

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3364  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013  
STRENGTHENING OF PANCHAYATS  
Pakkirappa Shri S.;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

**Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has proposed/proposes any specially designed programme for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to improve the performance of Women Panchayat members through education, mass media exposure, social participation and urban contacts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) for strengthening Panchayats during the Twelfth Plan. This scheme supports the States in Capacity Building & Training (CB&T) of Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) and other elected representatives to enhance their knowledge and skills to discharge their functions. The activities supported under the CB&T component are: Training needs assessment, development of training modules, development of training material including written material, training films, CDs and other forms of material, training of master trainers, face-to face training courses for ERs and Panchayat functionaries, satellite based training for ERs and functionaries, exposure visit inside/ outside the States, newsletters etc.