Annexure-XI

(refer para 2.17, page 7 of the Note)

Comments of Central Ministries on draft note for CCPA (considered by CCPA during the year 2005)

The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions vide their Office Memorandum No. 36022/3/2005-Estt (Res), dated 27.05.2005, have stated that the following factors should be kept in view: -

- "(i) The caste system is a feature unique to Hindu society and that the concept of caste does not exist in Christianity or Islam.
- (ii) If the communities/groups of persons converted to other Religion are included in the Scheduled Castes, they would cut into the share of reservation available to the communities presently identified as Scheduled Castes.
- (iii) A number of communities amongst Christians and Muslims, including those who were Scheduled Castes before conversion, have already been included in the list of Other Backward Classes and are getting the benefit of reservation as OBCs."
- 2. The Ministry of Home Affairs in vide their O.M. No.19/10/2005-Judl. & PP, dated 27.07.2005, has stated that, "the matter whether Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity/Islam should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes be left to the Cabinet to decide. It has implications which should be considered by the Government as a whole."