GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1017 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

Low utilization of Funds under various Initiatives

1017. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the fact that the utilization of the funds for several initiatives under the Ministry has been abysmally low, If so, the details thereof;
- (b) the utilization rates of funds allocated for the Climate Change Action Plan/ National Mission for Green India, Project Tiger, and Project Elephant;
- (c) whether the Ministry has identified the specific challenges that are hindering the utilization of funds under these initiatives. If so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any action was taken to ensure optimal utilization of funds under the aforementioned initiatives. If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (d) The interim Budget for FY 2024-25, allocated to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) was Rs. 1393.58 cr. This allocation was for five months only, as per the budgetary provisions of 'Vote on Account'. Accordingly, the budget utilization in the first five months of the FY 2024-25 was proportionately 52.88 %. Subsequently, the total budget of Rs. 3330.37 cr. was allocated in August 2024. The status of utilisation of funds against RE 2024-25 allocation for the schemes of MoEF&CC under Climate Change Action Plan, National Mission for Green India, Project Tiger & Elephant is 44.76%, 83.37% and 69.24%, respectively.

There are no specific challenges that are hindering the utilisation of funds under these initiatives. MoEF&CC closely monitors and engages with State Governments, Implementing Agencies etc. for timely release of funds through Single Nodal Account (SNA) & Central Nodal Account (CNA) and their utilization thereof.