

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1039
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024

NATIONAL INDEX OF PANCHAYATS

1039 # SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to prepare a National Index of Panchayats across the country;
- b) if so, the objective for preparing this index;
- c) the States where Government has been primarily implementing this project in its first phase; and
- d) the details of benefits the Gram Panchayats will get by creating such an index?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) Ministry had launched the process of the localization of Sustainable Development Goals through Panchayati Raj Institutions by aggregating 17 SDGs into 9 themes with an objective to achieve the Agenda of Sustainable Development by 2030 at the grassroots. To assess and measure the progress made at the Grassroots level Institutions in achieving Localized SDGs and thereby attaining SDG 2030, the Ministry had also initiated the exercise of preparation of Panchayat Development Index (PDI) based on the performance of the Panchayats on various local indicators of development across 9 themes of LSDGs.
- (c) Ministry has been encouraging all States and UTs, where Panchayats are in existence, to take up the exercise for preparation of PDI.
- (d) By assessing the progress of Panchayats in achieving the LSDGs in rural areas, it is expected that the PDI will play a significant role in encouraging healthy competition among these Rural Local Bodies and by identifying development gaps it will also significantly help in evidence-based planning at the grassroots through Panchayat Development Plans (PDP) for expeditious development in rural area. PDI provides baseline data to set measurable local targets by rural local bodies and work on them and being an annual exercise, it helps in monitoring the incremental progress made thereon through scores achieved by the Panchayats.
