

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 3675
ANSWERED ON- 16.07.2019

CORRUPTION IN PRIs

3675. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there has been corruption in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to bring about changes in the Panchayati Raj System in order to strengthen it and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the views of State Governments have been taken in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Union Government to incorporate their views while making such changes; and
- (d) whether any study/assessment has been made on the performance of the Panchayati Raj System and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) Panchayat is a State subject and as set out in Article 243G of the Constitution, it is the State Legislatures who may by law endow `the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government`. Accordingly, States have enacted Panchayati Raj Acts for functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI). It is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to monitor the implementation of works, the delivery of services and there are provisions for appropriate action in case of complaints pertaining to PRIs under respective States.

(b) Panchayat is a State subject, accordingly the responsibility to take steps towards strengthening Panchayati Raj primarily lies with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is implementing the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) to support State Governments/ Union Territory

Administrations in this effort. The activities permissible under RGSA for strengthening the Panchayati Raj System include providing capacity building and training of Elected Representatives and Panchayat functionaries.

(c) The views and feedback from the State Governments is continuously taken towards formulation or modification of implementation guidelines of RGSA.

(d) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj had been carrying out an annual study in the form of 'Panchayat Devolution Index' (PDI) from 2006 onwards, through independent institutions, to assess and rank each State in the matters of devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries to Panchayats. Twenty six States and six Union Territories (UTs) participated in the Panchayat Devolution Index (PDI) study for the year 2015-16. The following States ranked higher on PDI were conferred citation awards on the National Panchayati Raj Day held on 24th April, 2016.

Cumulative Devolution Index Awards

Name of State	Rank
Kerala	First
Maharashtra	Second
Karnataka	Third
Sikkim	First among NE States and over all rank Sixth

Incremental Devolution Index Awards

Name of State	Rank
Andhra Pradesh	First
Sikkim	Second
Odisha	Third

Ranking of States having Fifth Scheduled Areas

Name of State	Rank
Gujarat	First
Madhya Pradesh	First
