

Title: Need to withdraw move for routing of funds under Centrally-sponsored Schemes directly to Gram Panchayats-Laid.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the statement made by the Minister of State for Finance regarding routing of funds under centrally-sponsored scheme directly to Gram Panchayats.

Recently there were Press reports about the statement of Minister of State for Finance regarding the financial assistance to local bodies. According to the reports the Minister has stated that the Central Government has decided to route financial assistance directly to Gram Panchayats. Though the Minister claims that the proposal has been discussed with the State Government, there is no evidence in support of this claim. If the Union Government implement this decision to route the funds under centrally-sponsored schemes directly to the Gram Panchayats, it will have several implications of bypass in the State Governments. Union Government's decision points towards a sense of deep distrust of the State Government.

So, I request the Union Government to withdraw such a proposal.