

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1209
ANSWERED ON 29/07/2026

SDGS THROUGH PANCHAYATS

1209 #SHRI BRIJ LAL:
SMT. REKHA SHARMA:
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken during the last one year to strengthen the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- (b) the initiatives undertaken to integrate SDG targets with Gram Panchayat Development Plans;
- (c) the steps taken to encourage climate-resilient, women-friendly and financially self-reliant Panchayats across the country;
- (d) the expected contribution of these initiatives towards achieving the objectives of Viksit Bharat 2047 and inclusive rural development; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (c) The Ministry has evolved a thematic approach towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) whereby 9 themes have been developed, aggregating 17 SDGs to make them easily understandable for people at the grassroots level and facilitate development with community involvement. Each of these themes covers one or more SDGs and is mapped to different nodal Ministries/Departments as per their mandates to localize SDGs in Panchayats for better convergence and augmentation of resources at the Gram Panchayat level. The nine themes are (i) Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods in Panchayat; (ii) Healthy Panchayat; (iii) Child Friendly Panchayat; (iv) Water Sufficient Panchayat; (v) Clean & Green Panchayat; (vi) Panchayat with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure; (vii) Socially Just and Socially Secured Panchayat; (viii) Panchayat with Good Governance; and (ix) Women Friendly Panchayat.

To give impetus to the process of Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) at the grassroots, Panchayats prepare thematic Panchayat Development Plans (PDPs) for holistic development, focusing on a sustainable environment, women's empowerment, gender equality, and self-reliant panchayats, etc., across the country. During the preparation of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan, Panchayats are advised to take a Sankalp on 1 or 2 Themes of LSDGs to provide targeted interventions in various sectors of the Sankalp theme to attain the saturation of SDGs. In the Plan year 2026-27 (as on 23.07.2026), 30,629 and 9,627 Gram Panchayats have taken Sankalp under Theme 7 Clean and Green Panchayat and Theme 9 Women Friendly Panchayat respectively. Further, to make Panchayats financially self-reliant, this Ministry is encouraging States/UTs to strengthen their Own Source Revenue (OSR) generation. During FY 2025-26 & 2026-27 (upto 10th July, 2026) a total of 2,75,893 participants have been trained on generation of OSR.

To measure the process of implementation of Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) at the grassroots level, the Ministry has developed the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), a composite assessment framework to measure the incremental performance of Gram Panchayats/Equivalent to Gram Panchayats across the nine themes of LSDGs. The PAI provides theme-wise and overall scores through GP scorecards and dashboards, enabling identification of performance gaps, relative strengths, and areas requiring focused attention at the Panchayat level. The PAI provides an evidence-based framework for evaluating performance across measurable indicators under the nine themes within the State/UT, and grades GPs under five categories i.e. Achiever (A+: above 90), Front Runner (A: 75 to below 90), Performer (B: 60 to below 75), Aspirant (C: 40 to below 60) and Beginner (D: 0 to 40), based on the PAI score.

(d) & (e) The initiatives aimed at localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Panchayats are expected to contribute significantly towards the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 by promoting inclusive, participatory, and sustainable rural development. The integration of SDGs into themes, enabling Panchayats to focus interventions in Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), is also expected to enhance local governance, improve service delivery, strengthen rural infrastructure and livelihoods, promote social inclusion & environmental sustainability, and accelerate progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.
