

## **9. HIMACHAL PRADESH**

### **LEGAL AID**

Legal aid is provided free of cost to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the Legal Aid Board of the State Government. No income limit has been fixed for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and children. This free legal aid also includes the expense of TA-DA and expenses of Court fees etc.

During the year 2002, 45 Scheduled Castes and 7 Scheduled Tribes persons were benefited under the Scheme.

### **RELIEF MEASURES**

Financial assistance is provided to the victims of atrocities as per the norms prescribed under Rule 12(4) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995. During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2002 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2002, an amount of Rs. 4.81 lakhs was sanctioned.

### **APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL OFFICERS**

Officers of the rank of Additional District Magistrate have been designated as Special Officers and the Dy. S.P. has been appointed as Investigating Officer under the Act in each district.

### **COMMITTEES**

State Level Vigilance and Grievance Redressal Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister of the State. The District Level Committees have also been functioning under the Chairpersonship of District Magistrate in each District.

### **SURVEY**

No specific area has been identified as atrocity prone area in Himachal Pradesh. The Special Cell in Police Headquarters supervises the progress of

registration of cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. As per Rule 8 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995, a Protection of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Cell under the Chairpersonship of Director General of Police has also been set up.

#### **ATROCITY PRONE AREAS**

No specific area has been identified as atrocity prone area in Himachal Pradesh. However, as and when any incident of atrocity comes to the notice, appropriate action is initiated immediately.