

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2340**  
ANSWERED ON-06.08.2024

**MEETING OF GRAM SABHA**

†2340. SHRI LUMBA RAM:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether organisation of regular meetings of Gram Sabhas is mandated to develop a sense of transparency and accountability in Gram Panchayats and their functioning;
- (b) if so, the details of Gram Sabhas which hold at least six meetings in a year across all Panchayats of Rajasthan including Jalore and Sirohi districts;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action against the Panchayats which hold less than six meetings of Gram Sabha;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is necessary to make Gram Sabhas effective to ensure the active role of Gram Panchayats;
- (f) if so, whether the Government proposes to develop an integrated and real time online system for organising meetings of Gram Sabhas regularly, preparing agenda and making action reports; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) to (d) In terms of provisions of Article 243A of the Constitution of India, a Gram Sabha may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide. Therefore, powers and functions of a Gram Sabha, including to organise Gram Sabha meetings and to take action for not holding Gram Sabha meetings etc., are governed by the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts and rules, which may vary

across States. Details of Gram Sabha meetings held by the States, including State of Rajasthan, are not maintained centrally.

(e) to (g) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has circulated detailed advisories to the States and Union Territories in August 2021 and September 2022, to revitalize the institution of Gram Sabhas by taking up measures such as sharing basic details of flagship schemes of the Government in Gram Sabha meetings, increasing the frequency of Gram Sabhas, preparation of regular standing agenda for the Gram Sabha, preparation of annual calendar for Gram Sabha, attendance of Group 'A' and 'B' officers in the Gram Sabha meetings, ensuring maximum attendance in Gram Sabha, formation and functioning of Standing Sub-Committees of Gram Sabha, and assigning meaningful and effective roles to the ward members as sector enablers and members of the sub-committee etc. Further, to facilitate meetings of Gram Sabha becoming more participatory, transparent and vibrant, Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also launched 'Panchayat-NIRNAY' App.

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