

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 554
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2024

Smart Panchayat Innovation Initiative

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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to State:

- (a) the steps being taken to make Panchayati Raj Institutions hi-tech;
- (b) the number of Gram Panchayats of Madhya Pradesh which have been connected with Fibre to the Home (FTTH) internet connection and the number of Gram Panchayats in which the said work is still pending;
- (c) the time by which the remaining Gram Panchayats are targeted to be provided internet connection;
- (d) the steps being taken to make the newly elected representatives technology friendly of Panchayati Raj Madhya Pradesh;
- (e) the number of Gram Panchayats of Madhya Pradesh which are without buildings;
- (f) the time by which the buildings of the said Gram Panchayats are proposed to be constructed; and
- (g) the details of the scheme to make Gram Panchayat financially self-reliant ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) to (c) Under Digital India Programme, Ministry is implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) with the aim to making Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), more transparent, accountable, and effective as local self-governments. Building on the achievements in the past, the Ministry launched eGramSwaraj, a work-based comprehensive application for PRIs under the e-Panchayat MMP on 24th April 2020. This application encompasses all aspects of Panchayat functioning viz. planning, budgeting, accounting, monitoring, asset management etc., on a single digital platform including online payments. So far, 2.52 lakh GPs have prepared and uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) for 2023-24. Further, 2.41 lakh Gram Panchayats have completed online transactions for 15th Finance Commission grants for 2023-24. State wise adoption of eGramSwaraj for 15th Finance Commission funds is given at **Annexure-I**.

Also, for strengthening the transparency and accountability at grassroots level, the Ministry has rolled out an application - AuditOnline under e-panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP). It allows for online audit of Panchayat accounts and records detailed information about internal and external audit. For audit year 2021-22, 2.49 lakh Audit Plans have been created and 2.42 lakh Audit Report have been generated. Similarly, for audit year 2022-23, 2.02 lakh Audit Plans have been created and audit reports have been generated for 92,896

Gram Panchayats.

For attaining the vision of Digital India, BharatNet project is being implemented by Department of Telecommunications in a phased manner to create network to connect all the GPs by broadband in the country. So far, 2,14,300 GPs have been made Service Ready under the BharatNet project in the country. The scope of BharatNet on 30.06.2021 has been extended up to all inhabited villages beyond GPs in the country. The State/UT-wise details of Service Ready Gram panchayats, including Madhya Pradesh is given at **Annexure-II**.

Further, Ministry of Panchayati Raj has prepared a Model Panchayat Citizens Charter/ framework for delivery of the services across the 29 sectors of Eleventh Schedule for the Panchayats to adopt. The aim is to provide services to the people in a time bound manner, redressing their grievances and improving their lives. The 'Meri Panchayat, MeraAdhikaar-Jan Sevaayein Hamaare Dwaar' campaign was rolled out from 01st July to 30th September, 2021. The campaign had emerged as an effective strategy for ensuring the Gram Panchayats have a Citizen Charter approved by the respective Gram Sabhas in place. The different services rendered to the citizen by the Panchayat are catalogued and the time limit is set for such service.

As on date, over 2.32 Lakh Gram Panchayats across 31 States/ UTs have conducted Gram Sabha and 2.15 Lakh Gram Panchayats have now finalised their Citizen Charters.

(d) The Ministry of Panchayati Rai (MoPR) is implementing Revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) w.e.f. financial year 2022-23 with the main objective for capacitating Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) through imparting training to all the Elected Representatives (ERs) and other stakeholders to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles to enable the Gram Panchayats to function effectively and to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals through Localization at grassroot level.

The broad categories of training under Revamped RGSA are General Orientation training, refresher training, thematic training, specialized training includes training on e-Governance/ Digital literacy, training on MIS through various digital portal & platform and any other training as per the State need is being supported to States/ UTs including State of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) & (f) Panchayat being State subject, providing Panchayat Bhawan for Gram Panchayats (GPs) is primarily the responsibility of States. The States are expected to mobilise funds for construction of Panchayat Buildings from various sources. However, under the revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) scheme approved for implementation from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2026, has been supplementing the efforts of all States/UTs with focus on NE States, towards supporting the functioning of GPs by providing Panchayat Bhawan as proposed by States/UTs in their Annual Action Plan and approved by Central Empowered Committee on a limited scale. As per the information available, 555 GPs in Madhya Pradesh are without Panchayat Bhawan. Construction will be prioritized by the State Plan of Action.

(g) In terms of List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, 'Panchayat' being a 'local government', is a State subject. Towards Own Sources of Revenue (OSR) of the Panchayats, Article 243 (H) of the Constitution of India provides that the Legislature of a State may, by law, authorize a Panchayat to levy, collect and appropriate such taxes, duties, tolls and fees in accordance with such procedure and subject to such limits and assign to the Panchayats such taxes, duties, tolls and fees levied and collected by the State Government for such purposes and subject to such conditions and limits as may be specified in the law.

The role of Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been that of advocacy and technical support to the State Governments towards taking various measures for improvement in the OSR of the Panchayats. In this regard, a video conference meeting was held in February, 2021 with the States regarding steps to be taken by them for improvement in the OSR levels of the Panchayats. Further, States/Union Territories have been advised in August, 2021 to prepare their Annual Calendar for all the Gram Panchayats in the State for the Gram Sabha meetings and include various topics for deliberations including OSR. A dedicated presentation session by the best performing District/Block/Gram Panchayat on OSR was also organized in October, 2021, in the webinar commemorating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', for the benefit of Panchayats.

Adoption of eGramSwaraj for XV FC at Panchayat level during FY 2023-24

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent with Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats with Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats with Online Payment
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	13325	13278	13059	660	660	650	13	13	13
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2108	2099	1400	0	0	0	25	25	22
3	ASSAM	2606	2163	2153	191	191	191	30	27	27
4	BIHAR	8176	8175	8011	534	534	527	38	38	38
5	CHHATTISGARH	11655	11654	11032	146	146	145	27	27	27
6	GOA	191	187	71	0	0	0	2	2	2
7	GUJARAT	14627	14528	13516	248	248	248	33	33	33
8	HARYANA	6226	6207	5463	143	143	119	22	22	22
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3615	3612	3514	81	81	80	12	12	12
10	JHARKHAND	4345	4345	4340	264	264	263	24	24	24
11	KARNATAKA	5955	5955	5912	233	232	177	31	31	28
12	KERALA	941	941	910	152	152	139	14	14	14
13	MADHYA PRADESH	23032	23004	22153	313	313	306	52	52	51
14	MAHARASHTRA	27667	27579	25389	351	351	342	34	34	34
15	MANIPUR	3812	161	0	0	0	0	12	6	3
16	MEGHALAYA	6760	0	0	2240	0	0	3	3	0
17	MIZORAM	834	834	413	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	NAGALAND	1293	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	ODISHA	6798	6798	6776	314	314	314	30	30	30
20	PUNJAB	13241	13203	11400	152	151	135	22	22	20
21	RAJASTHAN	11255	11247	10927	362	352	351	33	33	33
22	SIKKIM	199	186	178	0	0	0	6	4	4
23	TAMIL NADU	12525	12524	12405	388	388	386	36	36	36
24	TELANGANA	12769	12768	12755	540	540	464	32	32	32
25	TRIPURA	1178	1178	1175	75	75	75	9	9	9
26	UTTARAKHAND	7794	7793	7746	95	95	94	13	13	13
27	UTTAR PRADESH	57754	57752	57241	826	826	806	75	75	75
28	WEST BENGAL	3339	3228	3225	345	336	336	22	21	21
Total		264020	251566	241164	8653	6392	6148	650	638	623

State/UT-wise details of Service Ready Gram panchayats

Sr.No	State Name	Total GPs/ TLBs	Service Ready GPs/TLBs	Operational GPs/TLBs
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	70	81	70
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	13325	12882	539
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2108	1081	133
4	ASSAM	2197	1640	531
5	BIHAR	8054	8860	3390
6	CHHATTISGARH	11654	9759	2299
7	GOA	191	0	0
8	GUJARAT	14621	14551	11490
9	HARYANA	6225	6204	1430
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3615	415	263
11	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	4291	1113	440
12	JHARKHAND	4345	4638	2175
13	KARNATAKA	5953	6251	3592
14	KERALA	941	1130	971
15	LADAKH	193	193	38
16	LAKSHADWEEP	10	9	4
17	MADHYA PRADESH	23011	18102	2818
18	MAHARASHTRA	27906	24455	3424
19	MANIPUR	3651	1479	23
20	MEGHALAYA	9058	692	27
21	MIZORAM	834	495	46
22	NAGALAND	1296	230	7
23	ODISHA	6794	7099	2304
24	PUDUCHERRY	108	101	98
25	PUNJAB	13241	12807	7941
26	RAJASTHAN	11254	8997	6302
27	SIKKIM	199	54	10
28	TAMIL NADU	12525	7557	2467
29	TELANGANA	12769	10882	5385
30	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	38	41	19
31	TRIPURA	589	771	366
32	UTTAR PRADESH	57702	46780	2871
33	UTTARAKHAND	7795	2013	1218
34	WEST BENGAL	3339	2938	2222
Grand Total		269902	214300	64913

**Some GP may have more than 1 service points.*
