

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5357
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
UTILISATION OF SC ST FUNDS
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to utilise development of SC/ST funds for anti- poverty projects, in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted a team to make recommendations for utilisation of central allocations in various schemes/projects that equally relate to development of SC/ST community and alleviation of poverty in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of major deviations that are proposed to be made in re-allocation of funds on anti-poverty projects in various such projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): The Planning Commission has issued guidelines for formulation, implementation, and monitoring of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub Plan for Scheduled Tribes to all State Governments and UT Administrations in 2005 and to Central Ministries/Departments in 2006 respectively for optimal utilization of funds inter alia for anti-poverty projects in the country. The basic objectives of both these Sub-Plans is to channelize the flow of outlays and benefits from the general sectors in the Plan of States and Central Ministries/ Departments for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at least in proportion to their population, both in physical and financial terms.

(c) & (d): The Planning Commission constituted a Task Force on 4th June, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Member, Planning Commission. The terms of reference of the Task Force are to:

- (i) to re-examine and revise the extant Guidelines issued by the Planning Commission for implementation of SCSP and TSP; and
- (ii) to understand the operational difficulties and consultation with implementing Ministries and suggest remedial action so that SCSP and TSP can be implemented effectively in future. The Task Force on SCSP and TSP has submitted its first report. The Report has been uploaded on the website of the Planning Commission.

(e): The Task Force Report has identified the Central Ministries/Departments in terms of their obligation to earmark allocation in proportion to the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes into four Categories: I) No Obligation; II) Earmarking outlays less than 15% for SCs and 7.5% for STs; III) Earmarking outlays between 15%-16.2% for SCs and 7.5%-8.2% for STs; IV) Earmarking more than 16.2% for SCs and more than 8.2% for STs. Ministry-wise percentage of earmarking of plan allocation under SCSP/TSP is annexed.