

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3184  
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013  
CORRUPTION IN PROJECTS  
Bali Ram Dr.

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the funds sanctioned under projects of Department of Bio-technology, Government of India for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes have been diverted to the farmers belonging to general and backward categories and the guidelines of Indian Council for Agricultural Research have not been followed in this regard; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (S. JAYAPAL REDDY)

(a) Department of Biotechnology has a scheme under the Societal Programme to support projects for the benefit of SC/ST and Rural Community. Under this scheme the benefits of the project are ensured to reach to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers/ youths/ women. However, the benefits have also been extended to OBC and other economically weaker sections of the Society, in some cases and not to the general categories. Every effort is being made to further increase the number of beneficiaries i.e. SC/ST population in the supported projects under the scheme. Department of Biotechnology has its own guidelines for sanctioning these projects. Therefore, department need not to follow the guidelines of Indian Council for Agricultural Research.

(b) Does not arise.