

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2640**  
ANSWERED ON 27.12.2018

**Women Representatives in PRIs**

†2640. SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding qualitative changes in the socio-economic condition of women through the increasing participation of women in PRIs;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the strategy formulated by the Government to upgrade socio-economic condition of women in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) A statement showing number of EWRs, State/UT-wise as per information received from States/UTs is given at Annexure.

(b) & (c) A nationwide study on EWRs in Panchayats commissioned by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) was published in 2008. The study assessed the empowerment of EWRs in various aspects including enhancement of the self-esteem, confidence and their decision making abilities. The study indicated that the participation of women in Gram Sabhas has increased, and attention was being given to women related issues such as drinking water, sanitation and child–sex ratio. The study reported that EWRs have made efforts to encourage girls' enrolment in schools and mitigate domestic violence.

(d) Article 243D of the Constitution ensures participation of women in PRIs by mandating not less than one-third reservation for women out of total number of seats to be filled by direct election and number of offices of chairpersons of Panchayats. Government has been encouraging increased involvement of women in the functioning of Panchayats through active participation in the Gram Sabha meetings for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans and various schemes being implemented by the Panchayats. MoPR has also issued advisories to the States to facilitate holding of separate Ward Sabha and Mahila Sabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings, enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of 10% of Panchayat funds for women centric activities, combating the evil of women trafficking, female foeticide, child marriage etc.

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## Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2640 for answer on 27.12.2018 regarding 'Women Representatives in PRIs'

S. No.	States / UTs	Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) (as per last Panchayat elections held in the States/UTs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	78,025
2	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	282
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3,658
4	Assam	13,410
5	Bihar	57,887
6	Chhattisgarh	93,287
7	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	47
8	Daman & Diu	92
9	Goa	516
10	Gujarat	71,988
11	Haryana	29,499
12	Himachal Pradesh	14,398
13	Jammu & Kashmir	11,169
14	Jharkhand	30,757
15	Karnataka	50,892
16	Kerala	9,630
17	Lakshadweep	41
18	Madhya Pradesh	1,96,490
19	Maharashtra	1,21,490
20	Manipur	868
21	Odisha	49,618
22	Punjab	29,190
23	Rajasthan	70,527
24	Sikkim	548
25	Tamil Nadu	39,975
26	Telangana	52,096
27	Tripura	3,006
28	Uttar Pradesh	2,72,733
29	Uttarakhand	35,957
30	West Bengal	29,518
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,67,594</b>