Under this Ministry's scheme of 'Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations (VOs) working for Scheduled Castes', financial assistance to the extent of 90% of total approved expenditure is permissible to eligible VOs fulfilling the laid- down eligibility conditions to run the specified programmes. The main objective behind the scheme is to involve the voluntary sector to improve educational and socio-economic conditions of the target group i.e. Scheduled Castes with a view to upgrade their skills to enable them to start income generating activities on their own or get gainfully employed in some sector or the other.

- This scheme covers 40 various projects (as given in Annexure-I) for which assistance is 2. provided to the eligible VOs subject to availability of funds mainly for the following purposes:
 - Education including school & professional education, (a)
 - Vocational training including skill development programmes
 - Service activities including running of Dispensaries, both static and mobile, etc.
- It is understood that certain States, are also having their own scheme(s) of providing 3. grant-in-aid to VOs to setup residential and non-residential schools for SC students and also for funding training programmes for Scheduled Castes.
- I, may request you to please send a brief on any such scheme as mentioned in above para being run in your State, if any, indicating admissible financial norms in regard to Residential/Non-Residential School (Primary/Secondary), training programme for SCs and also your ideas and experiences in implementing the said scheme. A copy of the said scheme may also be sent. I would be grateful for an early reply.

Encl.: As above

Shri G.C. Bhalla,

Secretary,

Tribal Affairs Department, Andaman & Nicobar Administration,

Secretariat, Port Blair.

Lours sincerely,

Lours sincerely,

Construction of (Sanjeev Kumar)

Construction of the same of the s