

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- †2943
ANSWERED ON- 18.03.2025

FARMERS OWNERSHIP LANDS

†2943. SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give the right of ownership to the farmers who have been working on the lands of Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti for long period of time; and

(b) if so, the time by when they are likely to get this right?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) & (b) “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 243G of the Constitution empowers the Legislature of a State to make provisions, by law, for the devolution of power and responsibilities upon Panchayat at appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified, with respect to the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice and implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to matters included in the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution. The State legislatures are to consider the 29 subjects illustratively set out in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution for devolution of power and responsibilities upon Panchayats. Accordingly, all matters relating to Panchayats, including the right of ownership to the farmers who have been working on the lands of Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti, comes under the jurisdiction of State Government.

Further, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has not made any proposal to give the right of ownership to the farmers who have been working on the lands of Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti for long period of time. Under Svamitva Scheme, the States have been facilitated to grant ownership right to people residing in rural Abadi areas. Due to end on 31 March 2026, under this Scheme 31 States/Union Territories have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with Survey of India and drone survey is 93% complete.
