TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

190: SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any inter-ministerial mechanism to speed up the implementation of tribal development schemes and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether primary infrastructures like roads, power lines, community health centers, drinking water projects are badly affected due to stop memos issued by forest departments in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to settle such disputes as early as possible by establishing inter-ministerial committee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) to (e): Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) / Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) is the dedicated source of fund for tribal development across the country including infrastructures like roads, power lines, community health centers, drinking water. 41 Central Ministries including Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change have been mandated to earmark Tribal Sub-Plan funds in the range of 4.3% to 17.5% of their total Scheme allocation every year for tribal development. Since 2017 Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) has been given mandate for monitoring of STC funds of Central Ministries based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Aayog. Accordingly, an online monitoring system has been put in place with web address stcmis.gov.in. The framework captures data directly from Public Finance Management System (PFMS) and gives inputs to see through expenditure vis-a-vis allocations. Besides, Nodal Officers have been designated in the line Ministries / Departments for coordination and monitoring. Meetings with nodal officers were held on 04.08.2017, 13.04.2018, 25.06.2018, 12/13.07.2018, 29-30.11.2018, 7th & 12-13.6.2019 and on 5th & 7-8.11.2019 under the chairmanship of Secretary(TA). In these meetings, besides other things, it has been reiterated to the Ministries / Departments that STC funds should be expended in full for the development of Schedule Tribes (STs) and ST dominated areas. Details of budgetary allocation and expenditure during 2017-18 and 2018-19 is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Budget Estimate</th>
<th>Revised Estimate</th>
<th>Actuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>30962.47</td>
<td>31292.20</td>
<td>30018.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>37802.90</td>
<td>39545.48</td>
<td>32792.54*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* as per stcmis.gov.in

For the schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, following steps are taken to monitor progress of work:

i. Review of physical and financial progress of projects / activities by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) of the Ministry while considering the Annual Plan of the States.
ii. Mid-term review meeting with States are held under the chairmanship of Secretary(TA).
iii. Utilization Certificates and Progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained.
iv. Officers while visiting States/UTs also ascertain the progress of implementation of various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

v. Regional Conferences are convened at times to deliberate upon the issues concerning tribal development.

So far, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not received any formal information from the States stating blockade of Ministry’s sanctioned projects due to stop memos issued by forest departments.