

reports, utilization certificate, audit account statements, submission of copies of bank pass book etc.

Despite efforts, non-compliance with any of the terms and conditions for Grant-in-Aid will result in delay/non-disbursal of such grants. The release of grants is thus largely dependent upon factors external to this Ministry such as compliance by the applicants of all the terms and conditions, time taken for compliance, timely recommendation from State authorities, rectification of issues arising out of monitoring, availability of budget.

Malnutrition deaths of tribals in Kerala

2149. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government agrees to the assessment of the Rural Development Minister that consumption of alcohol by the pregnant tribal women is the reason of death of 33 tribal babies in last seven months in Attappadi in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that these deaths were due to malnutrition, the inadequate access to healthcare and also malfunctioning of social welfare schemes; and

(c) the total number of deaths of tribal children, women, men that occurred in Attappadi in last two years and the current year and the reasons for the same; and the steps taken by Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the common causes for infant and child deaths reported in Attappadi Block are — Asphyxia and respiratory distress (31%), Preterm and Low Birth Weight (23%), Congenital Heart Disease (13%), Intrauterine Growth Retardation (10%) and Pneumonia (5%). Inadequate prenatal, intra-partum and neo-natal services of ICDS services for pregnant women, delayed registration for antenatal Care Services, anemia among pregnant mothers and low birth weight are other probable reasons for child deaths. Social problems such as poverty, early marriage, malnutrition and anemia among adolescents and pregnant mothers, inadequate food practices are also underlying causes for infant deaths. Malnutrition is not a direct cause of death among children but can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing the resistance to infections.

(c) As per reports of the Government of Kerala and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 39 tribal children have been reported to have died between April, 2012 and May, 2013 in Attappadi region in Palakkad District, Kerala. The Government of Kerala, Scheduled Tribes Department and the Social Justice Department have jointly

enquired and conducted house to house survey. The Scheduled Tribes Development Department has distributed 10 Kilo Grams rice and 2 Kilo Grams Green Gram to all the 10,700 Scheduled Tribe families in Integrated Tribal Development Project, Attappadi. The Department of Agriculture has drawn up a scheme worth Rs. 7.84 crore for reviving traditional agricultural practices in the area with the help of National Horticulture Mission. Conducting health camps and distribution of supplementary nutrition through Anganwadi centers are the other measures taken by the State Government to address the problem.

Additionally, the Ministry of Rural Development has decided to take up project for sustainable agriculture and a project for strengthening tribal Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is taking steps for setting up a Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre in the area under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and a special grant of Rs. 433.52 lakh has been approved for strengthening Health Services in Attappadi block under the Mission. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is strengthening the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) project of Attappadi to cover all tribal habitations.

**Release of Central funds for infrastructure
development to Andhra Pradesh**

2150. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released Central funds to Andhra Pradesh under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India for the infrastructural development like roads, bridges, culverts etc. in the tribal areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and district-wise, the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has released funds to Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Special Area Programme of Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India to bridge the gaps in infrastructure in critical areas, such as, roads, bridges, education, health, irrigation, drinking water etc. and also for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) in the tribal areas of the State having ST population.

(b) Details of the funds released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Special Area Programme of Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India during the last three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), year-wise, and the