

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2009
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2026

CAPACITY BUILDING OF ELECTED PANCHAYAT REPRESENTATIVES

2009. SHRI SUBHASISH KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the capacity-building needs of elected Panchayat representatives in Odisha and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of training and institutional support provided during the last five years;
- (c) whether any gaps have been identified in administrative, financial and digital governance capacities and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether additional measures are proposed to strengthen the effective functioning of Panchayat representatives and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

a. Panchayat, being “Local Self Government”, is a State subject and part of the State list of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) since the financial year 2022-23 in States/ UTs. The main objective of the scheme is to strengthen the capacity of Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) by imparting training to Elected Representatives (ERs), Panchayat Functionaries and other stakeholders to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles, enabling the Gram Panchayats and Local bodies to function effectively across all States/UTs, including the State of Odisha.

The State of Odisha has reported that the capacity building needs of the elected representatives (ERs) have been assessed periodically through training Need Assessment (TNA), follow-up meetings, feedback of training programme; field visits and interaction with ERs & Functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

b. Under the scheme of revamped RGSA, the Ministry provides support for CB&T of elected representatives, functionaries and other stakeholders of Panchayats in different categories viz. basic orientation and refresher training, thematic training, specialized training includes e-Governance/digital literacy, panchayat development plan training etc. Apart from different trainings, the Scheme also supports the establishment of an institutional mechanism for Capacity Building & Training and to create Panchayat infrastructure like Gram Panchayat Bhawan, Computer and Co-location of Common Service Centers (CSCs) in Gram Panchayat Bhawan to the States/ UTs on a limited scale, including the State of Odisha. Under the scheme, the Ministry also supports States/UTs to strengthen Panchayat Resource Centre by providing human resources. The State/UT-wise details of participants trained under the RGSA Scheme during FY 2022-23 to 2026-27 (till 10.07.2026), including the State of Odisha, are given at ***Annexure-I***.

c. To assess the effectiveness of RGSA capacity-building programmes and to propose corrective measures to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions, an external evaluation of the revamped RGSA has been undertaken through the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA). The evaluations indicate that the scheme's structured, multi-layered capacity-building, combining classroom/thematic modules, exposure visits, and digital learning, has enhanced PRI capacities in Panchayat operations, planning, and implementation (including GPDP), digital governance, citizen engagement, and financial management. Post-training assessments record measurable gains in knowledge and practice, supporting more effective local governance and the localization of SDGs.

d. Several capacity building initiatives have been taken to strengthen the effective functioning of Panchayats Representatives, including enhancement of knowledge & skills on leadership & managerial aspects for WERs; augmentation of own source revenue; empowerment on digital platforms for more transparency & accountability in service delivery and management development programme, etc. to strengthen their capabilities and improve efficacy in discharging their roles & responsibilities.

Annexure-I

Annex refer to in reply to Part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2009 answered on 05/08/2026 regarding Capacity building of elected panchayat representatives

Year-wise and State/UT wise details of the number of participants provided training under the revamped RGSA

Sl. No	States	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (As on 10.07.2026)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1874	2865	5221	6354	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	649156	165001	325643	575492	49937
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3,711	6138	12344	15318	0
4	Assam	227733	348183	144936	173782	1251
5	Bihar	404406	163809	435896	275560	27818
6	Chhattisgarh	121099	163292	90559	182705	58987
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	575	1000	1073	3528	570
8	Goa	1777	3548	4519	3596	371
9	Gujarat	250	1938	90368	22806	1320
10	Haryana	4859	12431	11909	106603	1214
11	Himachal Pradesh	9531	92458	120455	13453	237
12	Jammu & Kashmir	284138	350026	82534	53912	0
13	Jharkhand	8302	54056	135817	134636	144
14	Karnataka	213467	363317	321380	284030	70
15	Kerala	179478	149153	129632	94601	1219
16	Ladakh	0	0	26	6400	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	281610	86884	242279	345621	20858
18	Maharashtra	1041165	984321	363111	124409	39503
19	Manipur	894	5591	195	6739	264
20	Meghalaya	11,588	74410	78537	89151	0
21	Mizoram	2659	9800	9841	23675	10058
22	Nagaland	1832	3435	4725	7758	2845
23	Odisha	79116	160774	279505	301680	22144
24	Puducherry	0	0	0	50	0
25	Punjab	36378	13359	122848	220862	10679
26	Rajasthan	2481	96389	71795	407326	90
27	Sikkim	13,552	11249	6709	10548	2140
28	Tamil Nadu	106560	101513	78490	80135	18894
29	Telangana	14506	2441	1701	105948	17547
30	Tripura	7743	63715	54228	75613	13056
31	Uttarakhand	263409	82712	22342	101331	0

32	Uttar Pradesh	48241	144374	76302	525719	80
33	West Bengal	174974	272762	228081	191971	16905
	NIRDPR and Others	5229	1438	1941	2179	200
	Total	42,02,293	39,92,382	35,54,942	45,73,491	3,18,401

Source: As per Training Management Portal