GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1460 ANSWERED ON 26/07/2022

REVIEW OF BASIC FACILITIES PROVIDED TO PANCHAYATS

1460. MS. DIYA KUMARI: SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of facilities provided by the Government to Panchayats in the country;
- (b) the extent to which the objectives of Panchayats have been achieved during the last three years and the current year, area-wise; and
- (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 Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(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, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) supplements the efforts of the States through Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) and grant of Finance Commission.

Under Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) award, Rs. 2,00,292.20 Crore had been allocated to the Gram Panchayats (GPs) constituted under Part IX of the Constitution in 26 States for the award period 2015-20 for delivering basic services including water supply, sanitation including septage management, sewerage and solid waste management, storm water drainage, maintenance of community assets, maintenance of roads, footpaths and street-lighting, and burial and cremation grounds, and any other basic service within the functions assigned to them under relevant legislations.

Further, Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants are provided to the Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in all the three tiers of Panchayats and Traditional Bodies in 28 States. The allocation of these grants were Rs. 60,750 Crores for the interim period of 2020-21 and Rs. 2,36,805Crores for the period 2021-26. XV FC Grants have two components; namely, Basic (Untied) Grants and Tied Grants. The Basic (Untied) grants can be used for felt needs of basic facilities under the 29 subjects enshrined in the XI schedule, except for salaries and other establishment costs. The Tied Grants are to be utilised for basic facilities, specifically, for drinking water and sanitation.

Status of allocation and release of Finance Commission Grants to States for Panchayats during the last three years and the current year (as on 21.07.2022) is given in the table below:

(Rs. in Crore)

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2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
60687.13	52461.65	60750.00	60750.00	44901.00	39332.85	46513.00	5352.10

(c) MoPR reviews the performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) throughout the country including Rajasthan from time to time through studies, review meetings, field visits, video conferencing, Information Technology applications etc.