

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3136
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS
A.K.S. VIJAYAN

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Forum of SC & ST Parliamentarians have demanded allocation of funds for development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes on proportionate to their population;
- (b) if so, action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the allocation of funds for the development of SCs/STs has been declining as compared to the other sectors/divisions of his Ministry in the recent past;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the funds demanded/allocated for the Scheduled Castes Development Division, Tribal Development Division, Physically Handicapped Division and Social Defence Division for the last three years and percentage thereof as compared to the total outlays and the funds actually utilized, year-wise and State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

SMT. MANEKA GANDHI

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The matter was referred to the Planning Commission. The Commission, however, did not find favour with the proposal on the ground that `population` alone cannot be taken as the sole criterion for allocation of funds for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, the following special programmes have been evolved for encouraging substantial allocation of resources for these Groups:
- (i) Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes, which has been in operation since 1979-80 for supplementing/complementing the Central and the State Budget. In terms of this arrangement, population is the major criterion to assess the quantum of funds under various development sectors both at the Central and the State levels. 13 Central Ministries and 24 States/UTs are successfully implementing these two strategies.
- (ii) `Special Central Assistance (SCA)` by Central Government as an additive to SCP and TSP budgets in the State Sector. Population is the major criterion for allocation of funds for this purpose.
- (iii) Assistance under Article 275(1) of the Constitution for improving the infrastructural facilities in Tribal areas.

(c)&(d) No, Sir. The table below will explain:-

(Rs. in crores)					
Allocation of funds	1996-97	1997-98	Increase over 1996-97	1998-99	Increase over 1997-98
SCs/STs	1134.68	1252.00	117.32	1352.00	100.00
Disabled	45.90	106.44	60.54	141.54	35.10
Social Defence	33.20	44.00	10.80	59.00	15.00

(e) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS (LAST THREE YEARS)

(Rs. in Crores)										
Year	Allocation	% age of total outlay	Scheduled Castes Development Division	Tribal Development Division	Physically Handicapped Division	Social Defence Division	Allocation	% age of total outlay	Allocation	% age of total outlay
1996-97	691.18	53.37	443.50	34.24	45.90	3.54	33.20	2.56		
1997-98	771.00	42.98	481.00	26.81	106.44	5.93	44.00	2.45		
1998-99	776.00	38.92	576.00	28.89	141.54	7.10	59.00	2.96		

Statements showing funds released to States/UTs under the schemes implemented by Scheduled Castes Development Division, Tribal Development Division, Physically Handicapped Division and Social Defence Division for the last three years are annexed.