

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3381
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013
CASTE PANCHAYAT
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several caste panchayats are functioning in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some of the Members of elected Panchayats are also active in the said caste panchayats;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per Part IX of the Constitution, there is no concept of caste panchayats. In other words, the caste based Panchayats do not have any legal entity as per Constitution. All issues related to Panchayat members and their activities are dealt by the State Governments, as 'Panchayats' are a State subject. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj cannot address issues and complaints related to individual Panchayat members, as they are governed under State Laws and Rules.

(e): Does not arise in view of the reply given above.