

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2002
ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025

DIGITAL GOVERNANCE AND AI INTEGRATION

2002 SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to State:

- (a) the strategy for nationwide adoption of AI-based SabhaSaar summarizer and its impact on accuracy and timeliness of Gram Sabha minutes being measured;
- (b) how the Ministry is closing the last-mile Bharat Net gaps to ensure full digital connectivity for all 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats to use platforms like eGramSwaraj and Audit Online;
- (c) the steps being taken to integrate Meri Panchayat App with planning and accounting systems to enable real-time citizen feedback and participatory governance; and
- (d) the new guidelines that have been issued to States for using Gram Manchitra GIS platform in preparing mandatory annual Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs)?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is promoting nationwide adoption of the AI-based SabhaSaar meeting summarisation tool in a phased and progressive manner. The tool has been made available to all States and Union Territories, along with Standard Operating Procedures and capacity-building support through physical and virtual training and demonstrations. As part of the pilot introduction, all 1,194 Gram Panchayats of Tripura were encouraged to use the tool for the Special Gram Sabhas on 15 August 2025, and 1,047 (87%) Gram Panchayats successfully used SabhaSaar on that day. A total of 12,667 Gram Panchayats used SabhaSaar on 15 August 2025, which increased to 77,198 Gram Panchayats during the Gram Sabha held on 2 October 2025. As on 03.12.2025, a total of 92,376 Gram Panchayats have used the SabhaSaar tool for automated meeting summarisation across States/UTs.

The tool provides a draft summary based on voice-to-text transcription in 13 Indian languages (English, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Gujarati, Bengali, Malayalam, Odia, Urdu, Punjabi, and Sanskrit), which is highly accurate. The impact of SabhaSaar on the accuracy and timeliness of Gram Sabha minutes has been assessed through indicators such as reduction in manual effort, faster preparation of meeting records, consistency of agenda-wise

documentation, and validation by Panchayat functionaries before acceptance. Feedback from States and usage trends are being monitored to guide further improvements.

(b) The provision of last-mile digital connectivity to Gram Panchayats under the BharatNet programme is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats. Out of a total of 2.69 lakh Gram Panchayats/Traditional Local Bodies (TLBs), 2.18 lakh have been made service-ready for high-speed internet services. Further, the Amended BharatNet Programme, aims to upgrade the existing network and extend broadband coverage to the remaining Gram Panchayats. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is in regular coordination with the State Panchayati Raj Departments to facilitate effective utilisation of broadband connectivity for Panchayat applications such as eGramSwaraj and Audit Online. The Ministry has also integrated the eGramSwaraj application with the BSNL platform to enable Gram Panchayats to apply directly for internet connections and make online payment of internet bills through eGramSwaraj. States have been advised to ensure local infrastructure readiness and availability of devices to fully leverage BharatNet connectivity. Nearly 2.55 lakh GPs use the eGramSwaraj portal for all activities- from plan creation to making online payments through the eGramSwaraj-PFMS gateway, for which they have taken advantage of BSNL or other service providers.

(c) The Meri Panchayat App is an integrated e-Governance platform of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India, designed and developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to enhance transparency, accountability and citizen participation in Panchayat affairs including the feedback functionality. The App is powered by the eGramSwaraj portal and other digital platforms of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. It provides citizens with access to authentic and real-time information relating to Panchayat planning, physical progress and financial status, including details of funds received and expenditure incurred under the Central Finance Commission and selected State-specific schemes, as entered by authorised Panchayat officials in the eGramSwaraj Management Information System.

(d) The Ministry has issued several advisories and guidelines to States for use of the Gram Manchitra Geographic Information System (GIS) platform to support evidence-based and spatial planning at the Gram Panchayat level. States have been advised to use Gram Manchitra thematic layers, geo-referenced assets and locally relevant datasets while preparing mandatory annual Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs).
