

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO– 1863
ANSWERED ON- 11.03.2025

CONSTITUTION OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

1863. SHRI MOHMAD HANEEFA:

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

- (a) the details of the delimitation exercise of constituencies of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) being carried out in the Union Territory of Ladakh along with the timeline of its completion;
- (b) whether any complaints regarding delimitation of constituencies of local self-Government institutions in the UT of Ladakh have been received by the Union Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of action proposed/taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government has set any timeline by which elections to the Panchayati Raj Institutions will be held and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) The Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh has informed that the authority for the delimitation of Panchayats rests with the State Election Commission, UT of Ladakh as per section 36(D) (cc) of the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989. The last delimitation for the constituencies of the Panchayati Raj Institutions was carried out in 2017 on the basis of 2011 census and since then the delimitation exercise has not been carried out in the UT of Ladakh since no new Census data was published.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Panchayats are set up and operate through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts which may vary from State to State, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Article 243E(1) of the Constitution of India provides holding of elections to the Panchayats every five years. Further Article 243E(3) of the Constitution states that elections to constitute a Panchayat shall be completed before the expiry of its duration of five years or before the expiration of a period of six months from the date of its dissolution. Therefore, the timely holding of Panchayat elections in a State/UT is a Constitutional requirement. Accordingly, the States/UTs conduct elections to the Panchayats. As per information received from UT of Ladakh, the last elections for the Panchayats were held in December 2018. Further, this Ministry also sends advisories to the States/UTs, from time to time, to hold the panchayat elections on time. Such latest advisory has been sent to the UT of Ladakh on 18.12.2024.
