

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:293
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahb

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps/ proposes to take step for balanced development of the country in every sectors;
- (b) if so, details thereof; and
- (c) if not, reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a)and (b): The Planning and development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the States concerned. The Central Government, on its part, supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Special Area Programmes, Flagship Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In order to specifically address the problem of regional imbalances in the country, the Government initiated the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) in August, 2006. The BRGF has two components. The first component, namely, the Districts Component covers 250 districts of 27 States (except Goa) and aims to fill critical gaps in infrastructure with the involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions. The second component comprises of Special Plans for Bihar and the Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput(KBK) districts of Orissa. The Special Plan for Bihar has been formulated to bring about improvement in sectors like power, road connectivity, irrigation, forestry and watershed development. The Special Plan for the KBK districts is aimed to bring about overall development of these districts by filling critical gaps in various sectors. An allocation of Rs.5800 crore is being made for this programme since 2007-08. This scheme will continue during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period.

(c) : Does not arise.