

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:109
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
UTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER BRGF PROGRAMME
Choudhary Shri Harish;Singh Rajkumari Ratna

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the utilisation of funds allocated under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds released and utilised by the States for various programmes under BRGF during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure timely utilization of funds allocated for the development of the backward areas and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.109, DUE FOR REPLY ON 30-11-2012 REGARDING UTILIZATION OF FUNDS UNDER BRGF PROGRAMME

(a) & (b): The utilization of funds allocated under BRGF is monitored through Physical & Financial Progress Reports, Utilization Certificates, Audit Reports, etc., which the States are required to furnish periodically. In fact, no releases can be made unless these reports are furnished along with the proposals for release of funds by the State Governments. The BRGF Guidelines also provide for audit of works through a Review Committee at District Level and Social Audit and Vigilance at the Panchayat Levels. The Ministry also engages National Level Monitors for regular monitoring of the BRGF Scheme through field visits and reporting.

(c): The details of funds released by Ministry of Panchayati Raj and utilized by the States under the BRGF Scheme during the last three years and the current year are at Annex-1.

(d): Ministry of Panchayati Raj closely follows up with State Governments for early submission of Action Plans along with the requisite documents to enable timely release of entitlements under the Scheme. The State Governments are required to transfer the sanctioned funds to the Panchayats within 15 days of the release of funds to the State Consolidated Fund failing which penal interest becomes payable. Review meetings, video conferences and visits by the officials of the Ministry to the States are some of the other measures for ensuring timely utilisation of funds under the Scheme.