

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2967
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 15TH FINANCE
COMMISSION**

2967 SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:

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

- (a) the current status of the implementation of the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission regarding the devolution of funds, functions, and functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (b) the measures implemented to ensure the participation of marginalized communities, including women, Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes, in the decision-making processes of PRIs; and
- (c) whether any special initiatives have been introduced to promote their leadership roles, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) "Panchayat", being "Local Government", is a state subject and part of State list of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of Constitution of India. It is up to the State to set up three/two tiers of Panchayats as mandate by Article 243 in Part IX of the Constitution of India. It is the responsibility of State Governments to devolve the funds, functions & functionaries & providing the infrastructural facilities to Panchayats.

Article 280 of the Constitution of India provides the basis for the Central Finance Commissions to assess the status of finances of the Union, States and their respective local bodies and recommend sharing of taxes as well as grants for various purposes to the States and Local Bodies. The Finance Commission grant can be used by Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) for location specific felt needs under 29 subjects enshrined in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution, except for salary or other establishment expenditure.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj has taken several measures, which include providing guidelines/advisories to States from time to time on effective devolution of powers, funds, functions, and functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) & capacity building thereof.

Grants from the 15th Finance Commission are being disbursed to all levels of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in accordance with the operational guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance. These grants are provided for implementing the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission concerning Rural Local Bodies during the financial years 2021-22 to 2025-26. Detailed information regarding the allocation and release of these grants to Rural Local Bodies/Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) across the states is provided in the Annexure.

(b) & (c) Part-IX of the Constitution, relating to Panchayats, ensures participation of people residing in rural areas by way of conducting direct elections to all the seats in a Panchayat as well as direct/indirect elections to the offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats to establish three-tiers of Panchayati Raj System. Article 243D guarantees representation for women, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by reserving a proportionate number of seats and Chairperson positions. States have been empowered to make provisions for reservation of seats or offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at any level in favour of the Backward class of citizens. Further, Article 243G of the Constitution ensures their involvement in preparation of plan and implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice.

Due to consistent follow-up actions with States for implementing constitutional provisions for PRIs, 21 States and 2 Union Territories have gone a step further by making provisions for 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions within their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules. The Ministry undertakes extensive capacity-building exercises for Elected Representatives, including Elected Women Representatives, through the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan scheme. This effort aims to develop the capabilities of Elected Women Representatives in Panchayats to enable them to function effectively and discharge their leadership roles efficiently.

The Ministry has issued advisories to States to facilitate the holding of separate Ward Sabha and Mahila Sabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings. Advisories have also been issued to States for enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings including for the preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans, implementation of schemes at Panchayats, allocation of Panchayat funds for women-centric activities.

Further, this Ministry has initiated the process of assisting the States/UTs in transforming the selected Gram Panchayats (GPs) by saturating these GPs in 'Theme 9-Women Friendly Gram Panchayat' of Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs). In this regard, State/UTs have identified and selected one GP in each district for transforming these GPs into Model Women Friendly Gram Panchayats (MWFGP). The Ministry has also collaborated with the United Nations Population Fund (formally the United Nations Fund for Population Activities -UNFPA) as Knowledge Partner to develop the training modules and to train cadre of Master

Trainers so as to assist States/UTs in building the capacity of their grassroots level Elected Representatives (ERs) and Panchayati Raj Functionaries on different features of Women Friendly towards developing Model Women Friendly Gram Panchayat.

Annexure

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2967
for 26.03.2025**

**The details of allocation and release of 15th Finance Commission grants to Rural Local
Bodies in the States (as on 21.03.2025)**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	States	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	Andhra Pradesh	2625.00	2625.00	1939.00	1917.85	2010.00	1976.75	2031.00	1997.45	2152.00	2109.97
2	Arunachal Pradesh	231.00	231.00	170.00	170.00	177.00		179.00		189.00	
3	Assam	1604.00	1604.00	1186.00	1186.00	1228.00	1228.00	1241.00	1241.00	1315.00	
4	Bihar	5018.00	5018.00	3709.00	3709.00	3842.00	3842.00	3884.00	3855.33	4114.00	4109.01
5	Chhattisgarh	1454.00	1454.00	1075.00	1075.00	1114.00	1114.00	1125.00	1125.00	1192.00	1185.25
6	Goa	75.00	75.00	55.00	55.00	57.00	48.46	58.00	8.62	62.00	
7	Gujarat	3195.00	3195.00	2362.00	2362.00	2446.00	2446.00	2473.00	2473.00	2619.00	
8	Haryana	1264.00	1264.00	935.00	935.00	968.00	967.30	979.00	953.59	1036.00	1012.51
9	Himachal Pradesh	429.00	429.00	317.00	317.00	329.00	329.00	332.00	318.04	352.00	229.19
10	Jharkhand	1689.00	1689.00	1249.00	1249.00	1293.00	1293.00	1307.00	1307.00	1385.00	
11	Karnataka	3217.00	3217.00	2377.00	2375.50	2463.00	2093.55	2490.00	2086.59	2637.00	1120.73
12	Kerala	1628.00	1628.00	1203.00	1203.00	1246.00	1246.00	1260.00	1260.00	1334.00	1334.00
13	Madhya Pradesh	3984.00	3984.00	2944.00	2944.00	3050.00	3050.00	3083.00	2819.24	3265.00	
14	Maharashtra	5827.00	5827.00	4307.00	4267.16	4461.00	3696.71	4510.00	3629.21	4776.00	2239.54
15	Manipur	177.00	177.00	131.00	65.50	135.00		137.00		145.00	
16	Meghalaya	182.00	182.00	135.00	67.50	140.00		141.00		149.00	
17	Mizoram	93.00	93.00	69.00	69.00	71.00	71.00	72.00		76.00	
18	Nagaland	125.00	125.00	92.00	92.00	96.00		97.00		102.00	
19	Odisha	2258.00	2258.00	1669.00	1669.00	1728.00	1728.00	1747.00	1746.91	1851.00	1851.00

20	Punjab	1388.00	1388.00	1026.00	1026.00	1062.00	1062.00	1074.00	1058.35	1138.00	562.93
21	Rajasthan	3862.00	3862.00	2854.00	2854.00	2957.00	2955.34	2989.00	2847.96	3166.00	2803.69
22	Sikkim	42.00	42.00	31.00	31.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	35.00	32.34
23	Tamil Nadu	3607.00	3607.00	2666.00	2666.00	2761.00	2761.00	2791.00	2791.00	2957.00	1478.50
24	Telangana	1847.00	1847.00	1365.00	1365.00	1415.00	1415.00	1430.00	1424.18	1514.00	
25	Tripura	191.00	191.00	141.00	141.00	147.00	147.00	148.00	148.00	157.00	78.50
26	Uttar Pradesh	9752.00	9752.00	7208.00	7208.00	7466.00	7466.00	7547.00	7547.00	7994.00	7994.00
27	Uttarakhand	574.00	574.00	425.00	418.70	440.00	439.21	445.00	444.13	471.00	234.91
28	West Bengal	4412.00	4412.00	3261.00	3261.00	3378.00	3378.00	3415.00	3415.00	3617.00	3472.22
	Total	60750.00	60750.00	44901.00	44699.22	46513.00	44786.31	47018.00	44529.58	49800.00	31848.29
