

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3118
ANSWERED ON 20/08/2025

DEDICATED OFFICE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR GRAM PANCHAYATS

3118. SHRI NARAYANASA K. BHANDAGE:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any criteria has been prescribed for the selection of gram panchayats eligible for dedicated office infrastructure, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of computers sanctioned to digitally empower panchayats till date in Karnataka and a detailed list of the beneficiary, districts-wise, where these computers have been sanctioned;
- (c) the role of these infrastructure and digital initiatives in enhancing service delivery and administrative efficiency under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA); and
- (d) whether the Ministry has adopted any specific indicators/monitoring mechanisms to assess the impact of infrastructure and digital investments on the functional efficiency of Gram Panchayats?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) Panchayat, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of the State list of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Thus the primary responsibility of providing dedicated office infrastructure for Gram Panchayats and prescription for any selection criteria thereon lies with States/UTs. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), the Ministry supplements the efforts of States/UTs in building Panchayat infrastructure at a limited scale, with particular focus on the North Eastern States.

Further, Ministry with its limited resources under RGSA, attempted saturation approach for supporting Gram Panchayat Bhawans and computerization. With regard to Gram Panchayat Bhawans, the focus was on approving GP Bhawan for Panchayats having a population of over 3,000 but lacking their own building. Accordingly, during 2024–25, construction of 3,301 Gram Panchayat Bhawans was approved under the scheme to different States/UTs, in addition to the 9,639 Bhawans already approved for various States/UTs. Similarly, with regard to the computer, the focus was on approving computer for the GPs having their own building and approved 22,164 computers to different States/UTs, apart from the already approved 30,398 computers under the scheme.

(b) In the Annual Action Plan submitted by the State of Karnataka under the revamped RGSA scheme, it has been indicated by the State that all 5,948 Gram Panchayats of the State, are already equipped with computers; therefore, the State has not proposed any additional computers under the scheme and thus no computers were sanctioned to any of the gram panchayats of the State.

(c) Ministry is implementing the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) under RGSA for e-enablement of Panchayats to improve service delivery, transparency, and administrative efficiency. The eGramSwaraj

application, developed as part of the e-Panchayat MMP, has facilitated digital planning, accounting, monitoring, and online payments at Panchayat level. The integration of eGramSwaraj with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) enables real-time payments to vendors and service providers, ensuring seamless fund flow and reducing delays. Additionally, the Ministry has integrated eGramSwaraj with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) to bring transparency to Panchayat procurement. This integration allows Panchayats to procure goods and services through GeM via the eGramSwaraj platform. Further, an application of 'AuditOnline' has been developed for online audits of Panchayat accounts and their financial management.

Other applications developed by the Ministry like MeriPanchayat has endeavored to bring transparency in Panchayat Governance by making information on planning, activities and progress of works in Panchayat accessible to public. Similarly, Panchayat NIRNAY is an online application which aims to bring transparency and better management in conduct of Gram Sabhas by Panchayats.

The Ministry has introduced the Model Panchayat Citizens' Charter, aligning local actions with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This framework guides Panchayats in delivering services in a time-bound manner while addressing citizens' grievances effectively. The campaign "MeriPanchayat, MeraAdhikaar – Jan SevaayeinHamaareDwaar," conducted in 2021, reinforced these efforts. So far, 2.15 lakh Gram Panchayats have uploaded their Citizens' Charters, offering 954 services.

Preliminary outcomes indicate growing digital adoption at the grassroots level, improved transparency in planning and accounting, and enhanced efficiency in the delivery of services through Panchayati Raj Institutions.

(d) Ministry of Panchayati Raj has developed Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) to measure the incremental progress made by Gram Panchayats/Equivalent to GP in achieving localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) and, consequently, attaining SDG 2030 based on local indicators across the 9 themes of LSDGs.

The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) incorporated a comprehensive array of 18 indicators (for FY 2023–24) under Theme 6: Panchayat with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure that evaluate the presence and quality of infrastructure at the Gram Panchayat level. The list of Local Indicators under Theme 6 – Panchayat with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure is **at Annexure-I**.

Annexure-I

**Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3118 to be answered on
20/08/2025**

List of Local Indicators under Theme 6 – Panchayat with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure

Sl. No.	Indicator
1.	Percentage of Anganwadi Center having own building with basic facilities (Electricity, Drinking Water & Toilet) in Gram Panchayat
2.	Percentage of habitation/villages having street lights
3.	Percentage of habitations connected with all-weather roads
4.	Percentage of Primary Schools having own building with basic facilities (Electricity, Drinking water, and separate Toilets for Boys & Girls) in Gram Panchayat
5.	Whether all weather roads are connected from the Gram Panchayat to main road
6.	Whether Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers/ Health Sub Center (HSC) with basic facilities (Electricity, Drinking water, and separate Toilets for men & women) located in Gram Panchayat
7.	Whether Common Service Center (CSC) is functional with basic facilities such as Electricity, Internet, Printer, Computer and Manpower in Gram Panchayat area
8.	Whether functional public library is available in Gram Panchayat area
9.	Whether Gram Panchayat Bhawan / Panchayat Ghar having own building with basic facilities (Electricity, Drinking water, and separate Toilets for men & women)
10.	Whether Gram Panchayat Bhawan/ Panchayat Ghar has Computer with Internet facility
11.	Whether Gram Panchayat has a Functional and ready to use Community Hall
12.	Whether Gram Panchayat has access to nearby Livestock Center (0-5 KM)
13.	Whether Gram Panchayat has been declared Har Ghar Jal certified
14.	Whether Gram Panchayat has been declared ODF plus
15.	Whether Gram Panchayat has facilities (shelter, water, food, medical facilities) for the stray animal
16.	Whether Gram Panchayat has identified Disaster Shelter building
17.	Whether Gram Panchayat has Play Ground during the reference year
18.	Whether the Burial /Cremation Ground has all basic facilities (water, toilet, sitting facilities etc) in Gram Panchayat
