

Centre Disburses Over 2,400 Crores as 1st Installment of XV Finance Commission Grants to Rural Local Bodies of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh

Posted On: 25 SEP 2025 6:31PM by PIB Delhi

The Union Government has released the **1st installment of untied grants** under the XV Finance Commission for the financial year 2025–26 to Rural Local Bodies in Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. **Bihar has received Rs. 801.009 crores** for 38 eligible District Panchayats, 530 Block Panchayats and 8046 Gram Panchayats in the state. **Himachal Pradesh has been allocated Rs. 67.955 crores** covering all 12 District Panchayats, 80 eligible Block Panchayats and 3576 Gram Panchayats. **Uttar Pradesh received Rs. 1548.3836 crores** for 73 eligible District Panchayats, 813 Block Panchayats, and 57,633 Gram Panchayats.

Government of India through Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation) recommends release of XV-FC grants to States for Rural Local Bodies/ Panchayati Raj Institutions, which are then released by Ministry of Finance. The allocated grants are recommended and released in 2 installments in a financial year. The **Untied Grants** will be utilized by Rural Local Bodies/ Panchayati Raj Institutions for location-specific felt needs, under the Twenty–Nine (29) subjects enshrined in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution, except for salaries and other establishment costs. The **Tied Grants** can be used for the basic services of (a) sanitation and maintenance of ODF status, and this should include management and treatment of household waste, and human excreta and fecal sludge management in particular and (b) supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting and water recycling.

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(Release ID: 2171335)