

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2671
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2015
LEGAL STATUS FOR GRAM SABHAS
Marutharajaa Shri R.P.

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any legal status for the gram sabhas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the special powers and privileges being enjoyed by the gram sabhas;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation from States or individual gram sabha regarding the disqualification of meetings not conducted by the gram sabhas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of rural development schemes by gram sabhas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ(SHRI NIHAL CHAND)

- (a) & (b). Article 243A provides that a Gram Sabha may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide. Powers assigned to the Gram Sabha, therefore, vary from State to State.
- (c) & (d) The meetings of the Gram Sabhas are required to be conducted as per the provisions contained in the Panchayati Raj related legislations or the regulations of the respective States as framed by them. Such matters or issues are to be looked into and settled by the concerned authorities of the State Governments.
- (e) Review of the functioning of the Gram Sabhas and instituting more effective remedial measures, achievements made by them with respect to ensuring good governance at grassroots level and delivery of services to the people is an ongoing process. Requisite steps for improvement of such processes are taken from time to time as and when required.