

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3818
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
REFORMS IN PRIs
Sardinha Shri Francisco

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is contemplating second generation reforms in Panchayati Raj system to suit the present needs of the country; .
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the views of State Governments have been taken in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government to incorporate their views in such reforms?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRIV. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a)to(d): Within the Constitutional frame work, Panchayat is a State subject. States take context specific measures for strengthening Panchayats while the Central Government plays a facilitative role. The Union Government has undertaken several measures to facilitate States in strengthening their Panchayati Raj systems. To facilitate devolution in the States, the Union Government has assisted States in preparing Activity Mapping, issued advisories and incentivised States for devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries (3 Fs) to Panchayats under the Panchayat Empowerment & Accountability Incentive Scheme. To encourage decentralized planning, untied funds are provided under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) to Panchayats through State Governments to bridge critical infrastructure and other gaps in 250 backward districts. In addition, States also get grants for Panchayats under the 13th Finance Commission award, which are untied funds. Funds have also been provided to States for training and appropriate software for accounts, planning etc. has been developed to enhance the capacities of Panchayats. These issues have been deliberated with States in various forums.