

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1363

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012

DEVOLUTION OF POWER TO PRIS

Balram Shri P.;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Rana Shri Kadir;Shekhawat Shri Gopal Singh;Singh Shri Pradeep Kumar

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National level plan for improving the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has chalked out Roadmap for Panchayati Raj (2011-2017);

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the extent to which the roadmap will enable and assist the Government by the provision of funds under several schemes;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give more autonomy to the PRIs;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the present status of devolution of departments/subjects with funds, functions and functionaries to the PRIs in various States/UTs indicating the names of States in which the process is substantial or slow; and

(g) the measure taken by the Union Government to persuade the State Governments/UTs to speed up the process of devolution of power to PRIs?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): "Roadmap for the Panchayati Raj" is a document that addresses a broad range of issues in Panchayati Raj, relating to empowerment, enablement and accountability of Panchayats. The document has been shared with States.

(d) to (g): As per Article 243G of the Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and for preparation of plans and implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice including 29 matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. As the Constitution of India leaves it to States to devolve powers to Panchayats, States vary in the extent to which they have devolved funds, function and functionaries (3 Fs) to Panchayats. The status regarding devolution of 3Fs to Panchayats in various States is given in Annexure.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has continuously urged States/UTs to devolve powers to the Panchayats in accordance with the Constitutional stipulation. Through the Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS), MoPR has incentivized States for devolving 3Fs to Panchayats, and has incentivized Panchayats for performance. MoPR has provided assistance to States for capacity building of Panchayats through the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojna (RGSY), Capacity Building grant of the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and Panchayat Mahila Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan (PMEYSA) and promoted e-enablement of Panchayats through the e-Panchayat scheme. An untied grant is provided to Panchayats through States for bridging critical gaps in local infrastructure in 250 backward districts on the basis of decentralized planning under BRGF.