GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1595 ANSWERED ON 12/12/2023

GRAM PANCHAYAT BUILDINGS

1595. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many newly formed Gram Panchayats are not having own office buildings and also many existing Gram Panchayat buildings are in dilapidated conditions in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is planning to formulate a scheme for sanction and allocation of funds for construction of new Gram Panchayat Buildings where ever required; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) to (c) Panchayat being State subject, providing Panchayat Bhawan for Gram Panchayats (GPs) is primarily the responsibility of States. The States are expected to mobilise funds for construction of Panchayat Buildings from various sources. However, under the revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) scheme approved for implementation from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2026, has been supplementing the efforts of all States/UTs with focus on NE States, towards supporting the functioning of GPs by providing Panchayat Bhawan as proposed by States/UTs in their Annual Action Plan and approved by Central Empowered Committee on a limited scale. As per the information available, out of 269073 Gram Panchayats (GPs)/ Traditional Local Bodies (TLBs), 35439 GPs are not having own Panchayat Bhawan. Keeping in view felt need of Panchayat Bhawan and also taking into consideration limited resources under revamped RGSA, the States have been advised to ensure that the construction of GP Bhawan are taken up on priority by converging funds / resources under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), unspent funds of 14th Finance Commission, funds from 15th Finance Commission and also those from State schemes etc., to saturate the gap.
