

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3071
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
EARMARKING 10 PER CENT OF BUDGET FOR NORTH EAST
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the policy of earmarking 10 per cent of the total budget for the North East by each and every Ministry/Department of the Government of India is still in vogue;
- (b) if so, whether all the Ministry/Department of Government of India do diligently comply with this policy;
- (c) whether any mechanism is in place for penalising any defaulting Ministry/Department; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARALM MEENA)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Since 1998-1999, all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India, except a few specifically exempted ones, are earmarking at least 10 per cent of their annual budget, less allocation for externally aided schemes and local or event specific schemes/projects, for expenditure in the North Eastern Region. Presently, there are 52 non-exempted Ministries/Departments which earmark funds for the North Eastern Region.
- (c) The unutilised portion of the funds earmarked by the non-exempted Ministries/Departments is surrendered at the close of each financial year to the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources, which is maintained by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region on a proforma basis.
- (d) Does not arise.