set up under Article 338A of the Constitution of India to investigate and monitor all matter relating to protection, welfare and socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes in the country. As per constitutional provisions, the Union and every State Govt. shall consult the Commission on all major policy of decisions affecting Scheduled Tribes. The Commission is required to present to the Hon'ble President of India reports upon working of those safeguards and all such reports are to be laid before each House of Parliament along with Memorandum explaining the Action Taken or propose to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non- acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

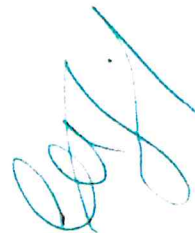
2. In pursuance of the above constitutional mandate, Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes accompanied by Dr P Kalyan Reddy, Director, NCST, Shri Ashok Lakkarasu, PS to Hon'ble Member (JH) visited Residential school for Boys at Chimakurthy to understand the issues of TW Ashram schools, The Nakkala Colony at Koppulu and Yanadi Colony at Rangayapalem and met with local ST Associations and District Officials with a view to understand the issues faced by them in order to evaluate the working of constitutional safeguards available to the Scheduled Tribes and review implementation of various constitutional safeguards and other developmental schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes.

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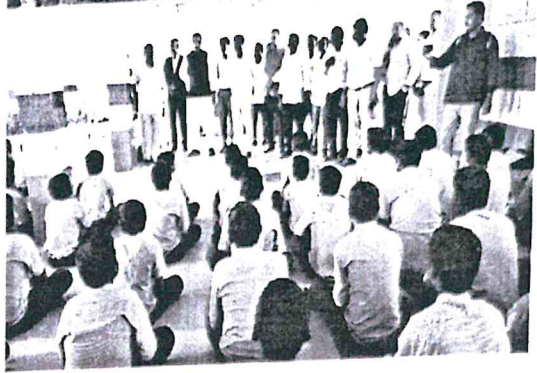
28.9.2024-9.30 AM

3. The Commission has made the following observations in Hostel Converted to Residential school at Chimakurthy

- i. The Bathrooms are without doors, The Principal was asked to make necessary arrangements till the completion of new building.
- ii. It is advised to expedite the completion of the building sanctioned under Article 275(1) and release the bills in time for the quick completion.
- iii. The pending allocation of 5 acre land for the ground to be pursued. Mean while the available space in the school premises may be cleared , leveled and courts may be laid.
- iv. The PGT Posts are not sanctioned yet though the school is a Hostel converted to Residential school way back in 2016. The new PGT Posts to be sanctioned immediately.
- v. The science lab, computer lab and basic infrastructure in the classrooms to be provided.
- vi. The Hon'ble member has suggested the teachers and children to converse in English so that they gain confidence and compete in the present day competitive world
- vii. The transfer of principals frequently may be avoided for a hold on administration of the school
- viii. Staff quarters to be constructed and separate warden and watchman to be appointed.
- ix. As still the sanctioned seats are unfilled it is suggested that if whom so ever the poor children from which ever community approaches the school for seat, it shall not be denied and admission may be provided.
- x. It is suggested that children may be encouraged with cultural programmes like Dance, singing and elocution and a inspiring movie may be shown to them in the weekends.



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28.9.2024-11.00 AM

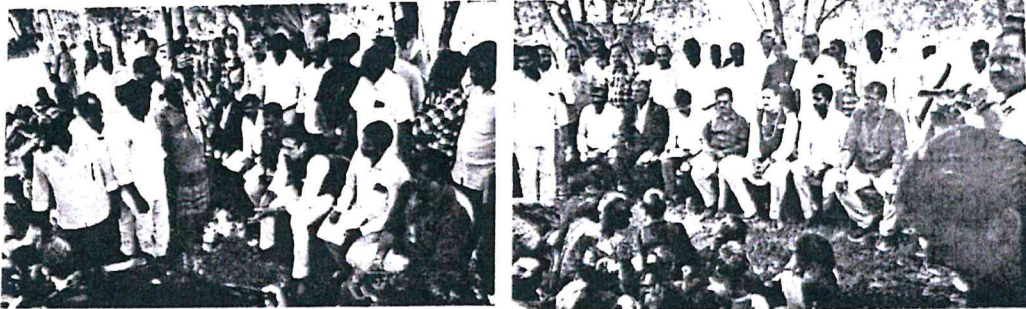
4. The Commission has made the following observations in Nakkala Colony at Koppulu

- i. The Bathrooms are without doors, The Principal was asked to make necessary arrangements till the completion of new building.
- ii. The 3 acres of land was allocated to 55 Nakkala Families in 2008(2.5 cents/125 yards each) and it is in the low lying area frequently flooded. The Nakkalas informed that they tried to level it however their shelters got inundated and so they moved to temporary makeshift tents near Bustand.
- iii. The Governments have promised that Houses will be constructed for them but they are still pending. Meanwhile their pattas are lying with the Nyaya Seva Samithi. There is an ambiguity of jurisdiction between Kothapatnam GP and Ongole Municipality and that needs to be cleared immediately.
- iv. Their traditional occupation is monkey playing, selling combs, clips, beads etc, which is now a days not viable to eke livelihood and sustain the family. Hence it is suggested that alternative sources of livelihood to be explored. The

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Municipal commissioner has agreed to position 15 adults as sanitation workers. The RDO and other officeres have also been requested to show them alternative sources of livelihood.

- v. The Hon'ble member has suggested to keep themselves clean and shed some of the habits like drinking and chewing tobacco so that the employers trust them and provide employment.
- vi. The Nakkalas expressed that their children were denied admission in the schools due to the cultural issues. The DTWO has agreed to setup a Government Primary school at the vacant shop premises in the Bustand Road for inculcating the Habit of schooling for a beginning.
- vii. The Women have expressed their helplessness due to the unavailability of permanent residence and the Liquor shops and urinals beside their temporary shelters.
- viii. The widows, old aged and the Handicapped were not being provided pensions. It is instructed to RDO, MRO and Panchayat Secretary to immediately make a survey among Nakkalas of Koppulu and ensure social support of pensions.
- ix. The Local MLA has assured that the same land will be leveled, flood walls will be constructed and drains will be made as the airport is coming up near to the place allocated to Nakkalas and the landprices may drastically raise. Besides He also assured that Houses will be constructed for them in a years time. The District Collector was suggested to visit the site along with the concerned officials.
- x. The DTWO is requested to facilitate them to avail loans from the TRICOR.



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28.9.2024-1.00 PM

5. The Commission has made the following observations in Yanadi Colony at Rangayapalem

- i. There are about 7000 Yanadi families in the Mandal. Most of them are Poor. They are Denotified Tribes with stigma attached to the community
- ii. The Yanadis depend on the Buckingham canal constructed by the Britishers for a long time for Fishing. It is their source of livelihood. However they were not issued licenses. Survey to be done and ST Fishing Associations to be constituted and membership and licenses to be issued after skill tests. Insurance facility to be provided to the Yanadi Fisherman
- iii. Some of the villages have more than 500 Households of Yanadis but they were not declared as Gram Panchayats as they were not exclusive settlements. Such villages shall be declared as Gram Panchayats as it will propel the development process and fund flow.
- iv. Educated Youth to be provided employment. There is 13000 acres of Government land which can be districuted to the landless Yanadi families for eking livelihood.
- v. The issuance of Aadhar cards without Date of Birth certificates to be pursued or some mechanism needs to be devised as many of the poor Yanadis do not have Aadhars
- vi. Loans to be given by the TRICOR for purchase of the Electric Battery based two wheeler vehicles for transport of fishes, iceboxes, nets
- vii. The Land conversion issues to be resolved for the poor Yanadis to avail Rythubarosa like schemes etc.,
- viii. Basic infrastructure, Drinking water supply in the Yanadi Habitations to be provided.

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- ix. It is informed by the community members that each family has a graduate and backlog posts in the Government shall be filled on priority basis.



28.9.2024-4.00 PM

6. The Commission has made the following observations during the meeting with Bankers

- i. The Banking Institutions shall be user friendly like the Private Banks and be available for the customers round the clock.
- ii. Bankers shall provide the information of the loans disbursed in the last 5 years.
- iii. The Bankers shall provide the loans without any collateral security.
- iv. The Bankers shall be proactive in creating awareness on GoI Schemes like MUDRA scheme and provide the loans to the ST entrepreneurs.
- v. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds of the Banks shall be spent in ST Habitations and for ST Beneficiaries.

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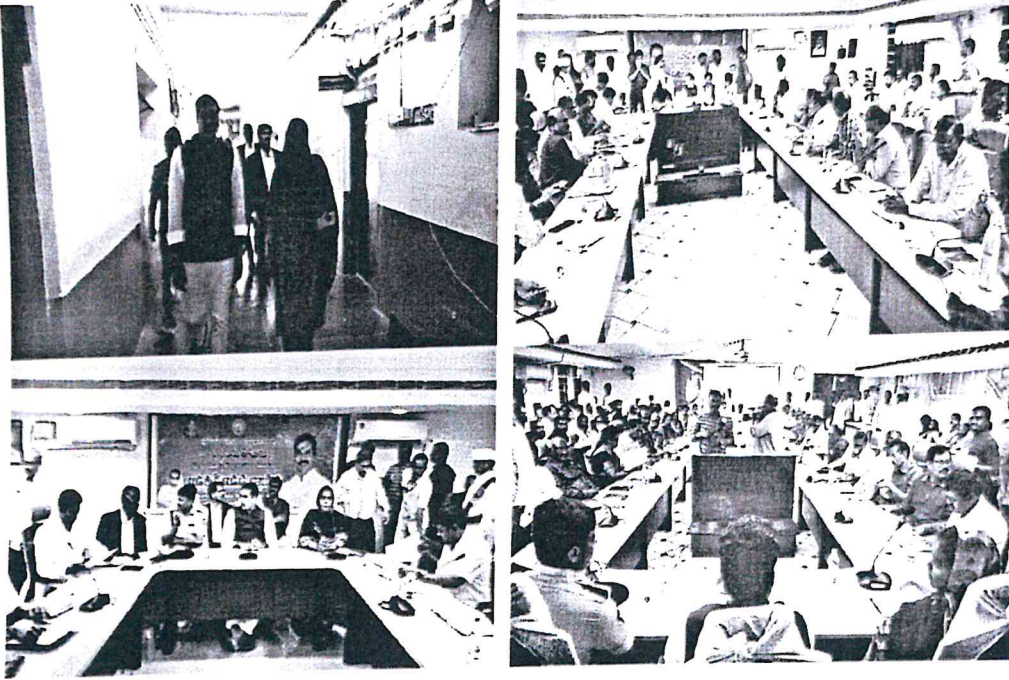
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7. The Commission has made the following observations during the District Level Review Meeting with the District Officers

- i. The RDOs, MROs, DTWO, DSWO shall visit the Schools and Hostels frequently to ensure that they are properly maintained. All the pending works in Schools to be completed and Bills to be expedited with Finance Department.
- ii. The Forest Revenue Joint surveys to be done in disputed tracts of Forests and Rights to be conferred to all genuine cultivators under FRA. It is reported by some of the Sugalis that the devotees of Sevalal Maharaj temple are denied entry. No Temple shall be destroyed. The DFO shall not harass the Scheduled Tribes.
- iii. All the works sanctioned under PM JANMAN Scheme in PvTG Chenchu habitations shall be completed swiftly
- iv. The issue of the Nakkala colony to be resolved at the earliest and the District Collector shall visit the site along with the officers concerned.
- v. The Yerukulas in Bestavaripeta are denied entry into the Forests in Giddalur range in the name of Tiger Zone, Their alternative source of livelihood like raising ducks to be assisted.

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- vi. All the Atrocity cases shall be sanctioned relief in time and the framing of chargesheets and convictions to be made in time.
- vii. All the issues of Bogus caste certificates shall be dealt scrupulously and all those responsible for the issuance of such certificates shall be punished and DLSC Meetings shall be convened on regular basis for the disposal of pending cases relating to the fake caste certificates.
- viii. The issue of provision of 3 Phase electricity for the Chenchu habitations to be expedited.
- ix. The issue of the irrigation and water supply through Borewell in the FRA lands to be examined.

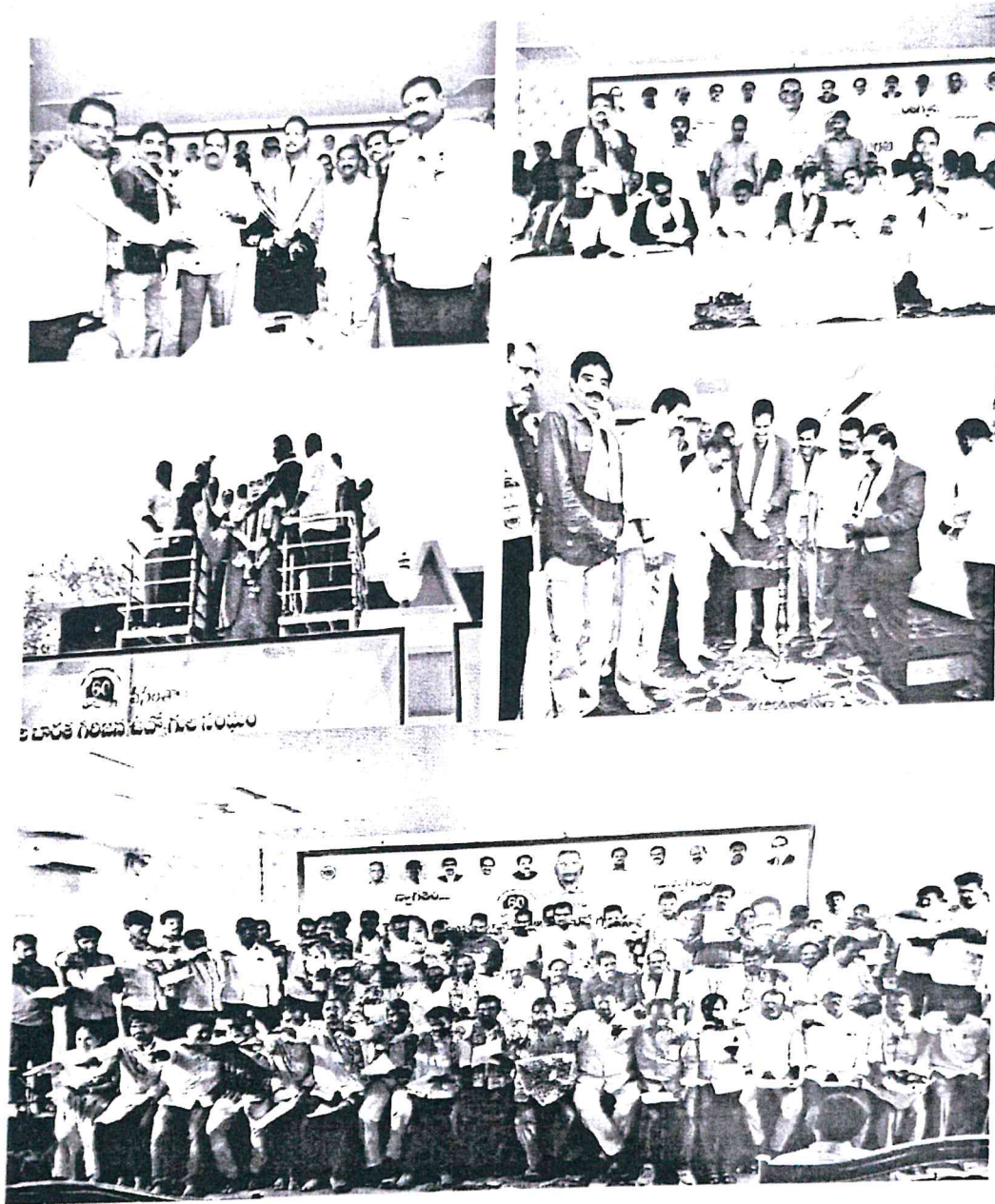


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8. The Commission has made the following observations during the Meeting with ST Associations during the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of All India ST Employees Association.

- i. All the ST Associations shall be proactive in protecting their constitutional safeguards and shall be unitedly organized.

- ii. The issues of grievances if any shall be brought to the notice of the NCST through ncstgrams.gov.in
- iii. The Office bearers of ST Association were made to take oath to be faithful and protect the safeguards of the Scheduled Tribes.



9. The Commission desires that the Secretary, Tribal Welfare, Director, Tribal Welfare and District Collector should dispose off the grievances highlighted by the ST population in a time bound manner. The NCST will continue to and

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provide support District administration in addressing these challenges.

10. Action Taken Report on the above may be furnished within 30 days of receipt of the Minutes of the Commission.



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