

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:67
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011
EMPOWERMENT OF PANCHAYATS
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds provided to the Panchayats for the development of villages in various States and Union Territories including Bihar during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up a separate fund for the empowerment of Panchayats;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the progress made in this regard so far?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 67 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25-11-2011 REGARDING EMPOWERMENT OF PANCHAYATS

(a) to (d): The Central Government provides funds to the State Governments under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) to redress regional imbalances in development in 250 backward districts in the country with a strategy that aims to promote the performance and capacity of Panchayats, in planning, decision, making, implementation and monitoring.

Details of funds provided to various States including Bihar during the last three years and the current year is at Annex.

In addition to the BRGF, the following schemes for empowerment of Panchayats are being implemented:

- (1) Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana: Funds are released to States for training and capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions in districts uncovered by the BRGF.
- (2) Rural Business Hubs: This Scheme aims to assist the Panchayats to empower rural labour productivity by providing forward backward linkages with technical assistance in Public-Private-Partnership.
- (3) Panchayat Manila`Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan: It aims to enable women and youth Panchayat leaders to come together to articulate their problems as women Panchayat Leaders.
- (4) e-Panchayat: For computerizing the databases, accounts and other functions of the Gram Panchayats for accountability and transparency.
- (5) Panchayat Empowerment & Accountability Incentive Scheme: To recognize and incentivize the efforts of Panchayats with respect to transparency, accountability and efficiency and of States with respect to devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to Panchayats.