

Re: Audit of the utilization of SC/ST sub plan funds in Andhra Pradesh since 2020-21

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): More than Rs 10,300 crore of SC sub plan and sub plan funds in 2022-23 have been reportedly diverted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Even the funds meant for SC, ST are being underutilized. In 2021-22, only 76% of SC sub- plan funds meant for SC/ST communities were utilized. Out of the Rs.4693 crore released from the Centre to Andhra Pradesh as 'Grants-in-aid under Article 275(1)' between 2020 and 2022. The state government reported that utilization is ZERO for both the years, which may show the negligence of the Government towards tribals.

The extension of the SC ST sub-plans was not done under the scrutiny of the elected state assembly, rather it was carried out by an executive ordinance.

By diverting funds earmarked for SC & ST development, the (YCP ruled) Andhra Pradesh Government is adversely impacting the socio-economic progress of the SC/ST population. This is not only a legal violation but also a breach of trust of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to take cognisance of this matter and undertake an audit of the utilization of the SC/ST sub-plan funds in Andhra Pradesh.