

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:261
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013
PANCHAYATS AUTHONOMY
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is satisfied with the extent of autonomy granted to the Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to widen the role of Panchayats in the implementation of various Centrally sponsored schemes and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government periodically reviews the working of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs); and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

- (a) & (b) Within the Constitutional framework, local government is a State subject. Under Article 243G, State legislatures may endow Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice including on matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. States vary in the extent to which they have devolved powers to the Panchayats. Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has constantly urged States/UTs to devolve functions, funds and functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and incentivized States to devolve powers to PRIs.
- (c) MoPR has urged Central Ministries to ensure a greater role of Panchayats in CSSs and include this in their guidelines.
- (d)&(e) MoPR periodically reviews the working of the PRIs with the State Governments in meetings, through field visits and studies.