

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7133  
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005  
IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE-243  
Gamang Shri Giridhar

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

- (a) whether the State Governments had implemented the provision of Article 243 Part IX `The Panchayats` of the Constitution;
- (b) if so, the mandatory provisions and obligatory provisions adopted and implemented so far, State-wise;
- (c) whether the State Governments have fully implemented the provisions of Article 243 and Eleventh Schedule; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) and (b) The Panchayati Raj system is being implemented in all the States/Union Territories to which the mandatory provisions of Article 243 Part IX of the Constitution apply, except Jharkhand and Pondicherry where elections are still to be held. However, implementation of the other provisions of Part IX and Article 243ZD of Part IX-A (District Planning Committees) has been uneven.

(c) and (d) Article 243G of the Constitution provides that the Legislature of the State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and such law may contain provisions for the devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats at the appropriate level subject to such conditions as may be specified therein. The Eleventh Schedule gives a list of 29 subjects in respect of which functions, functionaries and finances may be devolved by the States to Panchayati Raj Institutions. The authority relating to powers and funds to Panchayati Raj Institutions vests with the State. A statement showing the status of devolution of funds, functions and functionaries is given in the enclosed Annex-I. It may be seen therefrom that Panchayati Raj Institutions are functioning fairly effectively in some States and are becoming progressively more effective in others. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is mandated to facilitate and secure implementation of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act 1992, by States in letter and spirit, by encouraging the States/UTs to adopt plans of action to inter alia devolve functions, functionaries and funds to Panchayati Raj Institutions. Some provisions relating to the District Planning Committees remain to be implemented in some States/UTs. A statement showing the position regarding the constitution of DPCs by States/UTs is given Annex-II. Though the PRIs had been set up still much remains to be done to empower them. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj convened seven Round Table meetings with State Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj and evolved by consensus a set of around 150 points for action which have been put together in a Compendium that was adopted unanimously at the conclusion of the last Round Table in Jaipur. The Ministry have now initiated a process of visiting each of the States/UTs to review with the authorities concerned the progress in implementing the points for action contained in the Compendium. It is expected that this will accelerate the pace of implementation of the provisions of Part IX, read with Article 243ZD, of the Constitution and bring about greater conformity, in both letter and spirit, to the Constitutional provisions of Panchayati Raj in all States/UTs concerned. The first such visit was to Karnataka between 29 April, 2005 and 1 May, 2005. The joint statement of conclusions signed by the Chief Minister of Karnataka and the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj during this visit may be seen at Annex-III.

A Council of Ministers under the Chairmanship of Minister of Panchayati Raj and a Committee of Chief Secretaries and Panchayati Raj Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Union Secretary (Panchayati Raj) have been set up to monitor the progress of implementation of the recommendations of seven Round Tables. The first meeting of the Committee of Chief Secretaries and Panchayati Raj Secretaries was held on 11 April 2005.