

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 441
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2022

IMPROVEMENT IN FUNCTIONING OF PANCHAYATS

†441. SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to promote digital usage in Panchayats and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed and noticed any improvement in functional efficacy after digitization of Panchayats; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) Under Digital India Programme, Ministry is implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) with the aim to transform the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), making them more transparent, accountable, and effective as the crucial link in decentralized 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. The Ministry constantly engages with the States through virtual and physical training and enablement for States to adopt the eGramSwaraj application.

(b) and (c) So far, 2.48 lakh GPs have prepared and uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GDPs) for 2022-23. Under 14th Finance Commission, 1.44 lakh GPs and 91,607 GPs have carried out online transactions during 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively. Similarly, 1.93 lakh GPs have carried online transactions under 15th Finance Commission during 2021-22. This is a substantial improvement. All States are making efforts to implement e-Panchayat MMP, based on their available resources. However, due to differentials in the level of preparedness of Panchayats across the country, States are at different stages of implementing these applications.
