

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4383
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2021

FACILITIES TO PANCHAYATS IN GUJARAT

4383. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of facilities provided by Government to Panchayats in the State of Gujarat;
- (b) the extent to which the objectives of Panchayats have been achieved, area-wise, during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the basic facilities provided to Panchayats in order to improve the standard of people living in remote villages of the State of Gujarat, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b) Panchayat, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of State list of Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India. Mandate for setting up of Panchayats is provided by Article 243 in Part IX of the Constitution of India. Accordingly, the Panchayats are setup and operated through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Providing the necessary facilities to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) is the responsibility of the States. As per information available, computer, printer, scanner, web camera, fire extinguisher, Solar RO system etc. are provided by the State to the Gram Panchayats.

The Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) for the award period 2015-20 allocated Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore to Gram Panchayats, amounting to an assistance of Rs. 488 per capita per annum at an aggregate level to the Gram Panchayats constituted under Part IX of the Constitution to 26 States including Gujarat. The Grants were meant for delivering basic services, namely, water supply, sanitation, sewerage, solid waste management, storm water drainage, maintenance of community assets, roads, footpath, street lighting, burial and cremation grounds etc and any other basic services entrusted under State Legislations etc.

Under Fifteenth Finance Commission (XVFC) interim award period 2020-21, grants to the tune of Rs. 60,750 crores have been recommended by the Commission for all tiers of the Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in 28 States including Gujarat. 50% of the allocation is Basic (Untied) Grants to be used by the local bodies for location-specific felt needs, except for salary or other establishment expenditure. Rest 50% allocation is Tied Grants to be used for the basic services of (a) sanitation and maintenance of open –defection free (ODF) status and (b) supply of drinking water, rain water harvesting and water recycling.

Further, XVFC has allocated grants amounting to the tune of Rs. 2,36,805 crore in 28 States including Gujarat for RLBs for the five year period 2021-22 to 2025-26. 40% of the

recommended grant will be Basic Grants to be used by RLBs for felt needs under the twenty nine subjects enshrined in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. Remaining 60% as Tied Grants is to be used for the basic services of (a) sanitation and maintenance of ODF status, and this should include management and treatment of household waste, and human excreta and faecal sludge management in particular and (b) supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting and water recycling.

Status of allocation and release of Finance Commission Grant to Gujarat for providing aforesaid basic services in Rural Local Bodies during the last three years and the current year is given in the table below.

(Rs. in crore)

2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1683.08	1683.08	1942.96	1725.36	2616.26	2331.33	3195.00	2396.25

(c): MoPR reviews the performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) throughout the country from time to time through studies, review meetings, field visits, video conferencing, Information Technology applications, Common Review Missions (CRMs) etc. Assets created for Basic Services by the Panchayats using Finance Commission Funds are to be geotagged in the eGramSwaraj portal. In the State of Gujarat 74122 number of assets created out of Fourteenth and Fifteenth Finance Commission Grants have been so far geotagged, as per data available on eGramSwaraj Portal.
