

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1902**  
ANSWERED ON 11/03/2025

**ASSESSMENT OF PANCHAYATS**

1902. SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to provide a holistic and evidence-based assessment of the development status of panchayats, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ**  
**(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry has launched the process of localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Panchayati Raj Institutions, consolidating the 17 SDGs into 9 key themes. This initiative aims to achieve the Sustainable Development Agenda by 2030 at the grassroots level. The thematic approach simplifies the alignment of global goals with local governance structures, making them more relevant and actionable for implementation at the community level.

The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), an initiative by the Ministry, aims to assess and measure the progress made by grassroots-level institutions in achieving localized SDGs, thereby contributing to the attainment of SDG 2030. This index is based on various local development indicators across the 9 themes of LSDGs. One of the purposes of the PAI is to identify the development gaps of the Panchayats through the scores achieved across various LSDG themes and enable the Panchayat for evidence based planning at grassroots level.

The thematic scores across the nine themes of Localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs), along with the overall PAI score of the Gram Panchayats, help assess their progress towards achieving localized SDGs and, ultimately, the broader SDGs. The outcomes of the PAI, over time, will reflect incremental progress based on the scores achieved by Panchayats, highlighting their advancement toward realizing the LSDGs. The baseline data PAI will play a vital role in setting local targets, identifying actionable points, and facilitating the preparation of evidence-based Panchayat Development Plans aimed at achieving the desired goals for enhanced performance

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