

(c) and (d) In the meeting taken by Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Power and NRE, Government of India on 25.01.2018, the use of captive mode of transport like Conveyor Belts, Merry Go Round (MGR) for movement of coal was stressed upon and it was decided that the Power Plants situated within 20 kms. from pithead shall construct elevated closed belt conveyors within 2 years. Further it was also decided that Power Plants located within 40 kms. from pithead shall construct MGR within 3 years and Power Plants located within 40 kms. and upto 100 kms. may also consider the option of MGR based on financial viability.

**Monitoring the release and expenditure of
Finance Commission Grants**

2001. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government monitors the release and expenditure of grants of Finance Commission to ensure that there is no delay in their release;

(b) if so, the details of delays, in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether Government ensures that grants are utilised in a proper and effective manner, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Finance Commission recommended Grants are released to States including to the State of Tamil Nadu after receiving recommendation from the line Ministries and upon fulfilment of conditions as stipulated in the Grant specific Guidelines. States are eligible to draw the next installment of their entitled share of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) Grants for Gram Panchayats, on submission of the Utilization Certificates (UC) for previous installment drawn certifying existence of duly constituted Gram Panchayats on the basis of elections and transfer of the grants to the Gram Panchayats within fifteen days of receipt. In case of delay in transfer beyond the stipulated time of fifteen days, the State Government are to transfer the same along with penal interest at Bank Rate of the Reserve Bank of India for the delayed period from its own funds, to the Gram Panchayats and certify the same in the UC.

Status of allocation and release of FFC grants to Tamil Nadu is given in the Statement (*See below*). Recommendations for release of next instalment of grants are *inter alia* subject to constitution of Gram Panchayats in the State on the basis of elections.

(c) Ministry of Finance (MoF) guidelines dated 08.10.2015 provide that Gram

Panchayats are to incur expenditure from the grants only after proper plans are prepared in accordance with relevant rules, procedures, etc. applicable in the State. The expenditures incurred by Gram Panchayats are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and other prescribed agencies. The MoF Guidelines also enjoin upon States to constitute a High Level Monitoring Committee (HLMC) headed by Chief Secretary for monitoring and concurrent evaluation of local bodies and to ensure that funds are utilised for the purpose recommended by the FFC. Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has constituted a Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Panchayati Raj to *inter alia* guide and support States and local bodies in the implementation of FFC recommendations, monitor progress of expenditure of grants by local bodies and suggest remedial measures, if needed.

An MIS dashboard (www.ffconline.gov.in) for tracking release and utilization of FFC grants by the Gram Panchayats, wherein the database are populated by the States and the Gram Panchayats has been created by this Ministry. The dashboard also acts as a single window providing FFC centric information including sector-wise expenditures incurred by the Gram Panchayats. The details of the assets created from the FFC Grants are also geotagged and uploaded in the mActionSoft platform.

MoPR also commissioned a Common Review Mission (CRM) exercise during 2017-18 in eight States (Assam, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana) to study the effectiveness of utilisation of FFC Grant.

Statement

*Status of allocation and release of FFC grants to
Tamil Nadu (as on 27.12.2018)*

(₹ in crore)							
2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
947.65	947.65	1484.31	1484.31	1710.90	1516.12	1975.07	-

Sustainable development goals for States

2002. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) has got a good response from the States, if so, the details thereof;