

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PANCHAYATI RAJ  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4101  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014  
INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES TO PANCHAYATS  
Godse Shri Hemant Tukaram;Rajoria Dr. Manoj

**Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to provide infrastructural facilities to panchayats in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has made provision for providing Panchayat Ghar in each village of the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any special fund has been allocated to various States / UTs including Rajasthan for this purpose and if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, year and State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether many villages in the country including Rajasthan do not have Panchayat Ghar yet and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State / UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to ensure the availability of one Panchayat Ghar in the country with necessary civic infrastructural facilities?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI UPENDER KHUSWAHA)

a) & b) To equip the Panchayats with requisite infrastructure facilities is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Under Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA), the Central Government supports construction and repair of gram panchayat bhavans and e-enablement of gram panchayats. Infrastructural facilities to panchayats are also being provided under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), another flagship programme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, subject to inclusion in the approved district plans.

c) There is no proposal to allocate special funds to States / UTs including Rajasthan for construction of buildings. However, this Ministry provides funds to States under BRGF, which are in the nature of untied grants, for Panchayats to undertake works based on felt local needs including construction of Panchayat Ghars. Also, under the RGPSA the proposals of the States for providing funds to build Panchayat Ghars are considered as per stipulated guidelines of the scheme. Under the scheme of RGPSA, the Ministry provided financial assistance to some States during the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and the current financial year (till date) for these purposes. The details are given in statement at Annexure -I.

d) As per information available, there are many villages across the country, including in Rajasthan, which do not have Panchayat Ghars. Before the launch of the scheme of RGPSA in 12th Five Year plan period, there were around 59000 Gram Panchayats without Panchayat Ghars (Details are given in statement at Annexure II). Main reason for this appears to be paucity of funds with the State Governments for this purpose, and the absence of administrative structures at that level of decentralisation.

e) Providing Panchayat Ghars in the villages is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions across the country, funds under the RGPSA are provided to a very limited scale based on proposals of the States subject to certain conditions. Besides, the States can also utilise untied funds available under the BRGF as per their needs for this purpose subject to specified conditions.