GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3882
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012
E GOVERNANCE IN PANCHAYATS
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Tanwar Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated e-panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) for implementation of e-governance in panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the budgetary allocation under the programme during each year of the last three years and the current year, state-wise;

(c) the progress in regard to the implementation of the programme alongwith number of panchayats which have not yet been computerised and the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether any survey or assessment has been made in respect to functioning of the programme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure effective implementation of e-governance in panchayats?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government has formulated a project namely e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) for e-enablement of all the Panchayats which will make their functioning more efficient and transparent. The Project received in principle approval from the Planning Commission in August 2007.

(b): Out of Rs 130.39 crores only that have been allocated for the Project so far, Rs 23 crores and Rs 24 crores were allocated during 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively without any disbursement to States. However, during 2011-12,Rs 40 crores was allocated of which the releases to States/Union Territories as under:

(i) RS 1.5 crores for incentivizing the adoption of PRIASoft; and

(ii) Rs 38.5 crores for setting up of Programme Management Units at State and District levels for rollout of e-Panchayat MMP. The state-wise allocation is shown in Annexure I.

(iii) The budgetary allocation during 2012-13 is Rs 40 Crores.

(c): to (f): e-Governance in Panchayats is sought to be achieved through the e-Panchayat MMP under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). Under the e-Panchayat MMP, 11 Core Common Software applications are planned. Four of these applications namely PRIASoft, PlanPlus, National Panchayat Portal and Local Governance Directory have been rolled out. Six more applications except Geographic Information System (GIS) namely Area Profiler, ServicePlus, Asset Directory, ActionSoft, Social Audit and Trainings Management have also been launched on 24th April, 2012 on the occasion of National Panchayat Day. The status of adoption of the four applications rolled out so far is at Annexure II. For effective implementation of the project, workshops are held to demonstrate the applications to the State Govt. functionaries.

Since the Project so far has not provided any funds for hardware including computers, the States have been advised to utilize available funds from other sources such as 13th Central Finance Commission grants, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY) etc. for computerization of Panchayats.

Training of the Trainers (ToT) model has been adopted for training the PRI functionaries down to the grass-root level. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is also providing trained faculty to provide training on Panchayat Enterprise Suite (PES) applications and has advised States to create a cadre of Master Trainers. So far, approximately 20,000 officials have been trained. Trainings are also being conducted to impart basic ICT literacy trainings to PRI functionaries and elected representatives. So far, 4500 functionaries and elected members have been trained in fourteen States.

The project is being regularly reviewed by NeGP Apex Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary, Government of India. Review

Meetings chaired by the Secretary, Panchayati Raj are also held regularly to monitor the progress of the Project.