

5.6 GOA

5.6.1 COMMITTEE

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of Chief Minister reviews implementation of the PoA Act.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are functioning under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate, North Goa and South Goa to review cases of atrocities under the PoA Act. During the year 2016, three meetings were held.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate/Dy. Collector have been constituted vide State Government Notification dated 17.4.2015.

5.6.2 INVESTIGATION OFFICER

Whenever an offence of atrocities under provision of the PoA Act is registered, the same is being investigated by the officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police.

5.6.3 REGISTRATION OF CASES AS PER PROVISIONS OF THE AMENDMENT PoA ACT

Two cases have been registered under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015.

5.6.4 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILLING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

Out of four cases charge sheeted which are pending trial, one case has been charge sheeted within sixty days and in three cases charge sheeted was filed later than sixty days.

5.6.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

NODAL OFFICER

The Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel is the Nodal Officer and coordinates the functioning of the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police and other officers, responsible for implementing provisions of the PoA Act.

5.6.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No specific area has been identified as atrocity prone in the State.

5.6.7 SPECIAL COURTS

The State Government has designated District and Session Courts at Panaji and Margoa (North & South Goa) as Special Courts for the speedy trial of cases under the PoA Act.

5.6.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

The Government has appointed Public Prosecutors attached to the District and Session Courts as Special Public Prosecutors. Further it is felt that presently there is no need of appointing Exclusive Special Public Prosecutor in the State of Goa.

5.6.9 IMPLEMENTATION OF A PLAN FOR EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE ACT AND ITS NOTIFICATION IN THE STATE GAZETTE

The State Government has prepared a Model Contingency Plan under the PoA Rules, for providing relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities among members of SC/ST.

5.6.10 PUBLICITY/AWARENESS

All the subordinate staff was sensitized about proper enforcement of the provisions of the PoA Act. Meetings of senior citizens, members of weaker section and the police were also held periodically at Sub-Divisional level wherein grievances were heard and resolved.

5.6.11 LEGAL AID

The State Government has formulated a scheme to provide Free Legal Aid to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes without any economic criteria. In the case of Shri Suresh Babu, Sancoale, Vasco-Goa, recording facility under the PoA Amendment Act, 2015 has been provided for recording the proceedings in the Special Court, Margo.

5.6.12 RELIEF TO ATROCITY VICTIMS

The State Government has made provision for providing relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities among the members of SCs and STs under the PoA Rules.