

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:278  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004  
NON FUNCTIONING OF GRAM PANCHAYATS  
Muqueem Shri Mohammed

**Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Gram Panchayat have not done any work of public interest in the villages of various States particularly in the districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the nature of action proposed to be taken by the Government against such inactive Gram Panchayats?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) It will not be fair to say that Gram Panchayats have not done any work of public interest in the villages of various States including in the districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years. As per the information available with the Government, mandatory provisions of Part IX of the Constitution have been fulfilled almost entirely in letter and to some extent in spirit as well. While PRIs have been set up and steps have been taken up to empower these institutions with functions, functionaries and finances, much remains to be done to enable the three tiers of the PR system to function as 'institutions of self-government' as the basic Constitutional objective. The major responsibility for doing this, vests in the States, 'IA:hii