

The following are the important activities of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment during November, 2017:

### **Activities of the Department**

(i) The Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) constituted under MS Act, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment held its fifth meeting on 14/11/2017 and reviewed the progress of identification of manual scavengers and their rehabilitations. The Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog held a meeting with Secretaries/Senior Officers of the Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Rural Development, Housing and Urban Affairs and representative of Safai Karamchari Andloan to discuss the issue relating to survey of manual scavengers. In pursuance of the meeting, a Task Force has been constituted for undertaking a third party survey of manual scavengers in 18 major States.

(ii) The 3<sup>rd</sup> Constitution Day was celebrated on 27/11/2017 with reading of the Preamble.

(iii) Cabinet has approved on 30/11/2017 the introduction of an amendment to the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Third Amendment ) Bill regarding setting up of a Commission namely the National Commission for Backward Classes by insertion of article 338B in the Constitution. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 10/04/2017 and was eventually considered by the Rajya Sabha on 31/07/2017. Rajya Sabha had passed the Bill with the deletion of substantive clause 3 of the Bill. The Note for the Cabinet sought approval for official amendment i.e. a revised clause 3 which will provide for enhanced participation by the States in the developmental initiatives for the socially and educationally backward classes.

(iv) Meetings of the Project Monitoring Committee to review the progress of construction of Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial at 26 Alipur Road, New Delhi and Dr. Ambedkar International Centre at 15, Janpath, New Delhi were held.

### **Activities of Corporations**

(i) National Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation (NSFDC) signed Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) with (i) Skill Council for Green Jobs, New Delhi for implementation of NSFDC sponsored Skill Development Training in the domain of Green Jobs, (ii) Surabhi Earth Foundation, New Delhi, Manav Vikas Sanstha, Rajasthan, Art Illuminates Mankind (aim), Mahila Mandal Barmer Agor, Rajasthan, Jai Bhairav Welfare Society, Rajasthan, Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Assam to develop and promote schedule castes Artisans/Weavers clusters under AHVY Scheme of DC (Handicrafts) and NHDP Scheme of DC (Handlooms) and NHDP Scheme of DC (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles for the benefit of the target group and (iii) REC Foundation, New Delhi for implementation of Skill Development Training Programmes with CSR fund of REC.

- (ii) National Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation (NBCFDC) has signed MoU with REC Foundation, New Delhi for imparting skill training to 1600 youths of target group in power sector on Pan India basis.
- (iii) NBCFDC participated in the exhibition “Shilpotsav-2017”, at Dilli Haat New Delhi from 01/11/2017 to 15/11/2017 and Exhibition-cum-Sale at India International Trade Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 wherein artisans displayed their products during the exhibition.
- (iv) Under Cluster Development, NBCFDC has assigned the Job of Cluster development by the Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts).
- (v) NBCFDC has taken pro-active steps for generating awareness amongst target group in various parts of the country. The Corporation sponsored/organized holding of awareness camps-cum-credit Camps with the objective of spreading awareness of Corporation's schemes and providing an opportunity to the target group to avail financial supporting in short time. During this month, Awareness-cum-Loan Registration Camp was held in Ranchi in partnership with the Jharkhand Gramin Bank in which about 250 prospective people attended the event and out of them 34 prospective beneficiaries registered their names for availing financial assistance.
- (vi) National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation (NSKFDC) organized two Awareness Camps in Madhya Pradesh on 09/11/2017 and Jammu and Kashmir on 25/11/2017 to make the target group aware about the schemes and programmes of NSKFDC/Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers and to motivate them to avail financial assistance and also to enrol for Skill Development Training Programme.
- (vii) NSKFDC organized a Health Camp for the target group at Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh) on 12/11/2017.
- (viii) NSKFDC participated in the exhibition “Shilpotsav-2017”, at Dilli Haat New Delhi from 01/11/2017 to 15/11/2017, Exhibition-cum-Sale at India International Trade Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14/11/2017 to 27/11/2017 and Swadeshi Mela at Chandigarh from 22/11/2017 to 26/11/2017.
- (ix) NSKFDC has collaborated with NULM to reach to the target group for providing financial assistance under its schemes through refinancing the existing loan to beneficiaries and through a tripartite agreement wherein guaranteed income with machinery financed by NSKFDC will be given.

\*\*\*\*\*