

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2374

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010

RESERVATION TO WOMEN

Shantha J.;Singh Shri Jagada Nand;Singh Shri Sukhdev

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to enhance the reservation for women upto 50 per cent in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of elected representatives of panchayats as on date and the percentage of elected women representatives;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to impart training and knowledge for the empowerment of women representatives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount allocated for the purpose; and
- (e) the programmes proposed to be run for the effective role of women in Panchayati Raj System at national level?

Answer

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

(a): Yes.

(b): A Constitutional Amendment Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha to increase the reservation for women from existing one third to fifty per cent in Panchayati Raj Institutions. The information about the number of Elected Representatives of Panchayats as on date and the percentage of elected women representatives has been called for from the States / UTs.

(c) and (d): Efforts are made towards capacity building of the Elected Women Representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions by imparting qualitative training and knowledge. For this purpose, around 11 % of the provisions available under BRGF programme are utilized for capacity building and training of Elected Representatives (including women) of the PRIs. Besides, under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana, assistance is provided to States / UTs for imparting training to Elected Representatives and functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions particularly in the non-BRGF districts. Besides, assistance to States / UTs is also provided under the Scheme of Panchayat Mahila Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan (PMEYSA) to increase the knowledge, capability and responsiveness of Elected Women Representatives and Elected Youth Representatives to the demands of their constituents. The total allocation for the 2010-11 for these programmes is as follows:-

(i) BRGF Rs. 5050.00 crore (only the Capacity building component)

(ii) RGSY Rs. 50.00 crore

(iii) PMEYSA Rs. 3.00 crore

(e): At present the Panchayat Mahila Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan is being implemented in the country to encourage political participation by women in Panchayati Raj Institutions.