

5.9 HIMACHAL PRADESH

5.9.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister, reviews implementation of the PoA Act. A meeting of the Committee was held on 02-06-2012.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE.

The District Level Committees have also been functioning under the Chairpersonship of District Magistrate in each District. During the year, 28 meetings were held in 11 districts.

5.9.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Special Cell has been set up at Police Headquarters, to monitor the offences of atrocities under the PoA Act. The Cell is functioning under the direct supervision of the Director General of Police. The Cell consists Additional Director General of Police (CID), Inspector General of Police (law & Order) and Superintendent of Police (CID/Crime).

5.9.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

NODAL OFFICER

The Principal Secretary, Social Justice & Empowerment Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh has been appointed as a Nodal Officer

5.9.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No area has been identified as atrocity prone where the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are likely to be subjected to atrocities.

5.9.5 SPECIAL COURTS

All the Courts of District Session Judges and Additional Session Judges in every district in the State have been designated as special courts to try offence under the PoA Act.

5.9.6 SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

All the Public Prosecutors (District Attorneys) attached with the Court of District and Session Judges have been designated as Special Public Prosecutors to conduct offence under the PoA Act within their respective jurisdiction

5.9.7 PUBLICITY

The State Government has taken the following steps to generate awareness among general masses and to sensitize the various Government functionaries:

- (i) 198 Awareness Camps at District level, Tehsil level, Block level and Gram Panchayat level for general public and students of colleges and schools.
- (ii) 12 sensitization programmes/workshops for SHOs of Police Stations at District levels.
- (iii) 4 Sensitization Programmes for Investigating Officers.
- (iv) One day workshop at State level for District Welfare Officers and Tehsil Welfare Officers.
- (v) Special training on the provisions of PoA Act was imparted to pounce officers/officials at Police Training Centre, Daroh, District Kangra.

5.9.8 LEGAL AID

Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority is providing legal aid services to SCs/STs women and children.

5.9.9 RELIEF MEASURES

Financial assistance was provided to the victims of atrocities as per the prescribed norms. During the year 2012, an amount of Rs. 8.15 lakh was provided to 75 atrocity victims.

5.9.10 CONTINGENCY PLAN

The State Government has formulated a Contingency Plan as required under Rule 15 of the PoA Rules.

5.9.11 REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

During the year, one Public Prosecutor (District Attorney), Bilaspur was changed, on a complaint.