Will the Minister of Panchayati Raj be pleased to state:

(a) the norms and rules governing the utilization of funds allocated to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) under different schemes;
(b) whether the funds allocated to the States under different schemes which have been utilized fully by them;
(c) if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
(d) the action taken by the Government to ensure full utilization of funds allocated under Panchayati Raj Scheme?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) to (c) The grants released under the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan(RGSA) to States/ UTs are utilized by them for undertaking the activities sanctioned / permitted under their Annual Plans viz as recommended by Central Empowered Committee (CEC) and finally approved by the Competent Authority, as per scheme guidelines. The funds under RGSA are released/utilised especially for capacity building and training of elected representatives and their functionaries of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and development of infrastructure like Gram Panchayat Bhawan and computerization of Panchayats. The funds under Incentivization of Panchayat (IoP) scheme are released as financial incentives to the best performing Panchayats in recognition of their good work for improving delivery of services and public goods.

(d) The progress of implementation of the scheme, including utilisation of funds, is closely monitored through meetings, video- conferences etc. with the States. For further release of funds to the States, the status of utilization of funds released earlier is also taken into account. In addition to this, an online monitoring and reporting system (MIS) for RGSA has been developed and operationlised. Moreover, transaction based Public Financial Management System (PFMS) has been introduced for release and tracking of funds under RGSA.