

Need to expedite releasing funds pending under VB-G RAM G, Disaster Management, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyaan and Jal Jeevan Mission to West Bengal ? Laid

SHRIMATI BAG MITALI (ARAMBAG): A strong federal structure rests on cooperation and consensus between the Union and State governments and forms part of the basic structure of our Constitution. However, it is deeply concerning that funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes are often not released to States in a timely manner. Such delays in disbursement seriously undermine the implementation of welfare programmes and adversely affect citizens across the country. The Union Government has withheld Rs 52,000 crore under VB-G RAM G which has affected over 59 lakh workers in the State. Further, Rs 43,500 crore for cyclones, Rs 19,000 crore for Samagra Shiksha Abhiyaan and over Rs 2,000 crore are due for Jal Jeevan Mission. The total amount due to the State of West Bengal alone amounts over Rs 2 lakh crore. Not releasing the funds of Centrally Sponsored schemes to the West Bengal government is against the very concept of Cooperative Federalism and spirit of our Constitution. Thus, I urge the Government to give West Bengal the respect it deserves by releasing dues pending worth Rs 2 lakh crore.