

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3820**

ANSWERED ON 09.08.2018

**Additional Power to Panchayats**

†3820. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to confer additional powers to Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the steps taken by the Government for the development and strengthening of villages?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): As per Article 243G of the Constitution of India, the Legislature of the State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government in preparation and implementation of plans for economic development and social justice including those in relation to the matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

(c): Under the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) for the period 2015-20, grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore have been devolved to Gram Panchayats constituted under Part IX of the Constitution, for delivering basic services such as drinking water, sanitation and infrastructure etc. and technical & administrative support towards operations. The large funds devolved directly to Gram Panchayats by FFC award has created an opportunity for convergent plans in providing basic amenities and services to the people. In order to ensure optimum utilization of Fourteenth Finance Commission award to GPs, the Ministry has facilitated preparation of State specific Gram Panchayat Development Plan guidelines and

budgeting, accounting & auditing manuals for GPs for financial discipline. Further, in order to strengthen the governance capabilities of PRIs to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals, the Government has approved the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) to be implemented during 2018-19 to 2021-22 with total outlay of Rs 7255.50 crore having Central share of Rs. 4500 crore and State share of 2755.50 crore. The Government of India through its Ministries / Departments is also implementing various schemes / programmes to bring about overall development and strengthening of villages provisioning social assistance and basic amenities.

\*\*\*