

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 459
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD DISTRICTS

†459 SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount of funds allocated for the development of backward districts of Bihar and Jammu & Kashmir;
- (b) the number of backward districts in Bihar and Jammu & Kashmir and the policy measures adopted by the NITI Aayog for the development of such districts;
- (c) whether a large number of blocks and villages are deprived of the mainstream of development in Darbhanga district even today which is a highly flood affected district;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to include Darbhanga district in the list of aspirational districts due to said reason;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of policies formulated, funds allocated and utilised for many backward blocks under the Aspirational Blocks Programme in Araria and Jammu Parliamentary Constituencies?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) The Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) aims at socio-economic development in relatively underdeveloped districts across the country. 13 districts from Bihar and 2 districts from Jammu and Kashmir are part of ADP. Under the ADP, districts undertake various developmental projects to address critical gaps using the performance grants they

win through the programme's delta ranking method. The total funds allocated to the aspirational districts of Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir is attached as Annexure .

- (b) NITI Aayog does not measure the backwardness of districts. However, the districts under the ADP were identified based on a set of indicators measuring deprivation, health and nutrition, education, and infrastructure. The 112 districts identified through this methodology were called aspirational districts. There are 13 districts from Bihar and 2 districts from Jammu and Kashmir under the programme.
- (c) and (d) As described in (b) above the districts under the ADP were identified on the basis of a specific set of indicators. Darbhanga is not part of the ADP according to this criteria.
- (e) and (f) The Government is not proposing to include any more districts under ADP, at present.
- (g) Under Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP), no new policies were envisaged. ABP encourages development through convergence of existing policies and schemes and employs a Key Performance Indicator framework for regular monitoring and ranking of blocks based on their incremental progress. Additionally, ABP emphasises the capacity building of block level officials and implements tailored initiatives to address challenges faced by vulnerable population.

Palasi block of Araria district, Khwas block of Rajouri district and Thakrakote block of Reasi district are part of the ABP. Rs. 14 lakhs has been allocated to each of these blocks under the programme till date.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 459 FOR 24.07.2024 BY DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD DISTRICTS REGARDING SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR: SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

Funds allocated to the aspirational districts of Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir

S.No.	State	District	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in crores)
1	Bihar	Araria	6.39
2	Bihar	Aurangabad	11.06
3	Bihar	Banka	14.06
4	Bihar	Begusarai	11.06
5	Bihar	Gaya	14.82
6	Bihar	Jamui	13.06
7	Bihar	Katihar	16.06
8	Bihar	Khagaria	32.93
9	Bihar	Muzaffarpur	18.03
10	Bihar	Nawada	23.06
11	Bihar	Purnia	8.06
12	Bihar	Sheikhpura	10.52
13	Bihar	Sitamarhi	3.06
Sub total			182.18
1	Jammu & Kashmir	Baramulla	18.91
2	Jammu & Kashmir	Kupwara	6.06
Sub total			24.97
