

Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to the maintenance of accounts by the Panchayats and the auditing of such accounts.

Release of funds under Panchayati Raj System

1202.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received many proposals regarding releasing of funds under the Panchayati Raj system for various States/UTs including Kerala during the last year and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State/UT-wise;

(c) the major obstacles in effective functioning of PRIs and the steps taken/being taken for resolving these issue; and

(d) the mechanism framed to ensure that the programmes and the funds spent has been benefiting the Panchayats of the villages in remote areas hilly regions, deserts etc. across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NIHALCHAND): (a) and (b) Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) scheme launched during Twelfth Five Year Plan Period provides financial support to States/UTs for strengthening the Panchayati Raj system across the country and also to address critical gaps that constrain it. RGPSA funds are accessed by States as per need based and context specific plans prepared by them. The scheme became fully operational during 2013-14 and 24 States were provided central assistance to the tune of ₹ 560.60 crore. During 2014-15 Plans of 26 States/UTs have been approved by the Central Executive Committee (CEC) and central assistance to the tune of ₹ 478.97 crore have been provided to these States/UTs. State-wise release under RGPSA scheme during 2013-14 and 2014-15 is given in Statement-I (*See below*). The Ministry has received proposals from various States including Kerala for release of funds under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme. A Statement showing State-wise funds released during 2013-14 and 2014-15 under the BRGF Programme is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Poor capacities of Panchayats combined with low devolution of powers, lack of adequate administrative and technical manpower at GP level, poor resource generation capacity of the panchayat, inadequate CB&T strategies and infrastructure for the same has been the major constraints in effective functioning of PRIs. The RGPSA scheme addresses to the above constraints. In the BRGF Programme

the central role in planning and implementation is assigned to the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Plans are prepared from the grassroots level upwards rather than the top down approach. The District Plans prepared by the Panchayats and Municipalities are consolidated by the District Planning Committees constituted in accordance with Article 243 ZD of the Constitution. This provision has strengthened and activated the DPCs across the country. MoPR periodically reviews the working of PRIs with the State Governments in the meeting, through field visits and studies.

Statement-I***Release of funds under Panchayati Raj System to be hdd on 09.03.2015***

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Amount of Central Share released during 2013-14 (In ₹ Crore approx) (As on 31-03-2014)	Amount of Central Share released during 2014-15 (In ₹ Crore approx) (As on 04-03-2015)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	76.24	24.19
2.	Assam	16.65	26.04
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.71	7.72
4.	Bihar	8.61	63.67
5.	Chhattisgarh	25.73	11.39
6.	Gujarat	31.65	1.06
7.	Haryana	2.93	18.78
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.84	15.26
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	9.45	8.58
10.	Jharkhand	16.45	16.20
11.	Karnataka	25.56	46.81
12.	Kerala	16.58	14.49
13.	Manipur	1.60	5.42
14.	Madhya Pradesh	42.83	37.46

1	2	3	4
15.	Maharashtra	83.17	34.76
16.	Odisha	28.73	32.92
17.	Punjab	7.97	-
18.	Rajasthan	15.45	11.56
19.	Sikkim	3.15	6.85
20.	Telangana	-	29.94
21.	Tamil Nadu	58.14	20.16
22.	Tripura	9.09	2.36
23.	Uttarakhand	5.47	13.04
24.	Uttar Pradesh	42.37	_*
25.	West Bengal	8.23	27.71
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	1.09
27.	Daman and Diu	-	1.51
TOTAL		560.60	478.97

*Funds could not be released due to excess funds available with the State

Statement-II

BRGF funds released during 2013-14 and 2014-15

(Amount in ₹ crore)

Sl. No.	State	Funds Released	
		2013-14	2014-15 (As on 3.3.2015)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	325.62	26.06
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	15.35

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	76.40	139.41
4.	Bihar	485.80	206.52
5.	Chhattisgarh	192.56	218.26
6.	Gujarat	42.87	65.07
7.	Haryana	26.41	12.98
8.	Himachal Pradesh	27.79	11.92
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.40	45.67
10.	Jharkhand	40.85	281.75
11.	Karnataka	71.22	46.53
12.	Kerala	0.00	29.20
13.	Madhya Pradesh	279.21	221.22
14.	Maharashtra	246.82	236.14
15.	Manipur	39.83	36.76
16.	Meghalaya	32.41	2.56
17.	Mizoram	25.36	24.39
18.	Nagaland	9.12	60.87
19.	Odisha	283.63	179.46
20.	Punjab	0.00	14.87
21.	Rajasthan	62.30	211.45
22.	Sikkim	8.68	12.32
23.	Tamil Nadu	94.42	42.42
24.	Telangana*	0.00	89.42
25.	Tripura	13.04	12.63
26.	Uttar Pradesh	273.35	346.86

1	2	3	4
27.	Uttarakhand	22.79	2.53
28.	West Bengal	99.12	226.64
	TOTAL	2800.00	2819.26

*Telangana is the newly carved out State from Andhra Pradesh during 2014-15.

Decentralization of power among Panchayati Raj Institutions

1203. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Institute of Public Administration has conducted a study on decentralization of power among Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);
- (b) if so, the details of the findings;
- (c) the States which have ranked first five in decentralizing power to PRIs;
- (d) the criteria fixed for evaluation of States; and
- (e) the areas where States have been found lacking in their will to devolve power to PRIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NIHALCHAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Twenty five States including 5 in the North Eastern Region and 4 Union Territories (UTs) participated in the evaluation study of Panchayat Devolution Index (PDI) by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi during 2013-14. The study assessed the extent to which States had devolved functions, funds and functionaries to States alongwith the efforts made for capacity building and ensuring accountability of Panchayats. The study measured the cumulative as well as incremental performance of States.

(c) The name of the States which have ranked first five in decentralizing powers to PRIs are as under: