National workshop on

Fiscal Decentralisation and the Role of State Finance Commissions

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj Government of India organized the above workshop on 18 and 19th January 2016 at India habitat Centre, New Delhi. The Seminar was attended by Chairpersons of various State Finance Commissions, Principal Secretaries of Panchayati Raj and Finance Departments.

The workshop was inaugurated by State Minister, Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India and also addressed by Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India.

Rajasthan was represented by Dr. Jyoti Kiran, Chairperson, 5th State Finance Commission and Shri S.C. Derashri, Member Secretary. Shri S.K. Agarwal, Additional Chief Engineer from Panchayati Raj Department also participated.

During the workshop power point presentation were made by various states, national and international experts and resource persons.

Dr. Jyoti Kiran, Chairperson, 5th SFC, Rajasthan made presentation on Experience, Challenges and issues before the commission. In this presentation she mentioned about the specific features of Interim Report. The Rajasthan presentation was appreciated by national and international experts as the experiments with backward index were unique and not done elsewhere. Again Rajasthan proactively enhanced the grants given to Zila Parishads and Panchayat Samities. In view of this the SFC report was widely appreciated. This report presented by the 5th SFC was accepted in toto by the State Government, placed before the State Legislative Assembly and is being implemented.

The workshop has been organized keeping in view the fact that funds to the tune of Rs. two lakh crore will flow to the Gram Panchayats of the country during five year period 2015-2020 as recommended by the 14th Central Finance Commission, out of which the share of Rajasthan is Rs. 13633 crores and this amount needs to be properly utilized by the Gram Panchayats for improving the basic civic services in rural areas.