

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3519  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.08.2018**

**REGIONAL IMBALANCES**

†3519. SHRI ALOK SANJAR:  
SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether regional imbalance still exists in various States despite implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and the other measures taken by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to identify regional imbalances among the States;
- (d) if so, the details along with the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government to remove such imbalances; and
- (e) whether the Government has decided to increase the funds under (CSS) for backward districts in these States and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

(a) to (e): The sub-continental dimensions of India diversified with inherent differences in geographical conditions resulted in differential resource endowment, infrastructure and socio-economic parameters led to regional disparities in terms of development of different regions. To redress regional imbalances, an Inter-Ministerial Task Group was constituted in August, 2004, which submitted its report in January, 2005. This group identified 170 backward districts including 55 extremists affected districts, and inter-alia recommended for setting up a Backward District Grant Fund (BRGF). The BRGF programme was launched in 2006-07 for providing financial assistance for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows in the identified 250 districts including 170 districts identified by the Inter-Ministry Task Group (IMTG) with a view to redressing regional imbalances in development. Till Financial Year 2014-15, financial assistance was given to accelerate socio-economic development of the Most Backward Regions/Districts in the country under the Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) programme. Central funds are mainly released to States under various Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Following the recommendation of the Fourteenth Finance Commission for biggest ever increase in States' share in the divisible pool of Central taxes and duties from 32% to 42%, numerous Schemes including BRGF along with other State Plan Schemes stand subsumed in the larger devolution to States since 2015.

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