

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3176
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
DELEGATION OF POWERS TO PANCHAYATS
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Panchayats in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether local administration in some States have shown certain reservations in delegation of powers to Panchayats;
- (c) if so, details thereof alongwith the complaints received in this regard; and
- (d) the remedial action taken by the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ(SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a): The requisite information for State/UTs where Part IX of the Constitution applies is given in Annex I.

(b) & (c): 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 plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, including those in relation to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. Within the Constitutional Framework, Panchayats are a State subject and States Legislatures pass legislations suitable in their context.

The present status of devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by various States/UTs is given in Annex II. While States like Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal, Maharashtra have devolved 3Fs to the Panchayats substantially, in several States/UTs the process of devolution has been slow. Complaints, if any, for inadequate devolution of powers to Panchayats are, therefore, transmitted to the State Govts. for appropriate action.

(d): MoPR has encouraged States to devolve to 3Fs to Panchayats in various ways. MoPR has issued advisories on(i) roles and responsibilities of PRIs in CSSs/ACAs; (ii) devolution of Panchayats Finances; (iii) manpower of Panchayats; and (iv) devolution of Functions, Funds and Functionaries to PRIs through Activity Mapping (all available at www.panchayat.nic.in). MoPR also incentivizes State Governments to devolve the 3Fs to the Panchayats by awarding the State ranked higher on the DI prepared under the Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS). MoPR assists States/UTs in undertaking Activity Mapping exercises. Best practice in devolution by the States are also shared through regular follow-up by MoPR.