

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 77
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2017

STRENGTHENING OF PANCHAYATI RAJ SYSTEM

77. SHRI HARIVANSH:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to further strengthen the Panchayati Raj system in the country; and
- (b) what steps are being taken or have been taken in this direction during the last three years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has taken several steps to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the States and Union Territories (UTs) covered under the Part IX of the Constitution through provisioning of financial and technical assistance under the schemes and programmes of the Government towards training, human resource for training and training infrastructure for Elected Representatives (ERs) and functionaries etc. of PRIs. Under the Thirteenth Finance Commission award funds to tune of Rs. 16,210.96 crore were transferred to all three levels of Panchayats in the year 2014-15. Under the Fourteenth Finance Commission award, funds to the tune of Rs. 52099.14 crore were transferred to the Gram Panchayats during the financial year 2015-16 and 2016-17. 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, as well as budgeting, accounting & auditing manuals for GPs for financial discipline. MoPR also incentivizes the States which have devolved more functions, funds and functionaries to Panchayats, through financial and technical assistance for capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform the devolved functions effectively and efficiently. Further, the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) aims at strengthening PRIs by way of capacity building of the PRIs and its functionaries, through more use of technology.
