

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3713  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015  
ACTION PLAN REGARDING RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Chaudhary Shri C.R.

**Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government is working on new action plan related to rural development in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to entrust all the said schemes to the panchayats after merging all schemes into one scheme in order to ensure their better implementation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any proposal regarding further strengthening of panchayati raj system sent by the Government of Rajasthan is lying pending with the Union Government; and
- (f) if so, the details and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Fourteenth Union Finance Commission has recommended devolution of grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crores to gram panchayats in the country for the award period 2015-20 to ensure stable flow of resources at regular intervals. This will enhance resources available with the gram panchayats to discharge their statutorily assigned functions. The grant is intended to be used to improve the status of basic services to be provided to the citizens such as water supply, sanitation including septage management, sewerage and solid waste management, storm water drainage, maintenance of community assets, maintenance of roads, footpaths and street-lighting, and burial and cremation grounds, etc.

(c) to (f): The two flagship programmes of the Union Government administered by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj viz., Backward Regions Grant Fund and Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (except the component of National Plan of Technical Assistance) have been transferred to the States from the ensuing Financial Year (2015-16). No proposal relating to strengthening of the panchayati raj system sent by Government of Rajasthan is pending with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.