

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4230**  
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2026

**IMPLEMENTATION OF GRAM PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN  
ODISHA**

4230 SHRI SUBHASISH KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether funds have been released to Odisha under Finance Commission grants for the preparation and implementation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether such funds have been utilised by the Panchayats and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether capacity-building and technical support measures have been provided to strengthen GPDP planning and execution and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether audit and social audit mechanisms have been implemented for GPDPs and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) & (b): Article 243G of the Constitution of India acknowledges Panchayats as institutions of "Local Self Government" and mandates them to prepare plans for Economic Development and Social Justice. It is envisaged that the planning process should be evidence based, comprehensive, and participatory, which involves convergence with Finance Commission Grants and schemes of all related Central Ministries/Line Departments related to 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. Hence, it is the responsibility of the Gram Panchayats to prepare Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) with the approval of the Gram Sabhas keeping in view the availability / allocation of funds under various Schemes as well as Finance Commission Grants for the respective year and to implement them accordingly. As such, Central Finance Commission Grants are not released based on the GPDPs prepared by the Gram Panchayats, but as per the year-wise allocation and fulfilment of the eligibility conditions as envisaged in the Operational Guidelines on the matter issued by the Ministry of Finance in July 2021. Accordingly, status of GPDP-wise utilization of Finance Commission Grants in respect of Gram Panchayats in all States, including Odisha, is not maintained centrally as at the GPDP stage no fund utilisation, it being the planning stage.

During the award period of the Fifteenth Finance Commission (both Interim and Final 2020-21 to 2025-26), an amount of ₹10,965.89 crore has been released against the total allocation of ₹11,058.00 crore to the State of Odisha. Of this, the following amounts have been released over the last three years:-

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Release</b>
1	2022-23	1728.00	1728.00
2	2023-24	1747.00	1746.91
3	2024-25	1851.00	1851.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5326.00</b>	<b>5325.91</b>

(c): Panchayat, being “Local Self Government”, is a State subject. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) since the financial year 2022-23 in States/UTs, including the State of Odisha. The main objective of the scheme is to build the capacity of Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) by creating a learning ecosystem especially through imparting training to the Elected Representatives (ERs), functionaries and other stakeholders to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles to enable the Panchayats to function effectively and also by supporting for exposure visits, development of training modules and materials, etc.

Under the scheme of revamped RGSA, the Ministry provides support for Capacity building and Training of elected representatives, functionaries, and other stakeholders of Panchayats in different categories, viz., general orientation and refresher training, thematic training, specialized training, panchayat development plan training, etc. Capacity-building initiatives have enabled Panchayat representatives to undertake participatory planning, particularly in the preparation and implementation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs). Since the launch of the scheme, a total of 34,79,016 participants have attended the Panchayat Development Plan-related trainings, including 45,732 participants from the State of Odisha as on 28.02.2026.

(d): The Audit-Online application was launched in April 2020 to enable online auditing of Panchayat accounts and their financial management. This tool facilitates the transparent utilisation of Central Finance Commission grants and enhances Panchayat-level financial oversight.

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