

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1633  
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012  
UN REPORT ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE  
Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

**Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the recent United Nations report on women complimented India for ensuring women's active participation in the local governance;
- (b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard;
- (c) whether only a few States have reserved 50 per cent seats for women in local bodies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of such States;
- (e) whether the Union Government is making efforts to ensure compulsory reservation of 50 per cent in local bodies of all States in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details and the success achieved thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): As per a Report "Women's Representation in Local Government in the Asia Pacific 2010" published by the United Nations Development Programme, India is shown to have the highest percentage of women representatives and heads/ chairs in rural councils, i.e. Panchayats in the Asia Pacific region.
- (c) & (d): Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal are reported to have provided for atleast 50% reservation for Elected Women Representatives in Panchayats.
- (e) & (f): The Union Government has introduced a Constitutional Amendment Bill for enhancing reservation for Elected Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions from existing one third to not less than one-half.