

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1190

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007

NEW GUIDELINES FOR BACKWARD DISTRICTS

Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao;Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drafted new guidelines for identifying backward districts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said guidelines are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c): The Backward Regions Grant Fund programme covers 250 districts. The list of districts includes 200 districts covered by the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme and districts identified by an Inter Ministry Task Group on Redressing Growing Regional Imbalances set up by the Planning Commission in August, 2004.

A State-wise list of Districts is at Annex-I. Salient features of the guidelines are at Annex-II.

The Programme is being implemented according to the guidelines from the current financial year.

Annex- I

Backward Region Grant Fund- List of Districts

Andhra Pradesh

1. Adilabad 2. Anantpur 3. Chittoor 4. Cuddappah 5. Karimnagar 6.Khammam

7 Mahbubnagar 8. Medak 9. Nalgonda 10.Nizamabad 11.Rangareddy 12.Vizianagaram
13. Warangal

Arunachal Pradesh

1. Upper Subansiri

Assam

1. Barpeta 2. Bongaigaon 3. Cachar 4. Dhemaji 5. Goalpara 6. Hailakandi

7 Karbi Anglong 8. Kokrajhar 9. Marigaon 10. North Lakhimpur(Laksha)
11. North Cachar Hills

Bihar

1. Araria 2. Aurangabad 3. Banka 4. Begusarai 5. Bhagalpur 6. Bhojpur

7 Buxar 8. Darbhanga 9. Gaya 10. Gopalganj 11. Jamui 12.Jehanabad

13. Kaimur/Bhabua 14. Katihar 15. Kishanganj 16. Khagaria 17. Lakhisarai 18. Madhepura
19. Madhubani 20. Munger 21. Muzzarffarpur 22. Nalanda 23. Nawadah
24. Patna 25. Pashchim Champaran 26. Purba Champaran 27. Purnia 28. Rohtas
29. Saharsa 30. Samastipur 31. Saran 32. Sheikhpura 33. Sheohar 34. Sitamarhi
35. Supaul 36. Vaishali

Chhattisgarh

1. Bastar 2. Bilaspur 3. Dantewada 4. Dhamtari 5. Jashpur 6. Kanker
7. Kawardha 8. Korba 9. Koriya 10. Mahasamund 11. Raigarh 12. Rajnandgaon
13. Sarguja

Gujarat

1. Banaskantha 2. Dangs 3. Dahod 4. Narmada 5. Panch Mahals 6. Sabarkantha

Haryana

1. Mohindergarh 2. Sirsa

Himachal Pradesh

1. Chamba 2. Sirmaur

Jammu & Kashmir

1. Doda 2. Kupwara 3. Poonch

Jharkhand

1. Bokaro 2. Chatra 3. Deoghar 4. Dhanbad 5. Dumka 6. Garhwa
7. Giridih 8. Godda 9. Gumla 10. Hazaribagh 11. Jamtara 12. Kodarma
13. Latehar 14. Lohardagga 15. Pachhim Singhbhum 16. Pakaur 17. Palamu
18. Ranchi 19. Sahibganj 20. Saraikela 21. Simdega

Karnataka

1. Bidar 2. Chitradurga 3. Davangere 4. Gulbarga 5. Raichur

Kerala

1. Palakkad 2. Wynad

Madhya Pradesh

1. Balaghat 2. Barwani 3. Betul 4. Chhatarpur 5. Damoh 6. Dhar
- 7 Dindori 8. Guna 9. Jhabua 10.Katni 11.Khandwa 12.Mandla
13. Panna 14. Rajgarh 15. Rewa 16.Satna 17.Seoni 18.Shahdol
19. Sheopur 20. Shivpuri 21. Siddhi 22.Tikamgarh 23.Umaria 24.West Nimar

Maharashtra

1. Ahmednagar 2. Amravati 3. Aurangabad 4. Bhandara 5. Chandrapur 6. Dhule
- 7 Gadchiroli 8. Gondia 9. Hingoli 10.Nanded 11.Nandurbar 12.Yavatmal

Manipur

1. Chandel 2. Chur Chandrapur 3.Tamenlong

Meghalaya

1. Ri Bhoi 2. South Garo Hills 3. West Garo Hills

Mizoram

1. Lawngtlai 2. Saiha

Nagaland

1. Mon 2.Tuensang 3. Workha

Orissa

1. Bolangir 2. Boudh 3. Debagarh 4. Dhenkanal 5. Gajapati 6. Ganjam
- 7 Jharsuguda 8. Kalahandi 9. Keonjhar 10.Koraput 11.Malkangiri 12.Mayurbhanj
- 13.Nabrangpur 14.Nuapada 15.Phulbani 16.Rayagada 17.Sambalpur 18.Sonapur
- 19.Sundargarh

Punjab

1. Hoshiarpur

Rajasthan

1. Banswara
2. Barmer
3. Chittaurgarh
4. Dungarpur
5. Jaisalmer
6. Jalor
7. Jhalawar
8. Karoli
9. Sawai Madhopur
10. Sirohi
11. Tonk
12. Udaipur

Sikkim

1. Sikkim North

Tamil Nadu

1. Cuddalore
2. Dindigul
3. Nagapattinam
4. Sivagangai
5. Tiruvannamalai
6. Villupuram

Tripura

1. Dhalai

Uttar Pradesh

1. Ambedkar Nagar
2. Azamgarh
3. Bahraich
4. Balrampur
5. Banda
6. Barabanki
7. Basti
8. Budaun
9. Chandauli
10. Chitrakoot
11. Etah
12. Farrukhabad
13. Fatehpur
14. Gonda
15. Gorakhpur
16. Hamirpur
17. Hardoi
18. Jalaun
19. Jaunpur
20. Kaushambi
21. Kushinagar
22. Lakhimpur Kheri
23. Lalitpur
24. Maharajganj
25. Mahoba
26. Mirzapur
27. Pratapgarh
28. Raebareli
29. Sant Kabir Nagar
30. Shravasti
31. Siddharthanagar
32. Sitapur
33. Sonbhadra
34. Unnao

Uttaranchal

1. Chamoli
2. Champawat
3. Tehri Garhwal

West Bengal

1. Bankura
2. Birbhum
3. Dakshin Dinajpur
4. Jalpaiguri
5. Malda
6. Midnapur East
7. Midnapur West
8. Murshidabad
9. Purulia
10. South 24 Parganas
11. Uttar Dinajpur

ANNEXE-II

Salient features of the guidelines for the districts component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF)

The Backward Regions Grant Fund is designed to redress regional imbalances in development. The fund will provide financial resources for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows into identified districts, so as to (a) bridge critical gap in local infrastructure and other development requirements that are not being adequately met through existing inflows, (b) strengthen

Panchayat and Municipality level governance with more appropriate capacity building, to facilitate participatory planning, decision making, implementation and monitoring, to reflect local felt needs, (c) provide professional support to local bodies for planning, implementation and monitoring their plans, (d) improve the performance and delivery of critical functions assigned to Panchayats, and counter possible efficiency and equity losses on account of inadequate local capacity.

The implementing Ministry for the BRGF districts is the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Ministry has prepared and issued the guidelines for implementation of the BRGF recently. The guidelines have been placed on the website of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (<http://www.panchayat.gov.in>). The salient features of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj are as follows:

- (i) The BRGF covers 250 districts including all the 147 districts covered by the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY).
- (ii) BRGF consists of two funding windows, namely, a Capacity Building Fund of Rs.250 crore per annum, and a substantially untied grant of Rs. 3500 crore for 2006-07 (outlay during the Eleventh Plan period to be intimated in due course).
- (iii) The substantially untied grant will be distributed among the districts as follows: (a) every district will receive a fixed minimum amount of Rs.10 crore per annum, and (b) the balance allocation under the scheme will be made on the basis of the share of the population and area of the districts in the total population and area of all the backward districts.
- (iv) All the 147 RSVY districts will be released funds till the plans approved under RSVY (plus the existing monitoring fee) have been completed to the extent approved. Non RSVY – BRGF districts will begin the process of District Plan preparation in 2006-07 in accordance with these guidelines.
- (v) Each Panchayat or Municipality within the backward district concerned will be the unit for planning under BRGF. Plans prepared by each Panchayat or Municipality will be consolidated into the District Plan by the District Planning Committee, constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- (vi) During the consolidation of the District Plan, particular care shall be taken to ensure that the District Plan addresses issues relating to SC/ST development.
- (vii) The State Government will designate a department, preferably the Department of Panchayati Raj, as the nodal department at the State level, responsible for the management, monitoring and evaluation of the programme.
- (viii) A High Powered Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and consisting of Members from various departments of State Government and the Central Ministries will consider and approve the proposed District Plans to be taken up under the districts component of the BRGF.
- (ix) All funds will be transferred to the Consolidated Funds of the State Governments. Those funds that are to be transferred to Panchayats and Municipalities by the State Governments will be transferred to their bank accounts within 15 days of the release of funds to the Consolidated Funds.
- (x) Audit, Inspection of works, preparation of booklet of verification of works and progress reports will be done as per the procedure prescribed.
- (xi) Separate guidelines have been provided in Chapter 5 for the States and districts not covered by Part IX and Part IX A of the Constitution.