OFFICE MEMORANDUM


In the context of the formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), the Chairman of the Steering Committee on Empowering the Socially Disadvantage Groups has decided to set up a Working Group on 'Empowering the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). The Composition of the Working Group is as follows:

1. Prof. D.L. Sheth, Chairman
   Senior Fellow,
   Centre for Developing Studies,
   29-Rajpura Road,
   Delhi

2. Representative, Member
   Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
   Nirman Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 011.

3. Representative, Member
   Department of Elementary Education
   & Literacy,
   Shastri Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

4. Representative, Member
   Department of Secondary Education,
   Shastri Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.
5. **Representative**, Member
   Ministry of Labour,
   Shram Shakti Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

6. **Representative**, Member
   Department of Rural Development,
   Krishi Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

7. **Representative**, Member
   Dept. of Agriculture & Cooperation,
   Krishi Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

8. **Representative**, Member
   Ministry of Small Scale &
   Agro Industries,
   Udyog Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

9. **Representative**, Member
   Ministry of Women & Child Dev.,
   Shastri Bhavan,
   New Delhi – 110 001.

10. **Representative**, Member
    Ministry of Urban Affairs &
    Poverty Alleviation,
    Nirman Bhavan,
    New Delhi – 110 001.

11. **Representative**, Member
    BC & TD Division,
    Planning Commission,
    New Delhi – 110 001.

12. **Secretary**, Member
    Department of Welfare,
    Govt. of Haryana,
    Chandigarh.

13. **Secretary**, Member
    Department of Welfare,
    Govt. of Jharkhand,
    Ranchi.
14. **Secretary,**  
Welfare Department of SC, ST and OBCs,  
Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur.  
**Member**

15. **Secretary,**  
Deptt. of Social Welfare,  
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.  
**Member**

16. **Secretary,**  
Deptt. of Vimukta Jati, Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Special Backward Classes Welfare Department,  
Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai.  
**Member**

17. **Secretary,**  
Deptt. of Welfare,  
Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.  
**Member**

18. **Representative,**  
National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation,  
**Member**

19. **Representatives**  
State Commission for OBCs, Patna (Bihar).  
**Member**

20. **Representative**  
Karnataka State BC Commission, Bangalore  
**Member**

21. **Representative**  
BC Commission  
Uttar Pradesh Lucknow  
**Member**
22. Prof. M.N. Karna 
   C/O A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies
   Patna (Bihar).

23. Prof. Tulsi Patil 
   Department of Sociology 
   Delhi School of Economics 
   University of Delhi, Delhi

24. Shri M.B. Kumar, Member
    Andhra Pradesh Stone-cutters, 
    Earth-workers & Masons Association, 
    Hyderabad.

25. Mrs. Sushila Pandian Member
    Programme Director 
    Community Action for Social 
    Transformation 
    Poothamkudairruppu, Kalakad, 
    Trinulvelli District 
    Tamil Nadu

26. Dr. Ramjee Lal Member
    Head 
    Department of Applied Psychology 
    VBS Purvanchal University 
    Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh 
    Email: drramjeelal@rediffmail.com

27. Joint Secretary, Convener
    In-charge of OBC Welfare, 
    Ministry of Social Justice 
    & Empowerment, 
    Shastri Bhavan, 
    New Delhi – 110 001.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group will be as follows:

i) to review the existing approach, strategies and priorities; the on-going programmes and their implementation for empowerment of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and suggest rationalization, minimization of the on-going related programmes and effective inter-sectoral convergence;
ii) to identify neglected areas and groups; gaps, weakness and bottlenecks in the implementation; and take note of the persisting and emerging problems/situations related to welfare, protection, development and empowerment of Other Backward Classes in the changing scenario situation and suggest necessary interventions;

iii) To review the implementation of the existing legislations related to OBCs and mechanisms for their enforcement and suggest corrective measures.

iv) To review the functioning of the existing Institutional Arrangements, both at the Central and State levels for implementation of policies and programme for empowering OBCs and suggest measures to make them more effective.

v) To review and assess the involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Self Government Bodies and NGOs in the implementation of programmes for empowering OBCs and suggest measures for their effective involvement in planning process;

vi) To ensure and enhance the empowerment of the OBC as envisaged in NCMP (National Common Minimum Programme) while considering the above MTAs (Mid-Term Appraisal) Major recommendations may also be kept in view; and

vii) To review the physical and financial achievements in relation to the targets fixed under various programmes for OBCs during the Ninth Plan and project programme-wise requirements, both physical and financial for Empowering the OBCs during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12)

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


5. The expenditure on TA/DA in connection with the meetings of the Working 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 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

(G.B. Panda)
Adviser (Social Justice)

To:

Chairman and all the Members of the Working Group.

Copy to:

1. PS to Deputy Chairman
2. PS to Member
3. PS to Secretary
4. All Heads of Divisions
5. Joint Secretary (PC & Admn.)
6. Adviser (SJ)
7. Administration I Branch/Accounts Branch
8. Guard File

(G.B. Panda)
Adviser (Social Justice)