GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PANCHAYATI RAJ LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:369
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013
SUCCESS OF PANCHAYATI RAJ SYSTEM
Karunakaran Shri P.;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Panchayati Raj System has successfully been introduced in all the States of the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor along with the details of such States/UTs in the country;
- (d) Whether the Government is aware that in some States a number of departments have been transferred to the Panchayats without giving any funds;
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) The corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

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

- (a)to(c) Panchayats are mandatory in States/UTs to which Part IX of Constitution applies. The Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 extends this provision to Scheduled Areas. J&K has its own Panchayati Raj Act and elections to Halqa Panchayats (equivalent to Gram Panchayats) have been held.
- (d)&(e) As per Article 243G of the Constitution, States are to endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and to plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, Including those in relation to matterslisted in the Eleventh Schedule. Within the constitutional framework, 'Panchayats' is a State subject and State Legislatures pass legislations suitable in their context. The present status of devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayats by various States/UTs is given in Annex.
- (f) Ministry of Panchayati Raj has incentivized the States for devolution of functions, funds and functionaries (3Fs) under the Panchayat Empowerment Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS); and held discussion and reviews with States to devolve powers to Panchayats. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyaii (RGPSA) approved for the 12th Five Year Plan, States are encouraged and monitored to devolve 3Fs to Panchayats.