the SP/ASP should review the cases which are closed by the SHO after investigation to minimise the lapses, if any, at the lowest level.

- As you are aware, the issue of atrocities on SCs/STs, women and other weaker sections of society continues to be raised in Parliament and other fora. The issue has also been discussed extensively at the Conference of Chief Ministers, Conference of Directors-General of Police. Further, the Government of India has also from time to time issued guidelines on the subject. The guidelines issued earlier by this Ministry includes inter alia the importance of training and motivation of police personnel in implementation of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, circulations among field officers a detailed note indicating the scope and responsibility of the police personnel investigating the offences, recruitment of sufficient number of persons belonging to SCs/STs/minorities as police personnel; programmes for creating awareness among vulnerable sections of the society and legal recourse open to them.
- 7. In order to arrest and reverse the trend of atrocities against SCs/STs, it is necessary that the State Govts. undertake a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the law enforcement machinery in tackling this problem and puts into action specific measures aimed at increasing the responsiveness of the law and order machinery.
- 8. I shall be grateful if you would direct the concerned officials to take immediate remedial actions on the recommendations contained in the Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Yours faithfully,

(V.K. MALHOTRA)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

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