

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2659
ANSWERED ON-02.08.2022

FUNCTIONING OF PANCHAYATI RAJ SYSTEM

†2659. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is monitoring the supervision of proper functioning of Panchayati Raj System of the entire country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of States which have implemented and fulfilled the main purpose of Panchayati Raj System, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure the active participation of women at village panchayat level?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) and (b) Panchayat, being “Local Government”, is a State Subject and part of the State List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Accordingly, Panchayats are set up and operate through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Functioning of Panchayati Raj System is monitored mainly by the State Governments. However, Ministry of Panchayati Raj reviews their performance from time to time, through studies, review meetings, field visits, video conferencing, Information Technology applications, Common Review Missions etc. All the States/Union Territories, covered under Part IX of the Constitution, have implementation the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution, relating to Panchayats, through their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Regulations, subject to the provisions of the Constitution.

(c) In terms of provisions of Part IX of the Constitution, all Panchayat related matters, including active participation of women at village panchayat level, are governed by the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts and rules. However, Government has been encouraging increased involvement of women in the functioning of Panchayats through active participation in the Gram Sabha meetings for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans and various schemes being implemented by the Panchayats. This Ministry has also issued advisories to the States to facilitate holding of separate Ward Sabha and Mahila Sabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings, enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of Panchayat funds for women centric activities, combating the evil of women trafficking, female foeticide, child marriage etc.