# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# PANCHAYATI RAJ
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:66
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
E GOVERNANCE IN PANCHAYATS
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

(a) the extent of implementation of e-governance in the Panchayats in the country, at present;

(b) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to the States for the purpose and if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year along with the utilisation thereof;

(c) whether the power shortage in the rural areas is a major hindrance in the proper working of e-governance of panchayats;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other alternative measures adopted or likely to be adopted by the Government to overcome the problem of power shortage in this regard?

# Answer

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

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PART (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 66 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.03.2013 REGARDING E-GOVERNANCE IN PANCHAYATS

(a) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is promoting e-Governance in Panchayats through implementation of a Mission Mode Project (MMP) that addresses all aspects of Panchayats' functioning including Planning, Monitoring, Implementation, Budgeting, Accounting, Social Audit and delivery of citizen services like issue of certificates, licenses etc. Under e- Panchayat MMP, four Applications namely PRIASoft, PlanPlus, National Panchayat Portal and National Panchayat Directory (now renamed Local Governance Directory) have been in use by the States for two years. Six more Applications namely Area Profiler, ServicePlus, Asset Directory, ActionSoft, Social Audit and Trainings Management were launched on the occasion of National Panchayat Day on 24th April, 2012 and training is being imparted on these Applications.

(b) Yes, Madam. The Government has provided financial assistance for setting up Programmme Management Units (PMUs) at the State and District levels in 2011-12. Details of funds released to States/UTs during 2011-12 and status of utilization as reported by the States/UTs as on date is given at Annex I. No funds have been released so far during the current year.

(c) to (e) The overall shortage of power in the country specially in rural areas poses a challenge as many Panchayats are not able to update their data on the web based software applications on a daily basis. To overcome this challenge, many Gram Panchayats have to enter data in nearby Gram/Block/Zilla Panchayats. In areas where the power supply is erratic or the Panchayats are not electrified, the States have been advised to use Desktops with Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) having 6-8 hours backup, laptops with extra batteries and also to consider providing solar photo-voltaic power packs by availing Government of India's subsidy.