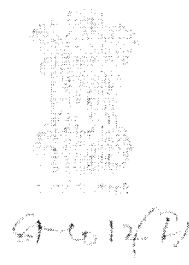


कुजूर  
333  
URICE KUJUR  
DE-CHAIRMAN  
(Joint Union Minister of State)



भारत सरकार  
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
SCHEDULED TRIBES

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6TH FLOOR, LOK NAYAK BHAWAN,  
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Tel.: 24657272 Fax: 24657474

D.O. No.4/12/2009-Coord.

Dated : 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010

*Respected Position members,*

As you are aware, the Constitution of India guarantees social, educational, economical and political safeguards for Scheduled Tribes. The Constitution also envisages a mechanism to monitor the working of those safeguards. To meet this requirement, Article 338 of the Constitution originally provided for appointment of a Special Officer. Keeping in view the problems and needs of SCs & STs, Article 338 was amended in 1990 to provide for a high power multi-Member National Commission for SCs and STs instead, and again in 2003 to provide for separate Commissions for SCs and STs.

2. The first National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was constituted in March, 2004. However, this Commission has been facing manifold problems affecting its performance and effectiveness. The performance of NCST was got studied by Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and also examined by the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs. Both these reports have highlighted the need for strengthening the NCST and timely laying of the Report of the Commission in Parliament, which recommendations have been brought to the notice of the government time and again through letters and also through the reports of the Commission submitted to the Hon'ble President of India, under Article 338A (6) of the Constitution. On the occasion of presentation of Third Report of the Commission for the period 2007-08 on 29/3/2010, I have apprised her of three important issues requiring urgent attention. As desired by her Excellency, I have mentioned all these issues vide my D.O. letter dated 31/03/2010. A copy of the Third Report and the said letter is enclosed for your information.

3. I shall be grateful for your personal intervention in the matter and for issuing directions to the concerned Ministries for resolving these issues on priority so that the Commission can adequately discharge its constitutional responsibility for safeguarding the rights of Scheduled Tribes in the country.

*With regards,*

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Kujur  
(Maurice Kujur)

Dr. Manmohan Singh,  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,  
South Block, New Delhi-110011.

354/CC  
12.4.10

2010  
12/4/10