

Grant-in-aid to States

1913. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is the Finance Commission which is exclusively empowered under the Constitution to recommend financial allocation to States by the Centre;
- (b) whether Government has power/authority under Constitution of India to provide sums as grant-in-aid to any State without the concurrence of Parliament;
- (c) if so, details of Constitutional provisions thereof;
- (d) whether Government has powers/authority under Constitution of India to declare financial assistance to any state unilaterally after a Finance Commission has been constituted; and
- (e) if so, the details of Constitutional provision thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Finance Commission, constituted under clause (1) of Article 280 of the Constitution, makes the recommendations regarding allocations to the States in respect of Grants-in-aid of the revenues of the State under Article 275 of the Constitution.

In terms of Article 282 of the Constitution the Union or a State may make any grants for any public purpose, notwithstanding that the purpose is not one with respect to which Parliament or the Legislature of the State, as the case may be, may make laws. Government provides grant assistance to the States in consultation with Planning Commission such as Special Plan Assistance, Normal Central Assistance and Additional Central Assistance under Grant No.36 "Transfers to State & Union Territory Governments.

Ban on advertisements of money collection schemes

1914. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of many money-collection schemes promising unrealistic returns being operated by several companies across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for last two years and the current year;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to ban the promotions/advertisements of such fraudulent companies;

- (d) if so, the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken;
- (e) whether Government has failed to utilize the Investor Education Protection Fund (IEPF) in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefore and if not the details of utilization of funds for the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of House.

Funds allotted and expended by States

1915. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allotted and expended under different centrally sponsored schemes and special package to different districts and States of the Union during the last three years, scheme/project-wise and district-wise; and
- (b) the schemes/projects where the State Government has to share financial burden above 10 per cent as stipulated for special category States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The State specific need base special dispensations are made as and when warranted through existing programmes/schemes under annual/Five Year Plans. In the recent past, the Government of India has provided Central Assistance in the form of Special Plans for West Bengal, Bihar and KBK districts of Odisha under Backward regions Grants Fund(BRGF), Prime Minister Reconstruction Plan and Jammu & Ladakh Package for J&K, Prime Minister's Special Economic Package to Arunachal Pradesh, Bundelkhand Drought Mitigation package for selected districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Rehabilitation package for Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra and Golden Jubilee package to Goa, Special Assistance package for Kumbh Mela to Uttar Pradesh and Integrated Action Plan (IAP) for tribal and backward districts in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States.

State-wise release of Plan Assistance from the Centre for three years i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 and also 2013-14 (as on 23.08.2013) is given in Statement.