GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TRIBAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2383 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014 SCHEMES FOR TRIBALS

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Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has introduced any special packages/schemes for the upliftment of the tribals/ScheduledTribes in the country including Jharkhand and Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds allocated and utilized during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether several States including Jharkhand have failed to ensure the implementation of such schemes and could not utilise the sanctioned amount;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government for the proper implementation of tribal welfare schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers two special area programmes namely Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP) covering 23 States and Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India covering 27 States, including Jharkhand and Kerala. Under these programmes, funds are provided to the State Governments as an additive to other components of Tribal Sub Plan for undertaking various tribal development initiatives and for raising the level of administration in tribal areas with an aim to boost the socio-economic status of tribal people. The grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution also cover setting up of Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs). Besides, this Ministry has launched a new Central Sector Scheme VanbandhuKalyanYojana during 2014-15, which aims at developing backward Blocks in the States having Schedule V Areas as model Blocks with visible infrastructural facilities by way of appropriate convergence of resources available with the Central and State Governments.

Details of fund released and utilization reported by the State Governments under the programmes SCA to TSP and Grant under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution during the last three years and current year are at Annexure.

- (c) & (d): As reflected in the statement at Annexure, most of the States including Jharkhand and Kerala have been able to utilize the funds released to them under the said special area programmes.
- (e): Ministry of Tribal Affairs has issued Operational Guidelines for Formulation, Implementation and Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan and Article 275(1) grants in the month of March, 2014 for effective implementation of Schemes administered by this Ministry wherein issues related to allocation of funds, priority areas, need for nodal department in States, judicious utilization of TSP fund, institutionalizing the instruments for ensuring transparency, accountability and social audit have been stressed upon. The Operational Guidelines have laid special emphasis on strengthening of institutions viz. Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) / Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), Micro-projects, Tribal Research Institutions (TRIs) for better implementation of tribal welfare programmes. During the current year, specific funds have been sanctioned to the State Governments for strengthening of ITDAs/ITDPs.