

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1463
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
HONORARIUM TO SARPANCHS
Shukla Smt. Karuna

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Panchayats in the country alongwith the number of Panchayats with elected Sarpanchs;
- (b) the number of women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes sarpanchs, out of them separately, State-wise;
- (c) the number of Panchayats with the village secretary and Panchayat buildings in the country State-wise;
- (d) whether the Union Government propose to provide some sort of honorarium to the Sarpanchs;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reason therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) There are 2,41,310 Panchayats in the country. As per Article 243C of the Constitution, the Chairpersons of Panchayat at the village level shall be elected in such a manner as the Legislature of the State, by law, provide and a Panchayat at the intermediate level or district level shall be elected from amongst the elected members thereof. Union Government does not maintain the record of elected/selected Sarpanches and the community/class which they represent. Panchayats is a State subject and the role of the Union Government is to persuade the State Government/UT Administrations to implement the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution. The data relating to the number of Panchayats with the village secretary and Panchayat building in the country is not maintained at the Union Government level. The Union Government has no proposal to provide honorarium to Sarpanches as it is for the State Governments to take a decision in this regard.