

also not giving specific/accurate and separate figures for the number of tenants who have been conferred ownership rights on the tenanted land those who have been only recorded as tenants, to prevent eviction at will. The information, whatever, furnished also gives no data about SC/ST Tenants separately. Since SC/ST beneficiaries are the target Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment may revise its monitoring system so that information collected from State Govt and other agencies include specific information about SC/ST beneficiaries.

7 In the interest of poor land holders, many of which belong to SC/ST, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment may ensure maximum utilisation of the scheme of computerization of land records by all States/UTs for maintaining up-to-date land records in each district. 6.29

8 Even though Centre is giving grants every year States have not taken up the scheme for strengthening of Revenue Administration of land records most seriously. Since proper maintenance of land records is in the vital interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who are less educated and socially, as well as economically weak, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment may impress upon the States/UTs to make optimum use of the funds available under the both these schemes, expeditiously. 6.30

9 The Commission strongly recommends that the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment should monitor the implementation of the recommendations made in the Revenue Ministers' Conference and review the position with the State Govts. on regular basis. 6.32

10 The Commission thus conveyed the following observations to the Ministry of Welfare on the proposed amendment of Kerala Scheduled Tribes Restrictions on Transfer of Lands and Restoration of Alienated Lands: 6.38

(a) The Act, as it stands today, was notified on 20.1.86 with retrospective effect from 1.1.82. Even this date is a fairly delayed one as the original Act passed in 1975 received the assent of the President on 11.11.75.

(b) The amendment by adding section 5-A legalises/regularises all transfer of land from STs to non-STs which have not been restored to STs. This in effect would nullify the objectives of the original Act which was to restrict transfer of lands from STs to non-STs and restore the land of any transfer to them.

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Welfare and the State Govt. of Kerala may take necessary steps as per advice of the Commission and intimate the same to the Commission in due course.