

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1536

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2007

EXPENDITURE ON CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Pathak Shri Brajesh;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether information regarding details of actual expenditure incurred on the Centrally-sponsored schemes implemented in the States is being called for as reported in Dainik Jagran dated February 04, 2007;

(a) if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether diversion and poor utilization of funds meant for the Centrally-sponsored schemes has taken place in the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (c): Under General Financial Rules, all entities to whom grants-in-aid is sanctioned by the Central Government are required to furnish a certificate of utilization of the grant for the intended purposes within stipulated time limits. Since these utilization certificates have not been forthcoming in several cases, the Ministry of Finance has advised the Ministries/Departments to restrict fresh release of funds to the entities that have defaulted in furnishing the due Utilization Certificates. Delay in furnishing Utilization Certificates (UCs) may be due to diversion of funds for unintended purposes in some cases. There may be other reasons also.

(d) & (e): The position of outstanding UCs is reviewed from time to time by the Ministry of Finance and commented upon by the C&AG in the Annual Audit Reports laid on the Table of both the Houses of the Parliament, which are then considered by the Public Accounts Committee. As per latest data available with this Department, out of total 126,844 UCs required for grants released up to March 2005, a total of 70,713 UCs have been obtained as on 1.1.2007. It is further clarified that the Ministry of Finance is not monitoring the progress of expenditure on individual Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Hence, specific details are not available with this Ministry.