

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1074
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010
THREE TIER ELECTION FOR PANCHAYATS
Sardinha Shri Francisco

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the three tier election procedure/guidelines for Panchayats is uniform in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith any changes proposed by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to confer more powers to Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samities and District Panchayats in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Panchayats being 'Local Bodies' is a State subject. Accordingly, in terms of Aarticle-243K of the Constitution, the Legislature of a State may by law, make provision with respect to all matters relating to, or in connection with, election to the Panchayats. There is no proposal for any changes in the existing Constitutional provision in this regard.

(c) & (d): As per Article 243G of the Constitution, States are to endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and to implement schemes for economic development and social justice, including those in relation to the matter listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

In addition to incentivising States to devolve functions, funds and functionaries (3Fs) under the Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) annually, Ministry of Panchayati Raj has issued on 1.12.2009 detailed guidelines for conferring more powers to Panchayats (available on website-www.panchayat.nic.in). States, however, vary in the extent to which they have devolved powers to PRLs.