

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1868**  
ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020

**Strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions**

†1868. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions in order to bring economic reforms in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to restructure various Centrally-sponsored schemes to give a greater role to the Panchayats; and
- (d) if so, the details of schemes to be implemented directly by Panchayati Raj Institutions?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d) Panchayat being “ local government” is a State subject and part of State list of seventh schedule of Constitution of India. Under Article 243 G of Constitution, Panchayats have been mandated for preparation and implementation of plans for economic development and social justice. Thus, panchayats have a significant role to play in the effective and efficient implementation of flagship schemes/ programmes for bringing about economic development in the rural areas. For example, the Government is implementing the Mahatma National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) involving Panchayati Raj Institutions for job card to wage seekers, execution of works, monitoring, supervision, social audit and consolidation of plans etc. The Institutional mechanism under Jal Jeevan Mission has Paani Samiti/ Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC)/ User group at Gram Panchayat (GP) level.

Further, with the objective of preparation of holistic, inclusive and convergent Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) for the year 2020-21 through identification of sectoral infrastructural gaps, “Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas” was launched from 2<sup>nd</sup> October,

2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019 as was done from 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 for preparation of GPDP for the year 2019-20.

The Ministry has also been implementing the Centrally Sponsored scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) w.e.f. the financial year 2018-19 with the primary objective of developing governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals. The scheme envisages to enhance capabilities of Panchayats for formulating holistic and inclusive GPDP converging resources available at GP level for economic development and social justice. The scheme also aims at enhancing capabilities of Panchayats to raise own sources of revenue and provides for interventions relating to gap filling support for economic development and income enhancement in Panchayats.

Further, under the 14th Finance Commission for the award period 2015-2020, grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore are being devolved to GPs, amounting to an assistance of Rs. 488 per capita per annum at an aggregate level to the GPs constituted under Part IX of the Constitution to 26 States for delivering basic services, namely, water supply, sanitation, sewerage, solid waste management, storm water drainage, maintenance of community assets, road, footpath, street lighting, burial and cremation grounds and any other basic services entrusted under State legislations etc.

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