

## **Empowerment of Socially Disadvantaged**

10.65 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment deals with the welfare of persons belonging to the scheduled castes, religious and linguistic minorities, socially and educationally backward classes, welfare of persons with disabilities and programmes of social defence relating to victims of alcoholism, drug addiction, juvenile social maladjustment, welfare of prisoners, children in need of care and protection, welfare of aged and matters relating to the administration of Wakf.

10.66 The Ministry has been allocated Rs.1,492.00 crore for Plan schemes in the current financial year. A Central Pool Allocation of Rs.1,102.68 crore has been provided for the welfare schemes of SCs, OBCs and Minorities. Similarly, allocation for Welfare of Persons with Disabilities and Social Defence during 2004-05 is Rs.225.55 crore and Rs.97.98 crore respectively. An amount of Rs.65.80 crore has been allocated under lump sum provision for the North East and Sikkim.