

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
GLNS COMPLEX, DELHI GATE
NEW DELHI-110002
[ADMINISTRATION BRANCH]

F.No. 10(335)/Admn-I/2016/DSW/Estt/Pt-I/16012-16072

Dated:

20 JAN 2021

CIRCULAR

Sub: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of letter D.O. No.7/31/Quarterly DO/2021/ESDW-Delhi dated 06/01/2021 issued by Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India regarding Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs.

[Signature]
19/01/2021
Section Officer (Admn II)

Encl: As above.

To

✓ Sr. System Analyst, DSW for uploading the circular on the Department website.

F.No. 10(335)/Admn-I/2016/DSW/Estt/Pt-I/16012-16072

Dated:

20 JAN 2021

Copy for information to:

- PA to Secretary (SW), GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- PA to Director (SW), GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- All DDs / DSWOs/DDO/HOO/Supdt./In-charge of Homes/ Institutions/ Schools.
- Guard File.

[Signature]
Section Officer (Admn II)

475/CC
20/1/21

Fwd: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs

From : Secy(SW&WCD) <pssw@nic.in>

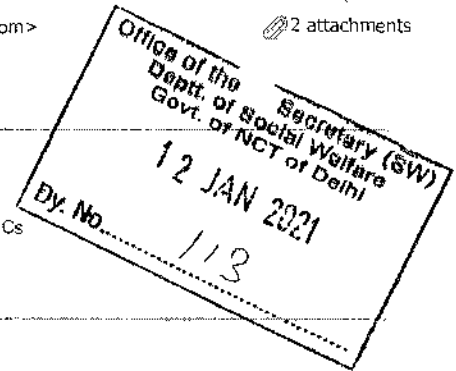
Mon, Jan 11, 2021 05:56 PM

Subject : Fwd: Quarterly DD letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs
To : dsw <dsw@nic.in>, DD Admn-II SW <ddadmn2@gmail.com>, DD Admin-I SW <dswadmn1@gmail.com>

Print

2 attachments

From: "Shri Vijay Kumar Dev" <csdelhi@nic.in>
To: "Secy(SW&WCD)" <pssw@nic.in>
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 5:48:57 PM
Subject: Fwd: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs

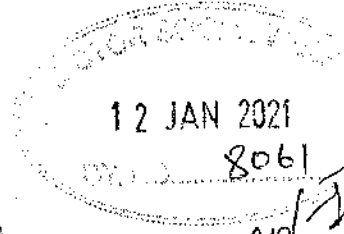


From: "Secretary NCSC" <secretary-ncsc@nic.in>
To: "Shri Vijay Kumar Dev" <csdelhi@nic.in>, "dsw" <dsw@nic.in>
Cc: "Smita Chaudhri" <chaudhuriss@cag.gov.in>, "Kanhaiya Chaudhary Director" <kanhaiya.icar@nic.in>, "CS Verma" <cs.verma70@gov.in>, "Ajit Kumar" <ajit.sahu61@gov.in>, "Kaushal Kumar" <dirhq-ncsc@gov.in>, "Kishan Chand" <kishan.chand68@nic.in>, "Biswajit Saha" <biswajit.saha18@nic.in>, "Kiran Jolly" <kiran.jolly@nic.in>
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 5:38:20 PM
Subject: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs

Sir
Please find attached DO letter from Secretary NCSC to Chief Secretary and Secretary Deptt. of Social Welfare govt. of Delhi.

Thanks,

Kiran Jolly
Sr. PPS



DSIS

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[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
D.D (Admn)

Quarterly D.D Letter to Secretary, Social Welfare Dept. Govt. of NCT Delhi_0001.pdf
6 MB

Quarterly D.o letter to Chief Secretary, social Welfare Dept. Govt. of NCT Delhi_0001.pdf
6 MB

From : Shri Vijay Kumar Dev <csdelhi@nic.in>

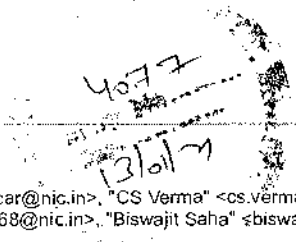
Mon, Jan 11, 2021 05:51 PM

Subject : Fwd: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs
To : Secy(SW&WCD) <pssw@nic.in>

Print

2 attachments

From: "Secretary NCSC" <secretary-ncsc@nic.in>
To: "Shri Vijay Kumar Dev" <csdelhi@nic.in>, "dsw" <dsw@nic.in>
Cc: "Smita Chaudhri" <chaudhuriss@cag.gov.in>, "Kanhaiya Chaudhary Director" <kanhaiya.icar@nic.in>, "CS Verma" <cs.verma70@gov.in>, "Ajit Kumar" <ajit.sahu61@gov.in>, "Kaushal Kumar" <dirhq-ncsc@gov.in>, "Kishan Chand" <kishan.chand68@nic.in>, "Biswajit Saha" <biswajit.saha18@nic.in>, "Kiran Jolly" <kiran.jolly@nic.in>
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 5:38:20 PM
Subject: Quarterly DO letter from Secretary NCSC reg. follow up of various matters for the safeguard of SCs



Sir
Please find attached DO letter from Secretary NCSC to Chief Secretary and Secretary Deptt. of Social Welfare govt. of Delhi.

Thanks,



शुशील कुमार, भा.प्र.से.
सचिव
SUSHIL KUMAR, IAS
Secretary

भारत सरकार
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग
सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Government of India
National Commission for Scheduled Castes
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

D.O. No.7/31/Quarterly DO/2021/ESDW-Delhi

Dated 6th January, 2021

Dear

As you are aware, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) was set up under Article 338 of the Constitution of India and it has a very broad framework including power to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards and to inquire into specific complaints with respect to deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Castes. The Commission has been following up on several matters with the State Governments and some of these are stated below:

Complaints and their redressal

The NCSC in the past, had taken up number of complaints/cases regarding delay in investigation and filling of chargesheets, non-payment or delay in payment of compensation/relief amount and additional assistance within the stipulated time period as prescribed under the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 (as amended) in respect of heinous crime like murder, rape/gangrape, delay/non-payment of scholarships, land matters, grievances related to appointment, promotion and harassment in service. All such cases were forwarded to the concerned authorities for sending action taken report in the matter.

The number of pending cases for your State is not readily available with this Commission and is under compilation. At your end, you are also requested to compile the list and forward the same to this Commission.

Therefore, I would like to seek your indulgence in the matter so that necessary instructions/directions may be issued to all the concerned officials to take speedy action within specified timelines, because it is observed that despite repeated reminders the concerned officials, District officials and Police officials have failed to submit the action taken report to the Commission. On account of this, the Commission faces constraints in providing specific details to the Govt. of India and the Parliament.

Cases pending for trials

The NCRB has indicated that the SCs comprise disproportionate percentages in respect of cases pending trials- which is at present 1,91,448 (Reference: Table 7A.6 page 4 Crime in India, 2019 Vol. II). At times, many undertrials continue to be confined even though the maximum punishment period prescribed is already undergone by them.

Page 1 of 5

The position may be reviewed at the State level meetings for corrective action and the status in respect of the SCs may be informed to the Commission for taking up the matter with the concerned.

Sanitation

The Govt. of India is seeking commitment of the States to mechanise all sewer and septic tank operations by April 30, 2021 for which the State Govt. might have received direct communication. A copy of the Press Release issued by the PIB in this regard on November 19, 2020 is enclosed for information. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MSJ&E) is also seeking to amend the law to make mechanisation of septic tanks and sewer lines mandatory.

The Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, has also sent a DO letter to the Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories on August 21, 2020 to have the status of elimination of manual scavenging ascertained from all the Districts in the State and confirm the status by September 20, 2020. A copy of the DO letter is enclosed.

It is reported that about 774 people died in last 26 years while cleaning tanks (*Annual Report NCSK 2018-19, page 50-51*). The Hon'ble Supreme Court had also directed for payment of monetary compensation of Rs.10 lakh for persons who died in sewage work since 1993. It is advised that the pending payments be made as early as possible. The status of such deaths and the payment of compensation to the victims please be updated to the Commission, so that the position is conveyed to the Courts when needed. The details of skill training provided to such persons should also be provided to the Commission.

In addition, the Govt. of India rules also provide for One Time Cash Assistance (OTCA) to all identified manual scavengers for rehabilitation. The details of extension of such assistance please be provided to the Commission.

Preference in Public Procurement

The Govt. of India has approved a policy wherein 4% out of 25% target of annual procurement, earmarked for procurement from MSMEs owned by SC/ST entrepreneurs, shall be done. But details indicate that procurement is way below the stipulated provisions. The State Govt. is requested to review the mechanism so that the policy is fully given effect to. The Commission has also taken up the matter with the MSME and the letter written in this regard is enclosed.

Entrepreneurial Support

The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Haryana have recently announced newer policy measures to buttress earlier policy to promote business efforts of the SCs. Similar interventions, if any, may please be intimated. The State

Government is requested to consider the policy initiatives of these two Governments, if found suitable. The State Govt. is also requested to share some best practices that can be shared with other States.

The NCSC has also written to the Department of Financial Services, M/o Finance, Govt. of India, to ensure that prescribed percentage in disbursement of loans for the SCs is maintained. It is requested that this item is discussed in the District/State Level Bankers Committees as well.

Education

The education details indicate that the literacy rate of SC in your State is not at par with the national average which is 73% as per 2011 Census. Same is the case of SC women which is 56.5% as against female literacy rate at national level which is 64.6% according to the Census 2011. Similarly, the Gross Enrolment Rate of SC in Higher Education is 19.9 as against 24.5 for all categories. The GER for SC women is only 19.01 against 23.5 for female at national level. The dropout rate also of SC students at secondary level is 19.36% against 17.06% at national level. The State Govt. may like to address this situation and take corrective action.

Further, you may be aware that some gross irregularities in disbursement of scholarships for SC students have come to notice and for addressing these, the Ministry of SJ&E, Govt. of India has recently issued advisory in this regard including mandatory Aadhar seeding, verification etc. One is sure that the State Govt. is taking corrective action in this regard.

The issue of filling the backlog vacancies for the SCs specially for the College and University Teachers should also be reviewed and necessary steps be taken.

Health

A comparison of national percentage vis-à-vis that of SC population in terms of various important health parameters shows that the SC population is lagging behind. For instance, where the Infant Mortality Rate for General population is 46.6 per 1000 live births, it is 55.8% per 1000 live births in case of SCs. Similarly, life expectancy at birth for General population is 68.0 years whereas in the case of SCs it is 63.1 years.

In addition to above, another important area of concern is Institutional Deliveries. The studies reveal that socio-cultural factors (such as education, caste, religion, wealth index, status among women etc.) and empowerment factors (such as household decision making, physical mobility and access to economic resources) play a very important role to determine the place of delivery. The SC population in general and SC women in particular are at a disadvantage on account of this and consequently the likelihood of institutional and safe delivery is less compared to other categories. A direct effect of this is high maternal mortality rate amongst SC women as compared to other

categories. Action in this regard may be informed to the Commission for its record and reference.

Miscellaneous :

It has been estimated reportedly by a study that the total budget provision for SCSP was Rs.83,257 crore in the 2020-21 budget. Although the plan and sub-plan components of the budget were merged in 2017-18, ministries are still required to spend a certain percentage; at least half of the share of SCs (8.3%) in population, of their expenditure on central sector and centrally sponsored schemes on the welfare of SCs. An analysis of most SCSP and TSP schemes (comprising 83% of total such allocation) in the 2020-21 Union Budget by the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR), a non-governmental organization, identified only 34% of the amount as being allocated to schemes that benefit the SC and ST communities directly.

In the last five years, the total spending under SCSP has risen from 2.8% to 4.5% of the size of the budget, although figures for 2019-20 and 2020-21 could be revised downwards. In 2020-21, just eight ministries, viz., education, rural development, health and family welfare, and agriculture and farmers welfare, out of the 33 which allocated money under these plans, accounted for 80% of the total spending.

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2018-19 estimates that 263.9 million households in India, of which 51.8 million and 23.5 million are SC-ST households respectively. This analysis excludes 13% of the households across all social groups that didn't have an employed and earning household member, and any income households might have from sources other than wages – such as rent or interest on investments. This Commission doesn't have State-wise data on number of SC households, therefore, this information may be provided.

It is also requested to indicate whether all the SC households have opened the Jan Dhan accounts and extent of coverage of insurances like Personal Accident needs shared with the Commission.

This Commission would also like the State Government Human Development Reports with separate details for the SCs and updated reports, if available, sent to the Commission for reference and record.

The extent of coverage of SC households under MNREGA, PMAY, Ayushman Bharat, electrification of villages, distribution of LEDs, village connectivity roads, drinking water, ICDS please also be shared with the Commission.

The Commission is keen to undertake research and evaluation studies with reputed institutions of the State or the country so that implementation of various schemes and other socio-economic interventions could be assessed in terms of efficient delivery to the targeted beneficiaries and meeting the intended developmental objectives. The State Government is also requested to provide copies of action

research thus undertaken on the subject of SCs for reference and record of this Commission.

The State may be aware of the decision of the Maharashtra Govt. to drop caste indicated words from the names of the colonies. Similarly, the Rajasthan Govt. has decided to delete the epithet "Harijan" from 76 schools. The Andhra Pradesh Govt. has decided to rename 480 caste tinged nomenclatures of the colonies in the Anantpur district. This is for your information and taking appropriate action as deemed acceptable at your end.

To enable the NCSC to review progress every quarter and to compile a comprehensive data base vis-a-vis the action being taken by the State towards Socio-Economic Development of Scheduled Castes, Prevention of Atrocities against Scheduled Castes & Service Safeguards provided to Scheduled Castes, the Commission is developing a database in consultation with Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG), Gujarat. Any suggestions to design a comprehensive database are welcomed.

It is also requested that the issues flagged in this letter can be made as a separate agenda item for the State level meetings chaired by the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police as well as DMs and SPs.

Encl. : As Above


Yours sincerely,


(Sushil Kumar)

Shri Vijay Kumar Dev
Chief Secretary
Govt. of NCT Delhi
5th Level, A Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate
New Delhi- 110002

Copy to :

✓ Mrs. Rashmi Singh
Secretary
Social Welfare Department
Govt. of NCT Delhi
GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate
Delhi - 110002.


(Sushil Kumar)

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri launches Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge across 243 Cities

Challenge to Prevent Hazardous Cleaning of Sewers and Septic Tanks

Mechanized Cleaning to be Promoted

On-Ground Assessment of Cities in May 2021 and Results on Independence Day

World Toilet Day Celebrated

Posted On: 19 NOV 2020 3:58PM by PIB Delhi

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, MoS, I/C, Housing and Urban Affairs today stated that Government of India is committed to ensure that no person needs to enter a sewer or septic tank, unless absolutely unavoidable in the interest of greater public hygiene. Launching the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge at a webinar in New Delhi, he added that within this context we are today setting another milestone by launching the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge which aims to ensure that no life of any sewer or septic tank cleaner is ever lost again owing to the issue of 'hazardous cleaning'. He further said that this is in line with our Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision who has always placed the safety and dignity of sanitation workers at the core of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U).

The Challenge, aptly launched on the occasion of World Toilet Day, is aimed at preventing 'hazardous cleaning' of sewers and septic tanks and promote their mechanized cleaning. The virtual event saw the Chief Secretaries, State Mission Directors and other senior State/ Union Territory and city officials coming together to take a pledge on behalf of 243 cities to mechanize all sewer and septic tank cleaning operations by 30th April 2021, and gave their commitment to work towards preventing any deaths from hazardous entry. The Webinar was also attended by Secretaries of Ministry of Social Justice, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, who spoke about how their Ministries were contributing to the cause of mechanizing such cleaning practices.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Puri said, "The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act (2013) and various judgements of Hon'ble Supreme Court expressly prohibit hazardous cleaning, i.e. manual entry into a septic tank or sewer without protective gear and

observing operating procedures. Despite this, recurring episodes of human fatalities among those engaged in cleaning of septic tanks and sewers, typically belonging to the economically disadvantaged and marginalized communities of society, continue to be an issue of concern." Shri Puri highlighted that the success of the challenge does not only depend on the intent and commitment of political representatives, bureaucrats or Municipal authorities but also on the citizens of the country. He added that just like citizens have taken complete ownership of the Swachhata of their cities, their involvement in this endeavor is absolutely crucial. He appealed to everyone to be vigilant and responsible and play their part in saving the lives of the Sanitation or Swachhata Commandos.

Explaining the contours of the Challenge, Shri Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, MoHUA said "The Challenge will focus extensively on creating citizen awareness on this critical issue along with infrastructure creation for mechanized cleaning and capacity building of workforce. Along with this, a dedicated helpline number has been set up to register complaints and provide real-time solutions on desludging or sewer overflow. The actual on-ground assessment of participating cities will be conducted in May 2021 by an independent agency and results of the same will be declared on 15 August 2021." Cities will be awarded in three sub-categories - with population of more than 10 lakhs, 3-10 lakhs and upto 3 lakhs, with a total prize money of Rs 52 crores to be given to winning cities across all categories.

The event saw the launch of a series of advisories prepared by Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), MoHUA. These included a 'Training Module for Sanitary Workers on Cleaning of Sewer and Septic Tanks', a document on 'Equipment & Workforce Norms for Managing Waterborne Sanitation in India' and Consultative Document on 'Land Application of Faecal Sludge'. MoHUA also released a series of posters as part of a citizen centric behavior change communication campaign on the subject of hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks. All documents released today are available on the Swachh Bharat Mission -Urban portal.

The second half of the event was an Open Forum in the format of a panel discussion where several States and cities such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Surat, Hyderabad and Ludhiana shared their experiences and best practices on the subject of 'Manhole to Machine Hole Transformation'. The panelists were joined by National Safai Karmacharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC), Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) and Delhi Jal Board, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and sewer/ septic tank equipment manufacturer Kam Avida who shared their offerings of products and services to complement MoHUA's efforts in the Challenge.

Since its launch in 2014, SBM-U has made significant progress in the area of both sanitation and solid waste management. 4337 Urban local bodies (ULBs) have been declared open defecation free (ODF) (except 35 ULBs of West Bengal), 1319 cities certified ODF+ and 489 cities certified ODF++. Moreover, over 62 lakhs individual household toilets and over 5.9 lakhs community/ public toilets have been constructed. Additionally, over 59,900 toilets across 2900+ cities have been made live on Google Maps. In the area of solid waste management, 97% of wards have 100% door-to door collection while 67% of the total waste generated is being processed. A total of six cities have been certified as 5 Star, 86 as 3 star and 64 as 1 star under the Star Rating Protocol for Garbage Free Cities.

RJ/NG

Subrahmanyam, IAS

Secretary

VC



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment,
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment
Government of India

D.O. No.19014/23/2017-SCDIV SRMS

Date: 21.8.2020

Dear Chief Secretary,

Manual Scavenging is an occupation that violates the basic human dignity. Successive Central and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been trying to bring to an end this occupation with varying success. Eradication of dry latrines and manual scavenging, and the rehabilitation of manual scavengers in alternative occupations has been an area of high priority for the Government. Towards this end, a multi-pronged strategy has been followed, consisting of legislative as well as programmatic interventions.

2. As you are aware, manual scavenging is prohibited in the country under Section 5 of the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)" with effect from 6.12.2013. Under Section 6 of this Act, any contract, agreement or other instrument entered into or executed before the date of commencement of this Act, engaging or employing for the purpose of manual scavenging shall, on the date of commencement of this Act, be terminated and such contract, agreement or other instrument shall be void and inoperative. Whoever contravenes the provisions of Section 5 or 6 of the Act shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend upto two years or fine which may extend upto Rupees one lakh or both.

3. Manual Scavenging existed mainly due to existence of insanitary latrines which did not have provision for flushing of night soil into underground sewers, septic tanks or other systems for safe disposal. Such latrines were serviced manually. The Central Government as well as State Governments have been implementing Schemes for construction of sanitary toilets to improve sanitation and make the country open defecation free. Census 2011 had reported existence of about 26 lakh insanitary latrines in the country. The Union Ministries of Housing and Urban Affairs and Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking water and Sanitation) under the Swachh Bharat Mission, have identified and converted most of the insanitary latrines into sanitary latrines in urban and rural areas respectively. These measures have eliminated the need for manual cleaning of toilets.

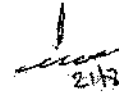
4. Under Section 19 of the MS Act, 2013 mandates the District Magistrate and the authority authorized under Section 18 of the Act or any other officer specified by them under that section to ensure, inter alia, that no person is engaged or employed as manual scavenger within their jurisdiction.

5. As you may kindly appreciate, Since the MS Act, 2013 has been in operation for more than six years, all the above measures mentioned above ought to have ensured achievement of the objective of elimination manual scavenging in the State by now and the State government could take the pride of declaring the State as manual scavenging free.

6. I would also like to draw your attention to the interest of our Hon'ble Prime Minister on this issue and his desire to declare India free from Manual Scavenging. Therefore, I would request you to have the status of elimination of manual scavenging ascertained from all the Districts in the State and confirm the status by 20th September, 2020.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(R. Subrahmanyam)

Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.



DO No.6/11/MSME/2019-2020-ESDW

Dated 22nd Oct., 2020

My Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to this office letter number 6/11/MSME/2019-2020-ESDW dated 13.05.2020 and even number letter dated 29.06.2020 regarding monitoring of Government/CPSUs/PSUs procurements from MSEs owned by SC/ST entrepreneurs as envisaged in Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) Order 2012.

2. It is pertinent to point out that as per details available on the website of your Ministry, besides all the State Governments and State PSUs, falling in the ambit of the said policy there are buyers including (a) Central Departments-46 (b) Central Ministries-51 (c) CPSUs- 277 (out of 277 CPSUs, 44 are Sick/Closed). The details of procurement, in respect of CPSUs, as available on the website of your Ministry, are tabulated below for ease of ready reference:

Fin Year	Total CPUs	Total Annual Procurement in Crore Rs.	20% Of Total Procurement in crore	Total Actual Procurement from MSEs inclusive of MSEs owned by SC/ST in crore	% of Less purchase from MSEs	4% of 20% exclusive to MSEs owned by SC/ST in crore	Total actual procurement from MSEs owned by SC/ST in crore	% of Less purchase from MSEs owned by SC/ST
2015-16	100	112968.1973	22593.6396	13140.7929	41.9	903.7458	51.2622	94.4
2014-15	133	131766.9983	26353.3986	15300.7393	42	1054.1380	53.3887	94.4
2013-14	104	82535.6386	16507.1277	12425.8762	24.8	660.2851	90.4526	87.9
2012-13	69	72808.6091	14561.7218	11584.3801	19.9	582.4689	324.6725	44.3

(The columns marked in bold and italics have been done by us)

3. As can be inferred from the table above it is clear that during the last four years, for which data is available, an average of 80.25% less procurement was made against an already meager target of 4% exclusively reserved for SC/ST entrepreneurs. If we do not add the figures of financial year 2012-13 when the deficit is only 44.3%, in rest of the years the average deficit in this field is more than 90% and this is causing concern about the gap between the avowed aim of the Govt. of India and actual ground reality. Similarly, if this is the state of affairs in CPSUs, it can easily be inferred that the position in other Government procuring sectors may be similar or may even be adverse, which is contrary to the spirit of the procurement policy.

4. The rough assessment of the size of the Indian public procurement in a year is as follows: -

Central Government	Rs. 2,51,501 Crore	USD 44.91 Billion
State Government	Rs. 1,34,280 Crore	USD 23.98 Billion
All Government	Rs. 3,85,781 Crore	USD 68.89 Billion
Central PSUs	Rs. 2,68,100 Crore	USD 47.88 Billion
State PSUs	Rs. 1,46,374 Crore	USD 26.14 Billion
All PSUs	Rs. 4,14,474 Crore	USD 74.01 Billion
All Government & PSUs	Rs. 8,00,255 Crore	USD 142.90 Billion

5. If we go by this rough estimate, the position indicates an assured procurement of Rs 1,60,051 crore from overall MSEs entrepreneurs need to take place and similarly a procurement of approximately Rs. 6,402 Crore exclusively from entrepreneurs of SC/ST community. Similarly, the public procurement through GEM portal has clocked an amount of Rs. 40,000 Crore for Govt sector this year. If the procurement were to achieve the targets for the SC/ST entrepreneurs, the goal of inclusive development of the present govt. will get a big boost.

6. Unfortunately due to absence of proper mechanism to ensure the compliance and lack of supervision/monitoring at the cutting edge where it matters, the MSEs entrepreneurs in general as well as SC/ST entrepreneurs in particular are feeling disheartened and are losing lot of business opportunities. This surely needs necessary corrective action.

7. In view of the facts explained above you are requested to kindly review the following action points so that the policy of the government is implemented in true letter and spirit.

- The details of yearwise, procurements from CPSUs, Central Departments, Central Ministries from financial years 2015-16 till date may be reviewed and corrective strategy formulated. It is understood that procurement procedures in some of the CPSEs have in-built direct or indirect entry barriers for small entrepreneurs particularly of SC-owned enterprises. Independent evaluation of these procedures should be carried out to figure out if there are any such barriers and to suggest effective steps for corrective steps and reporting thereof to competent authorities. Commission may be apprised of follow up action taken in this regard within next 3 months.
- There is a need to review the details of Special Vendor Development programmes or Buyer-Seller Meets conducted by Departments/Public Sector Undertakings for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes since inception of this policy on yearly basis and draw lessons to strengthen the policy interventions.
- Similarly, there is need to assess the details of Outreach Programmes conducted by National Small Industries Corporation to cover more and more Micro and Small Enterprises from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes under its schemes of consortia formation since inception of this policy on yearly basis. The exact numbers review would indicate the true position.
- We need to see the details of achievements of National Small Industries Corporation in the field of special window for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes under its Single Point Registration Scheme (SPRS) and total registration done so far since inception of this policy on yearly basis.
- There is need to institutionalise that Ministry of MSME is regularly conducting meetings of the Review Committee which has been constituted under Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, for monitoring and review of Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises vide Order No.21(1)/2017-MA dated the 21st June 2010. The minutes of these meetings may also be kindly shared so that information may be shared with the concerned and necessary follow up is done by NCSC amongst others.
- One good indicator would be study the details of 'Grievance Cell' which has been set up in Ministry for redressing grievances of Micro and Small Enterprises in Government procurement. The number of complaints/grievances received and resolved since inception of this policy year wise may be reviewed and corrective action should be initiated.

8. Simultaneously you are also requested to kindly conduct a third party evaluation of the situation prevailing in various ministries/States/PSUs/CPSUs and why the desired results are not being achieved so that necessary steps may kindly be initiated on top priority to ensure that the provisions specially of para 2.3(4) of Public Procurement policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) order 2012 are implemented in true letter and spirit.

9. Time has also come for designing a fool proof inbuilt mechanism to ensure that the desired norm of 4% of total purchases from the SC/ST entrepreneurs is fully achieved. It is also suggested that this subject may also be included as a separate agenda for review in the monitoring mechanisms at all levels of the Ministry.

I must mention that Dalit Chamber of Commerce has been raising this issue so that government policy is properly implemented.

I shall meet you as well to take this forward.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Sushil Kumar)

Sh. Arvind Kumar Sharma,
Secretary
M/o Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
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Copy for kind information to:

1. The Secretary,
M/o Social Justice & Empowerment
Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. The Secretary
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Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110011