

Regarding need to release pending Central funds to address problems arising in Cottage Industries and other MSME sectors in Telangana-Laid

DR. MALLU RAVI (NAGARKURNOOL): I draw the attention of the Government toward matter of non-payment of salaries for the last six months to thousands of employees working in cottage industries across Telangana and various other States. Workers under handloom, handicrafts, coir, khadi, village industries and MSME cluster programmes have not been paid due to delayed release of Central Government funds under schemes such as the National Handloom Development Programme, National Handicrafts Development Programme, Coir Vikas Yojana and other cluster initiatives. Recent reports indicate that many project staff and artisans across India are facing severe financial distress, borrowing money for essential needs, and several development units have downsized operations due to lack of funds. Immediate intervention by the Central Government is urgently required to release pending allocations and ensure timely payment of salaries.