

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6050
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
RESERVATION IN PANCHAYATS
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation to various target groups viz. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, etc. in the municipal corporations, bodies and Gram Panchayats in all the States and Union Territories have been given on the basis of reservation policy applicable for them in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Under Article 243D of the Constitution, provisions have been made for mandatory reservation of seats and offices in Panchayats at all levels for persons belonging to certain identified categories like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women. Besides, a State Legislature can make provision for reservation of seats in any Panchayat or Offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at any level in favour of backward class of citizens. Therefore, adoption of this provision varies from State to State.

As regards the Municipalities, provisions have been made in Article 243T for mandatory reservation of seats and offices in Municipalities for persons belonging to certain identified categories like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women. A State Legislature can make provision for reservation of seats in any Municipality or Offices of Chairpersons in the Municipalities in favour of backward class of citizens. While the Constitution provides for mandatory reservation of seats for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women in Panchayats and Municipalities, the issue of making reservation of seats for persons belonging to OBCs, inter alia keeping in view any other statutory conditions, etc., has been left to the discretion of the States/UTs and they can make statutory provisions accordingly.