

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:108  
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010  
CONSTRUCTION OF PANCHAYAT BHAWANS  
Saroj Smt. Sushila

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

- (a) the number of Panchayats in the country which do not have Panchayat Bhawans ;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to take immediate steps to construct Panchayat Bhawans;
- (c) if so, the details thereof?
- (d) the amount released for Panchayats during the last five years alongwith the amount required for the constructions of said Panchayat Bhawans;
- (e) the mechanism to ensure repair and maintenance of constructed Panchayat Bhawan; and
- (f) the schemes for Panchayats proposed to be implemented during next three years?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (Dr. C.P. JOSHI)

- (a): The Ministry has assessed the number of Panchayats in the country that do not have Panchayat Bhawans as 73571.
- (b)& (c): The Ministry of Rural Development has issued guidelines to the States to construct Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendras (BNRGSK) at the Block and Gram Panchayat level on priority as resource centres under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). The BNRGSK will house the office of Gram Panchayat wherever the Gram Panchayat does not have a building. In addition, Panchayat Bhawans can be taken up using resources from the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojna (RGSY) and Finance Commission grant.
- (d): Since the inception of the BRGF programme in 2006-07, under the Development Grant component of the programme, Rs.9,931.88 crore has been sanctioned for activities including construction of Panchayat Bhawans, buildings of anganwadi centres, health centres, schools and community centres, roads, etc. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also sanctioned Rs.36.65 crore during the last 5 years for construction and upgradation of Panchayat Bhawans under RGSY.
- (e): The Development Grants under the BRGF can also be utilized for repairs and maintenance of Panchayat Bhawans, but it is better that these activities are funded from own resources of Panchayats.
- (f): The Ministry at this stage does not propose to implement any new scheme for the Panchayats.