

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 410
ANSWERED ON- 22.07.2026

PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN ODISHA

410. DR. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has undertaken any assessment of the devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions in Odisha;
- (b) the details of grants released under various Central schemes during the last five years;
- (c) the measures taken to strengthen the institutional and financial capacity of Gram Panchayats in the State; and
- (d) whether Government propose any performance-linked incentives for Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State of Odisha?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj 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 (UTs) covered under Part-IX of the Constitution, including the State of Odisha, based on six identified dimensions: Framework, Functions, Finances, Functionaries, Capacity Enhancement, and Accountability. This report reveals that the extent of devolution has increased from 39.9% to 43.9% between the period 2013-14 to 2021-22. Details of Ranking of States/UTs, including the State of Odisha, in Devolution Index and Sub-indices is placed as **Annexure-I**.

(b) This Ministry has implemented the Central Sector Scheme of Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA Scheme) to provide the ‘Record of Rights’ to village property owners. For the State of Odisha, Rs 11.5 lakhs have been released so far to Odisha Revenue Department in the last five financial years under SVAMITVA Scheme.

(c) To strengthen the institutional capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions across the country, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has implemented the Centrally Sponsored scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) from 2022-23 to 2025-26 in all States/ Union

Territories (UTs), including State of Odisha, with main objective for capacitating Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) through imparting training to all the Elected Representatives, functionaries and other stakeholders to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles to enable the Panchayats to function effectively. Under the scheme, Ministry supplements the efforts of States/UTs on limited scale for creating basic infrastructure for effective functioning of Gram Panchayats such as Construction of Gram Panchayat Bhawans, procurement of Computers and Co-location of Common Service Centres (CSC) with Gram Panchayat Bhawans as proposed by States/UTs in their Annual Action Plans and later approved by Central Empowered Committee. Under RGSA Scheme, in the State of Odisha, a total of 8,43,219 participants have been trained, construction of 500 GP Bhawans have been approved and procurement of 250 computers have been done, as on 10.07.2026.

This Ministry has also been providing support to the States/UTs, under the scheme of revamped RGSA for setting up of Project Management Units (PMUs) at States, District and Block level as approved in the Annual Action Plan for effective implementation of the scheme and setting up of institutional mechanism as State, District and Block level Panchayat Resource Centres to support Capacity Building & Training of Panchayats. Under RGSA Scheme, in the State of Odisha, a total of 160 Panchayat Learning Centres have been developed, as on 10.07.2026.

In addition to above, to enhance skills and knowledge, a major step has also been taken to build capacity and to train elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayats through Institutes of excellence such as Indian Institutes of Management(IIMs)/Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) under the Leadership/Management Development Program (MDP). A total of 311 participants trained under MDP in the State of Odisha from financial year 2024-25 to 2025-26.

Further, this Ministry has implemented Mission Mode Project on e-Panchayats (MMP-ePanchayat), a central component of the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) scheme under which various e-governance projects are funded towards digitalization of Panchayats. This Ministry has launched eGramSwaraj (<https://egramswaraj.gov.in>), a user friendly web-based portal, which aims to bring in better transparency in the decentralized planning, progress reporting, financial management, work-based accounting and details of assets created. The eGramSwaraj portal has also been integrated with Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for online transfer of the Central Finance Commission funds by the States to PRIs and enabling Panchayats to make real-time payments to vendors/service providers. Panchayats prepare and upload their Annual Panchayat Development Plans on eGramSwaraj portal. In addition, the Ministry has integrated eGramSwaraj with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) to bring transparency to Panchayat procurement.

An online application 'AuditOnline' has been developed for online audit of Panchayat accounts and their financial management. AuditOnline portal, launched in April 2020, facilitates transparent auditing of Central Finance Commission funds utilization and strengthens financial management of Panchayats.

Further, to strengthen the financial capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions across the country, a total amount of Rs. 135.97 crores has been released under the RGSA Scheme to the State of Odisha during financial year 2022-23 to 2026-27. Details of fund released under RGSA Scheme to the State of Odisha are as under-

S. No	Financial Year	Fund Released (Rs. in crores)
1	2022-23	11.40
2.	2023-24	27.33
3	2024-25	20.00
4	2025-26	62.24
5.	2026-27	*15.00
	Total	135.97

*as on 10.07.2026

Panchayats / Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in the States are provided with financial grants recommended by the Central Finance Commissions. The Fifteenth Finance Commission has released funds of Rs.11,054.11 crores for the period of financial year 2020-21 to 2025-26 for Rural Local Bodies in the State of Odisha.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, in collaboration with IIM Ahmedabad, has also developed a training module on Own Source Revenue (OSR) to strengthen the financial self-reliance of Gram Panchayats. The module helps elected representatives and Panchayat functionaries understand how OSR is generated through tax and non-tax sources. A total of 8,080 participants have been trained under OSR training in the State of Odisha from financial year 2025-26 to 2026-27 (as on 10.07.2026).

(d) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been incentivizing the best performing Panchayats of all State/Union Territories, including State of Odisha, through National Panchayat Awards under the Incentivization of Panchayats scheme, which is one of the central components of Centrally Sponsored scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).

During the Financial years 2022-23 to 2025-26, a total of 36 best performing Gram Panchayats of State of Odisha have received Rs.26.39 crores as award money for their performances.

Further, the Sixteenth Finance Commission has recommended Performance Grants of Rs.87,048 crores for the award period 2026-27 to 2030-31, comprising Rs.43,524 crores as Rural Local Body Performance Grants and Rs. 43,524 crores as State Performance Grants. The recommendations are applicable uniformly to all 28 States, including State of Odisha, and the release of the grants shall be governed by the recommendations of the Sixteenth Finance Commission and the Operational Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance.
