

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3124
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014
STRENGTHENING OF PANCHAYATS
Nayak Shri B.V.;Reddy Shri A.P. Jithender

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study was undertaken during the last year for strengthening of Panchayats under the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and results of the study; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NIHAL CHAND)

(a) : No, Madam

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) : The Schemes/Programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj broadly aim at strengthening the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the country. Last such scheme launched during the current Plan period is Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) under which support is given to the States/Union Territories for providing administrative and technical manpower and capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform devolved functions effectively and efficiently. Besides, this Ministry has been persistently impressing upon the State Governments for strengthening the Panchayats by devolving funds, functions and functionaries.

New initiatives taken by the Ministry in this regard include development of training and reading materials from Panchayati Raj perspective and facilitation of improvement of performance assessment of PRIs by the States, etc.