

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1808
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
REVAMP OF BRGF PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently revamped the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the shortcomings noticed therein;
- (c) the definition of the Backward region alongwith the components and criteria for allocating funds to backward districts under the programme;
- (d) whether the programme is being implemented properly in the country;
- (e) if not, the reasons for its poor implementation and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the total budgetary allocations and expenditures for the BRGF in the 11th Five Year Plan period, year-wise and State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a) & (b): No Sir,

(c): The BRGF Programme is designed to redress regional imbalances in development by providing funds for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows in the identified districts. 250 districts in 27 States were identified for inclusion in the programme. These included 170 districts identified as backward by the Inter Ministry Task Group set up in 2005 by the Planning Commission and all districts included in the 1st phase of MGNREGA.

The Programme has two components Development Grant (DG) and capacity Building (CB). The Ministry provides the Capacity Building funds to the 27 States computed @ Rs.1 crore per BRGF district which totals to Rs.250 crore per annum. The balance allocation under the scheme is then distributed among the 250 districts on the basis of the following formula:

- (i) Every district will receive a fixed base amount of Rs.10 crore per annum.
 - (ii) 50% of the balance allocation under the Scheme is allocated on the basis of the share of the population of the district in the total population of all backward districts.
 - (iii) The remaining 50% is distributed on the basis of the share of the area of the district in the total area of all backward districts.
- (d)& (e): The programme is implemented in accordance with its guidelines.
- (f): Statement showing the allocation and release of BRGF funds in the 11th Five Year Plan period is at Annex-I.