

Besides providing financial and fiscal incentives, a few other measures to promote renewable energy include: setting up of demonstration projects, preferential tariff for purchase of power generated from renewable sources, intensive resource assessment, development of power evacuation and testing facilities, introduction of Renewable Energy Certification and Renewable Purchase Obligation, etc.

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, a Central Public Sector Enterprise under this Ministry, also provides soft term loan for promotion of renewable energy projects.

Statement

Details of the estimated potential in the North Eastern Region

Sl. No.	States	Wind (MW)	Small Hydro Power (MW)	Biomass Power (MW)	Waste to Energy (MW)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	236	1341	8	-
2.	Assam	112	239	212	8
3.	Manipur	56	109	13	2
4.	Meghalaya	82	230	11	2
5.	Mizoram		169	1	2
6.	Nagaland	16	197	10	
7.	Sikkim	98	267	2	
8.	Tripura		47	3	2
	TOTAL	600	2599	260	16

Solar Power Potential: 30-50 MW/Sq. Km.

MW = Megawatt

Criteria and parameters for Backward Regions Grant Fund

3452. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria and the parameters followed for selection of backward districts under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF);

- (b) the number of districts identified for being covered under the backward districts from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (c) the details of funds allocated and utilized under BRGF in those States; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure full utilization of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) The criteria adopted for inclusion of districts under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme include economic (per capita credit & deposits, percentage of agriculture labourers, agriculture wages and output per agricultural worker); social and educational (percentage of SC and ST population, female literacy rate, ratio of secondary schools to population of specific age group and gross enrolment ratio class I-VIII - age 6-13 years); health (crude death rate, infant mortality rate, institutional delivery and full immunization); and amenities (percentage of households without electricity, with bank services and drinking water source greater than 500 meters away).

(b) Four districts (Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Vizianagaram) of Andhra Pradesh and nine districts (Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Rangareddy, Warrangal) of the newly created State of Telangana are covered under the BRGF Programme

(c) Till the year ending 31.3.2014, an amount of ₹ 2305.25 crore was released to the State of Andhra Pradesh (which included Telangana) against which utilisation of ₹ 1909.08 crore has been reported by the State Government.

(d) To ensure full utilization of funds, Ministry of Panchayati Raj communicates to the States the annual fund allocation of the District in April itself of each year and then regularly follows up with the State Governments for early submission of Districts Plans along with the requisite documents. Review meetings and video conferences with the State/ District level officials and visit by the officials of the Ministry to the State are some other measures being taken for ensuring timely utilisation of funds. The sanctions are also uploaded on the website of the Ministry.

Backward Regions Grant Fund scheme in Bihar

†3453. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of districts in Bihar where Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) scheme is being implemented;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.