GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2966
ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026

GRAM URJA SWARAJ

2966 SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:
SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government acknowledges that Gram Urja Swaraj is presently a campaign without a dedicated scheme or budgetary allocation;

(b) whether any proposal for a stand-alone Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Gram Urja Swaraj has been prepared since the Standing Committee's recommendation, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry has examined the Standing Committee's recommendation to create a Rural Renewable Energy Fund under its own budget, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (c):Gram Urja Swaraj is being implemented as an awareness and coordination campaign and does not have a dedicated scheme structure or independent budgetary allocation under the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Through the Gram Urja Swaraj campaign, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is promoting awareness on renewable energy adoption in Panchayats and supports the existing schemes of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) . Further, in terms of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, all matters relating to new and renewable energy sources including solar energy, wind energy, small hydro power, biomass energy, biogas, tidal energy, geothermal energy and other renewable sources of energy, come under the purview of MNRE.

The recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Gram Urja Swaraj and Rural Renewable Energy Fund has been noted. Incentivization of Panchayats Scheme is one of the components of Centrally Sponsored scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) of MoPR. Under this scheme, 'National Panchayat Awards' are given to the best performing Panchayats, annually on 24th April, celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day to commemorate 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992. As a part of this initiative, awards are being given to PRIs, under 2

special categories including 'Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' given to 3 GPs for their performance regarding adoption and usage of renewable sources of energy and 'Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' given to 3 GPs who have done exemplary work towards achieving Net-Zero carbon emissions. A list of awardees under the "Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar during the years 2023 and 2024 is as under:-

Rank	Awardee Gram Panchayats 2023	State	Awardee Gram Panchayats 2024	State
1	Tikekarwadi (Block Junnar, District Pune)	Maharashtra	Manyachiwadi (Block Patan, District Satara)	Maharashtra
2	Ankuli (Block Patrapur, District Ganjam)	Odisha	Thakchara (Block Amarpur, District Gomati)	Tripura
3	Mukra (k) (Block Ichoda, Adilabad)	Telangana	Kasira (Block Koida, District Sundargarh)	Odisha

In 2025, the 'Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' and the 'Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' have been merged to form 'Climate Action Special Panchayat Award' with an aim to encourage Panchayats to act as climate-responsive local governments. The 'Climate Action Special Panchayat Award' was conferred to the following GPs on National Panchayati Raj Day NPRD-2025 held at Lohna Uttar Gram Panchayat, District Madhubani, Bihar on 24th April, 2025.

Rank 1: Dawwa S Gram Panchayat, Gondia District, Maharashtra

Rank 2: Biradahalli Gram Panchayat, Hassan District, Karnataka

Rank 3: Mothipur Gram Panchayat, Samastipur District, Bihar

The award includes a financial incentive of Rs.1 crore (Rank 1), Rs.75 lakh (Rank 2), and Rs.50 lakh (Rank 3) respectively. The awardees were presented with specially designed trophies and certificates.

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