

Dadra and Nagar Haveli Act, 1961 are as under:

"4(1) until other provision is made by law, as from the commencement of this Act, the Varishta Panchayat shall have the right to discuss and make recommendations to the Administrator on,

(a) matters of administration involving general policy and schemes of development;

(b) any other matter referred to it by the Administrator.

(2) The functions of the Varishta Panchayat referred to in this section will be advisory only but due regard shall be given to such advice by the Administrator in reaching decisions on the matter in relation to which the advice is given."

The question of the role of the Varishta Panchayat was considered in the first meeting of the Home Minister's Advisory Committee for Dadra and Nagar Haveli held on 22-12-1972. The Advisory Committee felt that the Varishta Panchayat could give suggestions regarding improvement of roads, electricity, industries etc. and the advice of the Varishta Panchayat would be given due consideration by the Administration. The Administration have decided to consult the Varishta Panchayat on the formulation of plans and schemes and on the selection of road works, minor irrigation projects and educational institutions for which work is to be taken up under the plan.

**Vesting of consultative powers in Varishta Panchayat in Dadra and Nagar Haveli**

4336. SHRI RAMUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Varishta Panchayat in Dadra and Nagar Haveli has got no consultative powers based on Panchayati Raj in comparison to other States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will consider to give consultative powers to the Varishta Panchayat of Dadra and Nagar Haveli for the welfare of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). In accordance with Section 4 of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Act, 1961 the functions of the Varishta Panchayat are to be advisory only but due regard would be given to such advice by the Administrator in reaching decision on the matters in relation to which the advice is given. However consequent to later discussions held in the Home Ministry's Advisory Committee for Dadra and Nagar Haveli held on 22-12-1972 it was suggested that the advice of the Varishta Panchayat in the matters relating to improvement of roads, electricity, industries, should be given due consideration by the Administration. The Administration have decided to treat this body as consultative body in practice for the formulation of plans and schemes and on the selection of road works, minor irrigation projects and educational institutions etc. The area and population of Dadra and Nagar Haveli compare to that of a Taluk in States like Maharashtra and Gujarat. The Administration feels that similar decentralisation of powers would make Administration more cumbersome.

अध्ययन के लिए सोनीपत तथा गाजियाबाद जाने वाले विद्यार्थियों के रियायती पासों का जारी किया जाना

4337. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली की शैक्षिक संस्थाओं में पढ़ने वाले विद्यार्थियों को दिल्ली परिवहन विभाग द्वारा रियायती दरों पर 'आल रूट' मासिक पास जारी किये जाते हैं ;