

CHAPTER 5

MEASURES TAKEN BY STATE GOVERNMENTS AND UNION TERRITORY ADMINISTRATIONS

5.1 ANDHRA PRADESH

5.1.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee functions under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review implementation of the PoA Act.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees are functioning in all Districts under the Chairpersonship of the District Collectors. During the year 2015, 23 meetings were held in 13 districts of the State.

5.1.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A SC & ST Protection Cell at State Level is headed by an Inspector General of Police (CID) and functions under the control and supervision of Additional Director General of Police (CID), assisted by DSPs and other

supporting staff. A Deputy Superintendent of Police has also been appointed in each of seven regions exclusively to deal the offences of atrocities. Monthly Survey is conducted by senior Police Officers. Whenever serious atrocity cases are reported, they make to spot inspections.

5.1.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Director of Social Welfare has been designated as the Nodal Officer under Rule 9 of the PoA Rules, for coordinating the functioning of District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The Joint Collectors of the thirteen atrocity prone districts have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.1.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The details of identified atrocity prone areas are as under: -

S.No.	Identified District	Specific areas within District, identified as atrocity prone areas
1.	Kadapa District	44
2.	Srikakulam District	10
3.	Kurnool District	55
4.	Rajahmundry(U)	37
5.	Tirupati Urban District	4
6.	East Godavari(Kakinada) District	55
7.	Guntur District	5
8.	Ananthapur District	3
9.	Nellore District	4
	Total	217

5.1.5 SPECIAL COURTS

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up 14 Exclusive Special Courts in the districts of Chittoor, Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Prakasham at Ongole, Kadapa, Krishna, East Godavari, Ananthapur, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, West Godavari and Lakshmpeta of Srikakulam district.

5.1.6 SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed in the Special Courts, to plead in cases registered under the PoA Act.

5.1.7 PUBLICITY

Sensitization and Training programmes were conducted on a regular scale in the Andhra Pradesh Police Academy for various levels of staff from DSP level to Constable. The MCR, HRD Institute, Jubilee Hills is the premier training institute for all levels of officers in the State. A capsule on provisions of the PoA Act is included in the training programme imparted by the Institute. Sensitization workshops were held for field functionaries of Social Welfare, Police and Revenue Departments. Boards depicting provisions of the PoA Act are displayed in Police Stations and Mandal Revenue Officers Offices. Media campaign against evil practice of untouchability is conducted through All India Radio, Press, and Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation buses. All the DSPs of PCR Cells, CID are sensitized in the in-House Training Programmes. Handbook of "Government Orders, Memo's and Circulars" on PCR and PoA Acts are also provided to Police officers for ready reference and guidelines. All the SDPOs in the State are issued booklets on Guidelines for the investigating officers, in the investigation of cases under the PoA Act. A State level workshop on implementation of the PoA Act was conducted with participation of Additional Joint Collectors, DSPs, Public Prosecutors, High Court Justice and Officers of Social Welfare Department. During the year 2015, 841 Police official and 105 other official were sensitized.

5.1.8 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses are provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. During the year 2015, 118 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.1.9 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

The State Government provides for relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules. During the year 2015, 733 persons were provided relief in all 13 districts.

5.1.10 LEGAL AID

Free legal Aid is given to deserving families belonging to Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes through Sub-Divisional Level Legal Aid Committee with the Deputy Commissioner of the District as Chairman. There is no income limit fixed for eligibility to provide legal aid to the victims of atrocities. During the year 2015, 19 persons were provided legal aid.