

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to expedite release of funds for various Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI C. MAHENDRAN (POLLACHI): I would like to urge upon the Government to release Rs. 6,655 crore for various centrally aided schemes for Tamil Nadu. Education Department has not received Rs 4,474 crore from the Centre under various schemes for the last few years. Many education schemes, including post-matric scholarship for SC/ST students had suffered as the State was denied central funds on the ground of exhausting the budgetary allocations. A sum of Rs 1,547 crore is pending towards the post-matric scholarship scheme for Scheduled Castes and Rs 27 crore for Scheduled Tribes for over a year.

The Union Government has to pay arrears of Rs 1,312 crore for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the 'Education for All' scheme to Tamil Nadu. Under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) scheme, which is implemented to provide secondary grade education, an amount of Rs 1,588 crore is due to the State.

Apart from this Rs. 342 crore are still pending for flood management programme and Rs. 217 crore for Family Welfare programme. The Centre had not paid Rs. 108 Crore for the National Handloom Development Programme and Rs. 107 crore for the construction of fishing harbours.

I, therefore, urge on the Union Government to expedite the release of funds to Tamil Nadu without any further delay.