

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:379
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN PANCHAYATS
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are provisions for reservation for women to be elected as Sarpanches in the Panchayati Raj System in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of women Sarpanches in the country, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether some States/ UTs have not implemented the said provision;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER 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 PARTS (a) to (e) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 379 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.3.2013, REGARDING RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN PANCHAYATS.

(a) & (b): Article 243D(4) of the Constitution of India provides that not less than one third of the total number of offices of Chairpersons in Panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women. The actual number of offices reserved is determined by the provisions in the Panchayati Raj Act of each State. Fifteen States have so far enacted legislation for 50% reservation of women in seats and offices of Chairpersons as indicated in Annex-I. The number of Panchayats in the country is 239582. Data on the number of women sarpanches in the country is not available at Central level in the Ministry.

(c): As per information available with this Ministry, concerned States/UTs have provided for such reservations.

(d) & (e): Do not arise, in view of the reply given to part (c) above.