

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:445
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013
PEAIS
Biswal Shri Hemanand

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) and the funds allocated/released and utilized under the said scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Odisha;
- (b) the details of the criterion followed by the Government for allocation of fiSnds under the Scheme;
- (c) whether the prescribed criterion has been followed by the Government for allocation of funds under the Scheme: and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) was implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) from 2005-06 to 2012-13. Since 2013-14, the scheme has been subsumed in the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA). The objective of PE AIS is to(i) incentivise States for devolving funds, functions and functionaries Fs) to Panchayats and (ii) incentivise Panchayats to put in place accountability systems to make their functioning transparent and efficient.

(b) to (d) Under the scheme, token awards have been given to the States which rank high on the Devolution Index (DI) prepared by an independent agency, which measures the extent to which States have devolved functions, fuads and functionaries (3Fs) to Panchayats. The scope of the DI has been expanded in 2012-13 to include efforts made by States for capacity building of Panchayats and enhancing their accountability so that the index has become a `Panchayat Strengthening Index`. From 2011-12, best performing Panchayats in the country have also been incentivized. Incentive awards are given to best performing Panchayats on the basis of recommendations of State Governments based on a rigorous selection process followed by field verification at the National level through independent agencies. The State-wise funds allocated and utilized under Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) during the last three years is at Annex.