

**Ministry panchayati Raj**  
**Monthly Summary for the month of May, 2018**

1. There was a pending case since 2011 regarding Panchayat election due in Puducherry but it could not be conducted till date. The SLP was decided on 8/5/2018 by Hon'ble Supreme Court. Hon'ble Supreme Court ordered in support of this Ministry and instructed the State Election Commission to complete the delimitation within 4 weeks and conduct the election at the earliest. Further, in the judgement it was categorically stated that "Needless to add, no further delay can be brooked, and it will be open for any party to come back to this Court in case the needful is not done within the strict time limit fixed by us. We make it clear that on no account will the election process be stalled after delimitation is complete".
2. A Committee for preparation of draft framework for implementation of the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Iqbal Singh Bains, Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh. The Committee also had Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of States of Assam, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Telangana as Members. The Committee met on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 and discussed regarding the focus areas of the draft framework. Subsequently, the draft framework for implementation of RGSA was prepared for circulation to the States for consultation. The consultation meeting with all states was organised on 4-5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 at NIRD& PR, Hyderabad for finalisation of framework for implementation.
3. As a measure towards augmenting transparency and accountability in management of finances available to Panchayats from various sources, MoPR has been rigorously pursuing the States for adoption of Public Financial Management System (PFMS). Several Video Conferences were held during the month of May 2018 (02, 04, 10 & 25 May 2018). Significant progress has been achieved in the status of adoption of PFMS viz. registration of GPs, procurement of DSCs, closure of annual accounts for FY 2017-18 in PRIASoft, mapping of vendor registration and preparation of training calendar.
4. During the month, three meetings of the Expert Committee constituted to prepare the Memorandum of the Ministry to be submitted to the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission were organized to deliberate on important issues to be incorporated in the memorandum. The committee has submitted its report projecting the fund requirement from the Fifteenth Finance Commission with details of activities to be supported by the grant of the commission for transforming rural areas.
5. During the month, MoPR has recommended to Ministry of Finance(MoF) for release of 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of Basic Grant of Rs. 604.12 crore to Jharkhand, Rs. 401.39 crore to Kerala, Rs. 1502.185 crore to Maharashtra, Rs. 884.22 crore to Odisha, Rs. 1362.11 crore to Rajasthan, Rs. 537.035 crore to Telangana and Rs. 188.095 crore to Uttrakhand for FY 2018-19. MoPR also recommended to MoF for release of Performance Grant of Rs. 300.83 crore to Madhya Pradesh and Rs. 333.66 crore to Maharashtra for FY 2017-18.
6. The total release of Basic grant under FFC for the year 2016-17 is Rs. 28600.45 crore

against the allocation of Rs. 29942.87 crore and during 2017-18 it is Rs. 31299.03 crore against the allocation of Rs. 34596.26 crore. Release of Performance Grant is Rs. 3499.45 crore against the allocation of Rs. 3927.65 crore for 2016-17 and Rs. 902.82 crore against allocation of Rs. 4444.71 crore, for the year 2017-18.

7. Limited mapping of villages to Block was a serious hurdle in using LGD for developmental works. This matter was highlighted as an obstacle in implementing Pradhan MantriMatruVandana Yojana. With continuous follow-up with States/UTs, 99.9% villages (out of 655096 villages in India) have been mapped with respective Block and Gram Panchayat.
8. Video Conferences were held with the Nodal Officers of Panchayati Raj Department from States/ UTs to review the progress made by them on various action items related to Local Government Directory (LGD) application. Furthermore, another review meeting through Video Conference was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 with State Urban Development Departments to discuss the issues related to ULBs in their respective State. These conferences led to improving the coverage of LGD.

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