138 Wr	itten Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions 4
1	2	3	
18.	Nagaland	58.53	71.79
19.	Odisha	340.03	417.00
20.	Punjab	16.80	20.60
21.	Rajasthan	291.30	357.26
22.	Sikkim	13.58	16.66
23.	Tamil Nadu	117.74	144.40
24.	Tripura	12.66	15.53
25.	Uttar Pradesh	667.17	818.19
26.	Uttarakhand	44.24	54.25
27.	West Bengal	272.14	333.81
B	Total:	5077.98	6228.01

## Reservation of women and weaker sections in Panchayats

3307. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any provisions exist in Gram Panchayat Administration to give proper representation to weaker sections and women in the Panchayats;
- (b) whether it is a fact that each State is having different norms for implementing the reservation of these categories; and
- (c) the steps that would be taken to make proper and similar rules for all States?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) As per provisions contained in Article 243D of the Constitution of India, seats shall be reserved in Panchayats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in accordance with the proportionate population of these categories in the Panchayat area. Besides, as per the provision of Article 243D(2), (3) and (4) of the Constitution, 1/3rd of the total number of seats in Panchayats at all levels and 1/3rd Offices

of the Chairpersons in Panchayats at all levels shall be filled by women. However, some States have already provided for reservation for women in excess of 1/3rd limit. A Bill for reservation for women for 50% has been introduced in the Parliament. While the minimum percentage of reservation is thus mandated, the nature of rotation of seats varies from State to State.

- As per provision of Article 243 D(6), the Legislature of a State can make provision for reservation of seats in any Panchayat or Offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at any level in favour of backward class of citizen. Therefore, this provision varies from State to State.
- There is no other proposal under consideration to make uniform reservations in Panchayats.

## Releasing of funds under BRGF for States

†3308. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- whether the funds sanctioned to the States including Uttar Pradesh under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) programme have not been released during the last three years;
  - if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, (b)
- the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; (c) and
- the details of the funds and the criteria for the allocation of the said funds under the BRGF programme during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The funds have been duly released to the States including Uttar Pradesh during the last three years in keeping with the aims and objectives of the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme. Details are given in

Statement-I (See below).

(d) Rs. 29,306 crore have been earmarked under the district component of BRGF Programme during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The criteria adopted for the allocation of funds under the BRGF is as under:

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.