THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Establishment of Nyaya Panchayats in the country is under consideration of Union Government. The details are being worked out.

(d) and (e) No firm date for introduction of the Nyaya Panchayats Bill can be given as the details are being worked out.

Programmes and Schemes for Panchayati Raj

3472. SHRI SABIR ALI: SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the Programmes and Schemes to promote and strengthen Panchayati Raj in the country;
- (b) the State which is best in performance in the matter of implementation of Panchayati Raj;
 - (c) the States where it is still to be fully implemented; and
- (d) the incentives for proper implementation and development of Panchayati Raj in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (d) Panchayati Raj is a States subject and accordingly the responsibility of promoting and strengthening Panchayati Raj lies with the State Governments. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has schemes of Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEIAS), Rashtriya Gram Sawraj Yojana, Panchayat Mahila and Yuva Shakti Abhiyan, Backward Regions (Grant Fund and Rural Business Hubs to support State Governments in this effort.

PEAIS encourages States in empowering PRIs by incentivizing devolution to Functions, Funds and Functionaries to PRIs and prizes are given to better performing States. For the year 2008-09, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Assam got the prizes.

Financial assistance to local bodies

3473. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given direct financial assistance to the municipal and panchayat bodies in Goa; and
- (b) if so, the details of the financial assistance given to the village panchayats, zilla panchayats and the lone municipal body in the Goa in the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.