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Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

by academics as well as surveys and reports produced or sponsored by advocacy groups and NGOs.

A 'brief' provided by the NCM on the Report to this Ministry is at **Annex-I (P.59-60)** Executive summary of the Report is at **Annex- II (P.61-64)**.

4 The study has concluded that there is a strong case for according SC status to DCs and DMs. However, sample size of DCs and DMs, culled out from the NSSO data, is 278 and 152 respectively, which was 0.22% and 0.12% respectively of the total number of households(1,24,587) covered in the 61st round of NSSO. Further, NSSO does not tabulate data for these groups where total number of sample households in a sector is less than 300, because of unreliability of estimates. An analysis based on such small sample size cannot be said to be reliable. Therefore, findings of the study may at best be indicative and not conclusive. A note giving main objectives and findings of the study, as well as its critique is at **Annex- III. (P.65-67)**. Main conclusions of the Report are at **Annex.-IV. (p.68)**

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