

etc. Under BRGF, funds were provided to 272 backward districts in the counter addressing the regional developmental imbalances and filling up the resource gaps in developmental schemes. The Ministry also supports States to devolve powers to Panchayats through incentivization and regular reviews.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) has recommended an allocation of ₹ 2,00,292.20 crores as Grants to duly constituted Gram Panchayats during the award period 2015-20, which constitutes an assistance of ₹ 488 per capita per annum at an aggregate level.

#### **Release of funds under BRGF to Odisha**

1519. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Odisha has submitted the Annual Action Plan under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) of ₹ 396.83 crore for 20 districts to the Ministry for the year 2014-15 against which only ₹ 179.46 crore has been released;

(b) whether there is any proposal to release the balance amount of ₹ 217.37 crore during the current year; and

(c) if so, how soon the funds would be released and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) Yes, Sir. For the year 2014-15, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj had received proposals from the State Government of Odisha for releasing funds against the annual allocation of ₹ 396.83 crore under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme. The Ministry released ₹ 176.46 crore to the State. The release of funds under BRGF Programme was subject to receipt of complete documents including the annual action plans, minutes of the District Planning Committee meetings of the identified Districts, utilisation certificates, audit reports, physical and financial progress reports, etc., and also availability of budgetary provisions with the Ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) With effect from the current financial year (2015-16), the BRGF Programme has been delinked from the budgetary support of the Central Government.

#### **TPSIT Neyveli, Tamil Nadu**

1520. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Thermal Power Stations (TPS) in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the total installed capacity of those TPSs;
- (c) the total power generated by those TPSs since 2011, year-wise;
- (d) the State's share in the total power generated by TPSs since 2011, year-wise;
- (e) the actual allocation of power made to the State since 2011, year-wise; and
- (f) the reasons for discrepancy, if any, in power allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) A total number of 5 (4 NLC and 1 private) Thermal Power Stations (TPSs) with a total Installed Capacity of 3240 MW (2990 MW NLC and 250 MW private) are in operation in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.

(b) The year-wise power generated by these Thermal Power Stations since 2011 to 2015-16 up to June, 2015 is as under:

Name of the Station	Monitored Capacity (as on 30.06. 2015 MW)	Generation (in MU)				
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (up to-June 15)
NLC	2990	18142	18621	18551	18328	5074
Neyveli Private	250	1835	1808	1865	1828	443
TOTAL	3240	19977	20429	20416	20156	5517

(d) The year-wise schedule of NLC Thermal Power Stations to Tamil Nadu is given below:-

(All figs. in MU)	
Period	Schedule
2011-12	7865
2012-13	8204
2013-14	8262
2014-15	7833
2015-16 (upto June, 2015)	2232

(e) and (f) The allocation of Power made to the State since 2011 from NLC's stations at Neyveli is as under :

Year	Actual Allocation of Power in MW
2011-12	1244.932
2012-13	1251.256
2013-14	1251.519
2014-15	1248.345

The allocation from Central generating stations is made in terms of installed capacity whereas the generation is in terms of million units. Further, actual schedule is given by the State utilities on their requirement.

#### **SAARC Grid**

1521. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any agreement for a SAARC grid for exchange of power between the member nations to enhance the quality, security and magnitude of power supply; and

(b) if so, the details of concrete actions Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) SAARC Framework Agreement for Energy Cooperation (Electricity) was signed by all the SAARC Member States in the 18th SAARC Summit held in Nepal on 27.11.2014. The framework agreement is required to be ratified by all SAARC countries. The ratification process is under way in Government of India.

#### **Cost of power generation *vis-à-vis* power tariffs**

1522. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of generation in thermal and hydro power plants, State-wise;

(b) existing power tariff per unit for domestic, commercial and industrial consumption, State-wise;