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REPORT OF
THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON

VOLUNTARY SECTOR

FOR
THE TENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN
(2002-07)

सत्यमेव जयते

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CONTENTS

Chapter	Subject	Page No.
1.	**Background & Overview** • Introduction • Depth of Voluntarism • Diversity of Voluntary Sector	1-6
2.	**Recognition of Voluntary Sector in Five Year Plans and in Approach to the Tenth Plan**	6-10
3.	**Issues & Concerns** • Simplification of procedures / guidelines for involvement of VOs / NGOs • Capacity building of the Voluntary Sector • Facilitating the Inter-Sectoral Partnership • Reviving / galvanising the spirit of Volunteerism • Monitoring & Evaluation of schemes implemented through voluntary sector	10-13
4.	**Approach to the Tenth Plan and Recommendations**	13-21
5.	**References Cited**	22
6.	**Annexures** (I) Setting up of the Steering Committee on the Voluntary Sector (II) List of Schemes for assistance to VOs / NGOs implemented by some of the Departments / Ministries (III) Voluntary Organizations sanctioned more than Rs.One Crore by CAPART (IV) List of Mother NGOs of Department of Family Welfare (V) Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to Voluntary Sector (VI) Model proforma for seeking application from VOs / NGOs	 23-28 29-34 35-40 41-49 50-60 61-63

REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN THE TENTH PLAN (2002-07)

Chapter 1 **Background & Overview**

Introduction

Voluntary Organisations play a vital role in the shaping and implementation of participatory democracy. Their credibility lies in the responsible and constructive role they play in society. They have been contributing immensely for quite sometime towards various development programmes. They work at grassroots level even in remote areas and, therefore, their reach is much wider. They are closer to ground realities and know the needs of the communities. Their approach with target group is direct, emphatic and therefore they are able to draw more contexualised plans of action. They also manage to develop intimate contacts with the people and develop confidence among them.

The UN General Assembly in its 52nd session declared the year 2001 as International Year of Volunteers (IYV). The proclamation of IYV is in recognition to the vital contributions of the volunteers to recognise their achievement in the past to facilitate them for the outstanding work done in the field of volunteerism. To ensure that the full potential contribution of Voluntary Organisations (VOs) is realised, the fullest possible communication and cooperation between national, state & local governments and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) should be promoted in institutions mandated and programmes designed to carry out various schemes. VOs / NGOs need to foster cooperation and communication among themselves to reinforce their effectiveness as an important actor in the implementation of Tenth Five Year Plan, which is incidentally also the First Five Year Plan of this millennium.

During the nineties, VOs / NGOs have emerged as important players in the development arena. On the one hand, voluntary sector is making significant contributions at the UN sponsored meetings at global level, and on the other, VOs are also working for the empowerment of the poor at the grassroots level and are providing quick help in the management of disasters. Role of VOs was particularly recognised at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992. Thereafter active presence of VOs continued at all important global international fora, such as the

Cairo Population Conference 1994, the Copenhagen World Summit on Social Development 1995, the Beijing Conference on Women 1995, and so on. In the coming years, it is expected that voluntary sector would be playing significant role not only in social sectors but also in other sectors.

Keeping in view the respect for the independence of VOs and their significant role, the emerging voluntary sector is also known as independent sector, third sector, civil-society sector or social economy sector. To recognise the important contributions made by the voluntary sector and facilitate its functioning further in the Tenth Plan this Steering Committee was constituted as per the Planning Commission OM dated 5th February 2001 (Annexure-I). In this report, after providing an overview of the depth and diversity of voluntary sector in the country, reviewing its recognition in various plans, listing the issues & concerns which lead to the terms of reference of the Steering Committee, recommendations for facilitating and improving the working of voluntary sector are provided.

Depth of Voluntarism in India

India has a rich tradition of voluntary action. Before Independence, VOs imbued with the Gandhian philosophy were playing significant role mainly in social welfare activities and now, the range of spheres covered by voluntary sector has expanded considerably covering almost all development related activities. Some of the reasons put forward for increase in the number and activities of VOs are the decline of socialism and an increased national and international funding for voluntary sector. In a number of developmental activities, VOs are working as supplements or complements to the governmental efforts.

Traditionally, NGOs are known as Voluntary Organisations (VOs or VOLOGs) & Voluntary Agencies (VAs or VOLAGs) and recently as Voluntary Development Organisations (VDOs) or Non-Governmental Development Organisations (NGDOs). There are equivalent names for NGOs available in different Indian languages; like in Hindi NGOs are called *Swayamsev*i *Sansthayen* or *Swayamsevi Sangathan*.

The origin and development of the voluntary sector in India has been shaped by two major influences: one rooted in indigenous traditions and value-systems, and the other a product of the interface between the Indian society and the western world. The Indian traditions and value-systems are in turn rooted in religion that prescribes a code of ethics for the individual and the principles governing social life. A noteworthy feature of all major religions has been the emphasis they place on charity and sharing wealth with others, especially the

poor. In Hinduism serving the poor is considered equivalent to serving God. Philanthropy and individual acts of social service have, historically, been the main forms of voluntary activity in India. Institutionalised social service activities existed largely within the domain of religious institutions: *Ashramas* and *Maths* among Hindus, *Waqfs* and *Khanqahs* among Muslims and *Gurudwaras* and *Deras* among Sikhs. Throughout the ancient and medieval periods, voluntary activity – whether individual inspired or state supported – found its natural expression through religions institutions.

The concept of secular voluntary activity accelerated with the advent of western, mainly British, influence in India. The work of Christian missionaries in the field of education and health care, especially in remote tribal areas, stood out as examples of dedicated service to the poor, even though the motivation may have been to win over these people to Christianity. The example of Christian missionary work exerted a great influence on the new English educated elite that emerged in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The organized form of charity and service to the poor practiced by the Christian missionaries impressed many who tried to emulate them. The activities of the *Brahmo Samaj* in Bengal, *Arya Samaj* in north India and the Ramakrishna Mission in different parts of the country are noteworthy. Mahatma Gandhi further developed the tradition set by these early voluntary religious organizations. Though religious in form, the content of Gandhi's programme was secular: spinning, promotion of cottage industries, decentralization of power and an economy based on the satisfaction of need rather than greed.

After the Independence, there was awareness that development to be meaningful requires mobilisation of resources, public cooperation and creation of social capital. Gradually, professionals from various disciplines joined the voluntary sector to undertake multi-sectoral development work. It has been recognised that no development strategy can be successful unless a shared vision of public sector, private sector and voluntary sector is created and the civil society, having VOs as the key actors, can play a vital role in this strategy for development. The process of social mobilisation and development of people's initiatives cannot be achieved without the active support and involvement of VOs. Therefore, in the Tenth Plan efforts would be made to remove roadblocks and irritants to the growth of voluntary action, which has deep roots in the country.

Diversity of the Voluntary Sector

In India, societies, associations, organisations, trusts or companies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860; the Indian Trusts Act, 1882; the Charitable & Religious Trusts Act, 1920 or as a charitable company

under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 are considered as VOs / NGOs. In addition, there are informal groups working at grassroots level without being registered under any legislation but may also be considered as part of voluntary sector. VOs may be working in the field of welfare of disabled; development of other disadvantaged sections like SCs/STs, children & women in education; environment; human rights; and on issues like resettlement & rehabilitation of oustees by big projects, right to information and so on. VOs may take up issues concerning a particular village or a community to the global issues like impact of WTO or global warming. The range of associations or societies may vary from a resident welfare association to an advocacy organisation. The substantive areas of work of VOs have changed considerably over time. Recently, in an exercise to map the diversity of voluntary sector in India, Rajesh Tandon (2001) has provided the following typology of civil society associations.

(i) Traditional Associations

Such associations exist around a social unit either defined by a tribe, ethnicity or caste. Associations of this variety undertake a wide range of functions in the lives of those citizens. Besides mediating inter-family relations, such associations develop elaborate systems, norms and procedures for governing the use and protection of natural resources. Several important struggles to protect and advance customary rights of tribals over natural resources in different parts of the country have been led by such associations.

(ii) Religious Associations

Over the centuries, new sects and religions were born and incorporated into Indian life. Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and many other variations challenged Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam for reform and renewal. Charity, help to the needy, service to the poor and *daan* (giving) have been uniformly recommended by all these religions and sects in India. Education, health care, drinking water, afforestation, social welfare, etc. are numerous arenas of human action where fairly organized forms of civil society activity are carried out by religiously inspired VOs.

(iii) Social Movements

In the contemporary Indian context, a number of social movements, spearheaded by social movement organisations (SMOs) have emerged as major manifestations of civil society. These movements are of several types:

- Focusing on the interest and aspirations of particular groups such as: SCs, STs and women.
- Protests against social evils like: liquor, dowry, inheritance rights etc.
- Protests against displacement due to big development projects.
- Campaigns against environmental degradation, corruption and for rights to information, education and livelihood.

VOs / NGOs through these social movements try to reform society, institutions and governance and act as harbingers of social change.

(iv) Membership Associations

Membership organisations may be representational – set up to represent the opinions and interest of a particular category of citizens e.g. unions of rural labour, farm workers, women workers, consumer associations etc., professional – formed around a particular occupation or profession e.g. association of lawyers, teachers, engineers, managers, journalists etc., social-cultural – organised around a social or cultural purposes e.g. *Nehru Yuvak Kendras*, clubs for sports, *Natak Mandalis* etc. and self-help groups – a growing category of membership organisations e.g. savings and credit groups etc.

(v) Intermediary Associations

These associations function between individual citizens and macro state institutions like the bureaucracy, judiciary and police etc. These could be of several types, e.g. service delivery, mobilizational, support, philanthropic, advocacy and network.

In another well-known classification describing diversity of voluntary sector, David Korten (1990) had proposed four generations of NGOs. Nowadays, NGOs working for peace or conflict resolution or as track-II negotiators between states/nations, international NGOs acting on behalf of the global civil society and conducting research on voluntary sector contributions may be regarded as belonging to the category of Fifth Generation. The Four Generations of NGOs as proposed by Korten are shown in the table below.

Strategies of development-oriented NGOs: Four Generations

	Generation			
	First (Relief and Welfare)	Second (Community Development)	Third (Sustainable Systems Development)	Fourth (People's Movements)
Problem Definition	Shortage	Local inertia	Institutional and policy constraints	Inadequate mobilizing visions
Time Frame	Immediate	Project life	10-20 Years	Indefinite future
Scope	Individual or family	Neighbourhood of village	Region or nation	National or global
Chief Actors	NGO	NGO plus community	All relevant public and private institutions	Loosely defined networks of people and organizations
NGO Role	Doer	Mobilizer	Catalyst	Activist / educator
Management Orientation	Logistics management	Project management	Strategic management	Coalescing and energizing self-managing networks
Development Education	Starving children	Community self-help	Constraining policies and institutions	Spaceship Earth

Diversity of the activities of voluntary sector can be gauged from large number of schemes being implemented through VOs by various Ministries / Departments. It is estimated that there are about 250 such schemes under operation of more than 20 Ministries / Departments. A list of schemes for voluntary sector of some of the Ministries / Departments may be seen at Annexure-II.

Chapter 2 **Recognition of Voluntary Sector in the Five-Year Plans and in the Approach Paper to the Tenth Plan**

The voluntary sector has been given due importance in the planning process right from the First Five Year Plan, as emphasis was given on public cooperation in national development with the help of VOs. It was highlighted in the First Plan document that the "Public cooperation and public opinion constitute the principal force and sanction behind planning. A democracy working for social ends has to base itself on the willing assent of the people and not the coercive power of the State." In the Second Plan, it was reiterated that public cooperation and public opinion constitute the principal force and sanction behind India's approach to planning. It was observed that wherever the people, especially in rural areas, have been approached, they have responded with eagerness. In national extension and community project areas, in local development works, in *shramdan*, in social welfare extension projects and in the work of voluntary organisations, there has always been willingness and enthusiasm on the part of the people to contribute in labour and local resources have been made freely available.

The Third Five Year Plan emphasised that "The concept of public cooperation is related to the much larger sphere of voluntary action in which the initiative and organisational responsibility rest completely with the people and their leaders, and does not rely on legal sanctions or the power of the State for achieving its aims. It was realised that so vast are the unsatisfied needs of the people that all the investments in the public and private sectors together can only make a limited provision for them. Properly organised voluntary effort may go for towards augmenting the facilities available to the community for helping the weakest to a somewhat better life. The wherewithal for this has to come from time, energy and other resources of millions of people for whom VOs can find constructive channels suited to the varying conditions in the country." During the Fourth and Fifth Plan, the thrust on public cooperation and involvement of people's organisation was lost due to attack on over territory and recession that followed. During this period investment was focussed especially in intensive agricultural programmes.

In the Sixth Five Year Plan, the idea of participation of people's organisations was again recognised. Success stories in the field, of VOs like the Jamkhed Project on child and health care in Maharashtra, Bharat Agro Industries Foundation's work in animal husbandry and social forestry and Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) were quoted and it was stated that the country is dotted with numerous examples of highly successful voluntary action of this nature.

Role of VOs in development got a further fillip in the Seventh Five Year Plan where it was declared that serious efforts would be made to involve VOs in various development programmes to supplement the government efforts to offer the rural poor choices and alternatives. The emphasis continued till the ongoing Ninth Plan, wherein efforts are being made to promote peoples' participatory bodies like Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Self-help Groups and NGOs for development. The following criteria were identified for identifying voluntary agencies for enlisting help in relation to the rural development programmes:

(i) The organisation should be a legal entity.
(ii) It should be based in a rural area and be working there for a minimum of three years.
(iii) It should have broad-based objectives serving the social and economic needs of the community as a whole and mainly the weaker sections. It must not work for profit but on 'no profit and no loss basis'.
(iv) Its activities should be open to all citizens of India irrespective of religion, caste, creed, sex or race.
(v) It should have the necessary flexibility, professional competence and organisational skills to implement programmes.
(vi) Its office bearers should not be elected members of any political party.
(vii) It declares that it will adopt constitutional and non-violent means for rural development purposes.
(viii) It is committed to secular and democratic concepts and methods of functioning.

In the Eight Plan Document, due emphasis was given on building up people's institutions. It was admitted that developmental activities undertaken with people's active participation have a greater chance of success and can also be more cost-effective as compared to the development activities undertaken by the Government where people become passive observers. It was admitted that a lot in the area of education (especially literacy), health, family planning, land improvement, efficient land use, minor irrigation, watershed management, recovery of wastelands, a forestation, animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries and sericulture etc. could be achieved by creating people's institutions accountable to the community. Therefore the focus of attention will be on developing multiple institutional options for improving the delivery systems by using the vast potential of the voluntary sector.

In the Ninth Five Year Plan, it was admitted that private initiative, whether individual collective or community based, forms the essence the development strategy articulated in the Plan and efforts to be made to remove disadvantages which had prevented some segment of our society in participating

effectively in the development process. Keeping up with this line of thinking, "promoting and developing people's participatory bodies like Panchayati Raj Institutions, cooperatives and self-help groups" was one of the objectives of the Ninth Plan.

The Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the Ninth Five Year Plan (October 2000) has also documented some successful and sustainable projects undertaken by VOs and other people's organisations. The MTR has identified following problems in the performance of Central and State Plans. Some of these maladies faced by the country can be mitigated by the emerging voluntary sector as a compliment and supplement to the State efforts.

- The critical factor appears to be effective governance to ensure balanced growth of the different regions of India.

- Development is an outcome of efficient institutions rather than the other way around. There is a need to focus on building institutions and improving governance from maximising the quantity of development funding to maximising of development outcomes and effectiveness and efficiency of public service delivery."

Further, under the 'Directions for Reforms' of MTR, it has been inter-alia suggested that "Initiatives by local bodies, NGOs and women need to be encouraged", to resolve some of the above-referred problems.

It has been observed in the Approach Paper to the Tenth Plan that in many states, we have: hospitals / dispensaries but absence of personnel and there are school buildings but teachers remain absent. To rectify these anomalies and to achieve most of the targets set up for the Tenth Plan, the need to promote voluntary sector has been recognised. The theme of encouragement to voluntary sector continued in the Approach Paper to the Tenth Plan and reflected in the following words, "In view of the continued importance of public action in our development process, increasing the efficiency of public interventions must also take high priority". The minimum agenda proposed in the Approach Paper has recognised voluntary sector by putting "greater decentralisation to PRIs and other people's organisations" as one of the items for the Tenth Plan.

The voluntary sector deserves encouragement to ameliorate at least some of the above-referred problems, because of its following comparative advantages:

- VOs / NGOs are much closer to the poorer & disadvantaged sections of the society.
- Staff of VOs is normally highly motivated and altruistic in their behaviour.
- VOs can easily stimulate and mobilise community resources and have access to volunteers.
- They are more effective in bringing people's participation.
- VOs are less rule-bound and are non-bureaucratic, non-formal and flexible in their structure and operations.
- Voluntary sector has greater potential for innovations.
- VOs prefer to work in a multi-sectoral framework.
- VOs are catalysts for creating social cohesion (Kumar 1998).

Certain disadvantages or shortcomings of voluntary sector are also well-known, namely, their inability to cooperate with each other in a way which would allow for coherent policy making, their accountability & transparency is not perfect and their operations are smaller in scale. Therefore, there is a need to improvise the working of VOs by scaling up their operations and by making them transparent and accountable.

Role of Planning Commission vis-à-vis Voluntary Sector

To create an enabling environment for the voluntary sector to collaborate with Government for development, a number of steps have been taken by the Government of India during the year 2000. The most significant step taken by the Government of India, in March 2000, was to declare the Planning Commission as the nodal agency for the GO-VOs interface. This was a step needed to have a focal point from where an integrated and holistic view on the voluntary sector could be taken. As a nodal agency, the first task assigned to the Planning Commission is to create a database on VOs. On the website of Planning Commission, now we have information on about 13,000 VOs / NGOs who have received grants from different Departments / Ministries. In addition, information on about 1,000 VOs perceived by various bilateral, multilateral, intermediary and governmental agencies as good / valid VOs / NGOs is also available at the Planning Commission website. The NGO database of Planning Commission is continuously being updated.

Chapter 3 **Issues & Concerns**

To provide the enabling environment for promoting and facilitating the work of emerging voluntary sector, the following five issues were taken up for deliberation by the Steering Committee.

Simplification of procedures/guidelines for involvement of the VOs / NGOs

There is a lot of variation in the procedures / guidelines of the departments of the Central and State Governments, and other organisations, for involving VOs in different programmes / schemes. In most cases, Government assistance is available only through straitjacketed schemes. Moreover, most of the departments / ministries have not played a pro-active role in establishing partnership with committed VOs and have generally confined their attention to only those who apply for funds to their offices. They have, on their own, not requested good VOs to come to their fold and begin a relationship. Generally, Departments / Ministries subject all proposals including those from good VOs to a uniform appraisal procedure inhibiting sensitive or well-established VOs or those engaged in social activism from approaching the government departments. Generally, it is difficult for the Government machinery to properly examine large number of proposals received from VOs / NGOs and monitor activities of the sprawling voluntary sector. For monitoring and evaluation, CAPART has a panel of monitors who visit the NGO sites and a system where they have desk appraisal, pre-funding appraisal, mid-term appraisal and terminal evaluation. CAPART has decentralised the distribution of funding to NGOs through their regional offices The Department of Family Welfare under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme has identified Mother NGOs (MNGOs) and a Committee selects smaller or field NGOs to work in districts. A list of NGOs receiving grant of one crore or above from CAPART and of MNGOs of Department of Family Welfare are enclosed at Annexure-III & IV respectively.

Suggestions of some of the earlier Government of India reports such as the 'Report of the Expert Group on simplification of procedures dealing with Voluntary Organisations' (1987), 'Action Plan to bring about Collaborative Relationship between Voluntary Organisations and Government' (1994) and 'Study Report on Monitoring of Government Aided NGO Projects' (1997) were considered while discussing the existing methods / procedures for selection of NGOs, release of funds and monitoring of their work, etc. by the Steering Committee. It has been felt that steps need to be taken to make procedures for providing grants to VOs simplified and user friendly.

Capacity Building of the Voluntary Sector

Traditionally, capacity building interventions have focused on strengthening state and public sector institutions. However, due to growing importance of civil society organisations, there is a need now to find ways to strengthen the capacity of these organisations.

Capacity building means development of both individual workers and the organisation. It is essential to focus not only on the individuals in an organisation, but also organisation itself. It is essential to address the issue of institutionalising capacity in an organisation, which is a long term and gradual process (IFCB 2000).

It was recognised that there is a need to build up the capacity of voluntary sector to act as a balancing force between the State and market institutions. Suggestions to make VOs / NGOs more effective for good governance, service delivery and managing newer challenges of development, by providing appropriate training, etc. were thought to be worth discussion by the members of the Steering Committee.

Facilitating the Inter-Sectoral Partnerships

One of the major challenges facing the world community, as it seeks to replace unsustainable development patterns, is the need to activate a sense of common purpose on behalf of all sectors of society. Forging such partnerships successfully is the emerging new mantra of the new millennium. As discussed above, some steps have been initiated to fortify the collaborative relationship between government and VOs but still a lot has to be done to increase the existing partnership levels between voluntary sector and Private Sector & PRIs / Municipalities. It was felt necessary to explore possible ways to nurture genuine partnerships and dialogue, while recognizing the independent roles, responsibilities and special capacities of each sector.

Reviving / galvanising the spirit of Volunteerism

The UN sponsored International Year of Volunteers - 2001, provides a unique opportunity to highlight the achievements of the millions of volunteers worldwide and to encourage more people globally to engage in volunteer activity. Volunteerism is related to the part time or full time work done by any person on his / her own free will for the welfare and development of people and society. It appears that over the years, increased dependence on the state has reduced the volunteering spirit amongst the people, which needs to be revived.

Monitoring & Evaluation of schemes implemented through Voluntary Sector

Like the existing variations in case of procedures / guidelines of various Departments for seeking proposals from VOs / NGOs, there is a lot of variation in the methodologies adopted for monitoring and evaluation. The concern for proper monitoring and evaluation of the work of voluntary sector has been raised from different quarters. Suggestions were sought to improve the existing methodologies for monitoring and evaluation of the work undertaken by the voluntary sector.

Under this backdrop, following were the **terms of reference** of the Steering Group on Voluntary Sector:

(1) To review the policies, procedures, guidelines of the government and other organisations for involving voluntary organisations in different programmes / schemes and suggest alternative policies and simplified procedures / guidelines for involvement of the voluntary sector.

(2) To review the existing arrangements for capacity building of the voluntary sector and suggest measures to make VOs / NGOs more effective for good governance, service delivery and managing newer challenges of development.

(3) To examine the existing partnership levels between voluntary sector and private sector & PRIs / Municipalities and recommend appropriate steps to facilitate and enhance such partnerships.

(4) To review the level of people's participation and volunteerism in development programmes and suggest measures for reviving / galvanising the spirit of volunteerism and people's participation in development, particularly, suggesting ways for effectively utilizing services of volunteers, through VOs / NGOs, in the management of disasters such as earthquakes, floods, famines and cyclones etc.

(5) To review the existing methods for monitoring and evaluation of schemes / programmes implemented through VOs / NGOs and suggest improvements in methodologies for effective monitoring and evaluation.

The First Meeting of the Steering Committee was organised on 16.03.2001 with an agenda to solicit the views of the Members on the line of Approach and the Strategy to be adopted in the Tenth Plan to facilitate the emerging role of VOs. The Second Meeting of the Steering Committee was held on 09.06.2001 to discuss the rest of the Terms of Reference of the Committee. Taking into consideration, the conscious decisions arrived at in the

two meetings and the recommendations of the other available reports, the Steering Committee finalized its recommendations.

Chapter 4 **Approach to the Tenth Plan & Recommendations**

APPROACH TO THE TENTH PLAN

As mentioned earlier, the Approach Paper to the Tenth Plan has recognised the role of public action, which is best mobilised by the voluntary sector, in the development process. In addition, following paragraphs of the Approach Paper also recognised and highlighted the importance of voluntary sector.

Population

> "The National Population Commission will play a catalytic role in improving centre-state and inter-sectoral coordination, and in involving private sector, voluntary institutions and civil society at large for generating a vigorous people's movement to support the national efforts to achieve the goals set in the National Population Policy 2000."

Corrective Measures

> "An important channel for mobilising resources for development, particularly for social sectors, namely the Externally Aided Projects (EAP) and direct funding of projects (i.e. outside budgetary flows) by the NGOs has not been sufficiently integrated with our planning process. Consequently, an important source of scarce resource for development, in the third world context, is not being adequately tapped."

Forests

> "The problems and constraints in forestry development include lack of awareness about multiple roles and benefits of forests, especially its role in drought proofing and prevention of soil and water run-off, no linkage between management and livelihood security of the people, low level of technology, inadequate research and extension, weak planning capability, wastage in harvesting and processing, market imperfections, overemphasis on government involvement and control, low level of people's participation and NGOs involvement, lack of private sector participation, unwanted restrictions on felling transport and marketing of forest produce grown by the people, lack of inter-sectoral coordination and weakness and conflicting roles of public forest administration."

Non-Conventional Energy

> "There is a significant potential to meet the basic energy requirement of people (viz. cooking & lighting etc.) both in the rural & urban areas, in an economically efficient manner through non-conventional and renewable sources of energy. … People's participation through Panchayats, other local

bodies, co-operatives and NGOs is to be secured in planning and implementation of such programmes."

Governance Reforms

"Review the Official Secrets Act, and supplement it by a Right to Information Act. Rule 9 of the All India Services Conduct Rules and similar other Rules which prevents information from being provided to an ordinary citizen should be deleted, and another rule is added highlighting the intention of the Government in favour of transparency and stating that all such information which is generally provided by the Assembly/Parliament to a Member of Legislature, should also be provided to any member of the public, including NGOs. It must be recognised that improvement in governance would take place only when countervailing forces in society develop confidence to oppose inefficiency and corruption in government. Therefore, in addition to promoting genuine civil society organisations, government should also relax FCRA provisions so that NGOs have easier access to alternative funding."

On the issue of legislations impinging on the functioning of voluntary sector, including the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), Planning Commission set up a Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector on 3rd November 2000. The Task Force deliberated on various laws (copy at Annexure-III) in vogue for registration of VOs and suggested inter-alia to change the procedures under FCRA, which are cumbersome, non-transparent and regarded as source of harassment. For promoting genuine civil society organisations (CSOs), VOs / NGOs and other people's organisations (POs), following recommendations are put forward by the Steering Committee on Voluntary Sector for the Tenth Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Simplification of procedures / guidelines for involvement of the VOs / NGOs

Following suggestions for flexible simplified common minimum guidelines are proposed to take care of the contextual and regional ramification in dealing with voluntary sector and keeping in view the diversity of schemes being implemented by various Departments / Ministries. There may be exceptions in any of the specialised scheme due to the special groups or problems to be tackled and there can be variations in the norms for schemes due to different climatic conditions and geographic locations.

(1) The Planning Commission should examine periodically all the issues related to simplification of procedures / guidelines for involvement of the voluntary sector, as an ongoing process. The Annual Plan discussions with Departments / Ministries of the Central Government and with State Governments could be the appropriate fora for such discussions on regular basis. To carry out this responsibility, the Voluntary Action Cell of Planning Commission should be appropriately strengthened.

(2) Information about various schemes for VOs should be widely disseminated. It should be available at the reception office and on the website of all concerned Departments / Ministries. In addition, the information should be published at least once a year in the national dailies and in local newspapers by all the Departments / Ministries implementing schemes through voluntary sector.

(3) The application form in respect of each scheme should be properly drawn to make it simple and user-friendly and quickly appraisable. A copy of the proposed simplified model proforma may be seen at Annexure-VI for consideration and adoption by concerned Departments / Ministries.

(4) Proposals received from VOs should be acknowledged promptly and preferably an indication given as to the date by which they may expect final decision. Status of the proposal(s) should be available at the reception office and on the website of all concerned Departments / Ministries.

(5) Each Department / Ministry should have a database of all those VOs / NGOs who have availed of funding from them, along with their articles / memorandum of association, etc. Once a VO / NGO has been granted assistance after furnishing information, such as articles / memorandum of association, lists of office bearers / trustees etc. to a Department / Ministry, it need not be necessary for it to file the same information repeatedly year after year (unless there is a change).

(6) Sanctioning system for schemes implemented through voluntary sector may be decentralised. The model of Mother NGOs (MNGOs) adopted by Department of Family Welfare may be adopted by other Departments / Ministries. A designated MNGO or a Nodal NGO may be allowed to take care of the work of three-four related sectors. While adopting the concept of MNGOs care should be taken that it should not hamper the growth of smaller / newer NGOs. Planning

Commission should be informed in all cases where funding of more than one crore is provided to any Mother / Nodal NGO.

(7) VOs / NGOs should be shown proper dignity as knowledgeable partners in the development process and not treated as pawns, contractors or beneficiaries by the staff dealing with the voluntary sector.

(8) The VOs / NGOs look forward for knowledge managers who can sift & sort information for them. In this regard, there is need for funding the NGO networks. Concerned Departments / Ministries may like to formulate schemes to support sector specific networks. CAPART should have a fresh look at its mandate to accommodate a scheme for supporting NGO networks working for integrated development and are of inter-sectoral nature.

(9) Copies of the sanction letter of each scheme / project sanctioned to VOs / NGOs by every Department / Ministry should be endorsed to the District Authority and concerned Department of the State Government. District authorities (may be the District Information Officer) should have information about all NGOs working within their jurisdiction.

(10) Established VOs / NGOs should be treated on fast track or on green channel basis. Priority should be given to innovative schemes and mission driven initiatives of VOs. Procedures for sanctioning projects to new and smaller VOs should be different, compared to the established ones.

(11) For the release of government aid for disaster or emergency relief activities by VOs / NGOs, special assessment and clearance procedures should be adopted to ensure quick and timely support.

(12) Concerned Departments / Ministries may consider limiting the number of projects awarded to a particular VO / NGO depending on its capacity.

(13) Voluntary sector organisations should be allowed freedom of work and all the guidelines should be flexible and it should not be bound by the interference of District or State level committees.

(14) Some flexibility should be given to VOs / NGOs to re-allocate funds under different heads, as per the specific needs and local situations.

(15) As mentioned in the Seventh Plan Document, those VOs / NGOs having affiliations with any political party or those not committed to secular & democratic concepts & values of functioning should not be allowed to get government funding.

(16) The suggestion to provide endowment funds to VOs was appreciated but it was felt that such funds should be raised by VOs themselves from non-governmental sources. However, concerned Departments/ Ministries should consider providing long term grants to established VOs to mitigate the sense of insecurity in terms of sustaining the core activities and staff.

Capacity Building Measures

(1) The concerned Departments / Ministries as well as the State Governments will have to play a key role in capacity building of VOs / NGOs by conceptualising and providing required infrastructure for locally relevant training programmes to the NGO workers.

(2) Simultaneously, training programmes need to be extended to the public officials dealing with voluntary sector, particularly those working in the areas of law & order, judiciary, revenue, forest, etc. with special focus at the grassroots level. State level civil service training institutions should be used for the purpose, involving resource persons from the voluntary sector.

(3) We talk about local resource mobilisation for sustaining the VOs as well as their specific interventions but majority of VOs are not adequately skilled in doing so. Therefore, capacity building needs of the VOs for the complex local resource mobilisation may be met by adequate workshops / trainings. Unless such fund raising capacity is built up, there is no need to reduce the funding of VOs getting support from government by concerned Departments / Ministries.

(4) Some of the areas identified for capacity building of voluntary sector are; service delivery, concept & practice of people's organisations, PRA, GIS, MIS, gender & development, indigenous resource mobilisation, project formulation, traditional wisdom / indigenous technical knowledge, social audit, multi-stake holder partnership, report writing, communication skills, financial management, monitoring & evaluation, networking & advocacy skills, etc.

(5) Training programmes for the government officials at district, state and centre level should be so designed that the need for bringing about attitudinal changes about the voluntary sector is also taken into account. Focus of the capacity building should not be on tools and techniques but on changing perspectives, motivation and identities.

(6) There should be an inbuilt provision for some amount of funding for training in schemes to be implemented though voluntary sector. While sanctioning bigger projects to VOs, some percentage of grants could be earmarked for capacity building under the heading of training, for enhancement of the capability of the NGO workers.

(7) Capacity building cannot go in piecemeal manner and it has to be a long-term holistic process taking care of the concerns of NGO staff as well as of the organizational capacity. A scheme for deputation of NGO staff to Government and of staff of Central / State Government (administrative & technical) to NGOs may be considered by the concerned Departments / Ministries.

(8) Training programmes run by some NGOs are costly and smaller NGOs cannot bear that cost. Therefore, the Government should take care of training needs of smaller NGOs. A scheme of fellowships for those who cannot afford to undergo training may be launched by concerned Departments / Ministries.

(9) Mother NGOs should be identified and entrusted the role of capacity building of smaller NGOs at the field level. Mother NGOs may be given charge of managing the work of capacity building in 4-5 related sectors.

(10) VOs / NGOs are generally under-managed; therefore, there is a need to provide inputs from management schools. Already, a Management Institute of Mumbai sends / attaches its management students with reputed NGOs for a period of six weeks. This practice needs to be promoted and replicated in other management schools / institutes.

(11) Steps should be taken to identify capacity building organizations available within the voluntary sector and the government (such as NIPCCD, IIPA, NIHFW, NIRD) and their network could be facilitated by an appropriate government agency. In this regard, the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), which is already conducting training / orientation for Young Professionals of CAPART, may take a lead and conduct demand driven training programmes regularly for the

workers of VOs / NGOs as well as for the government officials dealing with voluntary sector, separately and in mixed groups.

Partnership between Voluntary Sector, Private Sector & Local-Self Government

(1) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) needs to be promoted. To attract corporate funding and partnership with private sector, accrediting or validation of VOs / NGOs and a methodology for that is required. Validation / accreditation of VOs / NGOs would be useful for both private & public sector and international donors. Concerned NGO networks, intermediary organisations and Ministries / Departments may evolve suitable methodologies for the purpose.

(2) Partnership between VOs and PRIs is essential for micro-level development planning. Representatives of voluntary sector be taken on PRI committees / councils and vice versa. *Gram Sabha* and other stakeholders must be informed of every project and details regarding the project activity & beneficiaries etc. by VOs / NGOs, as well as by the PRIs.

(3) The role of VOs / NGOs as specialised agencies and as a countervailing power, to take care of the public interest is required in tandem with the local-self government.

Promoting / Reviving / Galvanising the spirit of Volunteerism

(1) Successful cases of volunteerism need to be recognised, documented and disseminated appropriately.

(2) To promote the spirit of volunteerism the recurring grant to VOs / NGOs should not exceed 90% of the total funding. VOs / NGOs involving volunteers in their projects should be given preference by the grant-in-aid committees.

(3) Research organisations should measure quantitatively the contribution of volunteering on social and economic development and highlight it at the appropriate forums.

Monitoring and Evaluation

(1) The concerned Department / Ministries should evolve systematic monitoring & evaluation practices in respect of various types of projects and should make available a concrete list of check-points to the agencies involved in the monitoring of voluntary sector projects.

(2) The exercise of monitoring & evaluation should not be seen as an attempt to find faults or lapses on the part of the implementing organisation but it should serve as a mechanism to provide feedback for improvement and correction in the process adopted. This would requires mid-term monitoring and evaluation so that the organisation get enough time to tighten its loose strings and improve in the next stage of the project / programme.

(3) The committee empowered to sanction a particular scheme / project should to the extent possible also be associated with its monitoring & evaluation.

(4) The formats for reporting periodical progress reports adopted by some Departments / Ministries need to be streamlined by developing appropriate software package for systematic monitoring. The need to adopt Computerised Monitoring Information (CMIS) has also been highlighted by the Report of the Working Group on Strengthening Monitoring & Evaluation System for the Social Sector Development Schemes for the Tenth Plan (2001).

(5) For monitoring every project, implemented through voluntary sector, a committee / panel consisting of representatives from PRIs, district office, beneficiary group, senior citizens, academics and retired public sector officials of the area may be constituted.

(6) In case of innovative projects, which are in the nature of experiments, an approach based on statistics alone needs to be modified. As in most of such cases, the equation “money spent = work done” would not work. Each Department / Ministry may prepare guidelines explaining the nature of monitoring, adopt realistic indicators with reference to objectives to be achieved and arrange orientation of its evaluators / monitors through experienced VOs / NGOs to provide sensitivity to the work of voluntary sector.

(7) Monitoring & evaluation should be outcome focussed and it should try to elicit how much actually has reached the people. For that suitable checklists of measurable social indicators should be developed.

(8) Formats or checklists for monitoring & evaluating the work of VOs engaged: (i) as service delivery agents, (ii) in innovative development work or (iii) in active citizenry or watchdog agency role should be different.

(9) Qualitative and quantitative indicators based monitoring & evaluation of the work of VOs / NGOs undertaken by Departments / Ministries should be published and placed on their websites.

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ANNEXURE-I

Constitution of the Steering Committee on Voluntary Sector

No. M-99/14(2)/2000-VAC
Government of India
Planning Commission

Yojana Bhavan
New Delhi-110 001

5th February 2001

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) – Setting up of a Steering Committee on "Voluntary Sector".

In the context of the formulation of the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07), it has been decided to set up the following Steering Committee for the active involvement of Voluntary Sector in the development process:

1.	**Dr. D.N. Tewari** Member, In-charge of Voluntary Action Planning Commission New Delhi	**Chairman**
2.	Secretary Planning Commission New Delhi	Member
3.	Principal Adviser (Energy & VAC) Planning Commission New Delhi	Member
4.	Secretary Ministry of Rural Development Krishi Bhavan New Delhi	Member
5.	Secretary Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Shastri Bhavan New Delhi	Member
6.	Secretary Department of Women and Child Development	Member

	Shastri Bhavan New Delhi	
7.	Secretary Department of Economic Affairs North Block New Delhi	Member
8.	Secretary Department of Science & Technology Institutional Area New Mehrauli Road New Delhi	Member
9.	Secretary Department of Family Welfare Nirman Bhavan New Delhi	Member
10.	Secretary Department of Indian System of Medicine & Homeopathy Red Cross Building New Delhi	Member
11.	Director General, Forests Ministry of Environment & Forests CGO Complex, Lodhi Road New Delhi	Member
12.	Secretary Ministry of Tribal Affairs Shastri Bhavan New Delhi	Member
13.	Secretary Department of Elementary Education & Literacy Shastri Bhavan New Delhi	Member
14.	Secretary Department of Culture Shastri Bhavan New Delhi	Member
15.	Director General CAPART India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road New Delhi-110 003	Member
16.	Secretary Department of Planning	Member

	Government of Uttar Pradesh Lucknow	
17.	Secretary Department of Planning Government of Gujarat Gandhinagar – 382 010	Member
18.	Secretary Department of Planning Government of Maharashtra Mumbai	Member
19.	Secretary Department of Planning Government of Andhra Pradesh Hyderabad-500022	Member
20.	Secretary Department of Planning Government of Assam Guwahati	Member
21.	Dr. Rajesh Tandon Executive Director, PRIA 42, Tughlakabad Institutional Area New Delhi-110 016	Member
22.	Shri Shankar Ghosh National Foundation for India (NFI) India Habitat Centre Zone –IV-A, Upper Ground Floor Lodhi Road New Delhi-110 003	Member
23.	Shri Nanaji Deshmukh* Deen Dayal Upadhayay Research Institute Chitrakoot (Uttar Pradesh)	Member
24.	Shri Harnath Jagawat, Director, N.M. Sadguru Water & Development Foundation Village Chosala, Post Box 71, Dahod-389 151 (Gujarat)	Member
25.	Shri Deep Joshi Programme Director PRADAN (Professional Assistance for Development Action) 3, Community Centre, Niti Bagh,	Member

New Delhi -110 049

26. Shri Vijay Mahajan — Member
BASIX, 501, Nirmal Towers, Dwarakapuri Colony Punjagutta,
Hyderabad – 500082

27. Shri Satish Girija — Member
Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra
P.O. Box 37, Village Amrit Nagar, Korra
Hazaribagh-825 301

28. Dr. Kaushal Kumar — Member
Utthan - Centre for Sustainable Development
& Poverty Alleviation
18-A, Auckland Road
Allahabad-211001

29. Shri Jagadananda — Member
Centre for Youth & Social Development
E/1, Institutional Area
Bhubaneswar-751 013

30. Swami Nityamuktananda — Member
Rama Krishna Mission Ashram
PO Cherra Bazar, Cherrapunji
East Khasi Hills Dist.
Meghalaya

31. Shri Harsh Mander* — Member
Action Aid
71, Uday Park
New Delhi-110049

32. Mr. H.R. Purshotam Raj — Member
Business & Community Foundation
Bharat Yuvak Bhavan, II Floor
1, Jaisingh Road
New Delhi-110 001

33. Shri Ashutosh Tripathi — Member
AHEAD India Foundation
Q-342, Sector 21
Gautam Budha Nagar
NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh)

34. Shri Anil Singh — Member
Voluntary Action Network of India (VANI)
B-52, Shivalik Colony
New Delhi-110017

35. Dr. Swapan Garain — Member
S. P. Jain Institute of Management & Research
Munshi Nagar, Andheri (West)
Mumbai – 400 058

36. Prof. Rajendra Prasad — Member
Centre for Rural Development & Technology
IIT, Hauz Khas
New Delhi-110 016

37. Dr. N.N. Mehrotra — Member
Scientist, NICDAP
Central Drug Research Institute, P Box 173,
Lucknow - 226 001

38. Shri Y.N. Chaturvedi* — Member
Sanskar Shiksha Samiti
C-II/131, Moti Bagh
New Delhi

39. Shri Lalit Kumar — Member
Business Economist
A-68, Yojana Vihar
Delhi-110 092

40. Shri Naresh Kochhar — Member
Greenlawns Nursery, 15-A, Clive Road
Allahabad-211001

41. Shri Ashok Bhagat — Member
Vikas Bharti, Bishnupur,
Ranchi (Jharkhand)

42. Shri Priyadarsi Mishra — Member
Mahavir Yuvak Sangh
Qrs. No. 3R-136, Road No. IV, Unit-9
Bhubaneswar
Orissa

43. Shri Atulya Mahapatra — Member
Akhand Kunjeshwari Seva Samiti (AKSS)
709, Jharpada, Bhubaneswar 751006
Orissa

44. Shri J. Shanmughanath — Member
Karnataka Pradesh Congress Seva Dal
7/2, Plain Street, Sivaji Nagar
Bangalore-560 001
Karnataka

45. Deputy Adviser (VAC) Member-Secretary
Planning Commission
New Delhi

2. The **Terms of Reference** of the Steering Committee will be as follows**:**

(1) To **review** the policies, procedures, guidelines of the government and other organisations for involving voluntary organisations in different programmes / schemes and **suggest** alternative policies and simplified procedures / guidelines for involvement of the voluntary sector.

(2) To **review** the existing arrangements for capacity building of the voluntary sector and **suggest** measures to make VOs / NGOs more effective for good governance, service delivery and managing newer challenges of development.

(3) To **examine** the existing partnership levels between voluntary sector and private sector & PRIs / Municipalities and **recommend** appropriate steps to facilitate and enhance such partnerships.

(4) To **review** the level of people's participation and volunteerism in development programmes and **suggest** measures for reviving / galvanising the spirit of volunteerism and people's participation in development, particularly, suggesting ways for effectively utilizing services of volunteers, through VOs / NGOs, in the management of disasters such as earthquakes, floods, famines and cyclones etc.

(5) To **review** the existing methods for monitoring and evaluation of schemes / programmes implemented through VOs / NGOs and **suggest** improvements in methodologies for effective monitoring and evaluation.

3. The Chairman of the Steering Committee may, if necessary, constitute Sub-Groups on any specific area / problem and also co-opt additional Members.

4. The expenditure on TA/DA in connection with the meetings of the Steering Group will be borne by the parent Department/Ministry/Organization to which the officers belong. Non-official members will be entitled to TA / DA as admissible to Grade-I Officers of the Government of India and this will be paid by the Planning Commission.

Sd/-
(K.K. Chhabra)
Under Secretary (Admn)

To:
Chairman and all Members of the Steering Committee.

Copy to: -

1. PS to Deputy Chairman
1. PS to Member (DNT)
2. Sr PPS to Secretary,
3. PS to Pr. Adviser (VAC)
4. Adviser (PC & Admn.)

5. All Heads of Divisions
6. Administration I Branch / Accounts I Branch

Sd/-
(K.K. Chhabra)
Under Secretary (Admn)

*Neither he nor his representative could attend any of the Steering Committee meetings.

ANNEXURE-II

List of Schemes for assistance to VOs / NGOs implemented by some of the Departments / Ministries

Ministry of Human Resources Development

Department of Women and Child Development

1. Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP)
2. Setting up of Employment and Income Generating Training-cum-Production Units for Women (NORAD)
3. Construction / Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with a Day Care Centre
4. Short Stay Homes for Women and Girls (SSH)
5. Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities on Women
6. Balika Samriddhi Yojana (BSY)
7. National Creche Fund Scheme 1994
8. General Grant-in-aid for Voluntary Organisations in the field of Women and Child Development
9. Organisational Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Women and Child Development
10. Grant-in-aid for Research and Publications

National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)

11. National Children's Fund (NCF)

Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)

12. Awareness Generation Programme (AGP)
13. Condensed Courses of Education for Women
14. Socio-Economic Programme (SEP)
15. Family Counselling Centres
16. Working Women's Hostels
17. Creches / Day Care Centers for Children of working / ailing mothers

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

18. Main Loan Scheme of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh
19. Loan Promotion Scheme
20. Revolving Fund Scheme
21. Scheme for Development and Stabilisation of Self-Help Groups
22. Death Relief and Rehabilitation Fund Scheme
23. Nodal Agency Scheme
24. Marketing Finance Scheme

Ministry of Rural Development

Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)

1. Promotion of Voluntary Action in Rural Development (Public Cooperation Scheme)
2. Organisation of Beneficiaries Scheme
3. Watershed Conservation and Development Programme
4. Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme
5. Disability – A strategy to promote the participation of people with Disabilities in programmes for Rural Development

Department of Rural Development

1. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
2. Innovative stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development Scheme
3. Scheme of rural Building Centres
4. Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme for rural Housing
5. National Social Assistance Programme
6. Samagra Awaas Yojana
7. Indira Awaas Yojana

Department of Land Resources

1. Integrated Wastelands Development Project (IWDP)
2. Technology Development, Extension and Training Scheme fpr Wasteland Development in Non-forest Areas.
3. Investment Promotional Scheme for Development of Non-forest Wastelands.
4. Grants-in-aid to NGOs/VAs for undertaking works relating to Afforestation and Wasteland Development.

Department of Drinking Water

1. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme
2. Central Rural Sanitation Programme

Ministry of Health & Family welfare

Department of Family Welfare

1. Scheme of Reproductive and Child Health
2. Sterlisation Bed Scheme
3. Urban Revamping Scheme
4. Scheme of Multipurpose Female Health Workers ANMs Training Programme
5. Grant-in-aid under Standing Committee on Voluntary Action
6. Social Marketing Scheme

Department of Health

1. Scheme of Improvement of Medical Services
2. Scheme for Promotion & Development of Voluntary Blood Donation Programme
3. Special Health Scheme for Rural Areas
4. Scheme of National Anti-Malaria Programme
5. Scheme for financial assistance to VOs for undertaking Leprosy Survey, Education & Treatment
6. Scheme for Treatment of Tuberculosis
7. Scheme for Control of Blindness
8. Scheme for Control of AIDS
9. Scheme for Undertaking Health Education & Early Detection Activities in Cancer
10. Scheme for financial assistance to Voluntary Organisations for setting up of Cobalt Therapy Units
11. Scheme for Prevention of Food Adulteration
12. Scheme for Assistance to Voluntary Organisations under Drug De-addiction Programme
13. Scheme for Opening of Schools of Nursing
14. Scheme for Grant-in-aid to NGOs for Setting up or Expansion of Eye Care Units in Tribal / Remote Areas
15. Scheme for Voluntary Organisations Setting up Book Banks for SC/ST Students
16. Grant-in-aid to VOs to Undertake Sample Survey/Research on Areas of Public Health, Problems/Diseases

Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy

1. Scheme for Re-orientation Training programme of ISM&H Personnel
2. Scheme of Information Education and Communication
3. Scheme for International Exchange Programme/Seminar/Workshops in ISM&H
4. Scheme of Extra Mural Research on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy
5. Scheme of Indian Systems of Medicine in Reproduction and Child Health Programme

Ministry of Tribal Affairs

1. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisation Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes
2. Schemes of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Girls Literacy in Tribal Areas
3. Scheme of Vocational Training Centre in Tribal Areas
4. Scheme of Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Development of Primitive Tribal Groups
5. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to VOs for Supporting Research and Evaluation / Workshop /Seminars and Publication projects of all Indian or Inter-State Nature.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Scheduled Castes Development Programmes

1. National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents
2. National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation
3. Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for Scheduled Castes Girls belonging to very Low literacy levels
4. Scheme of Construction of Hostel Buildings for Scheduled Caste Boys and Girls
5. Coaching and Allied Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students
6. Scheme of Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Supporting Projects of All India or Inter-State nature for Scheduled Caste Development
7. Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Development of Scheduled Castes.

Development Programmes of other Backward Classes

8. Scheme of Construction of Hostel for other backward class boys and girls
9. Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for Other Backward Classes (OBCs)
10. Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Welfare of OBCs
11. Financial Assistance under National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation

Development Programmes for the Minorities

12. Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for Weaker Sections Among Minorities based on Economic Criteria.
13. Scheme of Financial Assistance under National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation.
    - 13.1 Scheme of Micro-Financing to Minorities through NGOs.
14. Maulana Azad Education Foundation's Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary organisations.
    - 14.1 Scheme of Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations to establish School/Residential School mainly for Girls.
    - 14.2 Scheme of Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations to Technical/ Professional Institutions
15. Central Wakf Council's Grants to Wakf Boards /Wakf institution for development of Urban Wakf Properties.
    - 15.1 Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Development of Urban Wakf properties
    - 15.2 Scheme of Financial Assistance to Wakf Institutions for Educational Development

Programmes for Welfare of Persons with Disabilities

16. Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities
17. Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances
18. Scheme of Financial Assistance to NGOs under Science and Technology Project in Mission Mode on Application of Technology for the Welfare of the Handicapped
19. Scheme of Assistance under National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation

19.1 Financial Assistance to Disabled Persons through Micro Financing Scheme

20. National Trust Fund Scheme for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability.

Social Defence Programmes

Programmes for Older Persons

21. Scheme for Integrated Programme for Older Persons
22. Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self-Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons

Programmes for Children

23. Schemes of Integrated Programme for Street Children
24. Scheme of Juvenile Justice
25. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Homes for infants (Shishu Greh) in Promoting In-Country Adoption

Programme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse

26. Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse

Other Social Defence Programme

27. Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Providing social Defence Services

Social Welfare Research/Evaluation and publication

28. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid for Social Welfare Research/Evaluation and Publication

Ministry of Environment and Forest

Eco-Regeneration and Development Programme

1. Grant-in-aid Scheme for Voluntary Organisations
2. Scheme of Eco-Development Camps
3. Field Demonstration Projects for Integrated Ecological

Environmental Education, Training and Information Programme

4. Scheme of National Environmental Awareness Campaign
5. Scheme of Financial Assistance to VOs for Setting up Eco-clubs in schools
6. Scheme of Environment Education in schools
7. Scheme of Assistance for Seminars/Symposia/Workshops on Environment
8. Scheme of Environment Information System

Environmental Research and Development Programme

1. Man and Biosphere Programme
2. Programme on Biosphere Reserves
3. Programme on Wetlands
4. Programme on Mangroves
5. Programme on Coral Reefs
6. Scheme of National Natural Resource Management System

Department of Science & Technology

Science & Society Programme

1. Science and Technology for Rural Development
2. Science & Technology for Women
3. Science & Technology for Weaker Section
4. Special Component Plan Scheme of Science & Technology for the Development of Scheduled Castes
5. Science & Technology for Tribal Development (Tribal Sub-Plan)
6. Scheme for Young Scientists

Scientific Research Programme

7. Scheme of Utilisation of Scientific Expertise of Retired Scientists

Science & Technology Communication and Popularisation Programme

8. Programme of Training in S&T Communication
9. Voluntary Blood Donation Programme
10. S&T Communication Software Development
11. Research in S&T Communication
12. Field Programmes
13. Projects with Emphasis on Specific Areas

Department of Culture

1. Building and equipment grants to voluntary cultural organisations
2. Grants in aid to Voluntary Organisations / Societies for development and maintenance of National Memorials
3. Promotion & strengthening of Regional and Local Museums
4. Preservation and development of the cultural heritage of the Himalayas
5. Promotion and dissemination of tribal / folk art and culture
6. Development of Buddhist-Tibetan culture and art
7. Financial assistance for research support to Voluntary Organisations engaged in cultural activities
8. Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for celebration of centenaries of important personalities.

ANNEXURE-III

Voluntary Organizations sanctioned more than Rs. One Crore by CAPART

(As on 19th November 2001)

Sl. No.	VOs Title Address	No. of Projects	Total Sanctioned Amount	Total Released Amount
1	A M M MURUGAPPA CHETTIAR RESEARCH CENTRE PHOTOSYNTHESIS AND ENERGY DIVISION THARAMANI, CHENNAI TAMILNADU	17	1,23,31,791	89,97,799
2	ACTION FOR AGRICULTURAL RENEWAL IN MAHARASHTRA 3-C, SHANKARSHET ROAD, DISTT PUNE-MAHARASHTRA	8	1,10,57,760	76,94,980
3	AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (INDIA) CHOICE PREMISES, SWASTIK CROSS ROAD, NAVRANGPURA DISTT-AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT	36	1,32,27,895	75,87,421
4	ANANTAPUR DISTRICT FARMER'S FORUM WHITE HOUSE COMPLEX, H L C COLONY ROAD DISTT ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH	16	1,00,83,729	87,93,854
5	BHARATI SEVA SADAN SHRI NIKETAN, ABULAS LANE, MACHUATOLI, DISTT PATNA BIHAR	15	1,40,41,213	85,75,186
6	BHARATIYA AGRO INDUSTRIES FOUNDATION DR MANIBHAI DESAI NAGAR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO-4 WARJE, DISTT POONA, MAHARASHTRA	33	6,19,65,857	4,04,54,718
7	BHORUKA CHARITABLE TRUST VILL/PO	14	1,37,79,258	1,21,26,767

	BHORUGRAM, DISTT CHURU, RAJASTHAN			
8	CENTRAL YOUNG MIZO ASSOCIATION CENTRAL YMA OFFICE, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, AIZAWAL MIZORAM	20	1,92,60,292	1,36,69,175
9	CENTRE OF SCIENCE FOR VILLAGES MAGAN SANGRAHALAYA, KUMARAPPA ROAD, DISTT WARDHA MAHARASHTRA	25	1,41,80,970	1,04,58,130
10	DEVELOPMENT OF HUMANE ACTION (DHAN) FOUNDATION 18,PILLAIYAR KORI STREET,SOMASUNDARAM COLONY,MADURAI	4	1,26,43,146	46,56,199
11	DISHA SOCIAL ORGANISATION SULTANPUR, CHILKANA, DIST SAHARANPUR, UTTAR PRADESH	16	1,12,51,710	33,09,165
12	GRAM BHARATI SARVODAYA ASHRAM AT+ P.O SIMULTALA, DIST JAMUI (MUNGER), BIHAR	17	1,56,36,804	1,12,86,004
13	GRAM VIKAS PO. MOHUDA, VIA BERHAMPUR, DISTT GANJAM, ORISSA	43	2,97,43,677	1,79,16,268
14	GUJARAT KHET VIKAS PARISHAD KHET BHAVAN, NEAR HARIJAN ASHRAM, DISTT AHMEDABAD GUJARAT	21	2,55,38,746	2,19,86,906
15	GUTTUR RURAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY AT AMMAVARIPALLI, MANDAL PENUKONDA, DISTT ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH	12	1,00,53,870	91,17,260
16	HIMALAYAN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND CONSERVATION ORGANISATION (HESCO) VILL GHISADPADI, PO MEHUWALA VIA MAJRA,	17	1,81,94,604	1,30,94,204

	DISTT DEHRADUN, UTTAR PRADESH			
17	INDIAN INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION AND HUMAN RELATIONS 327 A, PATLIPUTRA PATH, RAJENDRA NAGAR, DISTT PATNA BIHAR	21	1,05,74,761	81,14,060
18	INTERNATIONAL RURAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATION INRECA COMPLEX RAJPIPLA ROAD, DEDIAPADA DISTT BHARUCH, GUJARAT	26	1,25,81,942	1,08,69,452
19	JNANA PRABODHINI 510 SADASHIV PETH, DISTT PUNE, MAHARASHTRA 411 030	5	1,35,89,191	90,18,851
20	M S SWAMINATHAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION 3RD CROSS STREET, TARAMANI INSTITUTIONAL AREA, DISTT MADRAS, TAMILNADU -600113	13	1,24,44,398	83,16,335
21	MAHILA SHILP KALA KENDRA 11, AJUDHYA KUNJ, DISTT AGRA, UTTAR PRADESH	9	1,11,32,884	41,25,750
22	MALANADU DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY KANJRAPALLY, DISTT KOTTAYAM, KERALA	12	1,44,51,544	1,44,47,785
23	MITRA NIKETAN PO VELLANAD, DISTT TRIVANDRUM, KERALA 24 MYRADA	22	1,16,36,740	94,19,920
24	MYRADA 2,SERVICE ROAD, DOMLUR LAYOUT, DISTT BANGLORE, KARNATAKA	53	2,00,32,540	1,27,14,617
25	N M SADGURU WATER AND DEVELOPMENT FOUDATION POST BOX NO 71, NEAR R.T.O. NAKA, AT & P.O. DAHOD DIST PANCHMAHAL, GUJARAT	27	1,46,05,541	1,26,35,472
26	N R EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY AT&P.O MANASTHALI, KNNAKOTHAPALLY DISTT ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH	18	1,37,16,748	93,10,725
27	NAV BHARAT JAGRITI	20	1,39,26,005	1,07,71,827

	KENDRA VILL BAHERA, PO BRINDAVAN, VIA CHOUPARAN DISTT HAZARIBAGH, BIHAR			
28	PATNA EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRUST NEW BARLEY ROAD, UKUNPURA. PO BV, COLLEGE PATNA - 800 014	11	1,23,88,693	1,08,91,843
29	PEERMADE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY Y.B.NO.11, PEERMADE, DISTT IDUKKI, KERALA	5	1,65,92,760	1,42,92,660
30	PEOPLE SCIENCE INSTITUTE 252 VASANT VIHAR, PHASE I, DISTT DEHRADUN UTTAR PRADESH	10	1,31,78,678	1,16,69,713
31	PRAGATISHEEL KHADI GRAMODYOG SANSTHAN VILL SHAHPUR, PO CHINAHAT, DIST. LUCKNOW UTTAR PRADESH	24	1,01,35,574	82,17,892
32	RASHTRIYA SEVA SAMITI NO.9, OLD HUZUR OFFICE BUILDINGS, TIRUPATI DISTT CHITTOOR, ANDHRA PRADESH	25	1,61,97,188	1,42,56,619
33	RURAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN INTEREST (RUCHI) SHALANA, PO RAJGARH, DIST SIRMAUR, HIMACHAL PRADESH	36	1,43,65,447	1,02,31,630
34	RURAL COMMUNES 70 2ND FLOOR, ANANDILAL PODDAR MARG, BOMBAY, MAHARASHTRA	4	1,02,06,602	26,32,432
35	RURAL SERVICE AGENCY PALACE COMPOUND (WEST), DISTT IMPHAL, MANIPUR	21	1,09,33,365	59,87,100
36	SAMAJ PRAGATI SAHYOG GARHI, BLOCK BAGLI, DISTT DEWAS, MADHYA PRADESH	6	2,73,30,265	2,03,75,056
37	SAMAJIK SHAIKSHANIK VIKAS KENDRA AT/PO PATHRAHI, R.S. JHANJHARPUR, DISTT MADHUBANI BIHAR	34	1,04,78,980	82,62,706
38	SHRI RAMAKRISHNA	7	1,32,91,124	77,52,688

	ASHRAM NIMPITH ASHRAM, DISTT SOUTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL			
39	SHRI VIVEKANANDA RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE AT/PO MANDVI, DISTT KUTCH, GUJARAT	76	4,73,43,954	4,01,48,412
40	SIDDHESHWAR KRUSHI AND GRAMIN VIKAS SANSTHA AT & P.O-PARGAON, HATKANANGALE, DIST-KOLHAPUR,MAHARASHTRA	1	1,00,00,000	2,00,000
41	SOCIAL WORK AND RESEARCH CENTRE TILONIA,MADANGANJ, DIST AJMER, RAJASTHAN	25	7,48,35,415	4,27,87,576
42	SOCIETY FOR RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION RUPCON DIVISION, BARIATU, DISTT. RANCHI, BIHAR	21	3,58,50,593	1,37,77,711
43	TAGORE SOCIETY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT VPO RANGABELIA, DISTT 24 PARAGANAS (S) WESTBENGAL	16	1,40,69,238	1,32,32,308
44	TARUN SANGHA VILL PHAKIRCHAK, PO BARABARI, DISTT MIDNAPORE WEST BENGAL	16	1,17,29,025	85,78,690
45	VASAVYA MAHILA MANDALI NASTHIKA KEVIDRAM, BENZ CIRCLE, VIJAYAWADA DISTT KRISHNA, ANDHRA PRADESH	9	1,11,29,698	1,01,89,531
46	VIVEKANANDA KENDRA VIVEKANANDAPURAM, DISTT KANYAKUMARI, TAMILNADU 629 702	33	1,43,35,997	1,23,04,537
47	WEST BENGAL SCHEDULED CASTE TRIBES AND MINORITY WELFARE ASSOCIATION RABINDRANAGAR, DISTT MIDNAPORE, WEST BENGAL	33	2,48,33,377	2,11,95,880
48	YOUNG INDIA PROJECT	19	2,29,26,722	1,26,33,956

	AT/PO PENUKONDA, DISTT ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH			
49	YOUTH WELFARE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY PO CHITRASENPUR, DISTT HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL	26	1,76,42,729	1,49,48,280

ANNEXURE-IV

List of Mother NGOs of Department of Family Welfare

(As on 13th September 2001)

Sl. No.	State	Name of MNGO	District Allocated	No. of district Allocated
1	Andhra	Rahul's Medical & Health Services Society, Kothakota, Mahabubnagar, Andhra Pradesh – 509 381	Medak, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Hyderabad, Warangal.	8
2	Andhra	Society for National Integration through Rural Developments (SNIRD), Railpet, Ongole P.O. Prakasam District	Prakasam, East Godavari, Nellore, Krishana.	4
3	Andhra	St.Peter's Multipurpose Health Workers (Female) Development Society, Tenali P.O, Guntur District	Guntur	1
4	Andhra	Health Education Agricultural Development Society, Muttala Post, Atmakur via, Anantapur District – 515 751	Anantpur, Chittoor, Cuddapah.	3
5	Andhra	Social Action For Social Development, 131-B Surya Nilaya Apartments, Flat No. 3, II Floor, Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar, Hyderabad 500 038.	Mahabubnagar, Kurnool, Rangareddy	3
6	Andhra	National Educational Minorities Society, Surya Hanuma Apartments, D.No. 12-15-53, Kothapet (Post), Guntur – 522001	Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram.	2
7	Andhra	Ekalavya Memorial League, Ramakrishna Puram, Chirala, Prakasam District.	West Godavari,Visakhapatnam.	2
8	Arunachal Pradesh	Voluntary Health Association of Arunachal Pradesh **,P.O.Box No.185, Bank Tinali,Itanagar	All districts of Arunachal Pradesh	11
9	Assam	Rural Women Upliftment Association,Japorigog High School Lane,Guwahati-781 005	Barpeta, Nalbari, Kamrup, Dispur	4
10	Assam	Voluntary Health Association of Assam, Barnali Path, R. G. Baruah	Karimganj, Cachar, Golaghat, Sonitpur	4

		Road, Nandanpur, (Near State Zoo),Guwahati – 781 005		
11	Assam	Deshbandhu Club,Beharabazar, Cachar, Assam-788 81	Nagaun,Karbi-anglong, Lakhimpur	3
12	Bihar	Bihar Voluntary health Association, West of Ganga Apartment, LCT Ghat, Manipura, Patna – 800 001	Patna, Nalanda, Munger, Bhojpur, Vaishali	5
13	Bihar	Scientific Educational Promotion & Medical Aid Foundation, 1-Niti Bagh, B.V. College P.O., Patna – 800 014.	Aurangabad, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj	4
14	Bihar	Millat Educational Society, Station Road, P.O. & District Samastipur, Bihar – 848 101.	Samastipur, Begusarai, Sitamarhi	3
15	Bihar	Mahila Bal Utthan Kendra, Sahu Road, Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 842 001.	Muzaffarpur, Madhubani, Darbhanga.	3
16	Jharkand	Women in Social Action, Raghunathpur, Jhargram-721507 Midnapore, West Bengal	East & West Singhbhum, Ranchi, Dhanbad.	4
17	Bihar	Adithi, 2/30, State Bank Colony-II, Bailey Road, Patna-800 014	Jehanabad, Gaya, Rohtas	3
18	Bihar	Gram Nirman Mandal, Sarvodaya Ashram, PO Sakhodeora, Dist. Nawada, Pin-805106	Jamui, Nawada,Lakhisarai	3
18A	Jharkhand	*Gram Nirman Mandal, Sarvodaya Ashram, PO Sakhodeora, Dist. Nawada, Pin-805106	Kodama	1
19	Jharkhand	Krishi Gram Vikas Kendra,PO Neori Vikash, Block Ormanjhi, Ranchi.	Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Gumla, Bokaro	4
20	Bihar	Adarsh Mahila Kala Kendra, Manorama Bhavan, Manorama Lane, Amirganj, Rajpur Road, Samastipur	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued	1
21	Bihar	Bhagwan Buddha Vikas Samiti, North Mandir, Sourth of Kalimandir, Bansghar, Patna	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued	1
22	Bihar	Shantidoot, Udantpur, Biharsharif	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued	
23	Jharkhand	Phooleen Mahila Chetna Kendra, Bhotachorant, Ramchandrapur, via Madhupur-815353, Deoghar	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued	
24	Chandigarh	Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies, Delhi Chapter, I Floor,	Chandigarh.	1

		Community Centre, Near Fire Station, Hari Nagar Ashram.		
25	Chhattisgarh	Centre for Labour Education and Social Research, C-14, Indira Vihar, Bilaspur, MP. –495006(MP off) J-2/63A, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-19(Delhi off)	Korba, Jangirchampa, Raigarh, Jashpur, Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Kawardha, Mahasamund.	9
26	Chhattisgarh	*Utthan – Centre for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, 102, G/3, Beni Ganj, Allahabad	Bilaspur, Sarguja	2
27	Delhi	INDCARE Charitable Trust,1030, Vikas Kunj, Vikas Puri, Delhi	North, North-west, West	3
24A	Delhi	*Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies, Delhi Chapter, I Floor, Community Centre, Near Fire Station, Hari Nagar Ashram.	South, South-West, East, North-East, Central and New Delhi	6
28	Gujarat	Gujarat Voluntary Health Association, E-5, Sterline Row House, Drive-in Road, Memnagar P.O. Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad, Bharuch, Anand, Kheda, Baroda	5
29	Gujarat	FPAI, Nashabandhi Compund, Opp. Multi-Storeyed Building, Bhadra, Ahmedabad-1.	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued.	
30	Gujarat	CHETNA, Lilavatiben Lalbhai's Bungalow, Civil Camp Road, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad – 380 004	Panchmahal, Banaskatha, Sabarkatha and Mehsana	4
31	Gujarat	Samagra Vikas Trust **Ashish, Ramnagar – 9, Amreli, Gujarat	Amreli, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Rajkot and Surendernagar	5
24B	Haryana	*Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies, Delhi Chapter, I Floor, Community Centre, Near Fire Station, Hari Nagar Ashram.	Faridabad, Gurgoan, Rohtak, Sonepat, Panipat, Karnal, Jhajjar, Jind	8
32	Haryana	Survival for Women and Children Foundations (SWACH), Sector – 16, Panchkula, Haryana.	Ambala, Panchkula, Yamuna Nagar, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Fatehhabad, Hissar, Sirsa	8
33	Haryana	Haryana Nava Yuvak Kala Sangam, 443/30, Development Colony, Delhi Road, Rohtak-124001, Haryana.	Bhiwani	1

34	Himachal Pradesh	Society for Social Uplift Through Rural Action, P.O.Jagjit Nagar, via Jubbar, Solan District-173225, Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Una and Chamba.	3
35	Himachal Pradesh	Nishcal Foundation (Anand Welfare Centre), Gabriel Road, Sector II, Parwanoo – 173220.	Solan, Shimla, Sirmour, Kinnaur	4
36	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh Voluntary Health Association(HPVHA), B-37, Phase-I, Sector-2, New Shimla-171009.	Bilaspur, Mandi, Hamirpur, Kullu and Lahul and Spiti	5
37	Jammu & Kashmir	Kalamkari Centre (Society) Vocational Oriented Women's Polytechnic,Upper Ploura, P.O. Ploura, Jammu	Jammu (all blocks except three allocated to JKESL), Kathua, Poonc	3
38	Jammu & Kashmir	J&K Ex-Services League,Amphalla, Jammu-180005	Udhampur, Rajouri, Doda, 3 blocks-Bhalwal, Dansel and Samba, of Jammu Division.	3
39	Jammu & Kashmir	Valley Women's Welfare Society, Post Box No. 542, G.P.O., Srinagar-190 001	Anantnag, Srinagar	2
40	Karnataka	Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies Karnataka Chapter, Shaakari, No. 338, A II Floor, III Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore.	Tumkur, Kolar, Chitradurg, Davangare, Belgaum, Dharwad, Haveri, Bijapur, Bagal Kote,Gulbarga,Raich er, Koppal, Bellary.	13
41	Karnataka	St. John Medical College, Bangalore-569 934.	Chikkamangalur, Kodagu,Hassan, Dakshina Kannada,Uttar Kannada, Shimoga, Gadag, Udupi	8
42	Karnataka	Revanasidheswar Prasanna Education Society, Opp. Haji Saw Mill, Mailoor Road, Bidar-585 403.	Bidar.	1
43	Karnataka	Karnataka Voluntary Health Association, 60, Rajini Nilaya, 2nd Cross, Gurumurthy Street, Ramakrishna Mutt Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore	Bangalore (Urban),Banga-lore (Rural), Mandhya, Mysore, Chamaraj Nagar	5

44	Kerala	Kerala Voluntary Health Services,Mullankuzhi, Collectorate PO,Kottayam – 686 002	Kottayam, Alappuzha, Idukki, Ernkulam, Palakkad	5
45	Kerala	Family Planning Association of India, Kallattumukku,Manacaud - P.O., Thiruvananthapuram	Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta	3
46	M.P.	Family Planning Association of India, Bajaj Bhawan, Nariman Point, Mumbai – 400 021.	Indore, Devas, Ujjain, Shahjapur, Rajgarh, Vidisha, Hoshangabad, Jabalpur, Damoh, Sagar, Narsimhapur	11
47	M.P.	Sarvajanik Pariwar Kalyan and Sewa Samiti, Health Research Project Building, Darji Oli, Jamdar Khana, Gwalior- 474001	Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Datia,Sheopur	5
48	M.P.	Sanskar Shiksha Samiti, E-7/327, MIG Area Colony, Bhopal – 16, MP.	Bhopal, Seohar, Risan.	3
49	M.P.	Sambhav Social Service Organisation, 13, Balwant Nagar, Gwalior – 474002, MP/	Guna, Shivpur, Chattarpur, Tikamgarh, Shahdol, Panna.	6
50	M.P.	Madhya Pradesh Voluntary Health Association, PB No.601, 9/4, Manaramaganj, St. No. 5, Indore, MP.	Khandwa, Nime, Jhabna,Dhar	4
51	M.P.	Medical Counseling Centre, 13-14, Panchsheel Nagar, Bhopal-462003.	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued.	3
52	M.P.	*Utthan – Centre for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, 102, G/3, Beni Ganj, Allahabad	Satna, Rewa, Siddhi	3
53	Maharashtra	Pravara Medical Trust, Loni (BK), 413 736, Taluka Sri Rampur, Ahmednagar.	Beed, Aurangabad, Jalana.	3
54	Maharashtra	Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies, Shardham Park, A-Wing, 3rd Floor, Near Jahangir Nursing Home, Pune-411001.	Pune, Ahmednagar, Raigarh, Greater Mumbai, Dhule, Amravati, Nagpur, Latur, Nanded	8
55	Maharashtra	Godavari Foundation, Godavari Hospital Building, MG College Road, Near Bhaskar Market, Jalgaon-425001.	Jalgaon, Dhule, Nasik, Yavatmal, Bhusaval.	5

56	Manipur	Lamding Cherapur Homeopathic and Unani Association, Lamding Cherapur, Wangjing-795148	Imphal East, Imphal West, Bishnupur and Thoubal	4
57	Manipur	Family Planning Association of India,Keishamthong Bazar,Imphal – 795 001	Senapati, Ukhrul, Tamenlong, Churachandpur, Chandel	5
58	Nagaland	Nagaland Voluntary Health Association,Opposite War Cemetery, Kohima	Kohima, Wokha & Phek	3
59	Orissa	Association for Social Reconstructive Activities (ASRA), Satyaprada Press Premises, Pitha pur,Cuttack-753001, Orissa.	Jajpur, Sundergarh	2
60	Orissa	Institute for Social Work & Action Research(ISWAR), Chirulei, Mahimagadi, Dhenkanal-759014	Dhenkanal	1
61	Orissa	Orissa Voluntary Health Association, 317, Parkview, Mausima Chauk, Bhubaneswar-751 014, Orissa.	Angul, Gayapati, Boudh, Kandhamal, Koraput,Ganjam, Nayagarh, Rayagada.	8
62	Orissa	Anchalika Kunjeshwari Sankrut Sansad, Sevanchala PO Kanas, District Puri – 752 017.	Puri, Khurda, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Kendrapara	5
63	Orissa	MY HEART (March of Youth for Health, Education and Action for Rural Trust), 21, Brameshwar bagh, Trankapani Road, Bhubaneswar-751002.	Bargarh, Jharshguda, Sonepur, Sambalpur, Deogarh.	5
64	Orissa	PRAKALPA, P.O.Jyotipur, District Keonjhar, Orissa-758046.	Keonjhar	1
65	Orissa	Nilanchal Seva Pratishtan, Dayavihar(Kanas), District Puri-752017, Orissa.	Mayurbhanj	1
66	Orissa	NIHARD, Cuttack	GIAC recommended. Sanction yet to be issued. Proposed districts Baleshwar and Malkangiri	2
67	Orissa	Animal Welfare Society, Bhubaneshwar, Qr.No.4R/2, Unit-8, Gopalbandhu Square, Bhubaneshwar-751012.	Bhadrak and Nabrangpur	2
24C	Punjab	Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies, Delhi Chapter, I Floor, Community Centre, Near Fire	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Jalandhar, Kapurthala,	10

		Station, Hari Nagar Ashram.	Ludhiana, Patiala, Roop Nagar, Hosiarpur, Sangrur, Mansa	
68	Rajasthan	Bhoruka Charitable Trust,1, Vill. & Post Bhorugram, Dist. Churu, Pin 331035.	Churu, Hanumangarh, Sikar Ganganagar, Junjhunu	5
69	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Voluntary Health Association,11/1040, Shipra Path, Agarwal Farm, mansarovar,Jaipur – 302 020	Sirohi, Udaipur, Bhilwara, Dungerpur, Banswara	5
70	Rajasthan	URMUL, Rural Health Research, Urmul Campus,Sri Ganganagar Road,Bikaner – 334 603	Bikaner, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Nagaur	5
71	Sikkim	Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim , Sonam Gyatso Marg (Tibet Road), Post Box-144, Gangtok	North Sikkim, South Sikkim, East Sikkim and West Sikkim	4
72	Tamil Nadu	FPAI, Madurai, FPAI Bhawan, FPAI Road, Ellis Nagar, Madurai	Madurai, Tuticorin, Kanyakumari, Coimbatore, Thanjavur	5
73	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Voluntary Health Association, 18, Appadurai Main Road, Ayanavaram, Chennai – 23	Dharmpuri, Salem, Namakkal, Theni, Tiruvelveli, Villupuram	6
74	Tamil Nadu	Rural Education & Development Society, REDS Farm, Kootururavupatty, Idayamelur Post, Sivgangai –623 563	Sivagangai, Ramnathapuram, Pudukkottai, Virudhunagar	4
75	Tamil Nadu	Deepam Educational Society for Health (DESH), 3-D, Monte Colony, TTK Road, Alwarpet, Chennai	Chennai, Kanchipuram	2
76	Tamil Nadu	Gandhigram Instt. of Rural Health & Family Welfare Trust, P.O. Ambathurai R.S., Dindigul, Anna District, Tamil Nadu	Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirapalli, Tiruvarur, Dindigul	7
77	Tripura	Voluntary Health Association of Tripura, Circuit House Area,Opp. Bangladesh Visa Officer, PO Kunjaban, Agartala	North, West and South Tripura	3

78	Uttar Pradesh	*Utthan – Centre for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, 102, G/3, Beni Ganj, Allahabad	Allahabad, Banda, Rae Bareli, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh	5
79	Uttar Pradesh	World Welfare and Research Institute, 1, Zila Parishad Boarding House, 45/4, Malviya Nagar, Gonda	Bahraich, Sharavasti (Bahraich), Gonda, Balrampur (Gonda), Basti	5
80	Uttar Pradesh	Family Planning Association of India , 27,Dr. B. N. Verma Road, Lucknow	Barabanki, Sitapur, Lucknow, Unnao, Hardoi, Lakhimpur Kheri	7
81	Uttar Pradesh	New Public School Samiti , 504/21-D, Krishna Bhavan, Tagore Marg, Daliganj, Lucknow	Kanpur Nagar, Kanpur (Dehat), Auraiya, Kannauj, Etawah, Farrukhabad	6
82	Uttar Pradesh	Naujhil Integrated Rural Project for Health and Development (NIRPHAD), 14, Boulevard Road, Delhi	Agra, Aligarh, Badaun, Etah, Mainpuri, Mathura	6
83	Uttar Pradesh	*Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jolly Grant Doiwala, Dehradun	Dehradun, Pauri,Haridwar, Saharanpur,	4
84	Uttar Pradesh	Indian Institute for Development Studies, 18/25, Stanley Road, Judges Colony, Allahabad-211 002.	Varanasi, Badohi, Jhaunpur, Sultanpur, Fatehpur, Son Bhadra.	6
85	Uttar Pradesh	CARTE, Block C, Sector-16, Shastri Nagar, Ghaziabad 201002	Ghaziabad, Meerut, Bulandshahar, Gautam Budh Nagar	4
86	Uttar Pradesh	UPVHA, 5/459, Vikram Khand, Gomti Nagar-226010, Lucknow	Sant Kabir Nagar, Ba Maharaj Nagar, Mau,	4
83A	Uttaranchal	*Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jolly Grant Doiwala, Dehradun	Uttar Kashi, Tehri	2
87	West Bengal	West Bengal Voluntary Health Association, 19A, Dr. Sundari Mohan Avenue, Calcutta	Dakshin Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Coochbihar, Ttar Dinajpur, Malda, Bankura, Purulia, Darjeeling.	8

88	West Bengal	Child in Need Institute, Post Box No. 16742, Calcutta – 700027.	Calcutta, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Nadia, Hooghly, Birbhum, Midnapore, Tamluk.	8
89	West Bengal	Gana Unnayan Parishad, P.O. Bankura, 10, Ganesh Lane, Calcutta.	North 24 Parganas, Burdwan, Murshidabad.	3

- MNGOs working in more than one state, therefore, their names are repeated against each State.

ANNEXURE-V

Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector

The Joint Machinery for collaborative Relationships between the Government and the Voluntary Organisation met in June 2000, with the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, presiding. The meeting decided that the DG, CAPART would organize discussion to re-examine laws relating to the VOs. Accordingly, he convened a meeting on 25th October 2000, of a number of persons from the voluntary sector as well as representatives of the Planning Commission and the Central Board of Direct Taxes. As decided in this meeting the Planning Commission set up a "Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector", on 3rd November 2000. A copy of the Planning Commission's Memorandum setting up the Task Force is enclosed as Annex-T. The Task Force was asked to make its recommendations on the Income Tax Act in December 2000, and on other laws by April 2001.

1st Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector - the Income Tax Act

2. The Task Force met on 16th November and 23rd November to consider the changes in the Income Tax Act and procedures of the department, so that recommendations on these could be made to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) by about mid-December. At these meetings Ms Deepa Krishan, Director (TPL-I), CBDT, a member of the Task Force was not present, much to the regret of the other members, as her contributions to the discussions would have been of great value.

3. The Task Force considered the various provisions of the Income Tax Act from the point of view of ironing out difficulties experienced by NGOs, without taking away from the basic features of the Law. For this purpose the Task Force discussions were greatly facilitated by and drew upon the experience of NGOs engaged in varied activities in many fields, as well as the suggestions and recommendations made by many of them including the Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) and the Indian Centre for Philanthropy. The Task Force is grateful to CAPART, which had put together a compilation of such suggestions and recommendations. The Task Force also considered that the provisions of the Income Tax law should facilitate larger and smoother flows of grants/donations to NGOs from income tax payers of all categories. The NGO sector has in the recent decades grown very significantly in terms of numbers, the diversified fields of activity and the spread in the country. NGO experience in many fields has been noted by government departments, which have utilized it in improving their own official programmes in terms of approach, content and methodologies of implementation. In major programmes of the government aimed at mitigating poverty in the rural areas, for example, government programmes of the last few years have acknowledged the pioneering and innovative work of NGOs in different parts of the country. Partly such NGOs have had the support of the government departments, but by far the largest furring support has been from foreign sources whether multilateral, bilateral, or from development – funding NGOs abroad. It is high time, the Task Force feels, Indian donors should be given the right signals in the Income Tax law to induce them to increase their donations/grants to the NGO sector. It is not necessary any longer for the tax law to indicate preferences or priorities for particular fields of developmental activity.

This point has been taken care of in the new definition of "charitable purposes" referred to later in this Report. Another point in the same vein lies in the resource crunch faced by practically all State Governments, and to some extent the central government also, which has constrained the free flow of adequate funds for a variety of programmes for the poorer people, considering their very large and growing numbers; there is enough room for government departments as well as the NGO sector, and the latter obviously would do better with larger flows of funds from within the country. One may note also that in many programmes NGO performance has been more cost-effective than that of official agencies. The recommendations of the Task Force have been framed in the light of the considerations above and are set out in the following.

4. VANI had recommended that "charity" should be distinguished from 'development' and 'training and skill development' should figure in the Law. In this connection there has been a suggestion of the CBDT that "charitable purpose" as defined in Section 2 (15) of the Income Tax Act may be replaced by "charitable purpose including relief of the poor, education, medical relief, and the advancement of any other public cause or object for social environmental welfare including economic empowerment and development of the weaker and disadvantaged sections for sustainable livelihood and social justice". The Task Force noted that this definition is of an inclusive nature, and should cover all activities of NGOs deserving public support. Accordingly, the Task Force recommends that this definition should be incorporated in the Act.

5. The Task Force noted that NGOs generally need to build a corpus fund for sustainability and stability of their organizations, and make efforts to obtain donations/grants for their corpus funds after duly resolving to establish such funds. The Task Force felt that a specific provision in the Income Tax Act is necessary allowing for NGOs to set up corpus funds and for exempting from income tax the donations/grants received for the corpus funds, including any grant to an NGO generally to support its objects.

6. Any NGO whose gross income does not exceed the general income limit for exemption from income tax – presently Rs. 50,000 in the year ---- should be exempt from income tax.

7. The Task Force felt that it would be in order if deductions from taxable incomes of donors, under any provision of the income tax law, are allowed only for donations made by cheques or demand drafts on banks, where the donor indicates his PAN (Permanent number from the Income Tax Dept), he should be entitled to 100% deduction of the donation from his taxable income.

8. The limits on the amounts of donations for the purpose of determining the exemption from income tax in the hands of the donors should be removed.

9. The present wording of Section 10 (23C) sub clauses relating to eligibility for complete exemption for tax of all income of an NGO engaged in activities of importance to a state or the nation, needs to be modified so as to include activities which may be taken up by the NGO in a part of the state or the country in terms of the new definition of "charitable purpose" recommended above in para 4. The present wording gives room for an individual officer of the Income Tax department to apply it in a narrow manner, for instance that an NGO works only in a part of a State, and therefore cannot be considered for exemption under this section.

10. Any capital gains accruing to an NGO should be exempt from tax if it is used/applied for activities in furtherance of its objects.

11. i) The Act should be modified so that income from income-generation projects of an NGO is not treated as business income attracting Section 44AB.
ii) NGOs registered under section 12A of the Act should be entitled to receive interest on investments made by it (within the categories permitted under section 11(5) of the Act) without deduction of Income Tax at source on the interest amounts.

12 Section 11(2) of the Act should be modified to do away with the percentage stipulations applicable to expenditure from grants/donations received by an NGO for particular programmes or projects, so that no unspent balance is liable to tax. It should be left to the person or the agency making the grant/donation to make sure that it is spent properly.

13. Section 13(3) (b) has a monetary limit of Rs. 50,000 for the cumulative contribution to an NGO by a person, above which he is considered a key person. All transactions with that person come under scrutiny. This monetary limit would be too low for a regular donor contributing say just Rs. 5,000 or 6,000 a year to an NGO, because in 8-10 years that donor would become a key person. Large NGOs like CRY would have to track hundreds of donors cumulative contributions for years, not knowing when any of them would cross the monetary limit. As an alternative, the Task Force suggests that instead of a monetary limit, say 1 percent of the cumulative income of an NGO, or Rs. 50,000, whichever is higher, may be stipulated. With such a small financial stake a donor will not be able to manipulate the NGO's affairs, and the intention of the law will be met.

14. Far too often the intention of the law in providing exemptions from taxable income under different Sections is defeated by the delays in disposal of applications from NGOs under Section 80G, 35AC, 10(23C), etc. The Task Force recommends that where an NGOs application is complete, it must be disposed off within say 60 days or 90 days, as may be appropriate for applications under different sections; at the end of the period, the exemption sought should be taken as automatically granted, unless within that period the departmental officer raises any serious queries on any matter furnished in the application. If an application is rejected, the reasons for the rejection must be clearly specified, so that the NGO can appeal to a higher departmental authority against the rejection, or ask the first authority to review its decision.

15. The Task Force feels that if the government amends the law on the lines recommended above, the NGOs on the other hand should accept the obligation to make public sufficient details of their affairs to enable interested people to form informed opinions of the worth of the NGO's work. It is suggested that where an NGO is given a dispensation under one or the other Section Providing for exemption of donations from income tax, or is allowed complete exemption of its income from tax, the NGO should have its accounts audited within six months of the close of the financial year, and, apart from furnishing copies of the audited accounts and the annual reports of its activities to the Tax Officer also publish in local newspapers the abridged audited accounts and a sufficiently informative report of its activities for that year. Local people in the area of the NGO's work would be the best placed to judge how it has performed. The NGO should furnish

to the tax officer copies of the material published thus in local newspapers. Failure of an NGO in this regard should automatically lead to its losing the tax exemption dispensation. This condition may not perhaps apply to NGO's which are engaged in only training, facilitation and funding support to other NGOs and have no direct activities in the field.

16. There are thousands of small localized NGOs in the country who have not registered themselves under the Income Tax Act, or filed returns under the Act. They need to be helped to come into the mainstream without attracting penalties. It is recommended that some sort of a voluntary disclosure scheme may be framed, under which they could register themselves now, and be excused from penalties for the omission to do so in the past and for not filing returns.

17. The Income Tax department should develop a database for donations by tax payers for which they claim and have been given exemptions from tax. It is necessary that this database is published and is available to researchers, the NGO community, and the general public. The database could categorise donations by different slabs of amounts, different categories of tax payers, the Sections of the Act under which exemptions have been allowed/claimed, the categories of NGOs and the purposes/activities for which the donations were made.

18. The Task Force feels that officers of the Income Tax department need to be given thorough orientation and training in this area of their work of administering the Income Tax Act.

19. It would be very desirable for the department to set up standing committees at the CBDT level and in the Commission rates, to which NGOs can represent their grievances and suggestions for improving the interfaces between the department and the NGOs.

2nd Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector - the Societies Registration Act

1. At its meetings on 12 January and 16 February 2001, the Task Force considered the laws relating to the registration of voluntary agencies as "societies", under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, and the corresponding laws enacted by various States. It was noted, as pointed by the representative of the Law Ministry that under the Constitution registration of Societies laws over the years. There was no way that any central enactment to amend the 1860 Act can have force in the states. All that can be done, if the task force suggests any changes in the 1860 Act - - if the Central government agrees with those suggestions - - is for the Centre to commend those suggestions to the State government, and it will be for the latter to take decisions on them.

2. The Task Force noted that registration as a " society " should be distinguished from registration under laws governing cooperative societies, Section 25 of the Companies Act, as trade unions or as trusts under Central or State laws. The provisions of the 1860 Act were considered in depth. The Task Force concluded that this Act was mainly for facilitation of the formation of legally registered bodies of like-minded persons coming together to pursue desirable objectives and activities. The Task Force noted particularly that the Preamble read with Section 20 gave an adequate scope for voluntary agencies, with any restrictive meanings. The sections 1 and 2 were also no more or no less than were needed. The Task Force noted that other sections of the Act were acceptable, in the present context of voluntary action in the country,

though Section 17 and 18 seemed to be out of date. However, if these Sections remained in the Act no harm would be done. The Task Force thus concluded that the 1860 Act could remain as it is.

3. However, there were certain points of procedure and implementation which needed to be spelt out. One of these is that the registration under Section 3 should be done within sixty days of the filing of Memorandum of Association and the certified copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Society. Also, if registration is refused, the reasons should be recorded by the Registrar.

4. The Task Force also went through the model Societies Registration Bill 2000 prepared by the Cooperative Development Foundation, Hyderabad, after a series of consultative meetings which it had organized. The Bill was intended to be the subject of public debate, and adaptation and adoption by State Legislatures. The Task Force noted that unlike the 1860 Act, the Bill gives room for government officials to play interventionist roles in the affairs of registered societies. The experience of cooperative societies has shown that the interference by government officials at various levels, sometimes with political factors in the background, has had a detrimental impact on the cooperatives. The Task Force was clearly of the view that any law governing registration of voluntary agencies as societies should not give room for such interference, and from this point of view the 1860 Act is the best option.

5. A point was raised that the 1860 Act leaves the governance of the affairs of a society to its members and managing committee (by whatever name it may be called). Should one think of a legal provision to ensure good governance, good financial management, and so on, in the law relating to registration of societies? Similarly, should one think of a legal provision to take care of the grievances of employees of the societies? The Task Force felt that the crux of such questions is who would determine the right and the wrong. It was concluded that, in the interest of the democratic health of a society, the members themselves will have to tackle such problems; an external official or other agency taking it upon itself to deal with such matters would probably be worse than the disease.

6. In some States, registration of a society has to be renewed periodically. This procedure leaves room for corrupt practices, and should be dropped; once a society has been registered there should be no need for renewal.

7. In some States, the registration of a society is done at the district level, and in some at higher levels in the State government. The Task Force feels that the registration should invariably be at the District level, say by the Collector/Deputy Commissioner.

8. Section 19 of the 1860 Act allows any person to inspect, and seek copies of any documents filed with the Registrar of Societies. This is a healthy provision. In this context the Task Force noted that in some states a society has to file with the Registrar its reports and audited accounts. Copies of these can be obtained by anyone interested, in terms of Section 19. It was noted, however, that it is important that the Registrar has arrangements to take adequate care of such documents that are filed with his office. The material could well be a good source for research, and studies of the nature and activities of voluntary agencies.

9. The Task Force decided to submit the above to the Planning Commission whose Deputy Chairman presides over the Joint Collaborative Machinery to facilitate government – NGO collaboration, with the request that all the States should be advised to take steps to implement the suggestions in this report. The States should be advised to amend their Societies Registration Acts and the Rules and Procedures thereunder in accordance with these suggestions. Task Force believes that the Planning Commission is in a specially advantageous position vis-à-vis the State governments for this purpose.

3rd Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector - on FCRA

1. The Task Force took note of the communication of the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 7 March 2001 to the Planning Commission indicating that the suggestion to repeal the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 was not acceptable since the Ministry continued to hold the view that it was necessary to have a law to manage the receipt and utilization of Foreign Contributions by voluntary organizations in the country. The Ministry's communication also informed the Planning Commission that action was under way to enunciate a new law on the subject. The suggestion that the FCRA should be repealed had been made in a Report of a sub-committee on whose behalf Shri Anil Singh of VANI had addressed the Planning Commission on 22 February 2000. The Planning Commission forwarded to Shri Singh, and to DG CAPART as well as to the Chairman of the present Task Force a copy of the Home Ministry's communication.

2. The Task Force was dismayed at the view held by the Home Ministry in relation to foreign funds (contributions) won by voluntary organizations on the merits of the activities taken up by voluntary organizations for development purposes, in contrast with the liberalized attitude to the flow of foreign funds under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) in the Finance Ministry which had repealed the earlier Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. The Task Force hoped that in the new law under consideration in the Home Ministry, the Ministry would keep in mind the necessity of facilitating the cardinal role of the voluntary sector in the development processes in the country.

3. The Task Force also strongly felt that the provisions in the present FCRA and the procedures under that Act, which have proved to be cumbersome, non-transparent, and sources of even harassment should be changed radically for the better for the voluntary sector. In this context the Task Force draws attention particularly to the following:

a) When does a "foreign contribution" cease to be foreign? The Task Force feels that only the first receipt should be "foreign". Any subsequent transfer by the first recipient should not continue to carry the label. After all the first recipient would submit to the Home Ministry the report required by law every year, duly audited, setting out the foreign contributions received and the utilization thereof. Any registered voluntary organization also has an annual audit and annual report of activities. Therefore the present requirement that subsequent recipients of the foreign contribution should also have registration or permission under the FCRA serves little purpose other than making the administration of the Act cumbersome and even a source of harassment.

b) At present the foreign contribution can be received in only one designated bank account. It cannot be transferred to any other bank account. For voluntary organizations which support developmental work of other organizations in various parts of the country, the processes of making support funds available to the latter from a bank account in the first recipient's headquarters are very time consuming. For practical reasons therefore the latter should have the option of having bank accounts in different places, it being understood that these latter accounts will be used only for handling foreign contributions. The first recipient's reports and returns to the Home Ministry can give the details of such "secondary' bank accounts, if required.

c) At present the interest earned in a foreign contribution account in the bank is treated also as foreign contribution. The Task Force fails to see how interest paid by the bank on such accounts, at the same rate as the interest in any rupee account, can become "foreign". The present

interpretation seems quite wrong and unwarranted, and the Task Force suggests that it should be corrected.

d) Sale proceeds of publications and articles in the preparation of which any foreign contribution has been utilized should not be treated also as "foreign".

e) Fellowships and scholarships not exceeding Rs. 36,000 are exempt from the provisions of the FCRA. This figure was fixed more than 20 years ago. The Task Force considers that, if the provision relating to Fellowships and Scholarships is to be retained at all in the new law, the amount should be increased in keeping with the inflation and the exchange rate changes which have since happened.

f) The criteria and guidelines governing the exercise of discretion by officials in the administration of the FCRA should be made public. So long as they remain confidential or secret within the Home Ministry, there is scope for arbitrary decisions, and for corrupt practice.

g) The Task Force feels that little purpose is served by the present practice of not giving FCRA registration before the stage of a specified number of prior permissions. It is open after all to the authorities to cancel a registration for good reason. The Task Force considers that if a voluntary organization provides full and correct information sought in the formal application for registration, the registration should be automatic unless within a specified period, say ninety days, the authority concerned rejects the application for reasons to be stated, or calls for further information.

h) If a registration under the FCRA is subsequently cancelled, the time limit (sixty days) for appeal against the cancellation should be calculated from the date of receipt of the order, and not from the date of the order.

i) No order to the prejudice of a voluntary organization under any section of the Act or under the rules should be made without following the rules of natural justice, that is, providing a reasonable opportunity to the organization to explain itself.

j) The amended form FC 8 for application for registration under the Act has stipulated that prior permission should be obtained for change of office bearers if at any point of time such change leads to replacement of 50 per cent or more of the office bearers, and till the permission is received the FCRA registration is in effect suspended. The reason for this amendment is not clear, but the consequences are unfortunate. The term "office bearers" has not been defined. In most trusts and registered societies there are provisions for periodical elections, a healthy democratic practice. There is no reason why the FCRA administration should interfere such a system. There is also no indication as to the criteria, which the FCRA administration will take into account to decide whether or not to approve changes in the office bearers. All that is necessary is that the changes in office-bearers should be reported.

k) In January 2000 the FCRA rules were amended to insert the form of a certificate, with Form 1A and Form 8C, to be given by the District Collector or a State Government department or a Central Ministry concerned. The certificate should be to the effect that the antecedents of the organisation have been verified and there was nothing against it, the organization would have done "welfare activities in the area", and has incurred expenditure in the previous three years, and "the project would be beneficial to the people living in the area".

Those who devised this certificate clearly did not have much understanding of the variety of work undertaken by voluntary organizations. The term "antecedents" lends itself to narrow interpretations -- does it refer to political antecedents? Or professional qualifications / experience? Or a criminal past? These are irrelevant from the point of view of knowledge and commitment. Again, why only "welfare activities," which have a flavour of charity and little

else? Much of voluntary work is very much broader these days, generally to help local communities become self-reliant, or "empowered". Nor is it necessary that voluntary activity should be in the project mode.

This apart, the requirement of a certificate from the Collector or a government department/ministry will lend itself to become a lever for corrupt practice on the part of lower level functionaries. The certification system should be scrapped, and as recommended above the FCRA registration should be automatic if the application for registration is complete. There is enough of reporting prescribed under the rules for the FCRA administration to keep track of anything illegal done by a registered organization.

4 As said earlier, the Task Force strongly recommends that the new law regulating the receipt of foreign contributions of Voluntary Organisations should facilitate the availability of foreign grants to them. It should be remembered that the voluntary sector has been able to do a very significant amount of experimental and innovative work which has been appreciated by ministries concerned with various fields of development and which has been used to modify existing government programmes and devise new programmes. This recommendation of the Task Force is also in line with the purpose underlying the recommendations in its First Report which were designed to open up and facilitate larger flows of funds to the voluntary sector from Indian income tax payers.

5. The Task Force would also urge that the contents of the new law being prepared in the Home Ministry should be shared with the voluntary sector, and the comments and suggestions of the latter should be invited and discussed with its representatives before the law is given final shape. This process would also be in keeping with the spirit of the Freedom of Information Bill, 2000, which the government has introduced in Parliament.

4th Report of the Task Force on Laws relating to the Voluntary Sector - the Labour Laws

1. The Task force was concerned that many of the laws relating to conditions of employment in organizations and establishments in the country generally were also being applied to voluntary agencies, without due consideration to their special nature, the way they are constituted, and their activities. They are thus not distinguished say from shops and other business establishments or industries. It should be obvious that there are many features, which distinguish voluntary agencies and voluntary work from the general run of business and industries.

2. The Task Force noted that one major crucial distinction is that voluntary sector organizations are non-profit. Conceptually the impulse for the voluntary sector has its origin in the human quest for social service and it has the most free play and is most effective with the values of self-discipline and self-regulation rather than external regulation by laws and officialdom. Quite often voluntary agencies are brought into being by persons inspired by such impulses.

3. Non-profit voluntary organizations generally face resource constraints, and few are financially sound. Practically all of them have to depend on donations, and project-based funding. Neither source is assured over a period. While this may be a weakness, it has to be recognized as a factor which militates against the ability to cope with and comply with labour laws including the Industrial disputes Act. Many who work for voluntary agencies are compensated by stipends or honoraria, as well as in other ways, rather than through formal salary structures and employment contracts.

4. The Task Force however recognized that it would be appropriate for voluntary agencies to abide by prescriptions of minimum wages as may be applicable in different States. For the relatively few large voluntary agencies working in a number of fields of development, which have access to enough financial resources to engaged full-time staff, the Task Force feels that the relating to Provident Funds and Payment of Gratuity should be applicable, with a cutoff line of say 20 such employees The Task Force feels that in keeping with the spirit of the voluntary sector, this assurance of financial security for the staff in future would be appropriate and desirable. However, the Task Force would exclude here staff engaged solely for time-bound projects, whose term of engagement/employment will end with the end of such projects.

5. The Task Force considered whether the above should apply also to the large categories of non-government organizations, which provide education, health and medical care, and such services to the public. The Task Force feels that its recommendations above should apply to such NGOs if they provide services to all sections of people, and do not charge costs/fees for the services, or the revenue from the fees charged is only a small proportion of the costs of rendering the service.

6. The Task Force felt that a representation should be submitted on the lines above to the Labour Commission, which is currently at work, and an opportunity should be sought to meet the commission for the purpose.

Annex-T

No. M-99/13(4)/2000-VAC
Government of India
Planning Commission

Yojana Bhavan, Sansad Marg
New Delhi-110 001
3rd November 2000

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Setting up of a Task Force on Laws relating to Voluntary Sector.

In the meeting of the Joint Machinery for Collaborative relationship between GO and VOs held in June 2000 under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, it was decided that DG, CAPART would organise discussions on re-examining laws relating to voluntary sectors. A meeting on the subject was organised on 25th October 2000 under the chairmanship of DG, CAPART. In pursuance of a decision taken in the above referred meeting it was decided to constitute a Task Force on Laws relating to Voluntary Sector**.**

2. The composition of the Task Force would be as follows:

1. Shri V.B. Eswaran	-	Chairperson
2. Ms. Pushpa Sundar, ICP	-	Member
3. Shri Anil Singh, VANI	-	Member
4. Shri P.M. Tripathi, AVARD	-	Member
5. Shri Shankar Ghosh, NFI	-	Member
6. Shri Mathew Cherian, CAF-India	-	Member
7. Shri Sanjay Agarwal, AccountAid	-	Member
8. Ms. Deepa Krishan, Director (TPL-I), CBDT	-	Member
9. Representative of D/o Legal Affairs	-	Member
10. Representative of Legislative Department	-	Member
11. Representative of D/o Women & Child Dev.	-	Member
12. Representative of Planning Commission	-	Member
13. DDG, CAPART	-	Member-Secretary

3. Following would be the Terms of Reference of the Task Force:

1. To examine the various laws particularly Central laws dealing with voluntary sector.

2. To take a view on the representations made by various VOs / NGOs about difficulties being faced by them in meeting the requirements of these laws and procedures there under.

3. To make appropriate recommendations for removing the immediate difficulties and constraints by suggesting a set of amendments and changes to the existing legislations and rules & procedures etc.

4. Task Force would make recommendations on the Income Tax Act by December 2000 and on other Acts by April 2001.

4. CAPART headquarters, New Delhi, will service the Task Force. CAPART will provide the necessary administrative assistance including the secretariat staff.

5. The Task Force may co-opt / invite any official or expert as and when required.

Sd/-
(Lalit Kumar)
Dy. Adviser (VAC)

Copy to:
All Members of the Task Force.

Copy also to:

1. Secretary, Planning Commission
2. DG, CAPART

ANNEXURE-VI

Model Proforma for seeking applications from VOs / NGOs for Grant-in-Aid*

Organization Profile

a) Name of the Organization :

b) Address :
Street, Distt, State :
Pin Code :
Ph. & Fax No.(with STD code):
E-Mail :

c) Name & Designation of Chief Functionary :

d) Name of other key functionaries & their contact No. & address:

e) Registration details :
Act under which registered :
Date of registration :

f) FCRA No. (if available) :

g) Activities in Brief :

h) Thrust Area :

i) Experience in the area in which funding is sought:

j) Source of Funds (last three years):

National / International Agency (ies)	Name of the Project	Amount received	Year

* One or two questions relevant to any particular scheme or sector could be added to this generic simplified model proforma.

k) Banking details :
(Account No, name & address of Bank):

l) Has the work of your organisation been evaluated by any independent agency, if yes, please attach the evaluation report:

Project Profile

1. Title of the Project :

2. Aims & Objectives :

3. Duration :

4. The Project description needs to include following details:
   i) Project goal
   ii) Project area
   iii)Target group
   iv) Problems to be addressed
   v) Details of any 'need assessment' done in the area before deciding on the project

5. Beneficiary(ies) :
   Type & No. :

6. Strategy /Action Plan :

7. Contribution of volunteering from the community :

8. Training needs assessment:
   (for staff & beneficiaries)

9. Monitoring & Evaluation Indicators:

10. Project Sustainability :
    (how will the activities be sustained after project support is completed)

11. Proposed Budget for the Project:
    (year-wise recurring & non-recurring)

Attachments to be furnished*:

1. Registration Certificate
2. By-laws & Memorandum of Association
3. Annual Report - (latest one year)
4. Audit statements – (for last three years)
5. Latest list of Executive Committee Members
6. List of Employees.

*All attached photocopies of documents should be attested by Gazetted Officer/ Notary.