

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1669
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013
GRAM SABHAS
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has advised the State Governments to make it mandatory for gram panchayats to hold gram sabhas for children to solve the children's issue;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Union Government has advised State Governments to hold special Gram Sabha meetings on various issues including issues which affect children, though this is not mandatory. They have been advised to hold special Gram Sabha meeting in July/August to take up, among others, the matters of nutrition, mid-day meal, Anganwadi Centres which affect children. The States have also been advised to hold special Gram Sabha meetings in October/November to take up issues like health, drinking water, sanitation, violence against women and children and also prevention of dowry and female foeticide. Mahila Gram Sabha meeting have also been recommended to be held because in such meetings issues which affect children are taken up. An advisory on preventing female foeticide has also been circulated to all the States.

(c): Does not arise.