

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:314

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013

BRGF

Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey with regard to works undertaken and their outcome in the districts under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to implement the restructuring of the district component of the BRGF without any survey and the reaction of the Government thereto;and

(d) the extent to which the object of balanced development has been met in the backward districts of the country with BRGF along with the details of success achieved in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PAINCHAYATJ RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a) to (b) An independent review-cum-evaluation of the BRGF was undertaken by the World Bank in eight States in July 2009. The Mission in its report has noted that the BRGF has stimulated a process of PRI/ ULB strengthening, particularly in backward States and districts, and laid the foundation for achieving several of its objectives. The report has also noted that the projects are generally addressing local needs within core local government mandates in a relatively cost effective manner. Planning Commission has also undertaken an,evaluation of the District Component of BRGF through the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO).

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (a) to (b) above.

(d) BRGF Programme is designed to redress regional imbalances in development. The funds provide financial resources for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows into identified districts so as to bridge critical gaps in local infrastructure and other development requirements. As per the Progress Reports received in the Ministry, these funds have been utilised for developmental activities like construction of anganwadi centres, panchayat ghars, roads, culverts, bridges, community halls, water supply etc.