

Grants for Rural Local Bodies of Haryana

Why in News?

The Union Government has disbursed <u>Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants</u> during the Financial Year 2024-25 for the Rural Local Bodies of Bihar, Haryana, and Sikkim.

Key Points

- Allocation of Grants:
 - Haryana:
 - Haryana's Rural Local Bodies received the second installment of Untied Grants worth Rs 202.47 crore.
 - The funds are designated for 18 eligible District Panchayats, 142 eligible Block Panchayats, and 6,195 eligible Gram Panchayats.
 - Bihar:
 - Bihar received the second installment of Untied Grants amounting to Rs 821.80 crore.
 - These funds are allocated to 38 District Panchayats, 530 eligible Block Panchayats, and 8,052 eligible Gram Panchayats that met the mandatory conditions for release.
 - Sikkim:
 - Sikkim received the second installment of Untied Grants totaling Rs 6.26 crore.
 - These funds were allocated to 4 eligible District Panchayats and 186 eligible Gram Panchayats, which fulfilled the mandatory conditions for release.
- Utilization of Untied and Tied Grants:

• Untied Grants:

 <u>Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)</u> and <u>Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)</u> can use these funds for location-specific development needs under the **29 subjects listed** in <u>the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution</u>, excluding salaries and administrative costs.

• Tied Grants:

- These funds are strictly for basic services, including:
 - Sanitation and ODF maintenance, focusing on household waste management, fecal sludge management, and human excreta treatment.
 - Drinking water supply, rainwater harvesting, and water recycling initiatives.

Finance Commission

- It is a constitutional body that determines the method and formula for distributing the tax proceeds between the Centre and states and among the states as per the constitutional arrangement and present requirements.
- Under Article 280 of the Constitution, the President of India is required to constitute a <u>Finance</u> <u>Commission</u> at an interval of five years or earlier.
- The **1**st **FC** was set up in 1951 and there have been fifteen so far.
- The **15th FC headed by N.K. Singh** was constituted by the President of India on 27th November

2017, against the backdrop of the abolition of <u>the Planning Commission</u> and the introduction of <u>the Goods and Services Tax (GST).</u>

The Vision

In November 2019, the Union Cabinet approved the 15th FC to submit its first report for the first fiscal year 2020-21 and to extend its tenure to provide for the presentation of the final report covering Financial Years 2021-22 to 2025-26 by 30th October, 2020.

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