

Financial Year	No. of Women provided assistance
2009-10	- 05
2010-11	- 43
2011-12	- 07
2012-13 (till date)	- 39

(c) and (d) The results achieved in respect of the women assisted under the scheme are being collected and the same will be placed on the table of the House.

**Delay in Panchayat Elections in Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry**

2685. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether about a year has lapsed since the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) completed their respective terms in Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry;

(b) whether the failure to hold elections does not constitute a violation of the relevant provisions of the Constitution; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to restore the constitutional order in Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Elections to Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh scheduled in 2011 could not be held because of a stay ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh on account of issue related to percentage of reservation of seats and offices for people belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Andhra Pradesh Government had filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, which in its interim orders dated 18.2.2013 has permitted the State Government to conduct elections to Panchayats. As per information received, the State Government has initiated process of conducting elections to Panchayats.

Elections to Panchayats were also scheduled in Puducherry in 2011 but could

not be held due to non-appointment of State Election Commissioner. This Ministry has been pursuing the matter with the Union Territory for early elections to Panchayats. The State Election Commissioner has been appointed. The UT Government had informed that the matter of conducting civic election in the UT was challenged in the High Court of judicature at Chennai which has directed the UT Administration to conduct civic elections only after the delimitation of wards based on Census 2011. The UT Government has informed that they have initiated action in compliance with the order of the Hon'ble Court.

#### **Weightage to general studies in UPSC Exam**

2686. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to give more weightage to General Studies in Union Public Service Commission's Civil Services Examinations for both preliminary and mains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the changes affected by UPSC in the recent past brought more results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) There are no changes made in the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2013, including in the paper of General Studies.

In so far as the changes in Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2013 are concerned, the notification issued on 05.03.2013 in this regard has been kept in abeyance and the status quo ante is maintained as on date.

(c) and (d) No such study has been made by the Government to assess the impact.

#### **Collaboration of LBSNAA**

2687. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration