

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3804
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2018

BRGF for Backward Districts

3804. SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the rule regarding the time limit within which the funds received by the State Governments from Backward Regions Grant Fund are to be utilized for the development of backward districts;
- (b) the amount of funds granted under Backward Regions Grant Fund during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the amount out of the said grant spent so far, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c) Under the District component of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme, Ministry of Panchayati Raj released funds to the State Governments concerned for onward transfer to the identified backwards districts. The Guidelines of BRGF Programme stipulate the submission of Utilization Certificate by the State Governments within one year of the release of funds.

Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme has been delinked from the budgetary support of the Central Government with effect from the financial year 2015-16. This is in view of enhanced fiscal space made available to the States by the Fourteenth Finance Commission on account of higher devolution to the State from 32% to 42% of the centre's net tax receipts. NITI Aayog has informed that against the balance fund under the special grants (BRGF-State component), the Government of India has released some funds to Odisha, Bihar and West Bengal. The details of the State wise release from 2015-16 to 2017-18 and corresponding utilisation status are as follows:

(Amount Rs crore)					
Sl.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Utilization status
1.	Odisha	132.07	367.93	0.00	Utilization Certificate (UC) for 2016-17 awaited.
2.	Bihar	1887.53	1329.35	3414.00	UC for Rs.1,350 crore released in March, 2018 awaited.
3.	West Bengal	836.77	0.00	0.00	No UC pending.
