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State Govts. due to financial constraint and Central Govt. is not providing funds due to strict financial discipline imposed by the Ministry of Finance and Welfare, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and girls are facing hardship due to non-payment of scholarship amount under Post Matric and Pre Matric Scholarship Schemes. Commission therefore recommends that States should get their full requirement of Non-Plan funds for Post- Matric Scholarships and Pre-Matric Scholarships to Children of Those Engaged in Unclean Occupation as a part of Finance Commission Award. If, States are not able to meet the requirement from Non-Plan side the Central Govt. may continue to release funds under these schemes to protect the interest of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for their educational developments.

5. The States and UT Admn. registering less than five percent enrolment of SC/ST students in Higher Education and specially the States and UTs. Having more SCs/STs population, should provide special coaching facilities to SC/ST students. Better hostel and schooling facilities at middle level in tribal areas will also facilitate the enrolment. The Commission recommends that a National Level Survey should be made on the implementation of higher educational facilities provided to SC/ST students and the working of the Universities during Ninth Plan, ensuring that the Universities adhere to the reservation guidelines.

#### **Educational and Vocational Training**

6. Greater emphasis should be given to Vocational Training and skill development simultaneously from 10+2 standard onwards to open up further job opportunities for SCs/STs. Existing job opportunities as well as future potential jobs needs to be identified and skill imparted to the students belonging to the SC/ST in vocations that provide employment opportunities. The SC/ST students should also be given concession in fee as well as reservation in special and super -specialised courses so that they can avail of the facilities in serving in the modern technical fields.

#### **Girls Education and Hostels**

7. For improving the enrolment of girls, incentives for girls education may be introduced by State Government by providing facilities for care of both the siblings and school going children until the evening.

8. It is found that in many states hostels for girls are very less in number. And where there were hostels, facilities in the hostels are found to be very poor. Hence efforts should be made for submission of proposal to the Ministry of Welfare to get the matching central assistance in time so that State/UT Admn. may take adequate steps for proper maintenance of the hostel buildings and provide adequate facilities conducive to education.