

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3241
ANSWERED ON-21.03.2023

GRAM PANCHAYATS

3241. SHRI MAHESH SAHOO:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Gram Panchayats running in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to consolidate the smaller Gram Panchayat for better administration and utilisation of fund;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of requirements for declaration of an area as Gram Panchayat?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) As per data available with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the total number of Gram Panchayats in all States and Union Territories, covered under Part-IX of the Constitution of India, is 2,55,626.

(b) to (d) “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject in terms of the State list of Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India. Mandate for setting up of Panchayats is provided by Article 243C in Part IX of the Constitution of India. The Panchayats are setup and operated through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Accordingly, Panchayats are primarily the responsibility of concerned State Governments and consolidation of the Gram Panchayats for better administration and utilisation of fund or to fix any requirement for declaration of an area as Gram Panchayat, comes within the purview of State Governments.

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