



JOINT STAKEHOLDERS REPORT ON

CASTE BASED DISCRIMINATION IN INDIA

**13th Session of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council –
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Submitted by

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I. Methodology and Consultations

1. The present Dalit Stakeholders Report has been prepared following a national level consultation with more than 100 local, state-level and national Dalit movements, organizations and platforms, and other like-minded NGOs organized by National Coalition for Strengthening PoA Act an initiation of National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) through one of its movement National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ). At the time of submission, this report has been endorsed by 563 organizations (see Annexure II for the list).
2. This report is a compilation of primary and secondary sources collected from various organizations, experts working on Caste Based Discrimination and Violence. Information was also obtained from different credible sources including the UN Treaty Bodies, UN Special Procedures, and Government Reports etc. This report reviews the implementation of recommendations given to India during the first cycle of UPR, Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures and based on evidences of the violation of the rights of Scheduled Caste/Dalit men, women and children who are the victims of caste based discrimination and violence.

II. Follow-up of the accepted recommendations of UPR I

3. Many CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) working on the rights of Scheduled Castes (SCs) were actively involved in assessing the follow up of the accepted recommendations by the Government of India (GoI). This follow up still remains unfinished except for extending standing invitations to all Special Procedures. The present report would like to emphasize the following:

Recommendation No.1 Ratification of the Convention against Torture:

4. Currently, the Prevention of Torture Bill 2010 in its amended version has yet to be tabled before both Houses of Parliament. In 2008, a series of People's Tribunals on Torture covering 47 districts across 9 states, clearly revealed that more than 60% of the victims of torture either belonged to Scheduled Castes or were religious minorities. The adoption of the Bill (2010) should be given immediate priority, even prior to ratification at UN level.

Recommendation No.5: Disaggregated data on caste and related discrimination

5. Firstly, despite early strong resistance from GoI, the 2011 nationwide census of caste-wise enumeration has been done. But there are serious lacunae: (i) disaggregation of data by caste, gender, religion, status and region is missing; (ii) no data available on education, health, civic amenities, employment, entrepreneurship, and other important social indicators. Secondly, the National Crime Record Bureau Report of GoI does not provide disaggregated data on crimes against SC and ST women and children, so essential for proper policy intervention. Besides, there is neither proper analysis, nor mention of the extent of crime complaints of SCs unregistered by the police. Social audit is seriously missing regarding implementation of special protective legislations, policies etc - although in place for these communities.

Recommendation No.7: Ratification of the ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182 concerning Child Labour

6. Across social groups, the incidence of child labor was 1.6 % for SCs while it was 0.36 % for others. Similarly, in the age-group of 10-14 years, the incidence of child labor was the highest i.e 15% for SCs compared to others (5 %)¹. Given this strong data weightage against SC Children, it is imperative for GoI not only to ratify the ILO Convention urgently, but also bring about consistency and coherence within all child-related laws and policies.

Recommendation No.7: Strengthen human rights, specifically in order to effectively address gender and caste-based discrimination

7. With the World Programme on Human Rights Education already in its second phase, together with the Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training, the GoI, with the active participation of State and non-State actors, is strongly recommended to come out with a coherent plan that will include, among others, providing focused training for officials and professionals, including law enforcement personnel on anti-discriminatory approaches to policing. Those involved in the judicial system should also be given training in the prevention of discrimination in the administration and functioning of the criminal justice system, according to general recommendation XXIX of CERD (2005)

III. Recommendations of Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures: Implementation

8. CERD, CESCR and CEDAW have given a number of recommendations to India to address Caste Based Discrimination. CERD in its 2007 Concluding Observation has given a series of recommendations to India to ensure the following: the rights of members of Scheduled Castes (SCs) including and Scheduled Tribes (STs) to freely and safely vote and stand for election; the SCs, including SC women, to have access to adequate land; the proper implementation of the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993; the provision of adequate health care facilities, safe drinking water and access to public distribution system; the reduction of school dropout rates and increase in the enrollment rates of SC children and the promotion of non discriminatory practices in class rooms and also in the midday meal scheme². CERD also observed that Dalits who convert to Christianity or to Islam reportedly lose their entitlements under affirmative action programmes and also recommended GoI to restore the eligibility for affirmative action benefits of all the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes having converted to another religion³. CESCR (2008) recommended the strengthening of procedures for prompt and impartial investigations and effective prosecutions under the 1989 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and improve awareness arising among various enforcement officials regarding caste based crimes⁴. CEDAW (2007) recommended India to enforce the laws preventing discrimination and crimes against Dalit women, end impunity, and urged it to eradicate Manual Scavenging. It also recommended providing comparable data disaggregated by sex, caste, minority status

¹ Briefing Note on Working Group on Girl Child for Ministry of Women and Child Development: NCDHR-2011

² Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Seventieth session, CERD/C/IND/CO/19, 5 May 2007

³ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Seventieth session, CERD/C/IND/CO/19, 5 May 2007

⁴ Implementation of the international covenant on economic social and cultural rights, Pre-sessional working group, E/C.12/IND/Q/5, 14 September 2007

and ethnicity, on the enrolment and retention rates of girls and women at all levels of education and trends over time⁵.

9. When reviewing India's interaction with the UN human rights mechanisms, there is a gap of coordination between the national and state level ministries and institutions regarding the implementation of recommendations resulting in incoherence and misalignment between the ratified treaties and domestic mechanisms. In this respect, the response to CERD's 2007 recommendation could have been more effective. There have been significant delays in submitting reports periodically to the Treaty Bodies - the 4th periodic report to the HRC is still pending since 2001, the 20th periodic report to CERD, due in June 2011, is pending and the recommendations on Scheduled Castes and other vulnerable communities of CESC (2008) still remain unfinished.
10. **Special Procedures:** 1) Ms. Shahinian, the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery underlined the intrinsic link between domestic servitude and caste discrimination - that "physical and psychological abuses reinforce dependency" and indicated the critical situation of Dalit women engaged in manual scavenging. 2) Mr. Githu Muigai, has systematically analysed caste-based discrimination at the Council. His request for a country visit is still pending. 3) The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, based on his country mission (2005), mentioned that Dalit children are discriminated against in multiple ways. 4) The recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief (2008) to the GoI to "restore eligibility for affirmative action benefits to all members of SC/ST having converted to other religions", which resonates with the domestic movement is still to be addressed. 5) The Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders, Margaret Sekaggya (Jan 2011) has raised concern about the plight of Human Rights Defenders working for the rights of marginalized people, i.e. Dalits, Adivasis (Tribals), etc.
11. There is no doubt that there are adequate constitutional and legal provisions, executive policies and welfare and developmental programmes being in place to prevent and eliminate caste based discrimination and violence. However, ineffective implementation has rendered these provisions notional. Government records and reports, independent and credible research institutes present an alarming picture of the situation of the people affected by caste based discrimination and violence - an increased trend in the denial of basic livelihood rights, growing numbers of atrocities, high dropout rate of students, unabated land and labour rights violations, disregard to public health, denial of access to any place or service, obstruction to political participation, negligence of law enforcement authorities in filing complaints, undue delays in police investigation and trial of cases and abysmally low conviction rate etc. In such instances of discrimination and violence, one notices certain striking features: (i) continuing pattern of discrimination and violence, (ii) increase in frequency of occurrences, (iii) newer and multiple forms of discrimination and atrocities, and (iv) the use of systematically designed and well-executed methods of subjugation and exclusion.

⁵ *Concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: India, Thirty-seventh session, CEDAW/C/IND/CO/3*

IV. Present Status of Scheduled Castes Rights and Caste-Based Discrimination and Atrocities: Crime Against Humanity

12. Despite Article 17 of the Constitution of India abolishing Untouchability and the promulgation of various legislations and policy measures, the rights of SCs are infringed upon round the clock throughout the year. Studies attesting to nearly 148 forms of untouchability (see Annexure III) and the most heinous, inhuman and terrorizing forms of atrocities mention the continuous violation of civil, political, economic and cultural rights of SCs. Discrimination and atrocities related to land, labor, water, wages and other livelihood aspects are on the rise even in independent India - whether it be in private or public sphere, state institutions, religious institutions, or labor & consumer markets.
13. Many jurists have pointed out that serious, flagrant, systematic, and deliberate violations of the principle of non-discrimination can be considered to be crimes against humanity. The caste system in India, with its irrational and hereditary practices of untouchability and violence should be recognized as crimes against humanity⁶.

A. Civil and Political Rights

14. **Violence:** 180 million of Scheduled Castes continue to be discriminated and serious crimes are committed against them ranging from abuse on caste name, murders, rapes, arson, social and economic boycotts, naked parading of SC women, forcing to drink urine and eat human excreta etc⁷. In 2008- 2010, a total of 1, 16,813 atrocities were committed against them⁸ with an increase of 10.6% in 2009⁹. As per Crime Statistics of India, every 18 minutes a crime is committed against SCs; every day 27 atrocities against them, (3 rapes, 11 assaults and 13 murders); every week 5 of their homes or possessions burnt and 6 persons kidnapped or abducted.
15. **Gender Crimes:** The UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women has noted that Dalit women “face targeted violence, even rape and death, from state actors and powerful members of dominant castes who used to inflict political lessons and crush dissent within community”¹⁰. Similarly, in its 2007 concluding comments, CERD noted its concern about the alarming number of allegations of acts of sexual violence against Dalit women, primarily by dominant caste men¹¹. The NCRB reported a total of 1349 rape cases of Dalit women for 2010, with the state of Madhya Pradesh reporting 316 cases, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 311 cases. There are cases of kidnapping and abduction of women, with Uttar Pradesh alone accounting nearly 48.5% of the 511 cases for 2010. Notably, there is no disaggregated data on atrocities against Dalit women. Young Dalit girls suffer systematic sexual abuse in temples, serving as prostitutes for men from dominant castes. Thousands of Dalit girls are forced into prostitution every year through the practice of temple offering called ‘Devadasi’ and ‘Jogini’¹². (See Annexure VI)

⁶ K. G. Kannabiran, *Wages of Impunity*, 2004

⁷ Given the large extent of under-reporting atrocities, total 5,52,351 atrocities committed against SCs and 86374 atrocities committed against STs during 1995 -2010 (NCRB Reports).

⁸ This includes 2208 Murders, 5974 Rapes, 15603 cases of Hurt, 1764 cases of Kidnapping and abduction, 687 cases of Arson, 572 of other Untouchability practices and 53174 of other IPC crimes etc

⁹ National Crime Record Bureau, *Crime in India, 2008, 2009 and 2010*

¹⁰ UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, 2002, *Cultural Practices in the Family that are Violent towards Women*, E/CN4/2002/83, Para 53.

¹¹ CERD/ C/ IND/ CO/ IG.

¹² <http://idsn.org/caste-discrimination/key-issues/forced-prostitution/>

16. **Violence by the Police:** Human Rights Watch identified various patterns of atrocities by police officials¹³ and more than 60% of the victims of torture belonged to SCs and religious minorities.
17. **Discrimination and Violence during Election:** SCs have difficulties in exercising their right to vote, to contest the elections and to hold elected offices at the local level. During the 2009 General Elections, the National Dalit Election Watch reported several incidents of violence of which 32% were threats/intimidation/violence by Dominant Caste groups, 22% SCs were not allowed to vote by members of various political parties and due to clashes between political parties etc and 20% SCs were deliberately excluded from Voters Lists¹⁴.
18. **Freedom of Peaceful Assembly:** SCs face more grievous violations while exercising their fundamental freedoms and basic rights. For instance, although both the Constitution and the ICCPR recognize the right to peaceful assembly, on 11th September 2011, when Dalits in several thousands gathered to commemorate the assassination of a well-known Dalit leader, Mr. Immanuel Sekaran at Paramakudi town in Tamil Nadu, the police resorted to brutal attacks with sticks and firearms without any prior warning, and finally six Dalits were shot dead and many more injured with bullet wounds.
19. **Violence against Dalit Christians:** Dalit Christians, forming around 75-80% of Indian Christian population and their places of worship are often targeted with physical attacks and violence in recent years. The rhetoric of 'religious conversion' engineered by the religious fundamentalist forces has been pivotal in fomenting violence against the SC Christians¹⁵, as was evidenced in the Kandhamal district of Orissa in 2008. According to government figures, more than 600 villages were ransacked, 5,600 houses looted and burnt, 54,000 people left homeless and 38 people murdered. But human rights groups estimate over 100 people killed, including disabled and elderly persons, children and women. More than the severe physical injuries, it was the mental trauma that affected larger number of people. Reports also speak of 295 churches destroyed and 13 schools/ colleges/ offices of several non-profit organizations damaged¹⁶.
20. **Violence against Dalit Human Rights Defenders:** NCDHR-National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ) has documented several cases of threats of physical assault and murder, and insults to Dalit human rights defenders in public places by using caste based abusive language. Assaults in public places, torture, illegal detention, harassment and misbehavior, forced disappearances, extra-judicial killings, illegal imprisonment, surveillance and targeting of family members, branding as naxalites and anti-nationals and implicating in false cases have not been uncommon rights violations against SC

¹³ *Custodial torture and deaths, encounter deaths, raids on Dalit colonies after inter-caste clashes, violence against dalit women, false arrest of dalits, violence to crush peaceful protests by Dalits; violence against entire Dalit colonies while searching out a Dalit accused; and violence against Dalit villagers caught in crossfire in insurgency/ naxalite affected areas*

¹⁴ *Dalit and Right of Franchise, The Experience of the General elections 2009, National Dalit Election Watch*

¹⁵ *Caste –based discrimination & Atrocities on Dalit Chistians and the Need for Reservation, IIDS, 2007*

¹⁶ *See Preliminary Findings and Recommendations of National People's Tribunal on Kandhamal, organized by National Solidarity Forum, 25th August 2010*

human rights defenders.¹⁷ The cost of working for the rights of marginalized people, i.e., Dalits, Adivasis (Indigenous People), religious minorities has been risks to their life, name and livelihood, and social ostracism. On the other hand, those collectivities striving for their rights have been victimized¹⁸. There is no corresponding domestic legislation in India to safeguard the rights of the SC human rights defenders and the marginalized people they are working for.

21. **Manual Scavenging:** Every day 1.3 million people in India (of which more than 80% are Dalit women) are forced to clean human excrement with their bare hands (a practice called ‘manual scavenging’) for little to no wages. Of the 7, 70,338 manual scavengers and their dependents across India¹⁹, so far only 4,27,870 persons have been assisted under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS) and the remaining number yet to be rehabilitated is 3, 42,468²⁰. As per the Public Interest²¹ Litigation filed in the High court of Delhi, Indian Railways managed by the Govt. of India, which employs a large number manual scavengers who clean human excreta is a violator of the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act of 1993. Despite recommendations from the ILO Expert Committee on Conventions regarding Convention no. 111 in 2002 which looked into questions related to manual scavenging, this pernicious practice still continues.

B. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

22. **Extreme Poverty:** According to the latest estimates of the Planning Commission Report of 2010, 323 million people live below poverty line in India. This amounts to 37.2 % of the Indian population and majority of them are Dalits (47.2% in rural areas and 39.9% in urban centers).
23. **Right to Health:** Discrimination against SCs in health services, both public and private, includes many forms of untouchability practices²². Infant mortality rate for SC children is as high as 88 per 1000 as compared to children from the dominant caste social groups (69 per 1000). Moreover, a higher number of SC children die in the first month of life as well as after the first month of life but before their first birthday, and 43 per 1000 of one year old SC children die before completing their 5th birthday as compared to 25 children from the dominant social groups.²³
24. **Right to Water:** More than 20% of SCs do not have access to safe drinking water. Only 10% SC households have access to sanitation (as compared to 27% for non-SC households), and the vast majority of SCs depend on the goodwill of dominant castes for access to water from public wells.²⁴ SC women stand in separate queues near the bore

¹⁷ Report on Dalit Human Rights Defenders by NCDHR-National Dalit Movement of Justice (NDMJ), Submitted to the Special Rapporteur on Situation of Human Rights Defenders, 15 January 2011

¹⁸ Statement of the Special Rapporteur on Situation of Human Rights Defenders, 21 January 2011

¹⁹ Annual report of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Government of India 2009), The highest number of manual scavengers was in Uttar Pradesh (2,13,975), followed by Madhya Pradesh (81,307), Maharashtra (64,785), Gujarat (64,195), Andhra Pradesh (45,822) and Assam (40,413).

²⁰ Annual Report of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, 2009

²¹ The Writ Petition {W.P.(C) -845/2011} in the Delhi High court on the Indian Railways.

²² Such as denial of entry to health centers; separate queues for them for checkups and medical prescriptions; unwillingness of local medical workers to visit the segregated SC colonies in villages; forcing SCs to always travel to the main dominant caste part of the village to receive medical treatment.

²³ <http://wcd.nic.in/schemes/icps.pdf>

²⁴ www.infochangeindia.org

wells to fetch water till the non- SCs finish fetching water. SCs are disintitled and not allowed to use taps and wells located in non-SC area. Entire SC villages are starved of drinking water for several days as punishment in case the SCs oppose or break existing norms or practices of discrimination in the village.

25. **Adequate Housing:** The use of inferior building materials, high population density, lack of access to civic services, and spatial segregation in residential areas are clear indications of the poverty, existing social discrimination and marginalization in general, and the housing and living conditions in particular of the SC communities. During attacks targeted at SCs, burning of homes and destruction of property and farmland is a tactic commonly used by dominant castes. Land or property disputes, with punitive action seldom taken against the perpetrators, are one major reason for targeting SC houses.²⁵ SCs also find it extremely difficult to rent houses, especially in urban areas, and they are the ones worst affected in demolition or evacuation incidents. During the Common Wealth Games (CWG) in New Delhi in 2010, the urban poor, of whom the SCs constituted the majority, were forcefully evicted without any concrete alternate re-settlement plan. One case in example was the slum cluster of 368 families of Dalit families at Jangpura's Barapullah Nullah, New Delhi which was demolished to construct a car parking area for CWG.
26. **Right to Education:** Literacy levels are lowest among SC girls at 24.4 per cent, compared to the national average of 42.8 per cent for the female population. In the Mushahar²⁶ SC community, barely 9 per cent of women are literate. One of the primary reasons for the increasing dropout rate of SC children from primary schools²⁷ (50% of all SC children, and 64% of girl students dropout) is due to discrimination being practiced against them in school. The difference in dropout rates between SC youth and all Indian youth has actually grown from 4.39 % in 1989 to 16.21 % in 2008²⁸.
27. **Discrimination in Higher Education:** The caste bias manifests itself in the way teachers ignore SC students and unjustly fail them in exams, in social exclusion and physical abuse, and in the unwillingness of the university administration to assist SC and support them. As a grave consequence of this harassment, a disproportionate number of SC students have committed suicide. 18 SC students have committed suicide between 2008-11 and this number only represents the official cases. Counting all the SC students whose families did not protest against the incessant discrimination that eventually led to suicide, the number is likely to be much higher²⁹.
28. **SC Children:** SC children are frequently treated in a humiliating and degrading manner in school and in public places, at times accompanied by severe corporal punishment. Even in government sponsored schemes like the midday meal scheme, they are made to feel they are "children of a lesser god", with segregation in seating arrangements and in eating midday meals, being made to clean the school toilets and carry their footwear in their

²⁵ *Briefing Paper for the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, WGHR, June 2010*

²⁶ *The Musahar community falls under the category of the Scheduled Caste in Northern India, is socially and economically one of the most marginalized communities in India.*

²⁷ *Discriminatory practices against SC children practiced by teachers include corporal punishment, denial of access to school water supplies, segregation in class rooms, and forcing Dalit children to perform manual scavenging on and around school premises (IDSN and Navsarjan Briefing Note, 2010).*

²⁸ *IDSN, 2010: Dalit Children in India – Victims of Caste Discrimination, Briefing Note by Navsarjan Trust (www.navsarjan.org), Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (www.chrgj.org) and International Dalit Solidarity Network (www.idsn.org)*

²⁹ *The Death of Merit, 2011: On Suicides, Caste and Higher Education*

hands (at times on their heads) while crossing dominant caste areas in the villages and roads, etc. In a village in Tamilnadu, when a Dalit student was murdered on 09 Sept 2011 by dominant castes, 23 Dalit children were compelled to take their transfer certificates from the school because the dominant caste children objected to their presence in the school. Some of these factors have significantly contributed to the higher dropout rates among Dalit children who face a hostile environment especially at school.

29. **Child Labour:** As mentioned earlier in this report, across social groups, the incidence of child labor is higher for SC children than for dominant caste children. With respect to gender difference, the incidence is higher for girls than for boys.

30. **Bonded Labour:** Despite the Bonded Labour Abolition Act 1976, it is estimated that in India there are 40 million bonded labourers and SCs constitute a majority of them³⁰. Dalit children from migrant and bonded families naturally fall into the trap of bondage. Dalits comprise majority of agricultural, bonded and child labourers in India, with many surviving on less than US\$ 1 a day by UN standards.³¹

31. **Right to Employment:** SCs face systematic discrimination both in the public and private sector. In the name of downsizing and optimizing by the GoI, employment rate is on the decline. Given the discrimination and exploitative social milieu, SCs fall victims to the corporate marketising process. According to the Report of the Working Group on the empowering of SC, over 1, 13,450 job opportunities were lost by the SCs in Central Government in a period of ten years. A decline of 10.07% job opportunities was noticeable. This is in addition to the loss of opportunities in the various state government areas. The unemployment rate of SCs in rural and urban areas is about 5.5% as against 3.5% for dominant castes.³²

32. **Capital Market and Discrimination:** Traditionally Scheduled Castes were barred from undertaking any business (except some 'polluting occupations'). This is reflected in the low presence of them today in business enterprises. Among the total number of SC households, about 12% in rural areas and 27% in urban areas were engaged mostly in some kind of petty business activities, as compared with 41% and 36% for non-SC/ST households in rural and urban area respectively. The main issue to notice here is the low participation of SCs in the capital intensive private industry and business³³.

33. **Infrastructure Inaccessibility:** In their study on infrastructure of equity audit, Social Equity Watch observed that there has been a continued presence of deep-rooted caste-based inequity in the distribution and availability of infrastructure for SCs, and accordingly their accessibility to services and entitlements. A powerful way to fence off SCs from access to the functional infrastructure facilities is to situate such facilities in the dominant caste habitations. Dalit's habitations are thus left officially uncovered. This equity gap is severe in certain Gram Panchayats³⁴.

34. **Right to Social Security:** SC workers, both men and women, are in substantial numbers in the unorganized sectors, and are also employed as landless agricultural workers in the

³⁰ <http://dalitstudies.org.in/wp/0905.pd>

³¹ 2007 Report by the Centre for Human Rights and Global Justice and Human Rights Watch

³² <http://www.jstor/stable/4415409>

³³ *Urban Labour Market Discrimination. Working Papers Series, Vol. 111, No.1, 2009, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies.*

³⁴ *National Infrastructure Equity Audit – Phase 1, Briefing Paper 2, Social Equity Watch, 2011*

agricultural sector. In 2007, the Arjun Sen Gupta Commission on the unorganized sector assessed that the bulk of agricultural workers (90.7%) and rural workers (64.5%) were paid less than the national minimum wage of Rs 66/- a day. The Commission declared that 77% of the Indian population lived on less than Rs 20/- per day, the majority of them being SCs. Many such socio-economic conditions call for safeguarding the right to social security of all those categories of workers, including SCs.

35. **Rights of Scheduled Castes with Disabilities:** Although it is highly commendable that the GoI ratified the Convention on Rights of Disabled Persons and has now submitted its initial report, the SCs with disabilities have suffered for far too long the neglected dimension of social exclusion leading to cumulative discrimination besides the caste factor. It was reported that a physically disabled person from SC community could not for a long time use the tricycle presented by the government simply because the caste Hindu 'road rules' could not be violated. With an estimated figure of 1.8% of persons with disabilities among the overall population, the 2.4 % among SCs is shockingly very high. This shows that the existing policies and practices of the national and state governments are not successful in providing adequate social safeguards to SCs with disabilities³⁵.
36. **Disaster Risk Reduction and Scheduled Castes:** Another major concern, especially as a consequence of the devastation caused by the 2004 tsunami, is related to natural and man-made disasters affecting sizeable populations in the country, including SCs. National Dalit Watch observed that the impact of disaster, in its nature and intensity, varies according to the degree of vulnerability of the social groups that constitute the affected population. Although in principle the disaster response is expected to focus on humanitarian principles, including the principle of neutrality (equal approach to all disasters), the existing laws, policies and guidelines of the national and state governments are not comprehensive enough to capture the sensitive issue of caste based discrimination in emergencies³⁶.

V. Implementation of National Legislations, Policies and Schemes

37. The Indian Constitution as well as legislations, policies and schemes ensure SCs the protection and promotion of their social, economic, educational, cultural and political interests in order to remove the disparities suffered by them and to bring them on par with other sections of the society. Examples of the latter are: The Untouchability Practices Act, 1955, Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1976, SCs and STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, The Employment of Manual scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993, Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 etc. To curb unequal distribution of economic assets, Land Reform Policy and the Special Component Plan were introduced.

³⁵ *Dalits with Disabilities, the Neglected Dimension of Social Exclusion, Govinda Pal, IIDS, 2010*

³⁶ *Report of the National Convention on "Exclusion of Dalits – Disaster Risk Reduction Interventions – Effective Civil Society Monitoring", National Dalit Watch, June 2010*

A. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989

38. The SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 (PoA Act) is the only Act aiming to eliminate atrocities against SCs. However, its implementation remains weak and the conviction rates are shockingly low.³⁷
39. In 2010, out of the total of 32712 atrocities, only 10513 (32%) cases were registered under PoA Act. At the year-end, 28% of cases were pending for investigation³⁸. About 21% of cases were closed by the police³⁹. There were 44,864 cases pending charge sheeting for 13 years even after investigation. Out of the registered atrocities, only 72% were investigated out of which only 50% were charge-sheeted⁴⁰. The average rate of pendency in court was 82.9%. At the end of 2010, 80% remained pending for trial across the country. In 2010, out of 107758 cases pending trial in courts, 84855 cases remained pending trial and in only less than 21% cases was the trial completed, out of which only 35% cases were convicted⁴¹.
40. In contrary to the provisions of the Act, only 13 States/Union Territories, out of 35, have identified atrocity prone districts and 18 states/UTs have not set up SC/ST Protection Cells⁴². Only 14 states have nominated Special Officers to ensure proper coordination of all the mechanisms and officials implementing the Act. Exclusive Special Courts are set up only in 9 States⁴³. District and State-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees meant to monitor the implementation of this Act as well as the position of the atrocity cases have not been set up in many of the states. In the states where this Committee is set up, it hardly meets as per the periodicity mentioned in the Rules.⁴⁴
41. As there are various loopholes in the Act itself, National Coalition for Strengthening the PoA Act has recommended the Indian Government to review the 20year enforcement of the Act and amend it on various aspects: (i) amendments for speedy trial of cases by establishing Exclusive Special Courts and Prosecution, (ii) inclusion of additional offenses not covered by the present Act, (iii) strengthening the provisions regarding willful negligence of public servants, (iv) measures to protect the rights of the victims and witnesses, etc. (See Annexure – IV)

³⁷ As per the National Human Rights Commission Report on Atrocities against Scheduled Castes (2002), the progress of investigation of cases by the police analyzed from the governmental data.

³⁸ National Crime Record Bureau, Crime in India, 2010

³⁹ National Crime Record Bureau, 2010

⁴⁰ National Crime Record Bureau, 2010

⁴¹ Several states having pendency rates more than 70% at the end of 2010, Gujarat(90.9%), Himachal Pradesh (82.9%), Bihar (84.3%), Karnataka (76.9%), Madhya Pradesh (76.9%), Maharashtra (86.2%), Orissa (80.7%), Punjab (79.7%), Rajasthan (86.6%), Uttar Pradesh (72.4%), West Bengal (89.2%).

⁴² Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Report under sec. 21(4) SC/ST (PoA) Act for 2006, New Delhi, 2007

⁴³ Even though nine States are having special court, it is not set up in all the districts. It was noticed in the Agenda Notes of Conference of State Ministers of Welfare / Social Justice held on 17th – 18th June, 2011, New Delhi, that there are several states where the pendency of cases in the courts during 2007-2009, was more than 70%, namely Haryana (74%), Himachal Pradesh (76.3%), Jharkhand (72%), Kerala (75.2 %), Maharashtra (83.7%), Orissa (88.3%), Punjab (78.5%) and Uttarakhand (74.1%), but exclusive special courts have not been set up for prompt disposal of cases.

⁴⁴ As per the Agenda Notes of Conference of State Ministers of Welfare / Social Justice held on 17th – 18th June, 2011, New Delhi, no information was available about conduct of meetings during 2010, from the 21 States/UTs. Even from the information received from 6 States, it is seen that minimum number of required meetings of the SVMC/DVMC, during 2010, were not held

B. Special Component Plan

42. While the Special Component Plan did bring in benefits to SCs, the overall record based on factual findings highlights a number of problem areas related to imperfect implementation by the State machinery, including fund allocation and utilization.
43. Planning Commission Working Group on the “Empowerment of Scheduled Castes” 2007 stated that allocations for Special Component Plan for SCs has been inadequate at national level and that many states⁴⁵ have failed to allocate as per the normative SC population percentage. Although allocations in many states seem to have increased in these years, such allocations, in fact, are only notional. After studying the compiled allocations for SCP for various years from Statement 21 of Expenditure, Vol.1 of Union Budgets, GOI 2005-06 to 2011-12, some civil society organizations like NCDHR & Centre for Budget Governance Accountability came to the conclusion that the amount denied to SCs from 2005 to 2009 amounts to US \$ 20.8 billion and this means that annually around US \$ 5.2 billion have been denied through non-implementation as per the policy requirements of the Special Component Plan for SCs. (See Annexure-V)

C. Flagship Schemes

44. Social Equity Watch, a CSO, together with its partners, undertook a field study of rural infrastructure under the various flagship schemes. The Study⁴⁶ covered 124 village panchayats (local governance bodies) in 9 districts of 5 Indian States – Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Karnataka and Rajasthan. The study looked into the availability and accessibility of services and entitlements to SCs under the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2011). The infrastructure schemes covered were health, food, work, electricity, water, roads, communications, rural development and child care centers. That SCs and Minorities were fenced off from access to the functional infrastructure was clearly noticeable. In many SC/ST habitations, the people have to travel longer distance than stated in official norms. The rating of services by SC/ST and Minorities in accessing these facilities was much lower than their BC/General Category counterparts (dominant castes) living in the same habitations. The satisfaction gap among SCs was largely due to location of services in dominant caste habitations.
45. Although a sample survey, it captures the magnitude of the equity gap, and although it states of approximation it is only an underestimation. For, the actual inequity would be much more severe. Recently, even government officials acknowledged that the government’s flagship schemes have failed to meet even the 50% target fixed for the whole country. Hence, given such substantive forms of discrimination, the question arises as to how the SCs could envisage substantive equality in realising their ESC rights. For example, the scheme like NREGA achieved only 524.3 million man-days until 31.9.2100, whereas the figure was 729.7 million person-days for the previous year. Out of US \$ 8.5 billion allotted for NREGA, only less than half has been spent so far. SCs who form the bulk of the NREGA workforce are the ones who stand to lose due to caste discrimination and socio-economic exploitation.

⁴⁵ Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, West Bengal and UTs of Chandigarh and Pondicherry

⁴⁶ National Infrastructure Equity Audit – Phase I by Social Equity Watch, New Delhi – report accessed at www.socialequitywatch.org/images/Files/niea-final.pdf

VI. Recommendations:

Besides fulfilling the implementation of accepted recommendations of UPR-I:

1. Crossborder monitoring mechanisms are essential for stopping the flow of trafficking of dalit women and children.
2. A dialogue with the national and state governments, relevant UN bodies, the private sector, local authorities, national human rights institutions, CSOs and academic institutions needs to be promoted and sustained with a view to identify, promote and exchange views on best practices related to access to safe drinking water, health & sanitation and adequate housing for Dalits.
3. The Government should bring in sharp and strong amendments to the SC/ST (PoA) Act to address impunity of the State and dominant caste civil society section.
4. The Special Rapporteur on Racism, Mr. Muigai, have urged states to take action on the draft UN Principles and Guidelines by engaging them in “substantive discussions” on this topic, and accordingly “rally around” this comprehensive framework in order to eliminate caste-based discrimination.
5. As per the Recommendation given by the Special Rapporteur Ms. Margret Sekkagya during her visit in India, the National and State Human Rights Commissions must ensure a safe and conducive environment for human rights defenders in general, and SC Human Rights Defenders in particular, throughout India .
6. The State must promote appropriate Legal Protection Mechanisms for the protection of the Rights of Dalit human rights defenders. These mechanisms do not exist at present and should include targeted actions in favour of Dalit human rights defenders and it should also comply with the EU Guidelines for Human Rights Defenders.
7. National and State Governments should enact equal opportunity and equality laws and other measures that prohibit discrimination in capital market, labour hiring, work place, private enterprises, etc.
8. Reservation measures must be extended to Dalits of all faiths, especially to Dalit Christians and Muslims, who are presently excluded from the reservation benefits owing to religion-based discrimination.
9. The Unorganised Workers Social Security Bill should be adopted without any further delay. Equal attention should be given to Dalit women domestic workers. The recent ILO Convention on domestic workers and rules, 2011 should be given due consideration for subsequent ratification.
10. Effective and serious implementation of recommendations given by the Treaty Bodies and Special Rapporteurs with regard to Caste Based Discrimination with proper and active co-ordination of line ministries and National and State institutions as well as involving NGOs / CSOs.
11. On a priority basis, to design, develop and implement a National Action Plan to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including caste- and gender-based discrimination, applying where necessary the Durban Review Conference Outcome (2009) and the DDPA. This exercise should begin with a State policy instrument. This Nation Action Plan should integrate Human Rights Education and Training at all levels.

Annexure - I

List of Abbreviations

NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
PoA	Prevention of Atrocities
NCDHR	National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
NDMJ	National Dalit Movement for Justice
NCSPA	National Coalition for Strengthening PoA Act
SC	Scheduled Castes
ST	Scheduled Tribes
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
GoI	Government of India
NCRB	National Crime Record Bureau
ILO	International Labour Organisation
CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
HRC	Human Rights Council
NSLRS	National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
CWG	Common Wealth Games
UT	Union Territories
SCP	Special Component Plan
BC	Backward Class
NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
ESCR	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
EU	European Union
DDPA	Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Annexure – II

LIST OF ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

Sl. No.	Name of Organizations / States in India
1	Aagaz, Madhya Pradesh
2	Audyogik Kalyan Kendra, Bihar
3	ADARANA, Andhra Pradesh
4	Adhar, Orissa
5	Adharshila, Uttar Pradesh
6	Adi Dravidar Viduthalai Iyakkam, Pondicherry
7	Adivasi Council Solidarity, Tamil Nadu
8	Adivasi Saurachna Seva Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh
9	ADVENTURE, Orissa
10	Ahirwar Parisad, Madhya Pradesh
11	AID, Andhra Pradesh
12	AJKA, Orissa
13	Akhil Bhartiya Balmiki Samaj Vikash Parishad, Rajasthan
14	All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch, New Delhi
15	All India Dalit Rights Federation, Andhra Pradesh, New Delhi
16	Alliance for Dalit Rights, Maharashtra
17	ALOK, Orissa
18	ALPE, Andhra Pradesh
19	Alternative Forum for Adivasi Liberation, Tamil Nadu
20	AMAGAM, Orissa
21	Amantraran Mahila Mandal, Madhya Pradesh
22	Ambedkar Action Group, Uttar Pradesh
23	Ambedkar Adhikar Manch, Madhya Pradesh
24	Ambedkar Anusuchit Jati and Jan Jati sansthan, Bihar
25	Ambedkar Lohiya Vichar Manch, Orissa
26	Ambedkar Mission, Himachal Pradesh
27	Ambedkar Network, Maharashtra
28	Ambedkar Samajik Trust, Jharkhand
29	Ambedkar Sheti Vikas Sanstha, Maharashtra
30	Ambedkar Utthan Trust, Jharkhand
31	Ambedkar Yuva Sansthan, Bihar
32	Ambedkarbadi Samaj Vikas Prasad, Bihar
33	Anath Bal Vikas Sansthan, Bihar
34	Anhad, New Delhi
35	Annai Kasturibai Mahalir Mandram, Tamil Nadu
36	AP Dalit Bahujan Shramik Union, Hyderabad
37	ARD, Andhra Pradesh
38	Arogya Agam, Tamil Nadu

39	ARPAN, Himachal Pradesh
40	ARTIC, Andhra Pradesh
41	ARTS, Andhra Pradesh
42	Arunthathiyar Human Rights Forum, Tamil Nadu
43	Arunthathiyar Munnetra Sangam, Pondicherry
44	ASC Network, Tamil Nadu
45	Ashoka Youth Socaity, Madhya Pradesh
46	ASHRA VISION, Orissa
47	Asian Indigenous and Tribal Network
48	ASISH, Orissa
49	ASS, Andhra Pradesh
50	Astha Dalit Mahila Sangh, Jharkhand
51	Azad Seva Ashram, Uttar Pradesh
52	Anu Vikas Sansthan, Bihar
53	Babasaheb Ambedkar Vidyarthi Sangh, Maharashtra
54	Badlav Sansthan, Rajasthan
55	Bahujan Biradari, Maharashtra
56	Bairwa Snehe Parishad
57	Bala Bhavan, Andhra Pradesh
58	Balmiki Samaj Sudhar Samiti, Himachal Pradesh
59	Banjara Seva Samiti, Andhra Pradesh
60	Bapuji Gramya Kalyana Sangha, Orissa
61	Bayalu Seeme Rrural Development Society, Karnataka
62	Behavioral Science Center, Gujarat
63	Bharatiya Jan Seva Ashram, Uttar Pradesh
64	Bharti Jan Seva Ashram, Uttar Pradesh
65	Bhartiy Garamin Vikas Avam Kalyan Samiti , Bihar
66	Bhartiya Aadiwasi Vanmali Kalyan Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
67	Bhartiya Dalit Sahitaya Accadmy, Himachal Pradesh
68	Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya Academy, Rajasthan
69	Bheemrao Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
70	Bhim Sena Dalit Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
71	Bhim Sena, Haryana
72	Bhimrao Jagruk Vikas Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
73	Bhudhist Lige, Karnataka
74	BIRD, Orissa
75	BREADS, Andhra Pradesh
76	Bundelkhand Vikas Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
77	Calvary Ministry, Andhra Pradesh
78	Campaign for Human Rights / Manviya Haque Abhiyan, Maharashtra
79	CARD, Andhra Pradesh
80	CBCI Commission for SC/ST/BC, New Delhi

81	CDRM, Bihar
82	Center for Social Justice, Gujarat
83	Centre for Dalit Rights, Rajasthan
84	Centre for Health and Social Justice, New Delhi
85	Centre for Mountain Dalit Rights, Himachal Pradesh
86	Centre for Research and Development Solidarity, Orissa
87	Centre for Rural Studies and Development, Andhra Pradesh
88	Centre for Rural Women's Development, Tamil Nadu
89	Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion, New Delhi
90	Centre for Social Justice & Development, Orissa
91	Centre for Sustainable use of Natural and Social Resources, Orissa
92	CHEERS, Andhra Pradesh
93	Chetna Gramin Vikas Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
94	Child Right Trust, Karnataka
95	Chitra Rural Development Society, Karnataka
96	CJWS, Andhra Pradesh
97	Committee for Monitoring and Strengthening SC/ST PoA, Karnataka
98	Community Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
99	Community Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
100	Comprehensive Community Welfare Society, Andhra Pradesh
101	Cornerstone, Tamil Nadu
102	CRASA, Andhra Pradesh
103	CSSS, Andhra Pradesh
104	Daksh Umbrosh Empowerment Society, Madhya Pradesh
105	Dali Samaj Seva Kendra, Bihar
106	Dalit Aarthik Adhikar Andolan, New Delhi
107	Dalit Action Group, Uttar Pradesh
108	Dalit Adhikar Surcha Manch, Jharkhand
109	Dalit Association for Social and Human Rights Awareness, Bihar
110	Dalit Bahujan Front, Andhra Pradesh
111	Dalit Bahujan Movement, Karnataka
112	Dalit Chetana Vikas Samiti, Bihar
113	Dalit Dasta Virodhi Manch, Punjab
114	Dalit Foundation, New Delhi
115	Dalit Grameen Vikas Samiti, Bihar
116	Dalit Human Rights and Development, Bihar
117	Dalit Human Rights Manch, Himachal Pradesh
118	Dalit Jan Kalyan Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
119	Dalit Kasht Nivaran Samiti, Rajasthan
120	Dalit Mahila Hitkari Sangathan, Madhya Pradesh
121	Dalit Mahila Jan Kalyan Sansthan, Bihar
122	Dalit Mannurmai Kutammi, Tamil Nadu
123	Dalit Movement for Human Rights and Dignity, Chandigarh

124	Dalit Mukti Mission, Bihar
125	Dalit Mukti Mission, Jharkhand
126	Dalit Mukti Morcha, Chhatisgarh
127	Dalit Panther, Madhya Pradesh
128	Dalit Sahitya Academy, Rajasthan
129	Dalit Samanwai, Bihar
130	Dalit Sanghatan, Madhya Pradesh
131	Dalit Sarwangan Vikas Avam Kalyan Samiti, Bihar
132	Dalit Sewa Samiti, Bihar
133	Dalit Students Movement, Kerala
134	Dalit Vidhi Chetna Manch, Haryana
135	Dalit Vikas Aviyan Samiti, Bihar
136	Dalit Vikas Parishad, Maharashtra
137	Dalit Watch, Bihar
138	Dalit Women's Forum, Orissa
139	Dalita Bahujana Institute of Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
140	Dalit's Adhikar Abhiyan, Madhya Pradesh
141	Dalit's Sandh Sohagpur, Madhya Pradesh
142	Dalit's Shakti Abhiyan Jansahas Adewash, Madhya Pradesh
143	Darbhangha Vikas Seva Manch, Bihar
144	DARE, Andhra Pradesh
145	Dashra, Patna, Bihar
146	DASS, Orissa
147	DDS, Andhra Pradesh
148	Deen Bandhu Samaj Sahyog Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
149	Deenabhadri Seva Sansthan, Bihar
150	Deep Jyoti Kalyan Sansthan, Bihar
151	Dev Bhumi Vikas Parishad, Himachal Pradesh
152	Development Action for Weaker Section and Community Health, Orissa
153	Development Initiatives, Orissa
154	Development of Rural Oppressed People's Society, Andhra Pradesh
155	Disabled Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
156	DISHA, Orissa
157	DNSSS, Andhra Pradesh
158	Downtrodden and Weaker Communities Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
159	DPDWS, Andhra Pradesh
160	Dr. Ambedkar Agriculture Development and Research Institution, Maharashtra
161	Dr. Ambedkar Darshan Sansthan, Rajasthan
162	Dr. Ambedkar Pagutharivu Ilaigar and Manavar Perumandram, Pondicherry
163	Dr. Ambedkar Samajik Kalyan Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
164	Dr. Ambedkar Utkrasta Shiksha Avam Lok Kalyan Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh
165	Dr. Ambekar Excellence Education and Public Welfare Institution Samiti, Madhya Pradesh

166	Dr. Bhimrao Gyanprakash Samiti, Rajasthan
167	Dr. Bhimrav Ambedkar Kalyan Avam Vikas Sansthan, Bihar
168	Dr. Ambedkar Volunteers Force, Pondicherry
169	Dr. B.R. Ambedker Jan Jagaran Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
170	Dream India, Orissa
171	DUTIES, Andhra Pradesh
172	Dynamic Action Group, Uttar Pradesh
173	ERPDO, Andhra Pradesh
174	Evidence, Tamil Nadu
175	Federation of Initiators for Social Transformation, Andhra Pradesh
176	Forsetry Upland Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
177	Friends Charitable Trust, Karnataka
178	Gajipur Gramothan Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
179	Gandhi Vikas Samiti, Rajasthan
180	Garima Abhiyan Nimach, Madhya Pradesh
181	Gauraw Gram Shakti, Bihar
182	Girijana Prajala Sangham, Andhra Pradesh
183	Girijana Vidya Vignana Vikasa Mandali, Andhra Pradesh
184	Girijanamargadarsi, Andhra Pradesh
185	Goal India, Andhra Pradesh
186	Godavari Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
187	Gopal Kiran Samaj Sei Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh
188	Gospel Organization for Lower Development, Andhra Pradesh
189	GRACE, Andhra Pradesh
190	Gram Jagat, Bihar
191	Gram Jyoti Kendra, Jharkhand
192	Gramabhudaya Seva Samiti, Andhra Pradesh
193	Grameen Dalit Kalyan Samiti, Jharkhand
194	Grameena Chaitanya Abudaya Sangham, Andhra Pradesh
195	Gramin Mahila Vikas Trust, Jharkhand
196	Gramin Vikas Kendra, Maharashtra
197	Gramin Vikas Samiti, Bihar
198	Guild for Urban and Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
199	GYPSY VAGARIEL Development Society, Tamil Nadu
200	Harijana Vyavasaya Karmika Sangham, Andhra Pradesh
201	Harshini, Andhra Pradesh
202	HELP Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh
203	HELP, Andhra Pradesh
204	Helping Hands Society, Andhra Pradesh
205	HOLY CROSS, Andhra Pradesh
206	Housing Land Rights Network, New Delhi
207	HRD Charitable Mission, Bihar

208	Human Liberty Society, Maharashtra
209	Human Right Protection and Development, Bihar
210	Human Rights Advocacy and Research Foundation, Tamil Nadu
211	Human Rights Alert, Manipur
212	Human Rights Education and Protection Council, Tamil Nadu
213	Human Rights Forum for Dalit Liberation, Karnataka
214	Human Rights Forum for Dalit Liberation, Tamil Nadu
215	Human Rights Foundation, Tamil Nadu
216	Human Rights Law Network, New Delhi
217	Humanity and Social Foundation, Bihar
218	IDADS, Kerala
219	Ideal Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
220	IDIA Sansthan, Rajasthan
221	IIPLS, Maharashtra
222	Indian Alliance for Child Rights, New Delhi
223	Indian Buddhist Theater, Madhya Pradesh
224	Indian Rural Area Vikas Society, Karnataka
225	Indian Social Institute, New Delhi
226	Indo-Global Social Service Society, New Delhi
227	Indraprastha Public Affairs Centre, New Delhi
228	Institute of Development, Education, Action and Studies, Tamil Nadu
229	IRDS, Andhra Pradesh
230	Irular Munnetra Nala Sangam, Tamil Nadu
231	Jago Dalit, Bihar
232	Jai Bhim Vikas Shikshan Sansthan, Rajasthan
233	Jai Javara Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Rajasthan
234	Jan Adhikar Kendra, Bihar
235	Jan Jagaran Samiti, Chattisgarh
236	Jan Jagriti Kendra, Chhatisgarh
237	Jan Sahyog Bindu, Jharkhand
238	Jan Sangharsh Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
239	Jan Sewa Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
240	Jan Vikas Parishad avam Anusandhan Sansthan, Chhatisgarh
241	Jan Vikas Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
242	Jana Chaitanya Samithi, Andhra Pradesh
243	JANA VIKASH, Orissa
244	JANACHETANA, Andhra Pradesh
245	Janapad Abhivrudhi Seva Sansmte, Karnataka
246	Janata Ka Aaina, Maharashtra
247	Janhit Vikas and Prasikshan Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
248	Jankalyan Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
249	JANODAYAM, Tamil Nadu

250	Jansahas, Madhya Pradesh
251	Jansewa Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
252	Jashua Youth Association, Andhra Pradesh
253	Jawaharlal Nehru Social Welfare Trust, Tamil Nadu
254	Jeevika, Karnataka
255	Jivandip Kalyan Sansthan, Bihar
256	Jyoti Gram Nirman Samiti, Bihar
257	Kabir Samaj Sabha, Himachal Pradesh
258	Kalapandhari Sanstha, Maharashtra
259	Karnataka Dalit Mahila Vedike, Karnataka
260	Karnataka Kolageri Nivasi Gala Samyukta Sanghtan, Karnataka
261	Karshi Sewa Sanstha Raisen, Madhya Pradesh
262	KARUNA, Orissa
263	Karunya Seva Samithi, Andhra Pradesh
264	Khilti Kaliyan, Rajasthan
265	Koras Trust, Tamil Nadu
266	Kranti Manv Sewa Kendra, Bihar
267	Krushni, Andhra Pradesh
268	Kullu Kalyann Sabha, Himachal Pradesh
269	Kundu Area Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
270	Ladder for Organized Voluntary Effort India, Orissa
271	LAMP, Andhra Pradesh
272	Literacy Agriculture and Medical Project for rural development, Andhra Pradesh
273	LOK SAMATI, Orissa
274	Lokraj Samaj Vikas Sanstha, Maharashtra
275	Magadh Grameen Vikas Sangh, Bihar
276	Maharashtra Chintan Garamin Vikas Samiti, Maharashtra
277	Maharishi Valmiki Sewa Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
278	Mahathama Jyothi Bapule Gramenna Abhivaradhi Seva Sansmte, Karnataka
279	Mahila Abhudaya Seva Samstha, Andhra Pradesh
280	Mahila Jagriti Trust, Jharkhand
281	Mahila Jagrudi Vedika, Karnataka
282	Mahila Jan Klyan Samitis, Rajasthan
283	Mahila Jyoti Kendra, Bihar
284	Mahila Kalyan Parishad, Himachal Pradesh
285	MAHILA MARGADARSHI, Andhra Pradesh
286	Makkal Padukappu Peravai, Pondicherry
287	Manav Adhikar Uthan Samiti, Bihar
288	Manav Bandhu Seva Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
289	Manav Sewa Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
290	Manav Uttan Samiti, Bihar
291	Manavi Hakka Abhiyan, Maharashtra
292	Manuski, Maharashtra

293	Manv Chetana Vikas Sansthan, Bihar
294	MARGADARSI, Orissa
295	Marudhar Ganga Society, Rajasthan
296	Marx Brigadeare Urban and Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
297	Mass Action for Social Service Society, Andhra Pradesh
298	MASS, Andhra Pradesh
299	MASS, Orissa
300	Master's Care Ministries and Rural Development Organisation, Andhra Pradesh
301	Matadeen Mahila Manch, Bihar
302	Matadin mahia manch, Bihar
303	MCM & RDO, Andhra Pradesh
304	Mitras' Association for Rural Poors' Upliftment, Andhra Pradesh
305	Motivational Organization for Rural Education, Andhra Pradesh
306	Mountain Forum Himalayas (MFH), Himachal Pradesh
307	Mulniwasi Swabhimani Sangharsh Morcha, Madhya Pradesh
308	Mushar Vikas Manch, Uttar Pradesh
309	Mythri Seva Samiti, Andhra Pradesh
310	Naina Sanskritik Vikas avm Prasikshan Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
311	Nalanda Balvikas Mahila Vikas Sanstha, Maharashtra
312	Nari Gunjan, Bihar
313	National Action Forum for Social Justice, Delhi
314	National Adivasi Alliance, Karnataka
315	National Alliance of Women
316	National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, New Delhi
317	National Council of Dalit Christians, New Delhi
318	National Dalit Election Watch, New Delhi
319	National Dalit Forum, Andhra Pradesh
320	National Dalit Movement for Justice, New Delhi
321	National Federation for Dalit Land Rights Movement, Orissa
322	National Federation for Dalit Women, Karnataka
323	National Rural Development Organization, Orissa
324	Nav Jivan Ambedkar Mission, Bihar
325	NAWA - INDIA, Andhra Pradesh
326	Nawalkishor Bharti Sewa Sansthan, Bihar
327	Naya Savera Vikas Kendra, Jharkhand
328	NAYAK, Orissa
329	NCCI Commission on Dalits, Maharashtra
330	Need Shiksha Evam Shodh Sansthan, Rajasthan
331	New Entity for Social Action, Karnataka
332	Neyyattinkara Integral Development Society, Kerala
333	Nigah Seva Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
334	NIRMAN, Orissa
335	Nishakt Jan Kalyan Seva Samiti, Chhatisgarh

336	Odisha SC/ST Women Forum , Orissa
337	Odukkapatta Pazhanthamil Ilakia Kazhagam, Pondicherry
338	Open Space, Karnataka
339	Orissa Forum for Social Action, Orissa
340	Orissa Goti Mukti Andolan, Orissa
341	Orissa SC/ST Youth Student Council, Orissa
342	Padipan Sastha Barskar, Madhya Pradesh
343	Panchseel Walfare Society, Uttar Pradesh
344	Paramount Global Welfare society, Bihar
345	Parivartanshil Sangh, Maharashtra
346	Peace Social Welfare Organisation, Andhra Pradesh
347	People Monitoring Committee, Andhra Pradesh
348	People's Action for Rural Awakening, Andhra Pradesh
349	People's Education Development Society, Pondicherry
350	People's Movement for Self Reliance, Karnataka
351	People's Vigilance Committee on Human Rights, Uttar Pradesh
352	People's Watch, Tamil Nadu
353	Peoples Action for Rural Awakening, Andhra Pradesh
354	Peoples Action in Development, Andhra Pradesh
355	Peoples Awareness and Social Service, Andhra Pradesh
356	Peoples Monitoring Committee, Andhra Pradesh
357	Peoples Organization for Hill Area Re- construction Awareness, Orissa
358	PERHEED, Andhra Pradesh
359	PERT, Tamil Nadu
360	Phule Shahu Ambedkar Vicharmanch, Maharashtra
361	Pollishree Janaseva Samiti, Orissa
362	Popular Organization for Women Empowerment, Bihar
363	PORD, Andhra Pradesh
364	PPSS, Andhra Pradesh
365	Prabhat Kalyan Sewa Sansthan, Bihar
366	Prabuddha Vinayati Kalyankari Sanstha, Maharashtra
367	Pradipan, Madhya Pradesh
368	PRAGATHI, Andhra Pradesh
369	Pragati Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Rajasthan
370	Praja Pragathi Trust, Andhra Pradesh
371	Prajwala Sangham, Andhra Pradesh
372	Prajwala Seva Society, Andhra Pradesh
373	Prashik, Maharashtra
374	Pratidnya, Maharashtra
375	Praxis – Institute for Participatory Practices, Bihar
376	Prayas Gramian Vikas Samiti , Bihar
377	Prayas Kendra, Rajasthan

378	Prayas Society, Uttar Pradesh
379	Prayash, Orissa
380	Prayatn Bihar, Bihar
381	Puratchiyalar Ambedkar Thondarpadai, Pondicherry
382	Purvanchal Gramin Vikas Prasikshan Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
383	Purvanchal Rural Development and Training Institute, Uttar Pradesh
384	Radha Shilpa Kala Kendra, Bihar
385	Rajshri Kala Seva Sansthan, Rajasthan
386	Rastriya Jagriti Sewa Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
387	Rastriya Jan Vikas Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
388	Ravidas Samaj Vikas Manch, Jharkhand
389	READ, Tamil Nadu
390	REALS, Andhra Pradesh
391	RELIEF, Tamil Nadu
392	Rihidas Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Chhatisgarh
393	RITES Forum, Orissa
394	Royal Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
395	RPWO, Tamil Nadu
396	Rural Action for Poor in Development of Society, Andhra Pradesh
397	Rural Development Society, Tamil Nadu
398	Rural Development Organization, Andhra Pradesh
399	Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
400	Rural Education and Development, Orissa
401	Rural Education for Action Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
402	Rural Educational Society, Andhra Pradesh
403	Rural Institute for People Education
404	Rural Integrated Development society, Andhra Pradesh
405	Rural Organization for Social Emancipation, Andhra Pradesh
406	Rural Poor Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
407	Rural Youth Education Trust, Pondicherry
408	S.C.S.T. and Minority Sikshak Mahasabha, Uttar Pradesh
409	SAATH, Himachal Pradesh
410	Sabarmati Samiti, Orissa
411	Sadhana Women & Children Welfare Society, Karnataka
412	Safai Karmachari Andolan, New Delhi
413	Sahanbhuti, Orissa
414	Sahara Samaj Vikas Sansthan, Rajasthan
415	Sahbhagi JanKalyan Samti, Uttar Pradesh
416	Sahyadri, Maharashtra
417	Sahyogi Gramin Vikas avm Sodh Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
418	Sakshi Human Rights Watch, Andhra Pradesh
419	SAMAJ BIKASH PARISHAD, Orissa
420	Samaj Paryavaran Vikas Sanstha, Rajasthan

421	Samaj Kalyan Siksha Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
422	Samaj Seva Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
423	Samaja Chaitanya Swachantha Seva Sangam, Andhra Pradesh
424	Samajek Pariwatn Kendra , Jharkhand
425	Samajik Samata Vikas Sanstha, Maharashtra
426	Samajik Seva & Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Rajasthan
427	Samajika Privrathan Janandolana, Karnataka
428	Samarth Foundation, Uttar Pradesh
429	Samatha Mahila Samakya, Andhra Pradesh
430	Samatha Vidya Vyavasaya Abhivrudhi Samkshema Sangham, Andhra Pradesh
431	Sammbuddha Mahila Sanghatana, Maharashtra
432	Sampurn Dalit Prerna Kendra, Bihar
433	Sampurn Dalit ViKas Garam Samiti, Bihar
434	Sampurn Gram Vikas Kendra, Jharkhand
435	Samrat Ashok Shiksha Samitiy, Madhya Pradesh
436	Samta Sainik Dal, Madhya Pradesh
437	Samudaik Kalyan Vikas Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
438	Samuhik Marudi Pratikar Udyam, Orissa
439	Samuruti Seva Samasthe, Karnataka
440	Samyak Shiksha and Manviya Vikas Sansath, Madhya Pradesh
441	Samyak Shiksha Evam Manviya Vikas Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh
442	Sandesh Sanstha, Maharashtra
443	Sangamitra Development Association, Andhra Pradesh
444	Sangarsh Samiti, Himachal Pradesh
445	Sankalp Samajik Vikas Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
446	Sannihita, Andhra Pradesh
447	Sant Kabit Seva Sansthan, Bihar
448	Sarada Educational Society, Andhra Pradesh
449	Sariputta Gana Parishada, Orissa
450	Sarvodaya Chetna Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
451	Sasvika, Rajasthan
452	SASY, Tamil Nadu
453	SATHI, Orissa
454	Savalin Asociation, Maharashtra
455	SAVE, Orissa
456	Savitribai Phule Mahila Vikas Sanstha, Maharashtra
457	Scope Trust, Tamil Nadu
458	SEVAGE, Andhra Pradesh
459	SEWA, Orissa
460	SFD, Andhra Pradesh
461	Sh. Guru Ravidas Sadhu Samaj Sabha, Himachal Pradesh
462	Shambuk Jan Kalyan Samiti, Bihar
463	Shramik Muktiwadi Yuva Sanghathan, Maharashtra

464	Shramik Samaj Shiksha Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
465	Shri Vinayaka Rural Development Educational Society, Andhra Pradesh
466	Siddarath Seva Sansmaste, Karnataka
467	SIRDS, Andhra Pradesh
468	Sneha Abhiyan, Orissa
469	SNEHA MAHILA, Andhra Pradesh
470	Sneha Youth Association, Andhra Pradesh
471	SNEHA, Andhra Pradesh
472	Social Action Committee, Karnataka
473	Social Action For Advocacy & Research, New Delhi
474	Social Action for Rural Development, Orissa
475	Social Awareness Build Active Leader Ability, Andhra Pradesh
476	Social Awareness Society for Youth, Tamil Nadu
477	Social Endeavour for Village Advancement, Andhra Pradesh
478	Social Equity Watch, New Delhi
479	Social Watch, Tamil Nadu
480	Social Welfare Service Council, Andhra Pradesh
481	Society for Action with Rural Poor, Andhra Pradesh
482	Society for Community Development, Andhra Pradesh
483	Society for Development, Andhra Pradesh
484	Society for Nutrition, Education & Health Action, Maharashtra
485	Society for Operation Upliftment Reconstruction of Community Enlightenment, Andhra Pradesh
486	Society for Participatory Research in Asia, New Delhi
487	Society for Training Action Research & Rehabilitation, Orissa
488	Society for Welfare of Weaker Sections, Orissa
489	Society on Action Village Education Guiding Environment, Andhra Pradesh
490	Solidarity for Developing Communities, Orissa
491	South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring, Karnataka
492	South India Madiga Human Rights Forum, Karnataka
493	Sowmya Integrated Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
494	SPAN, Andhra Pradesh
495	SPANDANA Educational society, Andhra Pradesh
496	SPEED, Andhra Pradesh
497	SPOORTHI, Andhra Pradesh
498	SSS, Andhra Pradesh
499	Subha Rashmi Mahila Seva Samiti, Orissa
500	Suman Vihar, Bihar
501	SUPPORT, Andhra Pradesh
502	Swanthana Seva Samiti, Andhra Pradesh
503	Swaroj Network, Karnataka
504	SWC, Andhra Pradesh
505	SWEEP, Andhra Pradesh

506	Talavadi Adivasi Munnetra Sangam, Tamil Nadu
507	Tamil Nadu Dalit Women Federation, Tamil Nadu
508	The Activists for Social Alternative, Tamil Nadu
509	The Promising Venture Society, Andhra Pradesh
510	TSSWA, Andhra Pradesh
511	Udai Seva Kalyan Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
512	Ugriyawas Jagriti Kendra, Rajasthan
513	UJVALA, Andhra Pradesh
514	Ujwala Rural Development Service Society, Karnataka
515	Unnati Sansthan, Rajasthan
516	Upekshit Kalayan samiti, Bihar
517	USRPP, Andhra Pradesh
518	Vaan Muhil, Tamil Nadu
519	Vanasthali Avm Dalit Seva Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh
520	Varhad, Maharashtra
521	Vasavi Rural Development Society, Andhra Pradesh
522	Vashundhra Seva Samiti, Orissa
523	Vasundhara Seva Sansthan, Rajasthan
524	VDS, Tamil Nadu
525	VELUGU, Andhra Pradesh
526	VICALP, Orissa
527	Vijayababu Educational Society, Andhra Pradesh
528	Vikas Bahuuddeshiya Sanstha, Maharashtra
529	Vikasa Adhyayana Kendramu, Andhra Pradesh
530	Vikasavani Swachanda Seva Samastha, Andhra Pradesh
531	Village Integral Animation, Tamil Nadu
532	Virochika, Madhya Pradesh
533	Vishbkarmi Sudhar Smiti, Himachal Pradesh
534	Vistirn, Madhya Pradesh
535	Vizhuthugal, Tamil Nadu
536	VODRAM, Orissa
537	Volunteery Organization for Integrated Community Emancipation, Andhra Pradesh
538	VRO, Andhra Pradesh
539	VSVS, Andhra Pradesh
540	Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, New Delhi
541	Weaker Section Social Welfare Association
542	Women's Integrated Development Agency, Tamil Nadu
543	Women's Coalition Trust, Karnataka
544	Working Group on Human Rights in Indian and the UN, New Delhi
545	Working Peasants Movement, Tamil Nadu
546	World Society, Tamil Nadu
547	YASADA Sanstha, Maharashtra

548	Yatra Society for Rural Awareness and Development, Andhra Pradesh
549	Youth Club of Bejjipuram, Andhra Pradesh
550	Youth Social Service Association, Tamil Nadu
551	Yua Samajik Kalyan Samiti, Bihar
552	YUVA Centre, Maharashtra
553	Yuvak Vikas Kendra, Karnataka
554	Zila Yuva Vikas ani Sampark Asociation, Maharashtra

Annexure - III

PREVAILING FORMS OF UNTOUCHABILITY PRACTICES AND DISCRIMINATION

	Forms of Practice Untouchability Practices/Discrimination
Segregation of Drinking Vessels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dalits are supposed to get their tumblers or bowls to relish the menu at these outlets. 2. In some instances Dalits are served in aluminum tumblers contrary to steel tumblers used for non-dalit groups. 3. Dalit are supposed to wash utensils which they use.
Denial of Drinking Water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Dalits are not allowed to fetch water but non-dalits draw the water for Dalits and pour into their pots. 5. Dalits and non-dalits stand in separate queues at different pulleys of the wells. 6. Dalits are not supposed to touch the pots of non-dalits. 7. Dalits have to fetch water only after non-dalits draw water. 8. In most of the villages separate wells and bore-wells for Dalits and non-dalit are existing. 9. In case of acute shortage of water, non-dalits can fetch water from Dalit water source. But on the contrary if similar situation arise for Dalits, they are denied. 10. In case non-dalits want to fetch water from Dalits' bore-well they primarily are supposed to clean the bore-well and its surroundings. 11. In case of natural lakes, ponds and tanks Dalits are supposed to fetch from the down stream where non-dalits do not approach. 12. Pouring Drinking Water into their Hands
Prohibit Entering into Non-Dalits' Houses	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Dalits are not allowed to enter into the upper caste houses and they are compelled to stand far away from the houses of non-dalits. 14. Dalits can only go to certain parts of their houses i.e. the outer extension of the house, outside the threshold but not the interior parts of their houses. 15. Dalits are allowed but they are asked to clean their feet and hands before they come into their houses. 16. Dalits are sometime allowed to enter to store their agricultural produce at the time of harvest.
Segregation at feasts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. On occasion of marriage or a function in non-dalit families, Dalits are not invited. 18. In case invited they are supposed to dine after the non-dalit finish their turn. 19. In certain cases Dalits are supposed to get their plates and they are told to wash their plates after the dinner. 20. Some time they are served in towels or their upper garment. 21. In most of the cases Dalits are served at a distant place from the hosted premises.
Discrimination in Schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Segregation in seating – Dalit students have to sit separately that too at backside. 23. Dalit children are not allowed to play with other children 24. Abusing by Caste Name

	<p>25. Not allowed to eat together with non-Dalit students</p> <p>26. Segregation of Water facilities</p> <p>27. Discrimination between Dalit and non-Dalit teachers</p> <p>28. Discrimination between Dalit students and non-Dalit teacher</p> <p>29. Not admitting children in schools at Dalit wadas.</p>
	<p>30. Prohibit to wear clean/good clothes and come to the vicinity of dominates castes.</p>
Prohibit to Sit in Public Places	<p>31. Dalits are not allowed to sit on public places such as <i>Racchabanda</i>(community meeting place),</p> <p>32. Dalits are not allowed to sit on benches at bus stops.</p> <p>33. Dalit have to sit separately at some distance from other castes' people.</p> <p>34. Dalit have to stand at these places with folded hands.</p> <p>35. Dalit are allowed to sit but at lower level.</p>
Prohibit to Walk in Non-dalit Localities	<p>36. Dalits are not allowed to walk with sandals in the vicinity of non-dalits.</p> <p>37. Not allowed to use umbrella in non-dalit localities.</p> <p>38. Not allowed to ride cycles, rickshaws, in certain cases not allowed going even on bullock carts.</p> <p>39. If non-dalits encounter Dalit women on the way, Dalit women are supposed to walk at extreme edge of the road.</p> <p>40. Dalit women should wear their <i>sarees</i> only upto the knees and cover their head whenever they find non-Dalits walking in the way.</p> <p>41. Dalit women are not allowed to wear blouses.</p> <p>42. Dalit women are not allowed to wear gold jewelry.</p>
Forced Services	<p>43. Drum beating for funerals and festivals/<i>jataras</i></p> <p>44. Grave digging</p> <p>45. Cremation</p> <p>46. Harbingers death news</p> <p>47. Chappal/shoe Making</p> <p>48. Removal of carcass</p> <p>49. Animal Sacrifice</p> <p>50. Dalits are supposed to sweep the whole village at the time of festivals and <i>jataras</i>.</p> <p>51. Scavenging</p>
Standing up in Respect before Non-dalits	<p>52. Standing up in respect before non-dalits</p> <p>53. Sitting at lower level than other caste people</p> <p>54. Standing with folded hands</p>

Denial of Services	<p>55. Denial of laundry services</p> <p>56. Dalits themselves take their clothes to <i>dhobi ghat</i> (place of washing clothes) and wet their clothes at lower level of the stream and wait till the <i>dobhi</i> washes.</p> <p>57. Even laundry shop owners deny ironing clothes of Dalits.</p> <p>58. They render service but they do not take grain as paid by the other non-Dalit communities</p> <p>59. Dalits are denied hair cutting and shaving services</p> <p>60. In some cases if a family member is providing hair cutting services to Dalits the same person is not supposed to provide to non-dalits.</p> <p>61. Usage of separate instruments for Dalits.</p> <p>62. Hair cutting saloons, a recent phenomena in villages. If Dalits allowed into the shops but the barber uses separate instruments.</p> <p>63. Dalits are allowed into shops, but are denied the service at home as they do to non-dalits.</p> <p>64. Person who services non-dalits is not allowed to serve to the Dalits but another person from same family can provide service to the Dalits.</p> <p>65. In certain cases they render service to Dalits in Dalit locality but they purify themselves immediately after coming back to their house.</p> <p>66. Tailor does not touch while taking measurements, takes measurements from distance.</p> <p>67. Darning services are not extended to Dalits as they do for non-dalits</p> <p>68. When Dalit goes to a tailor he/she should provide the measurements.</p> <p>69. Prohibited to touch pots while purchasing and they have to take what ever the potter gives.</p> <p>70. Denial of Entry into carpenter's Shop</p> <p>71. Allowed but should not touch any thing</p> <p>72. Should stand in separate line not touching non-Dalits</p>
Untouchability in Giving and receiving things in the shop	<p>73. Not allowing to touch items and have to show with a small stick while purchasing</p> <p>74. Dalit can sell in the weekly market but they should only sell items which others don't sell.</p> <p>75. Keeping money or items Dalits bought on floor</p> <p>76. Dalit should stand outside the shop and exchange takes place by throwing.</p> <p>77. Keeping separate tray for Dalit by which exchange takes place.</p>
Entry into PDS shop	<p>78. Separate queues</p> <p>79. Should stand carefully without touching the belongings of non-Dalits</p> <p>80. Separate time</p> <p>81. Dealer do not touch Dalits while giving provisions</p>
Discrimination at Working in the fields	<p>82. Standing outside the field until non-Dalits finishes ritual performance</p> <p>83. Entering into the fields only after non-dalits</p> <p>84. Not allowed to take water from wells and pots</p> <p>85. Dalits have to bring drinking water to the working place.</p> <p>86. Need to keep their lunch boxes separately</p> <p>87. Need to sit separately while taking lunch</p> <p>88. Should not touch the vessels if the non-Dalit employer provides lunch</p> <p>89. Lease rates and conditions differ for Dalit tenants and Non-Dalit tenants</p>
Discrimination in	<p>90. Keeping money on the floor</p>

Payment of wages	91. Throwing in to hands 92. Deliberately delaying payment 93. Discriminating in wage rates
Inter-dining	94. When Dalits invite non-Dalit for some celebrations, they just come but don't eat the food prepared by the Dalit but hires a man from their community and makes him cook separately for them. 95. Non-dalits never attend the functions or any kind of celebrations in the Dalit families but their quota of food should be ordered directly from the shop 96. Food for Dalits is served in leaves but for non-dalits in plates.
Untouchability in Post office	97. <i>Discrimination in delivering of letters by postman</i> 98. Late delivery 99. Delivering letters through other Dalits without visiting Dalit wada 100. To stand outside the post office 101. No physical contact in transactions
Discrimination in Health services (Private and Public)	102. Denial of entry into health centers 103. Separate line for Dalits 104. Avoiding physical touch in checkup and prescribing medicines 105. Health workers do not visit Dalit wada at all 106. Asking Dalits to come to main village for treatment
	107. Denial of selling products – Sale of milk products by SCs 108. Denial of selling milk products to SCs
Discrimination in Public Transport Services	109. Dalit have to enter into vehicle after the non-dalits. 110. Dalits have to sit on backside seats in the vehicles. 111. Dalits are not allowed to sit besides the non-dalits' people. 112. Dalits have to offer seats to non-dalit people even though entered late.
Electoral and Political Discrimination	113. Denial of entry 114. Segregation of seats in village council 115. Preventing exercise of franchise 116. Forced to vote for their candidates 117. Separate queues at polling booths 118. Permitted to Vote only after non-dalits 119. Dalit sarpanch will not be given panchayat records 120. Ward members, sarpanch to stand in front of non-Dalit ward members 121. Dalits should not hoist party flags of their choice
Religious and Cultural Discrimination	122. Denial of entry into temples. 123. Denial of sitting before temples. 124. Confined to drum beating during festival and <i>jataras</i> (traditional festivals to please deities), and act as harbingers of information pertaining to religious get-togethers. 125. Religious processions of upper caste deities will not enter Dalits localities 126. Dalits deities processions should not enter non-dalit localities 127. Dalits denied to offer performing pooja and breaking of coconut 128. Brahmins deny performing marriage rituals, naming ceremonies, death rituals, house warming, etc., 129. Dalit jogins can not bargain for services & can not deny services to any upper castes 130. Dalits can not bury their dead in the village burial ground
Prohibit to	131. Marriage Processions

Organize Processions	<p>132. Dalit are not to take marriage processions in the vicinity of non-dalits.</p> <p>133. In some case Dalits are allowed but should not beat drums.</p> <p>134. In certain villages Dalits are allowed but bride and groom should be on foot in non-dalits' vicinity.</p> <p>135. Untouchability in Marriages of the Dalits – Blessings – compulsion</p> <p>136. Collection of Nuptial Knot (<i>Mangalsuthra or Thaali</i>)</p> <p>137. Funeral Procession: Dalits are not supposed to take funeral procession through the non-dalit dwelling areas.</p>
Sitting arrangements in the Women's Self-help Groups	<p>138. Segregation of seating arrangements in SHG meetings</p> <p>139. Prohibit to organize meetings in Dalit wada</p> <p>140. Upper caste members will not join Dalit SHGs</p> <p>141. Dalit women not allowed to join upper caste groups</p>
Discrimination in Irrigation facilities	<p>142. Prohibit to irrigate lands before other castes</p> <p>143. Need to take permission from other caste</p>
	144. Separate seating arrangements in Government tailoring center
Traditional <i>Daya</i> (maid) service	<p>145. Dalit <i>daya</i> allowed entry into house but will not be allowed to take bath after labour service while non-Dalit <i>daya</i> can take bath.</p> <p>146. Dalit <i>daya</i> is supposed to sit outside with curtains around and help in delivery</p> <p>147. Non-Dalit <i>daya</i>-if she serves labour service to the Dalit, she will not take bath and not take the saree they offer.</p> <p>148. Non-Dalit <i>daya</i> will not bathe the baby</p>

(Source- Sakshi Human Rights Watch, Andhra Pradesh)

Annexure - IV

Status of Implementation of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 & Rules 1995

Article 21, Article 17 and Article 46 of the Constitution of India prohibits inequality, Untouchability and all forms of exploitation and social injustice. Since the existing Indian Penal Code 1869 and Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 were found inadequate in addressing atrocities, SCs & STs (PoA) Act 1989 and Rules 1995 came into force. Other than defining the term 'atrocities' for the first time, this act featured enhanced punishment for the offences and addresses various crimes affecting social disabilities, property, malicious prosecution, political rights and economic exploitation.. The legislation also defines various mechanisms to enforce the act in its later spirit which includes mechanisms for prevention, Special Courts, Special Public Prosecutors, investigation by Dy.S.P, State and District Level Vigilance and monitoring committees, Special Officers, Nodal Officers etc. Even after the enactment of the Act, there has been an increase in the disturbing trend of commission of certain atrocities and the implementation of the Act and Rules remains weak.

1. **Extent of atrocities and inappropriate registration:** Given the large extent of under-reporting, total 5,52,351 atrocities committed against SCs and 86374 atrocities committed against STs during 1995 -2010.
 - Annual average of crimes registered = 39,920 crimes
 - Daily average of crimes registered against SCs/STs = 109 crimesOut of these **67.16% of atrocities against SCs and 79.83 % of atrocities against STs during 1995 to 2010** were not registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act. Also NCSCST (National Commission for Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes) observed that, 56.3% of cases registered under this act are not registered under appropriate sections, thereby diluting these cases causing more and more acquittal and withdrawal.
2. **Closure of Cases:** A Large number of cases have been closed by the police after shoddy investigation done by inappropriate officials showing various reasons. As per NCRB, Police closed about **21%** of cases under the SC/ST (PoA) Act till 2009. There are **44,864** cases pending charge sheeting in 13 years even after the investigation. 2009 NCRB data shows that, out of the registered atrocities, only 74% were investigated out of which only 49% charge-sheeted.
3. **Pendency in Courts and conviction:** The average rate of pendency in court is 82.9%. At the end of 2009, 80.5% remained pending for trial across the country. There is no significant improvement over the trial pendency rate (82.5%) in 2001. In 2009, out of 106,515 cases pending trial in courts, 85,637 cases remained pending trial and only 20,075 cases were trial completed out of which only 5,933 cases were convicted and remaining 14,142 cases were acquitted, therefore, only less than 20% cases trial completed and out of which only 29.5% cases are convicted. Conviction rate under the Act in 2009 was the fourth lowest (29.32%) when looking at over 20 Special Legislations of the country.
4. **Non Implementation of the Mandatory Provisions :**
 - a. **Identification of Atrocity Prone area** - Only 13 of the 35 States/UTs have identified atrocity prone districts. Moreover, out of these 6 states have identified over 50% of

their districts as atrocity prone. Notably, Uttar Pradesh, with the highest number of atrocity cases in the country, has only declared 20 of its 72 districts as sensitive. Since 2002, there had been several major cases of atrocities in the State of Haryana but the State Government has not identified atrocity prone areas.

- b. **SCs/STs Protection Cell** - As of 2007, 18 states/UTs have not set up SCs and STs Protection Cells. Even where the cells are set up they are functioning in a pathetic condition with poor infrastructure and unsuitable working conditions.
- c. **Nodal Officers and Special Officers** -As per the Annual Report-2009-2010 , u/s 21(4) of the SCs and STs [PoA] Act 1989 while nodal officers have been not been established in 7 States and UTs, and only 7 states have nominated special officers to ensure proper coordination of all the mechanisms and officials implementing the Act. Even where appointed there is no proper coordination with the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police to implement the provisions of the Act and Rules.
- d. **Special Courts** – Exclusive Special courts are set up only in 9 States. Even though nine States are having special court, it is not set up in all the districts. It was noticed in the Agenda Notes ,of Conference of State Ministers of Welfare / Social Justice held on 17th – 18th June , 2011, New Delhi , that there are several states where the pendency of cases in the courts during 2007-2009, was more than 70%, namely Haryana (74%), Himachal Pradesh (76.3%), Jharkhand (72%), Kerala (75.2 %), Maharashtra (83.7%), Orissa (88.3%), Punjab (78.5%) and Uttarakhand (74.1%), but exclusive special courts have not been set up for prompt disposal of cases.
- e. **District-level and State-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee** – SVMC /DVMC meant to monitor the implementation of this act and the position of the atrocity cases have not been set up in many of the states. In the states where it is set up, it is hardly meeting as per the periodicity under the Rules. As per the Agenda Notes of Conference of State Ministers of Welfare / Social Justice held on 17th – 18th June, 2011, New Delhi, no information was available about conduct of meetings of State level Committee (at least once in six months) and District level Committee (at least once in three months) during 2010, from the 21 States/UTs. Even from the information received from 6 States, it is seen that minimum number of required meetings of the SVMC/DVMC , during 2010, were not held.
- f. **Annual Reports** - As per the Agenda Notes, of Conference of State Ministers of Welfare / Social Justice held on 17th – 18th June, 2011, New Delhi, the Annual Reports u/s 21(4) up to calendar years 2007 have been laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament and only State Governments of Orissa, Gujarat (Jan- June'10), Maharashtra, Karnataka and Orissa, have furnished 6 monthly State Reports for 2010. The remaining States/UTs have not submitted their reports. Further the Agenda Notes noted that Ministry of Social Justice Empowerment has sent letters to all the states dated 26.7.2010 and 23.08.2010 for sending the the material for the Annual Reports. But the statement of receipt of material from various States/UTs, for Annual Reports 2009 & 2010, shows that for the year 2009 only 13 and for the year 2010 only 5 states have so far sent the material for the Annual Reports.

Apart from poor implementation of PoA Act, there are lacunas and gaps in the Act itself. All forms of atrocities are not covered such as social and economic boycott of Dalits, abduction or kidnapping, Murder of Dalits, etc. There is no provision of victims and witnesses Rights. No specific provisions of Summary trial. There is also limited scope of negligence of duties under the Act. Therefore, more than 100 civil society organizations launched a coalition to advocate for the amendments. These amendments to the SC/ST (PoA) Act should be given urgent attention.



Annexure - V

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan Policy & Practice

1. In India, government expenditure is broadly divided into two categories viz. Plan Expenditure and Non-plan Expenditure. The Plan fund is mainly considered as the development fund. Plan Expenditure refers to all such government expenditure which is meant for financing the programmes / schemes formulated under the given Five Year Plan.
2. During the VIth Five-Year Plan period, 1979-80, the government of India introduced the concept of Special Component Plan (SCP) {also renamed as Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) which has been objected to and is being termed as SCP officially} to ensure adequate benefits to the SC population.
3. It envisages allocation of a quantity of funds under the SCP out of the total state plan outlays, proportionate to the percentage of SC population in the state. The targeted flow of resources through SCP is intended to provide additional benefit to the SC population, over and above what they would get through the normal Plan.
4. The Scheduled Caste Sub Plan also aims at improving the living condition of Scheduled Caste families by providing safe drinking water supply link road, health centers, educational institution, veterinary centers, nutrition, electricity etc. in Scheduled Caste habitats to improve their social and other community services to most vulnerable groups amongst Scheduled Caste.
5. The importance of the SCP and TSP has been underlined by the Hon'ble Prime Minister while addressing the 51st Meeting of the National Development Council held on 27th June, 2005. The Prime Minister had then stated that "in the mid-1970s, the Special Component Plan and the Tribal Sub-Plan were initiated. Tribal Sub-Plans and Special Component Plans should be an integral part of Annual Plans as well as Five Year Plans, making provisions therein non-divertible and non-lapsable, with the clear objective of bridging the gap in socio-economic development of the SCs and STs within a period of 10 years".
6. There are several committees constituted to provide guidelines to the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the Special component plan for the Scheduled Caste and Tribal Sub Plan for Scheduled Tribes. Joint secretary R. Shridhiran on his letter Dated Oct 31,2005, has directed planning secretary to all the states about the guidelines for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan for Scheduled Tribes.
7. The main directives of the order are:

Objective:

- 1) Substantial reduction in poverty and un-employment.
- 2) Creation of productive assets in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to sustain the growth likely to accrue through development efforts.

- 3) Human resource development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by providing adequate educational and health services, and
 - 4) Provision of physical and financial security against all types of exploitation and oppression.
8. **Plan of Action:** To fulfil the above objectives the following points may be taken into account for formulating SCP and TSP
- 1) Earmarking of funds for SCP/TSP from the Central Ministry/Department Plan outlay at least in the proportion of SC/ST population to the total population of the country.
 - 2) Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan funds should be non-divertible and non-lapsable.
 - 3) A dedicated unit may be constituted in every Central Ministry/ Department for the welfare and development of SCs/STs as nodal unit for formulation and implementation of SCP/TSP.
 - 4) Placing the funds earmarked for SCP/TSP at the disposal of this nodal dedicated unit concerned which in turn will reallocate the funds to the sectoral departments for implementing schemes directly relevant to SC/ST development.
 - 5) Placing the funds earmarked for SCP/TSP under separate budget head/sub-head for each central Ministry/department for implementing SCP and TSP. In this connection it may be noted that the List of Major and Minor Heads of Account of Union and States as issued by the Controller General of Accounts provides that Tribal Sub Plan (code 796) and Special Component Plan (789) may be opened as Minor Head below the functional Major Head/Sub Major Head wherever necessary.
9. **Major Components of SCP and TSP**
- 1) Only those schemes should be included under SCP/TSP that ensure direct benefits to individuals or families belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes.
 - 2) Outlay for area oriented schemes directly benefiting Scheduled Castes hamlets/villages having a majority of Scheduled Castes population/tribal hamlets and villages shall be included in SCP and TSP.
 - 3) Priority should be given for providing basic minimum services like primary education, health, drinking water, nutrition, rural housing, rural electrification and rural link road.
 - 4) Wage component, especially under rural employment schemes, should not be included under SCP/TSP.
 - 5) Schemes to develop agriculture and allied activities like animal husbandry, dairy development, vocational training, etc. that provide a source of livelihood to the SC and ST population should be included.
 - 6) Innovative projects that draw upon institutional finance to supplement plan allocations may be drawn up.

10. Monitoring of SCP and TSP

- 1) State and District/Block level Monitoring Committees should be constituted to monitor the implementation of various schemes under SCP and TSP of various development departments. The District/Block level committees may review the progress of implementation of schemes and utilization of funds on monthly basis and the State level committees may review the progress on quarterly basis.
- 2) District and Block level committees may be constituted on the pattern of District and Block level committee constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development by involving elected members (MPs, MLAs and Panchayat members, and other

- prominent leaders in the districts) or the same committees may be entrusted with the responsibilities for monitoring of these programmes.
- 3) The nodal department should ensure timely release of funds to the concerned development departments who in turn should ensure immediate release of funds soon after the receipts of funds from nodal department to their field level implementing agencies. Any lapse on the part of field level implementing agencies in timely utilization of funds and proper implementation of the schemes may be viewed seriously.
 - 4) Non-earmarking of funds under SCP and TSP may result in non-approval of Plans of the States/UTs.
 - 5) Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment and Tribal Affairs will be actively involved in the process of finalization of Annual Plans of the States/UTs.
 - 6) Evaluation to assess the impact of economic development schemes implemented under SCP, on the socio-economic conditions of SCs may be get conducted by the nodal department on regular basis. Dissemination of information to SCs all over the State/UT about the schemes/programmes available for their development may be the responsibility of the nodal department. The nodal department may also ensure the follow up of the schemes implemented and maintenance of proper records on assets created under SCP in District/Block etc.

From last several years Dalit Aarthik Adhikar Aandolan (DAAA) an initiative of National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) has taken up work for finding the gaps in the planning implementation of the SCP.

The Major Gaps that has surfaced due to our interventions are:

At the Level of Planning:

- a. Very few special programs derived specially to be implemented under SCP, mostly the programs included are part of the common bigger programs and some proportion of it is earmarked for the SC/ST population.
- b. Most of the programs such derived do not follow the norms of SCP, such as indivisibility, and direct benefits to the SC population.
- c. Very few ministries at the national as well as at the state has developed programs under SCP.

At the level of Resource allocation:

- a. Funds allocated under SCP are not appropriate, i.e. fall short than the existing population proportion both at the Union budget and the state budgets. The allocations for Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub Plan in the Union budget have a huge gap. The union budget has allocated \$ 6.1 Billion to the SC development. It is 8.98% of the total plan out lay for SCs. There is a gap of \$ 4.9 Billion as per the Guidelines of SCP is concerned.
- b. It is unfortunate that only 24 departments have allocated for SCs and for STs 26 departments. While all the departments must allocate the funds for development mainly the growth sector departments claim they are unable to allocate the money.
- c. There is substantial decrease in many of the programmes like Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship, Indira Awas Yozana, Pradhan Mantri Adrash Gram Yojana, MSME Credit Support Programme and others. The decrease % in Indiaras Awas Yozana is 43.3% last year the allocation was Rs.6000 crores this year it has reduced to Rs.3530 crores. Similarly Pradhan Mantri Adrash Gram Yojana there is decrease of 75% and MSME Credit Support Programme has reduced to 93%. There is also major cut in

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangthan, National Service Scheme, National Youth Corps and National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development which resulted in 31.7% lower allocation of overall SCP budget of Youth & Sports.

- d. The economic growth departments that have not allocated are Departments of Coal, Road transport and highways, Railways, Power, Space, Civil Aviation, Home, Petroleum and Chemicals etc. This shows that most of these finances are allocated for social services and very little for economic services which mean that real development does not take place in the case of SCs and STs. They are not present in the growth sectors of the economy and are mere service providers for the rest of the society.
- e. The nature of the funds already allocated is widely vague and most likely to be diverted or linked to other programs.
- f. There is a trend of notional allocation of funds under SCP I.e. allocation under schemes and programs which are normally meant for the in general development of the State. Instead of making allocations based on actual individual or family based micro development schemes, the money is allotted for macro projects, falsely presuming thereby that these are the actual needs of SCs and that the SC population have sufficient resources, infrastructure and skills to avail of the facilities built by these funds – like fly-overs, stadiums and ‘Commonwealth Games’ expenditures!! These services do not at all fall under the purview of Dalits’ needs!
- g. No link book available in the budget documents with regard to allocations under SCP.

At the level of Implementation:

- a. There is no proper tracking mechanism in order to find out the timely implementation of the just programs under SCP.
- b. Very few departments have appointed Nodal officers for the implementation of the SCP.
- c. No uniform model being used by all the States and Union for the implementation.
- d. The minor Code ‘789’ is still not opened and functional in most of the states and departments.

At the level of monitoring:

- a. State/ District level monitoring committees are not constitutes at all the districts.
- b. No monthly meeting of the monitoring committees held regularly and also the minutes not being made available.
- c. No plans of the State/UT’S being dis-approved due to inappropriate allocation under SCP.
- d. No special annual reports on the SCP implementation and beneficiaries available.

Annexure-VI

Status of Dalit Women in India

Dalit Women

The situation of Dalit women in India is still an unexplored area of all academic studies, state institutions. Even with the independent commissions like women's commission, SC/ST commission very limited analysis has been done to propose legal, administrative and governance reforms in the country. Dalit women are one among the worst sufferers of socio-cultural, political and economic exploitation, injustice, oppression and violence. They are mainly employed in unorganized sector of the Indian economy as daily wagers and marginal workers. The lack of adequate employment opportunities, limited skills and illiteracy has made their mobility extremely limited and prevent them from achieving independent status. The persistent gap between consumption and expenditure leads them to perpetual indebtedness. Lack of housing and sanitation is a major issue for poor Dalit women. In urban areas most of them stay in unhygienic slums and in rural areas their houses are away from mainstream society. With the adoption of policies of globalization in India, their employment opportunities are likely to be further reduced to make them suffer from competition from foreign technology and modern methods of agriculture.

Dalit women are oppressed by the broader Hindu society, men their own community and also their own husbands. Thus, Dalit women face multiple disadvantages. Their issues are different from that of other Indian women. They have been deprived from all kinds of human rights, education, income, dignity, social status, religious rights, etc. Thus, their subjugation is more acute- being Dalit they are treated with great contempt by upper caste men and women alike, and their own men folk. In fact, when we talk of marginalization of women in the development process, or feminization of poverty or woman's contribution to the unorganized sector in India, we are referring to Dalits without even being conscious about their specificity. It is regrettable to note that mainstream women's movement in India also ignored and neglected the pitiable condition of Dalit women. Very little literature on the life of Dalit women has been generated so far.

Violence Against Dalit Women

This system of social exclusion makes women more vulnerable to exploitative conditions of hard labor, mental stress and leads to extreme form of violence like sexual exploitation, humiliation, rape, murder, etc. Dalit women have been the objects of violence in greater degree from their own men folk, and also from higher caste men. They have been subjected to rape, molestation, kidnapping, abduction, homicide, physical and mental torture, immoral traffic and sexual abuse. There is a tendency of increase in the cases of violence against Dalit women. According to the National Crime Statistics, 2001 there were 2,824 reported cases of rape, 4,591 cases of serious injuries, 517 cases of murder, 2,261 cases of kidnapping and abduction, 8,527 cases of physical torture, 10,425 cases of eve-teasing, 3,588 cases of molestation and sexual harassment, 556 cases of importation of girls, and 4,452 cases under Immoral Trafficking Act. Thus, there were 37,841 registered cases of violence against Dalit Women in the year 2001 alone, 2001.

It should be noted that in India about 90 percent crimes against Dalit women are not reported to the police for the fear of social ostracism and threat to personal safety and security. Also the legal proceedings are so complicated, tardy, time consuming, costly and unfriendly to

Dalits that usually they do not approach courts or other law enforcing agencies for their redressal.

Violation of Human Rights of Dalit Women

Despite of the presence of international and national declarations and resolutions, human rights are violated in different countries all over the world. Human rights of Dalits and women in general are normally violated by high castes and powerful communities to practice and exhibit patriarchy and castetism. But human rights of Dalit women are violated extremely and in peculiar form. Dalit women are in worst position than Dalits in general, in terms of sex ratio, wages, employment, occupation, assets, education, health, social mobility and political participation.

Women are always the targets of Communal fascism in Indian society. Patriarchy as all encompassing structures makes sure that women are the victims of any conflict situation, whether it is pure caste conflict or conflict on religious lines or for property. It's a live reality today- *burning of a women of 20 year old in an orphanage of Orissa by VHP goondas on 25th August 2008, is a terrible act of communal fascism.* As per the interim report of International Initiative for Justice in Gujarat, "sexual violence against Muslim women as well as against women in inter-religious marriages is central to the organized political project of Hindutva amidst widespread approval of the Hindu community in the state.

Vulnerable Status of Dalit Women

It is easy for the historically dominating caste and gender to violate human rights of Dalit women who are at the lowest rung of the hierarchical ladder. The recent incident of Khairlanji Massacre - *A Dalit family had refused to let upper caste villagers build a road through their fields. Hence on September, 29th, 2006, Bhaiyalal Bhotmange's family, – wife Surekha, daughter Prinyanka and two sons were killed by the villagers of Khairlangi in Bhandra district of Maharashtra. They were first attacked with huge iron chains and then abused by the other caste women of the village. Surekha and Priyanka were paraded naked and raped, and later, their bodies were mutilated and thrown into a pond. (Hindustan Times, 14th November, 2006).* This shows that Dalit women are easy targets for any perpetrator Upper caste considers them to be sexually available. Hence they are largely unprotected by the state machinery. Further, there is prevalence of violence, making Dalit women eat human excreta, parading them naked, gang- rape, murder, dacoit, robbery and burning of their huts or communities.

The 16-year-old Dalit girl of Sihali village in Barabanki district set herself on fire after the BSP leader allegedly beat her up publicly and molested her several times on her way to school. The Uttar Pradesh Police have finally booked BSP leader Aslam, four days after a girl set herself on fire after being molested by him.(sep 2011)

On 12 December 2010, a 17½ year-old girl from a poor Dalit family had been lured by havildar Tasvir Singh to his house (in front of the city Thana, Mansa of Panjab) on the promise of employment. Since her uncle had been killed by extremists, he assured her that he would be able to find her employment under a scheme for survivors of extremist attacks, and asked her to come to his house with certificates. There she was raped by him along with Surendra Joga (advocate), Surendra Singh Siddhu, and Satish Kumar (financier). When her cries attracted the attention of neighbours who alerted the police, however, no rape case was registered; rather cases of 109 IPC (awaragardi) were booked against the men as well as the victim. (http://www.cpiml.org/liberation/year_2011/feb_11/feature.html)

Another incident of a grave attack is a Dalit woman and her mother have been stripped and assaulted on the diktat of a village panchayat in Bihar. The shameful incident took place in Yogidih village under Chandramandih police station of Jamui district in July 2010

Socio-cultural and religious Factors

Dalit women are victims of social, religious and cultural practices like Devdasis and Jogins. In the name of these practices, village girls are married to God by their helpless parents. These girls are then sexually exploited by the upper caste landlords and rich men and directed in to trafficking and prostitution. The 28th report of SC/ST commission reported that in February 1986 there were about ten thousand Jogins belonging to SC in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh. The survey submitted by the district collector to Schedule Caste Finance Corporation revealed prevalence of 15,850 cases. Eighty percent of these Jogins belonged to SC. This data is just an example of one district of the country. Practices such as Chira, Jogins, Devadasi, which are prevalent even today, are harmful and threaten the dignity of Dalit women and violate their human rights.

Education Status

Low level of education is a problem in itself and in turn gives rise to many other problems. In 1991, literacy among the Dalit women was indeed quite low. In rural areas only 19.46 percentage women were literate. A report published by Ministry of Welfare, Government of India in 1998 showed that there is much difference in the literacy rate of Dalits and non-Dalits in general, and gender specific. Literacy rate of non-Dalits is 64.13 % and literacy rate of women is 39.29 %, where as Dalit women's literacy rate is only 23.76 %. There is a large disparity in the literacy rate due to wide spread prejudice based on castetism and patriarchy against Dalits and women in general and Dalit women in particular. The crude literacy rate (defined as percentage of literates among the total population) for Dalit women as per the Census 2001 was 34.62 whereas for non SC/ST women it was 58.17. There was an underlying literacy gap of 16.27.

Economic deprivation and Unemployment

The condition of Dalits or scheduled castes (SC) is one of acute poverty and social oppression. Both poverty and oppression are linked to the question of land. In the rural areas, 57 per cent of the SC households cultivate no land at all; 21 per cent cultivate less than one acre (0.4 hectares); and another 13 per cent cultivate between one acre and two and a half acres (1 hectare). That is, 91 per cent of the SC households in the rural areas are either landless or operate what are termed 'sub-marginal' or 'marginal' holdings.

A careful look at the economic situation of Dalit women reveals that their work force structure is such that they rarely own any land. A large majority of them are agricultural labourers. The rate of unemployment among them is also quite high. About 90% of women working in unorganized sector are mainly from lower castes. In 1991, about 71% of Dalit women workers in rural area were agricultural labourers. Only 19% of them owned land.

Health and Nutrition Status

Dalit women's daily diet is the leftover of family meals, inadequate in quantity and quality. In the NFHS-3 data, 58.3% of dalit women are anemic (<http://www.livemint.com/2011/06/19201726/The-anaemic-rich-women-of-Indi.html>) The health condition of Dalit women is alarming with high incidence of maternal mortality and infant mortality. Due to denial and sub standard healthcare services the life expectancy of Dalit women is as low as 50 years. The infant mortality rate is 90 / 1,000. The sex ratio of

Dalit women is 922 / 1000 compared to 927 / 1000 for rest of the population in India(<http://imadr.org/en/pdf/CERD-India.pdf>). Due to poverty, Dalit women are malnourished and anemic. One 2007 study in six north Indian states found that 61 per cent of maternal deaths were among Dalits — as “untouchables” are now called — and the indigenous people known here as tribals, Human Rights Watch said. Health services are either not available in case of illness or unaffordable even if available. In addition to that, due to early marriage and too many pregnancies their health is always at risk. If birth control is practiced at all, 91% cases of tubectomy are performed on the women who have to carry the burden of family planning. In an overall situation where Dalits are prone to ailments in general, women suffer from more serious and more varied kind of sickness. More than 80% of women in reproductive age group (15 to 45) are anemic. Poor health status of Dalit women pushes her then into more vulnerable situation. Dalit women continue to face discrimination in access to State sponsored health facilities. For example, Dalit women are forced to sweep and clean the hospital premises when they go for treatment.

Political status

In the year 1993, 73rd amendment in the constitution granted reservation to Dalits, tribals and women in local government. This amendment made it compulsory that one third of the seats reserved for Dalits be filled by Dalit women. In some states, there has been little or no acceptance of Reservation for the lower castes and Dalit women by the upper castes. This has resulted in atrocities against panchayat members including women. Dalits who stood for election were beaten, and Dalit women were raped and ill-treated. The members of the higher castes, who are not prepared to relinquish power to the lower castes, grabbed their land. An easier method to retain power is to put-up proxy candidates but keep the control in the hands of the dominant castes, always men.

The incapacity of women, particularly Dalit women, to assert their rights is at the root of the problem. The reservation for Dalits, particularly for women, is accepted in form but seldom in substance. Any change in the status quo is resisted. Dalit women's sitting on chairs is seen as threat to social hierarchy. So, the upper castes in the village vetoed chairs in the panchayat office. Dalit women also faced many problems in performing their duties due to illiteracy, lack of information and dependency on the male members of their families. An important obstacle is the no-confidence motion against Dalit women as pradhan by the dominant sections. Rural elites are unable to accept the power, which has been given into the hands of the poorer and disadvantaged women. Despite recognition and legal sanction for political rights, rigid caste system and patriarchy directly and indirectly has been suppressing Dalit women and violating their political rights.

This proves that human rights of Dalit women are violated right from her family to the society at large by one and all. All these factors are largely responsible for the precarious position of Dalit women as far as their social, cultural, religious, economic, health and political status in the society is concerned. These factors force them to mutely allow violation of their civic and human rights and question the human security for Dalit women in India.