

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3179  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004  
PANCHAYATI RAJ ELECTIONS  
Ramadass Prof. M

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

- (a) the number and names of States and Union Territories where the elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions have not been held even after the enactment of 73rd Amendment Act, 1992;
- (b) the specific causes for not holding elections in these States and Union Territories; and
- (c) whether the Union Government arrange to hold Panchayat elections in the Union Territories of Pondicherry, where elected bodies are not in place for more than three decades; and
- (d) if so, the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR):

(a) Elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions have not been held in Pondicherry and Jharkhand.

(b) to (d) Elections have not been held in Jharkhand on account of some controversy on the issue of non-tribal population in Schedule-V Areas. The Government of Jharkhand has informed the Government of India that the State Government has since amended the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act 2001 in November 2003 and elections will be held by the end of this year. The Union Territory of Pondicherry has informed that the election in Pondicherry could not be held as there were court cases pertaining to reservation for backward classes. As the matter has now been settled, elections will be held in Pondicherry shortly.