

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1538**  
ANSWERED ON-12.12.2023

**THREE TIER SYSTEM OF PANCHAYATI RAJ**

**1538. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:**

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is planning to have a Three Tier System of Panchayati Raj in all the States;
- (b) the States where elections to the Zilla Parishads and Taluka Panchayats are pending and have only administrators due to court matters;
- (c) the status of Zilla Panchayat and Taluka Panchayat elections in the State of Karnataka;
- (d) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry about the prolonged delay in elections to the Zilla Panchayats and Taluka Panchayats in the State of Karnataka; and
- (e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) Article 243B of the Constitution of India provides that Panchayats shall be constituted in every State at village, intermediate and district levels in accordance with the provisions of Part-IX of the Constitution. But, Panchayats at the intermediate level may not be constituted in a State having a population not exceeding twenty lakhs. Three Tier System of Panchayati Raj presently exists in all States and Union Territories, except in certain areas which are mentioned in Article 243M of the Constitution.

(b) to (e) States where elections to intermediate and district level Panchayats are pending are Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Manipur. However, as per information received from these States, in the case of Maharashtra these elections are pending due to court matters. In terms of Article 243E of the Constitution, holding of timely elections of Panchayats comes within the purview of State Governments. The Ministry has advised State of Karnataka in April, 2022 to remove administrative hurdles which are blocking the holding of Block Panchayat and District Panchayat elections. In addition, grants under the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission are not released to the Panchayats where elections have not taken place.

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