

(b) and (c) As 'Panchayat' is a state subject, Complaints regarding Elected Representatives are handled by States. Ministry has not received any complaint of harassment or non cooperation from Women Sarpanchs.

Functions of the Ministry

1830. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Planning is existing;
- (b) if so, the justification of its existence after abolition of the Planning Commission;
- (c) what are the functions of this Ministry; and
- (d) what policies it has suggested during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per Cabinet Secretariat Notification dated 23rd March, 2015 amending there with Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, Ministry of Planning has the responsibility to Parliament in regard to the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India). The NITI Aayog is the successor in interest to the Planning Commission. A copy of the Notification is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) Policy Initiatives taken in last two years include among others; Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) including Self Employment and Talent Utilisation (SETU). The features of these programmes are (i) AIM is an Innovation Promotion Platform involving academics, entrepreneurs, and researchers drawing upon national and international experiences to foster a culture of innovation, R and D in India. The platform will also promote a network of world-class innovation hubs and grand challenges for India and (ii) SETU is a Techno-Financial, Incubation and Facilitation Programme to support all aspects of start-up businesses, and other self-employment activities, particularly in technology-driven areas. In addition Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) has been set up by the Government of India by an order dated 18th September 2015 as an attached office of NITI Aayog to fulfil the mandate of Evaluation and Monitoring assigned to NITI Aayog.

Statement**No. 1/21/1/2015-Cab.****Government of India (Bharat Sarkar)****Cabinet Secretariat (Mantrimandal Sachivalaya)****Rashtrapati Bhawan**

New Delhi, the 23rd March, 2015

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith for information a copy of the notification dated 21st March, 2015 by the President under clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution regarding Amendment to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.

Sd/-
(Sanjukta Ray)
Director
Tele: 2379 2204

Series No. 312

Dated: 21st March, 2015

To

All Secretaries of the Government of India/CEO, NITI Aayog/Chairman, Railway Board/Director, Institute of Secretariat Training and Management/Establishment Officer, Department of Personnel and Training/Accounts Officer, Pay and Accounts Office, Cabinet Secretariat.

Copy, with a copy of enclosure, forwarded to all Ministries/Departments of Government of India/Lok Sabha Secretariat (Question Branch/Lok Sabha Secretariat (Legislative Branch)/Rajya Sabha Secretariat (Question Branch/Committee Coordination Section)/Union Public Service Commission/Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs/Parliamentary Library (5 Copies).

Sd/-
(Sanjukta Ray)
Director

Copy, with a copy of enclosure, forwarded to the Joint Secretary and Legislative Counsel, Official Language Wing, Indian Law Building, Bhagwan Das Marg, New Delhi, for information.

Sd/-
(Sanjukta Ray)
Director

100 copies.

(To be published in
Part II, Section 3,
Sub - section (ii)
of the Gazette of
India, Extraordinary,
Dated the 23rd March, 2015)

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NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st March, 2015.

S.O. _____ (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution, the President hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Three Hundred and Twelfth Amendment Rules, 2015.
(2) They shall come into force at once.
2. In the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961,-
 - (1) in THE FIRST SCHEDULE, for the heading "49. Planning Commission (Yojana Ayog)", the following heading shall be substituted, namely:-
"49. NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India)";
 - (2) in THE SECOND SCHEDULE,-
 - (I) under the heading "MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRALAYA)", under the sub-heading "A. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (KRISHI AUR SAHKARITA VIBHAG)", after entry 53, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:-
"54. National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA).";
 - (II) under the heading "MINISTRY OF PLANNING (YOJANA MANTRALAYA)", for the existing entry, the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-
"Responsibility to Parliament in regard to the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India).";

- (III) for the heading "PLANNING COMMISSION (YOJANA AYOOG)" and the entries 1 to 13 (both inclusive), the following heading and entries shall be substituted, namely:-

"NITI AAYOG (NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR TRANSFORMING INDIA)

1 NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India):

- (i) a. To evolve a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States in the light of national objectives
- b. To foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the States on a continuous basis, recognizing that strong States make a strong nation
- c. To develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government
- d. To ensure, on areas that are specifically referred to it, that the interests of national security are incorporated in economic strategy and policy
- e. To pay special attention to the sections of our society that may be at risk of not benefitting adequately from economic progress
- f. To design strategic and long term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives, and monitor their progress and their efficacy. The lessons learnt through monitoring and feedback will be used for making innovative improvements, including necessary mid-course corrections
- g. To provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders and national and international like-minded Think Tanks, as well as educational and-policy research institutions
- h. To create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts, practitioners and other partners
- i. To offer a platform for resolution of inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the development agenda

- j. To maintain a state-of-the-art Resource Centre, be a repository of research on good governance and best practices in sustainable and equitable development as well as help their dissemination to stakeholders
 - k. To actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery
 - l. To focus on technology upgradation and capacity building for implementation of programmes and initiatives
 - m. To undertake other activities as may be necessary in order to further the execution of the national development agenda, and the objectives mentioned above
- (ii) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
- (iii) National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD)
2. The NITI Aayog is the successor in interest to the Planning Commission."

Pranab Mukherjee

President

[File No. 1/21/1/2015-Cab.]

Sd/-

(Sanjukta Ray)

Director

Efficient management of public expenditure

1831. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a High Level Expert Committee on efficient Management of Public Expenditure has been constituted by the NITI Aayog;
- (b) if so, the broad terms of reference of the Committee;
- (c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the broad recommendations of the Committee; and