

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

**LOKSABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1289**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2017

**POWERS TO GRAM PANCHAYATS**

†1289. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- a) the powers conferred to the Gram Panchayats under 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitution Amendment Act;
- b) whether the Union Government proposes to delegate all the powers to the Gram Panchayats under the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitution Amendment Act;
- c) if so, the details thereof and time by which it is likely to be conferred; and
- d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps proposed to be taken thereon?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): 'Panchayats' being 'Local Bodies' is a State subject mandated under Part IX, and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. Article 243G of Part IX of the Constitution allows discretion to State Legislatures to endow, to the three-tier Panchayats including Gram Panchayats, with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of local self-governance including in areas illustratively listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution (**Annexe-I**). There is wide variation in the extent of devolution of powers to Gram Panchayats to plan, implement and monitor schemes for economic development and social justice. The status of devolution of powers to Gram Panchayats (GPs) is given at **Annexe II**.

(c) & (d): The implementation of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution introduced by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitution Amendment, including devolution of powers to Gram Panchayats by States, is reviewed by the Government from time to time through studies and discussions with

the States. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has continuously persuaded the State Governments to devolve powers to Panchayats and also provides assistance to the States/UTs for capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform devolved functions effectively and efficiently. The annual Devolution Index Report and the State of Panchayati Raj Reports commissioned by the MoPR assess the policy and legislative framework and outcomes of the powers devolved and utilised by the Panchayats in the States. States and Union Territories ranking higher on Devolution Index are awarded on 24<sup>th</sup> April, National Panchayat Day. The MoPR has also finalised and shared with States the guidelines for Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), which envisages that the States where the Constitutional provisions of Panchayats apply should set up empowered committees at States, District and Block level for monitoring and facilitation of convergent planning by the Gram Panchayats under their respective GPDP guidelines. All Part-IX States have finalized their respective GPDP guidelines thereby putting in place the above arrangements.

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**Annex I referred to in reply to Part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question  
No. 1289 for reply on 09.02.2017**

**ELEVENTH SCHEDULE  
(Article 243G)**

1. Agriculture, including agricultural extension.
2. Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation.
3. Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development.
4. Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry.
5. Fisheries.
6. Social forestry and farm forestry.
7. Minor forest produce.
8. Small scale industries, including food processing industries.
9. Khadi, village and cottage industries.
10. Rural housing.
11. Drinking water.
12. Fuel and fodder.
13. Roads, culverts, bridges, ferries, waterways and other means of communication.
14. Rural electrification, including distribution of electricity.
15. Non-conventional energy sources.
16. Poverty alleviation programme.
17. Education, including primary and secondary schools.
18. Technical training and vocational education.
19. Adult and non-formal education.
20. Libraries.
21. Cultural activities.
22. Markets and fairs.
23. Health and sanitation, including hospitals, primary health centers and dispensaries.
24. Family welfare.
25. Women and child development.
26. Social welfare, including welfare of the handicapped and mentally retarded.
27. Welfare of the weaker sections, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.
28. Public distribution system.
29. Maintenance of community assets.

**Annex II referred to in reply to Parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question  
No. 1289 for reply on 09.02.2017**

**Status of devolution of departments/subjects with functions to the Panchayati Raj  
Institutions in States/UTs**

SI. No	State/UT	No. and names of the Departments/subjects Transferred to Panchayats
		Functions
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	All the functions (29 subjects) have been transferred to the PRIs
2.	Andhra Pradesh	22 Government Orders (GOs) issued during 1997-2002. Further, 10 line departments have devolved certain powers to PRIs.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	29 subjects have been devolved. Government Orders covering 20 departments have been issued, but not yet implemented.  PRIs can exercise the powers of supervision and monitoring the implementation of plans in respect of all subjects coming under their respective jurisdiction.
4.	Assam	Activity-mapping done for 23 subjects. But Government Orders have been issued only for 7 subjects by 6 departments.
5.	Bihar	Activity Mapping of 20 Departments have been completed regarding the 29 subjects listed in the 11 <sup>th</sup> Schedule of the Constitution and accordingly, all concerned Departments have issued orders delegating powers to the Panchayats.
6.	Chhattisgarh	Activity Mapping of 27 matters has been undertaken. GOs not issued.
7.	Goa	18 matters have been devolved to GPs, while 6 matters devolved to ZPs.
8.	Gujarat	14 functions have been completely devolved and 5 are partially devolved.
9.	Haryana	Government Orders have been issued for 10 deptts.
10.	Himachal Pradesh	27 out of 29 subjects have been devolved to PRIs.
11.	J&K	State Govt. has issued Government Orders notifying activity mapping. Funds have been devolved in a limited sense. Functionaries have been identified in the Activity Mapping document who will assist Panchayats in carrying out assigned functions but have not been transferred.
12.	Jharkhand	Three departments, namely, Agriculture, Social Welfare and Primary Education have devolved functions to PRIs by Departmental Notification.
13.	Karnataka	Karnataka has delegated all 29 subjects to PRI by notifying Activity Mapping.
14.	Kerala	Activity mapping for all 29 functions done and activities

		devolved to Panchayats.
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Government Orders containing the Activity Mapping in respect of 25 matters pertaining to 22 depts. have been issued.
16.	Maharashtra	11 subjects have been fully devolved. For 18 subjects, schemes are implemented by PRIs.
17.	Manipur	Government Orders have been issued devolving functions related to 22 departments.
18.	Odisha	11 departments have devolved 21 subjects.
19.	Punjab	The devolution of 7 key departments relating to 13 subjects have been approved.
20.	Rajasthan	Five Departments have transferred all functions up to district level to PRIs. Fresh Activity Mapping of above 5 Departments has been done.
21.	Sikkim	All 29 subjects have been devolved as per legislation. Activity Mapping has been conducted for 20 subjects covering 16 departments.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Government of Tamil Nadu has delegated supervision and monitoring powers of 29 subject to PRIs
23.	Telengana	Certain Powers have been delegated to PRIs in respect of 10 Departments namely: Agriculture & Agriculture Extension, Animal Husbandry Dairy & Poultry, Fisheries, Rural Development, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Primary Secondary & Adult Education, Health PHC Dispensaries & Family Welfare, Social Welfare, Backward Class Welfare and Women & Child Development.
24.	Tripura	So far Government Orders have been issued devolving irrigation schemes, primary schools and activities related to adult and non-formal education, women and child development and social welfare.
25.	Uttar Pradesh	16 subjects relating to 12 departments have been devolved to PRIs.
26.	Uttarakhand	Master Government Order on transferring financial and administrative powers on 14 subjects has been issued in 2003.
27.	West Bengal	State Govt. agrees with transfer of 28 subjects. 14 departments have so far issued matching GOs transferring 27 subjects.
28.	Daman & Diu	12 subjects have been fully devolved and 10 subjects have been partially devolved.
29.	Puducherry	22 functions have been devolved to the PRIs.
30.	Lakshadweep	All Schemes and programmes being implemented by five major departments, viz Education, Medical & Health Services, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Agriculture have been transferred to the PRIs w.e.f 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2010.

31.	Chandigarh	A committee constituted by the Chandigarh Administration recommended transfer of some functions of 12 Departments. However, the State Govt. felt that such an exercise of devolving the functions to PRIs would only be an interim measure because fast urbanization would result in villages becoming part of Municipal Corporation in near future.
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**Note:** *Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland are exempt.*

- *Delhi has no Panchayats.*