

82

3.22 The Committee note that the Ministry, in the past, have repeatedly requested the State Governments to induct tribals in the forestry services especially at the level of forest guards for protection of plantations and other forest produces. The Committee also note that the guidelines issued in this regard are not uniform for which while some states are following it some are not. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Environment and Forests, in consultation with the Ministry of Welfare, should make these guidelines uniform so that the States/UTs recruit Tribals as forest guards to take advantage of their unquestionable knowledge about the intricacies of forests, and also to improve their general standard of living.