

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4971
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
ELECTION OF PRIS
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions are conducted after every five years and elections to Zilla Pramukh and Block Pradhan are also conducted indirectly after the 73rd and 74th Amendments made in the Constitutions;
- (b) if so, the number and types of complaints received by the Government in such elections during the last three financial year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a long term policy to address the complaints of corruption and horse-trading been received in these elections; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NIHAL CHAND)

- (a) Part IX of the Constitution mandates that the elections to the Panchayati Raj Institutions be conducted every five years, under the overall superintendence, direction and control of the respective State Election Commission. It also states that the Chairperson of a Panchayat at the intermediate level or district level shall be elected by and from amongst the elected members.
- (b) to (d) The complaints connected with elections to Panchayats fall within the purview of the concerned State Election Commission and the State Govern- ment, as the case may be, and the same are add- ressed by them as per their respective statutes. In case a complaint on the subject is received by the Ministry, these are sent to the concerned State Government for examination and remedial action. Since issues related to elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions are a State subject, the Ministry does not maintain any data regarding the total number and type of complaints received in each election. As per article 243K(4), the Legislature of a State is required to make provision with respect to all matters relating to or in connection with election to the Panchayats, thus the Government does not propose to formulate a policy on the State subject.