

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2972
ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026

PANCHAYATI RAJ DEVOLUTION INDEX

2972 # SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has evaluated the performance of the Panchayati Raj Devolution Index in 25 States;
- (b) the ranking of the State of Madhya Pradesh in the third cycle of assessment;
- (c) the major constraints encountered at the block level during the preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs); and
- (d) whether the e-Gram Swaraj portal has been integrated with approximately 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Panchayats are set up and operate through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. States have made their own Panchayati Raj Act, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Article 243G of the Constitution empowers the Legislature of a State to make provisions, by law, for the devolution of power and responsibilities upon Panchayat at appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified, with respect to the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice and implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution. The State legislatures are to consider the 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule for devolution of power and responsibilities upon Panchayats. Accordingly, the performance of Panchayats depends on the extent of powers and resources devolved to them by the States concerned, which varies across States.

However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj reviews performance of Panchayats, from time to time, through studies, review meetings, field visits, video conferencing, Information Technology applications etc.

The Ministry has released a report titled “Status of Devolution to Panchayats in States - An Indicative Evidence-Based Ranking, 2024” in February 2025 to assess the effectiveness of devolution and the role of local governments in strengthening grassroots democracy. This report presents the Devolution Index, which provides the overall scores and ranks for all

States/Union Territories covered under Part-IX of the Constitution, based on six identified dimensions: Framework, Functions, Finances, Functionaries, Capacity Enhancement, and Accountability. As per this report, the State of Madhya Pradesh has ranked 12th position among 18 general category States.

(c) The Ministry has been rolling out People’s Plan Campaign as ‘Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas’ since 2018 for preparation of evidence based, holistic and inclusive Development Plans at the grassroots level in structured manner for the next financial year through people’s participation at various levels of Panchayati Raj Institutions including Gram/Village Panchayats, Block/Intermediate Panchayats and District Panchayats. The campaign aims to give impetus to the process of attainment of Localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) at the grassroots, which, in turn, leads to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals in rural areas.

Since the inception of the revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), the number of Block Panchayat Development Plan (BPDP) is as follows (as on 13th March 2026):

Financial year	Total number of block Panchayat/equivalent	Total number of plans uploaded
2022-23	6752	6332
2023-24	6759	6144
2024-25	6808	6141
2025-26	6792	5638

Data source: <https://egramswaraj.gov.in/approveActionPlanData.do>

As of date, no complaints have been received from States/UTs regarding constraints encountered at the Block level during the preparation of Panchayat Development Plans.

(d) The Ministry is implementing the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) under RGSA, which has significantly enhanced transparency, efficiency, and governance at the grassroots level. The eGramSwaraj application, developed as part of the e-Panchayat MMP, has facilitated digital planning, accounting, monitoring, and online payments at the 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. As on 11.03.2026, during the current Financial Year 2025–26, 2,54,604 Gram Panchayats and equivalent (96.36%), out of a total of 2,64,211 Gram Panchayats and equivalent across the country, have uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) on eGramSwaraj. Additionally, 2,42,871 Gram Panchayats and equivalent (91.92%) have transferred ₹38,491 crore payments through the eGramSwaraj–PFMS interface. The State-wise adoption status of eGramSwaraj for the XV Finance Commission for the Financial Year 2025-26 is provided in the **Annexure-I**.

Furthermore, the Ministry has strengthened the e-GramSwaraj platform through integration with other national digital platforms. Integration with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) facilitates transparent, efficient and rule-based procurement by Gram Panchayats. Integration with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) enables Gram Panchayats to apply for internet connectivity at the Panchayat level. Integration with BHASHINI enables multilingual access to e-GramSwaraj. In addition, integration of weather forecast information supports timely decision-making, particularly in the areas of agriculture and disaster preparedness.

ANNEXURE-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2972 for answer on 18.03.2026

State-wise adoption status of eGramSwaraj for the XV Finance Commission for Financial Year 2025-26

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
1	Andhra Pradesh	13327	13320	13025	660	660	649	13	13	13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2108	2108	1486	0	0	0	27	26	22
3	Assam	2663	2186	2075	182	182	179	30	29	27
4	Bihar	8054	8054	8047	534	534	529	38	38	38
5	Chhattisgarh	11692	11687	11313	146	146	146	33	33	27
6	Goa	191	191	116	0	0	0	2	2	2
7	Gujarat	14619	14596	13800	248	248	248	33	33	33
8	Haryana	6227	6227	6010	143	143	141	22	22	22
9	Himachal Pradesh	3615	3615	3562	92	81	81	12	12	12
10	Jharkhand	4345	4345	4252	264	264	262	24	24	24
11	Karnataka	5949	5949	5938	238	232	93	31	31	23

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
12	Kerala	941	941	937	152	152	152	14	14	14
13	Madhya Pradesh	23011	23011	22194	313	313	309	52	52	52
14	Maharashtra	28002	27934	26438	351	351	265	34	34	33
15	Manipur	3175	161	113	0	0	0	12	6	4
16	Meghalaya	6884	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3
17	Mizoram	855	841	817	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	1312	984	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	6794	6794	6785	314	314	313	30	30	30
20	Punjab	13236	13233	12341	155	152	150	23	23	22
21	Rajasthan	13128	11184	10774	361	353	351	37	33	33
22	Sikkim	199	199	196	0	0	0	6	6	6
23	Tamil Nadu	12482	12482	12437	388	388	388	36	36	36
24	Telangana	12760	12674	9570	565	547	400	32	32	27
25	Tripura	1194	1194	1192	75	75	75	9	9	9

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
26	Uttarakhand	7817	7790	6926	95	95	94	13	13	13
27	Uttar Pradesh	57695	57693	57579	826	826	820	75	75	74
28	West Bengal	3339	3339	3337	345	345	345	22	21	21
Total		265614	252732	241260	6447	6401	5990	663	650	620

Source: eGramSwaraj Portal