

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3450
ANSWERED ON 21/03/2023

ROLE OF PANCHAYATS IN INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT

3450. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government agrees with the view that Panchayats have a pivotal role to play in integrated rural development by focusing on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are subsumed under nine themes to ensure poverty-free, clean, healthy, child-friendly and socially secured well-governed villages; and
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) & (b) The Government approved the Centrally Sponsored scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) for implementation from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2026, extends to all States and UTs of the country including institutions of rural local government in non-Part-IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist. The focus of Revamped scheme is on reimagining Panchayati Raj Institutions as vibrant centres of local self-governance and economic growth with special focus on localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at grassroots level adopting thematic approach through concerted and collaborative efforts of Central Ministries and State line departments with 'whole of Government' approach at all levels. The 9 themes include poverty free, healthy, child friendly, water sufficient, clean & green, self sufficient infrastructure, socially secured, good governance and women friendly villages. These themes are interlinked and inter-related to each other and concerned all SDGs. A Thematic approach of LSDGs has been taken due to these being easy to relate to the Panchayats and the community which help to provide vision for the Panchayats to achieve the localization of SDGs in rural areas for holistic development.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj has taken various initiatives including inter-ministerial consultations with the Nodal Ministries, regional workshops with States and consultative meeting with UN Agencies had been held to reinforce the collaborative endeavour for localizing SDGs through PRIs. Ministry is continuously working with the States and other stakeholders to take forward the LSDG at grassroots level.
