

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 788
ANSWERED ON-07.02.2023

CONSOLIDATION OF GRAM PANCHAYATS

788. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Gram Panchayats in the country;
- (b) the number of Gram Panchayats having population of fewer than 1000 individuals;
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes that the States should consolidate some of the Gram Panchayats for better administration or for any other reasons;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether there should be a threshold population for declaring a particular administrative region as Gram Panchayat and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) & (b) 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 2,55,600 and the number of Gram Panchayats having population of fewer than 1000 individuals is 29,217 as per census 2011 data.

(c) to (e) “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 or for any other reasons or to fix any threshold population for declaring a particular administrative region as Gram Panchayat, comes within the purview of State Governments.

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