

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:409
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011
DEVELOPMENT OF BIHAR
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State of Bihar is lagging behind in terms of development among the States in the country due to thick population; and
- (b) if so, the details of the schemes of the Union Government for removing the regional disparity and bringing Bihar at par with other States having the national average of growth?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES(DR.ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): Bihar has been a low performing state in the past on account of various factors and in terms of various development indicators. However, in the recent past, the state has registered an improvement in real GSDP growth rate compared to the average growth rate at All India level and many other States. The average real growth rate of Bihar from 2004-05 to 2010-11 (GSDP % at constant prices) is 10.91% as compared to 8.45% at all India level.

(b): The Government of India has taken into account various factors and taken steps to supplement the development efforts made by the State Government of Bihar. The detail of the schemes/programmes being implemented in this regard is given below:

1. The Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) is designed to redress regional imbalances in development. It was launched in 2006-07 replacing the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana(RSVY). The two components of the BRGF namely the District Component and the Special Plan for Bihar are in operation in Bihar. The District Component of BRGF covers 36 districts of Bihar and in addition Arwal district is covered as part of the Jehanabad district. The allocation for the State and the funds released under BRGF from 2006-07 to 2011-12 (till date) are given as under:

Year	Allocation	Funds released
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2006-07	522.48	246.46
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2007-08	638.99	636.98
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2008-09	638.99	721.55
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2009-10	638.99	541.49
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2010-11	638.99	740.25
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2011-12 688.07 196.95
(till 16.11.2011)

2. The Special Plan for Bihar has been formulated to bring about improvement in sectors like power, road connectivity, irrigation, forestry and watershed development. An allocation of Rs. 1000 crore per annum was being made for the Special Plan during the Tenth Plan period after approval to the scheme in 2003-04. The same allocation was approved for funding during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. However, the annual allocation has been increased to Rs.2000 crore for 2010-11 and to Rs.1470 crore (remaining amount for the Special Plan) for 2011-12. The latest estimated cost of all the projects approved for funding under the Special Plan is Rs. 8753.01 crore against which an amount of Rs. 7285.65 crore has been released till the end of 2010-11.

3. In addition to the above, the scheme of Integrated Action Plan for Selected Tribal and Backward Districts was approved in 2010-11 for Bihar covering seven districts under this scheme. The IAP is implemented with a block grant of Rs.25 crore and Rs.30 crore per district during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. The allocations and releases made to Bihar under this scheme are as follows:

Year	Allocation	Funds released
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2010-11	Rs.175.00 (@Rs.25 crore per district for seven districts)	Rs.175.00 crore
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2011-12	Rs.210.00 (@Rs.30 crore (till date) per district for seven districts)	Rs.70.00 (@Rs.10 crore per district for seven districts)
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