

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:599

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009

REVAMPING OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission relating to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore ;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to appoint any Commission to revamp the Panchayati Raj Institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (Dr. C.P. JOSHI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations relating to PRIs pertain to decentralization in planning. Thereafter, the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution have been enacted giving constitutional status to local self governments and providing a more universalized platform for decentralized planning from below. Article 243ZD of the Constitution provides for constitution of District Planning Committees to consolidate plans prepared by the Panchayats and Municipalities for the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole which would be forwarded to the State Government.

Of the 24 States where Parts IX and IXA of the Constitution are applicable, District Planning Committees have been constituted in 22 States i.e. in all States except Jharkhand and Uttarakhand. The Planning Commission has also released a Manual for Integrated District Planning which the States can use as handbook for participatory grassroots level planning.

(c) & (d): No. There is no proposal to appoint any Commission to revamp the Panchayati Raj Institutions.