

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2503
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
FUNCTIONING OF PANCHAYATS
Hooda Shri Deepender Singh

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has devised any parameters to analyse the functioning and success of Panchayati Raj Institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the outcome of such analysis in different States/UTs; and
- (c) the major constraints in effective functioning of Panchayats along with the steps taken to address the same and actively involve panchayats in the planning process to be undertaken in their jurisdiction?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), in collaboration with State Governments, has framed parameters to analyse the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The assessment of PRIs needs to be State specific. Accordingly, a set of model indicators, questionnaire and marking scheme, to be adopted appropriately by the States/UTs in their context for assessing PRIs, have been developed by MoPR. Incentive awards are given to the selected best performing Panchayats on the basis of such evaluation. Awards were given to 193 such Panchayats on 24th April, 2013, Panchayati Raj Day by the Minister for Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj. The best practices followed in some of the award winning PRIs have been documented and shared with States.

(c): Inadequate devolution of powers and limited capacity are major constraints in the functioning of Panchayats. To improve the functioning of PRIs, MoPR has undertaken the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) in the Twelfth Plan, under which constraints such as inadequate manpower and infrastructure are addressed and funds have been provided for Panchayat processes, training, e-enablement of Panchayats etc. The Ministry has encouraged States to devolve more powers to Panchayats. Under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) funds are released on the basis of plans made by Panchayats.