

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:700
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
INVOLVEMENT OF SARPANCHES AND PANCHES
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has involved Sarpanches and Panches for ensuring the larger and systematic involvement in the formulation and implementation of development schemes at the grassroot level;and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As per Article 243G of the Constitution, States are to endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and to plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, including those in relation to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. Within the Constitutional framework, 'local government' is a State subject and States Legislatures pass legislations suitable in their context. The extent of involvement of Sarpanches and Panches in formulation and implementation of development schemes varies with the extent of devolution in the States.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj implements the District Component of Backward Regions Grand Fund (BRGF) scheme through Panchayati Raj Institutions in the 272 backward districts of the country. Under this programme, Annual Action Plans reflecting the development activities to be taken up are prepared at the Panchayat level by Elected Representatives of Gram Panchayat (Sarpanches / Panches) in consultation with the Gram Sabha. The Annual Action Plan prepared by all the Panchayats in a District are consolidated by the District Planning Committee (DPC) concerned and sent to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj through State Government for release of funds under the scheme. The Ministry has promoted decentralized planning through BRGF, advisories and consultative discussions with States.