

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3777
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2018

Review of the Performance of PRIs

3777. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the budgetary allocation of funds are not sufficient for PRIs and if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the details of the various deficiencies noticed in the functioning of PRIs?

ANSWER

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

(a): 'Panchayat is a state subject mandated under Part IX and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) reviews the performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) from time to time through studies, review meetings, field visits, video conferences and other forums. MoPR periodically commissions studies on issues such as structure, finances, capacity building and training, elections, e-enablement, devolution of powers to various tiers of Panchayats and other issues affecting growth, development and performance of Panchayats.

(b): Panchayats get funds through sectoral schemes implemented by the Central as well as State Governments, Central and State Finance Commissions, levy of taxes, etc. Under the

Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) for the period 2015-20, grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore are allocated to Gram Panchayats constituted under Part IX of the Constitution for delivering basic services such as drinking water, sanitation and infrastructure etc. and technical and administrative support towards operations.

To strengthen governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions, the Government has launched in April 2018, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) for implementation during 2018-19 to 2021-22 with a total outlay of Rs. 7255.50 crore having Central share of Rs. 4500 crore and State share of 2755.50 crore.

(c): Inadequate devolution of powers, manpower constraints, inadequate/poor capacities of elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayats, lack of basic infrastructure and amenities in Panchayats, social inequalities and lack of transparency etc. are shortcomings in the functioning of Panchayats. To address these hurdles, MoPR has taken various measures which include issuing guidelines/advisories to States from time to time on effective devolution, basic infrastructure/amenities, strengthening of Gram Sabhas, enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of 10% of Panchayat funds for women centric activities and to curb the cases of proxy attendance by relatives of EWRs etc. Besides, assistance is also provided to the States/ UTs for capacity building of Panchayats under the relevant schemes for Capacity Building of PRIs.
