GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4802 ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013 PROPOSALS FOR WELFARE OF SC OBC PH Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Patle Kamla Devi ;Pradhan Shri Amarnath

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

(a) the details of proposals received from the various State Governments for releasing grants under various welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes (SC), Other Backward Classes (OBC) and Physically Handicapped (PH) persons during each the last three years and the current year along with the present status thereof, State-wise;

(b) the funds sanctioned, released and utilised under such schemes during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared;

(d) the reasons for the delay in according approval to the pending proposals along with the steps taken by the Government for early clearance of such proposals; and

(e) the mechanism evolved by the Government to ensure proper monitoring of such schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) & (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) & (d) Clearance of proposals is an on-going process and is subject to completeness of the proposals, their conformity to the norms of the Scheme and general financial rules and availability of funds. Delay also occurs due to the time taken by State Governments/Union Territories in rectifying deficiencies and completing procedural requirements. The pending cases are reviewed periodically at various levels and State Governments/Union Territories are requested to rectify the deficiencies in their proposals.

(e) The various initiatives taken by the Ministry for monitoring the progress of the schemes include the following:

(i) Quarterly/Annual Progress Reports furnished by the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(ii) The Ministry sponsors evaluation studies from time to time through independent evaluation agencies, to, inter-alia, check proper utilization of funds by the implementing agencies.

(iii) Fresh/subsequent releases of grants to implementing agencies during a year are made only on receipt of Utilisation Certificates in respect of the previous years' grants, which have become due.

(iv) Bi-Annual Conference of the State Social Welfare Ministers and the Annual Conference of the State Welfare Secretaries organized by the Ministry.

(v) Review of Schemes/Programmes by the Officers of the Ministry during their visits to the States/UTs.