Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms O.M. No.36022/5/76-Estt.(SCT), dated the 27th May, 1976, to all Ministries/Departments, etc

Subject:—Liaison Officers nominated in Ministries/Departments for work relating to representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—Recommendation No. 31 in the 41st Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The undersigned is directed to say that the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has in its 41st Report made the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 31 (Para 4.20)

"The Committee feel that the Liaison Officers are not able to function in as much as they are not of sufficiently high status and necessary papers and records are not made available to them. The Committee desire that the Liaison Officer should be of the status of a Director in the Ministry/Department."

2. According to para 33 of the first edition of the Brochure issued vide Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 1/2/61-SCT(I) dated 27-4-1962, Ministries/Departments are required to nominate the Deputy Secretary in charge of administration in the Ministries/Department (or any other officer, designated for the purpose) as Liaison Officer for work relating to representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in services/posts. All Ministries/Departments have already nominated a Deputy Secretary or an officer of equal or higher status as the Liaison Officer except that in a few Ministries/Departments and officer of the rank of an Under Secretary may have been so nominated as Liaison Officer. The above mentioned recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee has been considered by Govt. It may not always be feasible to nominate an officer of the rank of Director (instead of Deputy Secretary) as Liaison Officer and further the posts of Directors are only selection grade/posts or Deputy Secretaries and their duties are interchangeable. The number of posts of Directors will also be small and in some Ministries/Departments there may be no Directors. The recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee is however brought to the notice of the Ministries/Departments and it is requested that where at present is a Ministry/Department an officer lower in rank than a Deputy Secretary is nominated as Liaison Officer, an officer at least of the rank of Deputy Secretary should be nominated as Liaison Officer.