

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1574

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

SCA TO TSP

Dhurve Jyoti;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Rai Shri Prem Das;Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the guidelines/norms laid down under the Special Central Assistance (SCA) to the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and the details of funds allocated and released along with the projects sanctioned / approved thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including North-Eastern Region;
- (b) whether cases of under utilization of funds under the SCA to the TSP have been reported;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the funds utilisation reported under SCA to TSP during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has noticed irregularities in implementation of TSP by States/UTs and diversion of funds thereunder and if so, the complaints received in this regard during the said period and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the mechanism put in place by the Government to check such irregularities and to ensure optimum utilisation of funds under TSP?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SMT. RANEE NARAH)

(a) to (c) The guidelines / norms laid down under the Special Area Programme of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) are given below:-

**Guidelines**

- i) The tribal population living below the poverty line should alone be covered under SCA-financed activities, with a special emphasis on raising their socio-economic status to that of the rest of the population in the Block/District/State.
- ii) SCA to TSP should be utilized for filling up of critical gaps in both the primary schemes supporting Family/SHG/Community-based employment-cum-income-generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto. However, not more than 30% of SCA received can be permitted for the purpose of developing infrastructure.
- iii) While planning for Family/SHG/Community-based employment-cum-income-generation activities, every effort should be made to coverage the services/resources, manpower and infrastructure already available under various tribal-related sectors.
- iv) While formulating SCA-funded TSP activities, priority should be given to the development of the most neglected Tribal living in the Forest Villages.
- v) Innovative projects for creating employment-cum-income generation activities based on the felt needs of the local tribals should be given priority. To this effect, the ground level functionaries should also be geared up effectively so as to attract optimal institutional finance.
- vi) Long-term Areas-specific micro planning by taking into consideration ITDPs/ITDAs and the Blocks/Clusters therein as geographical units should be taken up under SCA to TSP. Multidisciplinary agencies could be entrusted with the task of preparing such long term plans indicating estimates of the flow of funds from the State Plan(TSP), the Central Plan(SCA to TSP) and through the Grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.
- vii) Since SCA to TSP is an additive to the State Plan, the State Govt/UT Admn. should indicate the Department/Scheme-wise details of activities funded out of the Annual State Plan. As the SCA to TSP is to be utilized as gap filler to the schemes being taken up out of the TSP funds earmarked under the Annual State Plan, adequate justification should be given to show that the schemes being funded out of SCA to TSP are actually supplementary to schemes being taken up out of TSP funds earmarked in the Annual State Plan.
- viii) Wherever a conjunctional flow of funds can be ensured from the other ongoing development programmes of Central and State Plan activities, every effort should be made to dovetail all the ongoing programmes so as to have a better spatial and demographic coverage. The Ministry encourages a more focused approach leading to perceptible change in the tribal areas rather than resources being spread too thin under various sectors, in a disintegrated fashion.

ix) Projects/Schemes should be so drawn up that issues affecting tribal women should be brought centre stage and their participation, right from the stage of formulation to implementation of various developmental projects needs to be ensured. To this effect, a fixed portion of SCA funds (at least 30%) should be kept apart and shown under the 'Women's Component'.

x) Before sanctioning the SCA to TSP, it is a pre-requisite to formulate specific schemes /programmes that have a direct bearing on the economic development of tribals as suitable to their social, economic and ecological situation. The scheme/programmes thus formulated should be sent in advance as proposals to the Ministry for examination/discussion and approval.

xi) The special programmes/schemes thus formulated/proposed should necessarily reflect physical and financial targets with a specific time frame, to facilitate monitoring in implementation of the same, from time to time.

xii) In view of the diverse and varied physical and socio-economic conditions of the tribals, the SCA funds directed especially to the poverty alleviation programmes should necessarily support such innovative income generating and employment activities/programmes with sustainable relevance/utility to the tribal beneficiaries.

xiii) While utilizing the SCA funds for the development of Forest Villages and the tribals living therein, it is essential not only to identify their specific problems but also to propose specific package for their development by specially formulating specific schemes that are not only suitable to the prevailing conditions but also ensuring their effective synchronization with the programmes of the Forest Department viz JFM. Similar special attention should also be accorded to the shifting cultivators by devising suitable/ alternative income generating and self-employment activities to be supported with SCA funds.

xiv) Detailed information about all the projects sanctioned/funded under SCA to TSP along with the progress of their implementation needs to be kept up to date at the centre, from time to time to facilitate effective monitoring.

xv) People's participation is a thread that runs across the tribal fabric and the approach towards tribal development should, therefore, ensure that their strength is harnessed.

xvi) The ground-level mechanism should be effectively geared up so as to attract optimal institutional finance for enhanced income-generating activities

xvii) Adherence to the provisions of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1992 and the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act of 1996 in planning and implementation of TSP, including the SCA funds, should be ensured in letter and in spirit.

xviii) The TSP component should be prepared along with the Five year/Annual Plans of the State and SCA should form an integral part of the overall TSP. Also, the entire TSP of each State should be discussed and approved at the time of the finalization of the Five year/Annual Plans of the State and necessary earmarking for the flow of SCA funds to the relevant sectors in each State should also be determined and approved accordingly.

xix) Out of the total SCA allocation for a financial year, 10% of the funds will be utilized for the purpose of extending incentives to States for effective implementation of TSP and the same will be released as per the criteria given under Norms for Release.

xx) The proposals under SCA to TSP are to focus on watershed based income generation, income generation covering skill training, improve technology training, storage and storage technology, primary processing including minor forest produce, small scale trading inputs etc. and connectivity to markets, schools and essential service delivery centers.

#### Norms for Release of SCA to TSP.

i) SCA would be released to States/UTs normally in a maximum of two installments and the entire amount is expected to be made available by the end of the Second Quarter. However, release of SCA would be entirely based on the utilization/performance by the State Governments.

ii) SCA funds earmarked by the Ministry to ITDPs should be released directly to the ITDP by the State Governments/UT Administrations and no part of SCA should be released directly to any Department at the State level. However, transfer of funds to implementing departments/ agencies, if required, should be done by the ITDPs.

iii) SCA is released for the economic development of the following-

a) Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) are generally contiguous large areas of the size of one or more Development Block in which the ST population is 50% or more of the total population.

b) Modified Area Development Approach(MADA): These are identified pockets with a concentration of tribals 50% or more ST population within a total population of a minimum of 10,000 persons and above.

c) Clusters: These are identified pockets of tribal concentration containing 50% or more ST population within a total population of about 5,000 or more.

d) Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs): Identified isolated communities among the STs characterized by a low rate of population, a pre-agricultural level of technology and extremely low levels of literacy.

e) Dispersed tribal population outside (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.

iv) The TSP component of various Departments/Sectors under the State Plan should be put in a separate Budget Head of the Tribal Development Department of the State. Of the total allocation under SCA to TSP, an amount of 10% will be released to the States based upon a system of weighted criteria, listed below:-

a) Adoption of the TSP approach in letter and spirit by ensuring that the entire TSP funds at least in equal proportion to the population of tribals in the State, are placed in one Budget Head under the administrative control of the Tribal Development Department of the State Government for more integrated and focused planning and implementation of projects/schemes.

b) Thereafter, at least on an average 75% of the approval Tribal sub-Plan funds are actually utilized/released to the implementing agencies in the previous three financial years through the budget head of the Tribal Development Department of the State; and

c) Funds awarded, as incentives to the State, should be utilized only for employment and income generating activities benefiting the tribals.

V) The remaining 90% of the total allocation under SCA will then be further allocated amongst the States on the basis of the share of the programmes under the broad strategy of the Tribal Sub Plan, namely, Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), Modified Area Development Approach Pockets (MADA), Clusters and Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) and is calculated in proportion to the Scheduled Tribe population under each programme.

vi) State-wise allocation of amount available for programmes under ITDPs, MADAs, Clusters and PTGs and Dispersed Tribals are made as under:-

a) Integrated Tribal Development projects (ITDPs): for allocation of SCA to ITDPs, the States are grouped into two categories.

Category "A": consists of States with substantial areas predominantly inhabited by tribals such as Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim.

Category "B": consists of having a dispersed tribal population with some areas of tribal concentration such as Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, West Bengal and the UTs of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Daman & Diu. The total outlay of SCA for ITDPs is allocated to the above two category of States on the basis of tribal population of the States/UTs included in each group.

The funds allocated to Category "A" is then distributed to the states on the basis of the following criteria:

- 70% on the basis of ST population in ITDP/ITDA area.

- 30% on the basis of geographical area of ITDP/ITDA .

Whereas the funds allocated to the Category "B" States is then distributed to the States only on the basis of ST population in the ITDPs.

b) MADA Pockets, Clusters and Dispersed Tribals 100% on the basis of ST population in MADA Pockets, Clusters and Dispersed Tribals.

c) Primitive Tribal Groups- The distribution formula is as follows"

- 70% of the amount on numerical size of the Primitive Tribal Communities.

- 30% of the amount according to number of PTGs in the States/UTs.

vii) After calculating the entitlement for each of the State on the basis of the norms, the amount so calculated for MADAs, PTGs, STs in Clusters and Dispersed Tribals Groups (DTGs), SCA will be separately earmarked for each State and placed at the disposal of the State Governments for implementing projects/scheme for the benefits, of MADAs, PTGs, STs in Clusters and DTGs in a focused and well targeted manner.

viii) The rest of the SCA allocation of each of the State meant for ITDPs will then be further earmarked by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for each of the ITDPs of each State in equal proportion to the population of the STs in these respective ITDPs as a percentage of the total ST population of the ITDPs in a particular State.

Details of funds allocation, release and utilization of funds released to the 22 TSP States including the four North Eastern States of Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Sikkim under SCA to TSP is enclosed as Annexure.

Fresh release of funds by Ministry of Tribal Affairs is considered only on submission of utilization certificates for the previous releases as due along with other requisite documents. Projects sanctioned / approved during each of the last three years and the current year include agriculture programmes, modern agricultural implements and accessories to small groups of farmers and Self Help Groups (SHGs), distribution of mini kits-seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, orchard with intercropping, minor irrigation, water harvesting and recharging of ground water, deep boring, soil conservation programmes, horticulture, composite fishery, animal husbandry, dairy development, piggery farming, duck /goat rearing, poultry, bee keeping, handloom inputs, village industry, kirana shops, forestry (protection and livelihood), skill development training, self employment programmes, income and livelihood generation programmes, Eco Tourism, connectivity to service centres etc. including development of infrastructure incidental thereto.

(d) The Planning Commission, being the nodal organization in TSP matters have not received any specific complaints of irregularities and diversion of funds under TSP during the last three years and current year.

(e) The Planning Commission had already issued guidelines for formulation, implementation, and monitoring of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes in 2005. The guidelines inter-alia include that funds under TSP outlays should be non-divertible and non-lapsable. As per guidelines the Planning Commission, the State Governments are showing all their TSP allocations under Minor Budget Head '796' to check diversion of funds allocated under TSP. The Task Force constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav to revise guidelines for implementation of SCSP and TSP recommended placing of earmarked funds for TSP under a separate budget head '796'. Following the recommendations of the Task force, Ministries / Departments of Government of India have started earmarking their respective plan allocations separately for the TSP in proportion as identified by the Task Force to ensure that provisions relating to TSP are accurately reflected in the concerned Minor Head '796' below the functional major/sub-major heads wherever necessary, in terms of the instruction under Para 3.8 of the General Directions to the List of Major and Minor Heads of Accounts in their respective Detailed Demands for Grants.