GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 960 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2017

Biennial Report on Panchayats

† 960. SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR:

Will the Minister of Panchayati Raj be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring improvement in the biennial report on the status of panchayats and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to prepare the said report itself;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the name of the institution which is likely to be assigned the said task;

(d) whether the list of transfer of powers is likely to be included in the said report or it is to be made on annual basis and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any steps are being taken to delegate more powers to the Panchayats on the basis of list of transfer of power and to encourage the States to ensure transparency and accountability in Panchayats, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a), (b) & (c) : From time to time the State of Panchayat Report (SoPR) is got prepared by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to assess the actual status and functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), across the country except Meghalaya, Nagaland, Delhi and Chandigarh, covering aspects related to functioning of PRIs, through an independent agency. Efforts have always been made to improve the qualitative contents of the SoPR. The Ministry has assigned the work of preparation of State of Panchayat Report 2016-17 to M/s. Centre for Rural Management, Kottayam, Kerala.

(d) : Article 243G of the Constitution allows discretion to State Legislatures to consider the 29 subjects (list may be seen at Annexure) illustratively set out in the Eleventh Schedule for devolution to the Panchayats to enable them to function as institutions of local self-governance. Another type of study is got conducted by MoPR to assess the extent of devolution of Powers regarding subjects exclusively listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution to various tiers of Panchayats. The study is conducted by and large annually. However, SoPR also contains information regarding devolution of power.

(e) : MoPR has continuously been impressing upon the State Governments to devolve powers to Panchayats and also provided assistance to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform devolved functions effectively and efficiently. MoPR is implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project that seeks to transform the functioning of all the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), making them more transparent, accountable and effective as organs of decentralized self-governing institutions. To incentivize the implementation of e-Panchayat, the best performing States / UTs are conferred with the annual e-Puraskar, based on their level of preparedness for e-enablement.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 960 to be answered on 21.12.2017

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.