

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:911
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
AUTONOMY OF PANCHAYATS
Shekhawat Shri Gopal Singh

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is satisfied with the autonomy provided to the Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government conducts periodic review of the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Within the Constitutional framework, 'local government' is a State subject. Under Article 243G, State legislatures may endow Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice including on matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. States vary in the extent to which they have devolved powers to the Panchayats. Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has constantly urged States/UTs to devolve functions, funds and functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and incentivized States to devolve powers to PRIs.

(c) & (d) The working of Panchayati Raj Institutions is evaluated from time to time, and an award under Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) is given on the basis of such evaluation. MoPR periodically reviews the working of the PRIs with the State Governments in meetings, through field visits and studies.