

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 720
ANSWERED ON-08.02.2023

RESERVATIONS FOR WOMEN IN LOCAL BODIES

720. SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEGDE:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all States and UTs in the country have given 50 per cent reservation to women in Panchayati Raj and Urban Local Bodies Elections, the names of States which started giving 50 per cent reservations for women in these institutions, year-wise chronologically;
- (b) whether Government has contemplated any step to see that the States which have hitherto not given 50 per cent reservation to women in these institutions also follow suit;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) As per the information available with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, 21 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and 2 Union Territories namely Lakshadweep and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, have made provisions in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules for 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions. In respect of remaining States and Union Territories covered under Part-IX of the Constitution, Constitutional provisions, as prescribed in Article 243D, applies. Details of 21 States and 2 Union Territories, who have made provisions for 50% reservations for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions, are placed at **Annexure**.

Further, as per the information furnished by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, in terms of Article 243T of the Constitution of India, reservation of seats in Urban Local Bodies is a State subject. 18 States/Union Territories namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil

Nadu, Tripura and Telangana have given 50% reservation for women in Urban Local Bodies. The year-wise information is not maintained by that Ministry.

(b) to (d) “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject in terms of the State list of Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India. Mandate for reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions is provided by Article 243D of the Constitution of India. Reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions is provided through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Accordingly, to make provisions for reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions comes within the purview of concerned State Governments.

However, Government has been encouraging increased involvement of women in the functioning of Panchayats through active participation in the Gram Sabha meetings for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans and various schemes being implemented by the Panchayats. This Ministry has also issued advisories to the States to facilitate holding of separate Ward Sabha and Mahila Sabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings, enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of Panchayat funds for women centric activities, combating the evil of women trafficking, female foeticide, child marriage etc.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 720 answered on 08.02.2023 regarding “Reservations for women in Local Bodies”.

Details of States and Union Territories, who have made provisions for 50% reservations for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions

Sr. No.	State/Union Territory	Year when provisions for 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions have been notified by the State/Union Territory
1	Bihar	2006
2	Madhya Pradesh	2007
3	Rajasthan	2008
4	Chhattisgarh	2008
5	Himachal Pradesh	2008
6	Kerala	2009
7	Tripura	2010
8	Karnataka	2010
9	Jharkhand	2010
10	Andhra Pradesh	2011
11	Maharashtra	2011
12	Assam	2011
13	Odisha	2011
14	Sikkim	2011
15	West Bengal	2012
16	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	2012
17	Gujarat	2014
18	Tamil Nadu	2016
19	Uttarakhand	2016
20	Punjab	2017
21	Telangana	2018
22	Haryana	2021
23	Lakshadweep	2022
