GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TRIBAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1938 ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005 MISUTILISATION OF FUNDS BY STATES Meghwal Shri Kailash;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated for various tribal schemes has been diverted/misutilised by various States;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has failed to obtain utilisation certificate from the States during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States and the funds allocated to such States during the said period;

(e) the reasons for allocation of funds without obtaining utilisation certificate; and

(f) the steps taken to check the misutilisation of Government assistance?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to (e) No such instance has been reported to this Ministry during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06. The funds for subsequent releases under various schemes are released after obtaining the utilisation certificates.

(f) In order to ensure that the funds released under the tribal welfare schemes by this Ministry are utilised properly, this Ministry has taken several steps, which include:-

(i) Receipt of Utilization Certificates as a pre requisite for further release of funds;

(ii) Periodic progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes;

(iii) Visits by Central Government Officers to the States/ UTs for ascertaining the Âl progress of implementation of schemes.

(iv) Meetings/Conferences convened at the Central level with the State Secretaries of Tribal Welfare Departments to ensure timely submission of proposals, speedy implementation, and review of physical & financial progress,

(v) Monitoring at the State/ field level, by agencies like Tribes Advisory Councils, Project implementation committees of ITDPs and Panchayat Samities.

(vi) To avoid delays in disbursements of funds by the State Plan/Finance and Tribal Welfare Departments, to the line departments/implementing agencies, the guidelines for allocation and utilization of SCA to TSP has since been revised with the provision of ITDA/ITDP wise earmarking of SCA funds.

(vii) In the case of schemes implemented through the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), funds are released after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance, etc. Apart from the periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish audited accounts and utilization certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Governments/UT officials and other authorities, and also by the Central Government officers.