

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1517
ANSWERED ON-02.08.2023

**ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE
PANCHAYATS**

1517. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether women received sufficient representation in the Panchayats as per relevant statutes in the country;
- (b) whether the general complaints that husband(s) of elected women in Panchayats run the show and the elected women are for name sake true;
- (c) whether Government has any monitoring mechanism to look into the complaints that the men run Panchayats in the name of their elected wives or other women relatives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of women heading the Village Panchayats at present in the country as a whole and particularly in the States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) to (e) Article 243D of the Constitution of India provides not less than one-third reservation for women 'out of total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Panchayat' and 'out of total number of offices of chairpersons in the Panchayats at each level'. However, 21 States and 2 Union Territories have gone even further and have made provisions of 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules. As per information available with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, details of number of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions of the States and Union Territories, covered under Part-IX of the Constitution of India, is placed at **Annexure**. The specific details of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions, such as '*number of women heading the Village Panchayats*', are not maintained by the Central Government.

'Panchayats', being a State subject, generally, complaints pertaining to unnecessary interference by the husbands in the duties of elected women representatives of Panchayats are written to States. However, some complaints have also been received in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The complaints are generally regarding exercising the authority of elected

women representatives by their husbands. Whenever such complaints are received in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, these are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for redressal of grievances. Further, this Ministry has also issued advisories to State/Union Territory Governments for prevention of unnecessary interference by the husbands of elected women representatives of Panchayats in their duties.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1517 answered on 02.08.2023.

Details of number of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions of the States and Union Territories covered under Part-IX of the Constitution of India

S. No.	State / Union Territory	Number of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	306
2.	Andhra Pradesh	78025
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3658
4.	Assam	14609
5.	Bihar	71046
6.	Chhattisgarh	93392
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	47
8.	Daman & Diu	92
9.	Goa	571
10.	Gujarat	71988
11.	Haryana	29499
12.	Himachal Pradesh	14398
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	13224
14.	Jharkhand	30757
15.	Karnataka	51030
16.	Kerala	9630
17.	Ladakh	515
18.	Lakshadweep	41
19.	Madhya Pradesh	196490
20.	Maharashtra	128677
21.	Manipur	880
22.	Odisha	56627
23.	Puducherry*	-
24.	Punjab	41922
25.	Rajasthan	64802
26.	Sikkim	580
27.	Tamil Nadu	56407
28.	Telangana	52096
29.	Tripura	3006
30.	Uttar Pradesh	304538
31.	Uttarakhand	35177
32.	West Bengal	30458
	Total	1454488

(*) Panchayat elections in Puducherry have not been conducted after 2011.
