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- 8 So far, reservations have been provided only in Govt. service. There is no reservation in Defence forces, scientific establishments, judiciary etc. After 50 years of Independence, when enough qualified SC/ST candidates are available, Commission sees no reason for keeping these sector out of the purview of reservation, denying opportunities to SCs/STs. 2.40
 - 9 The Government is seriously contemplating bringing about reservation for women in Parliament/State Legislatures/other public bodies. Commission is of the view that adequate representation for SC/STs should be ensured within this equality of women. 2.41
 - 10 The task ahead is clearly therefore to focus on the basic needs and requirements of SCs & STs and give them the social dignity and the economic capability to come at par with other sections of the society and become part of the main stream which had been the charter visualised by the Constitutional makers, 50 years ago. Such a strategy would not only control the feeling of alienation, frustration and rising militancy and civil strife but would also make the SCs & STs active partners in nation building. 2.42

CHAPTER III. CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND PROTECTIVE MEASURES

- 1 The Commission recommends that the reservation in promotion should be extended to at all levels in all classes of posts by modifying the DOPT O.M. dated 13.8.97. 3.26
- 2 Commission therefore, recommends that the report of the Commission should be placed before each house of Parliament within three months of its submission to the President and the action taken report placed before the Parliament within six months of its submission. This may be done by suitably amending the clauses of Article 338. 3.29
- 3 While the Commission has been given wide ranging responsibilities that not only cover the duties of the erstwhile Commissioner for SCs/STs and the Commission for SCs/STs but include matters such as participation in planning process and consultation of all major policy affecting SC&ST, the powers with which it is armed are not adequate to deal with the issues effectively. The suggestions are recommendatory in nature and not binding. The Commission feels that there is an urgent need to re-look at the whole issue and give more effective powers to the Commission under the Constitution itself. 3.30
- 4 State Governments which are primarily responsible for maintaining Law and Order in the State should take adequate steps for maintaining peace and harmony in rural and urban areas, and in particular, to minimise the 3.35

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