

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 223
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2025

**DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN
PANCHAYATS**

†*223. SMT. SHOBHANABEN MAHENDRASINH BARAIYA:
SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- a) the total number of Gram Panchayats in the country and the details of parameters/criteria prescribed for providing dedicated office infrastructure and internet connectivity to Gram Panchayats, State and district-wise;
- b) the details and number of computers sanctioned for empowering the Gram Panchayats digitally and the States where 100 percent digital saturation has been achieved, State and district-wise including Mahasamund in Chhattisgarh and Jalgaon in Maharashtra Lok Sabha Constituencies;
- c) the future plan outlined by the Government to provide infrastructural and digital resources to the remaining Panchayats;
- d) the role of the said initiatives in enhancing service delivery and administrative efficiency to Panchayats under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan(RGSA), State-wise; and
- e) the details of other facilities provided so far to the Gram Panchayats and funds allocated and utilized under RGSA for better performance and strengthening Panchayats during the last three years State and district-wise including Mahasamund Lok Sabha Constituency in Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (c) Panchayat, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of the State list of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Thus the primary responsibility of providing dedicated office infrastructure for Gram Panchayats and internet connectivity in Panchayats lies with States/UTs. The Gram Panchayat Bhawan functions as the office for Panchayats to carry out its various administrative functions. The States/ UTs have to ensure the Gram Panchayat Bhawan is functional, with provisions such as public seating, space for Gram Sabha meetings, information walls, multifunctional rooms etc. to support effective governance and community use. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), the Ministry supplements the efforts of States/UTs in building Panchayat infrastructure and Computers and peripherals, at a limited scale, with particular focus on the North Eastern States. Further, Ministry with its limited resources under RGSA, attempted saturation approach for supporting Gram Panchayat Bhawans and computerization. With regard to Gram Panchayat Bhawans, the focus was on approving GP Bhawan for Panchayats having a population of over 3,000 but lacking their own building. Accordingly, during 2024–25, construction of 3,301 Gram Panchayat Bhawans was approved under the scheme to different States/UTs, in addition to the 9,639 Bhawans already approved for various States/UTs. Similarly, with regard to the computer, the focus was on approving computer for the GPs having their own building and approved 22,164 computers to different States/UTs, apart from the already approved 30398 computers under the scheme. As per information available, there are 2,63,989 Gram Panchayats/ Traditional Local Bodies (GPs/TLBs) across the country, out of which 2,26,948 Panchayats having Building. State/UT-wise details are given at **Annexure-I**. District-wise information is not maintained centrally.

Further, to attain the vision of Digital India, the BharatNet project is being implemented by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in the country. So far, 2.18 lakh GPs/TLBs have been made service-ready for providing high-speed internet services under the BharatNet project. Additionally, to improve digital connectivity, the Amended BharatNet Programme was approved by the Cabinet on 04.08.2023 for the upgradation of the existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II and the creation of a network in the remaining Gram Panchayats. In addition, Panchayats are also using internet connection of private service providers.

Details of computers approved under the scheme are at **Annexure-II**. So far, the State/ UTs of Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar, DNH&DD and Ladakh have reported 100% computer saturation. Further, as reported, 20 computers have been sanctioned to Mahasamund Lok Sabha Constituency in Chhattisgarh and 14 Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency in Maharashtra.

(d) to (e) Under the RGSA scheme, various initiatives have been taken to enhance service delivery and administrative efficiency in Panchayats across States. These include support for

the construction of Gram Panchayat Bhawans with essential civic amenities, with focus on the North Eastern States, to provide a functional space for governance and public service.

Additionally, the Ministry is implementing the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) under RGSA, which has significantly enhanced transparency, efficiency, and governance at the grassroots level. The eGramSwaraj application, developed as part of the e-Panchayat MMP, has facilitated digital planning, accounting, monitoring, and online payments at the Panchayat level. The integration of eGramSwaraj with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) enables real-time payments to vendors and service providers, ensuring seamless fund flow and reducing delays. In FY 2024-25, a total of 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats across the country uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), and over ₹61,000 crore was transferred through the eGramSwaraj-PFMS interface. The State-wise adoption status of eGramSwaraj for the XV Finance Commission is provided at **Annexure-III**.

The Ministry has also integrated eGramSwaraj with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) to bring transparency to Panchayat procurement. This integration allows Panchayats to procure goods and services through GeM via the eGramSwaraj platform, promoting the “Vocal for Local” initiative. Further, applications developed by the Ministry like Meri Panchayat have endeavored to bring transparency in Panchayat Governance by making information on planning, activities and progress of works in Panchayat accessible to public. For instance, Panchayat NIRNAY is an online application which aims to bring transparency and better management in conduct of Gram Sabhas by Panchayats.

Further, an application of ‘AuditOnline’ has been developed for online audits of Panchayat accounts and their financial management. Launched in April 2020, AuditOnline is meant for transparent auditing of Central Finance Commission funds utilization to strengthen financial management of Panchayats. For audit year 2023-24, 2.45 lakh Audit Plans have been created and 2.39 lakh Audit Report have been generated by Gram Panchayats. The State wise progress on AuditOnline for the audit period 2023-24 is provided at **Annexure-IV**.

Furthermore, to ensure ease of living and quality of life in rural areas of the country, the Ministry is supporting the States in co-location of Common Services Centres (CSCs) within Gram Panchayat Bhawans and is being implemented in convergence with the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). Through CSC co-location, Panchayats are being equipped to offer a wide range of e-governance services to rural citizens at their door steps.

The main objective of the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is to build capacity of Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) through imparting training to Elected Representatives (ERs) and other stakeholders of Panchayats to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles to enable the Panchayats to function effectively. Apart from training, the scheme also provide support to the States/ UTs to establish institutional

mechanism for the Capacity Building & Training and to create Panchayat infrastructure like Gram Panchayat Bhawan, Computer and Co-location of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in Gram Panchayat Bhawan on limited scale. Under the scheme, funds are released to States/UTs and not directly to districts. Details of Central Share released and fund spent by the States/UTs including Chhattisgarh during last three years is at **Annexure-V**.

Annexure-I

Annex refer to in reply to Part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 to be answered on 05/08/2025

State/UT-wise details of Gram Panchayats with Panchayat Buildings

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Total GPs/ Equivalent*	GPs with Bhawan
1	Andhra Pradesh	13371	12139
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2108	1182
3	Assam	2192	1934
4	Bihar	8053	1548
5	Chhattisgarh	11693	11623
6	Goa	191	183
7	Gujarat	14648	12047
8	Haryana	6227	2690
9	Himachal Pradesh	3615	3537
10	Jammu and Kashmir	4291	3964
11	Jharkhand	4345	4247
12	Karnataka	5948	5690
13	Kerala	941	940
14	Madhya Pradesh	23011	21556
15	Maharashtra	27943	23454
16	Manipur	161	134
17	Meghalaya	6431	5372
18	Mizoram	834	470
19	Nagaland	1315	753
20	Odisha	6794	5576
21	Punjab	13236	8329
22	Rajasthan	11193	11193
23	Sikkim	199	185
24	Tamil Nadu	12525	11694
25	Telangana	12848	10160
26	Tripura	606	588
27	Uttar Pradesh	57691	55058
28	Uttarakhand	7817	7037
29	West Bengal	3339	3252
Union Territories			
1	Andaman & Nicobar	70	68
2	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	42	42
3	Lakshadweep	10	10
4	Ladakh	193	185
5	Puducherry	108	108
	Total	263989	226948

* As per information provided by the States/ UTs in the Annual Action Plan

Annexure-II

Annex refer to in reply to Part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 to be answered on 05/08/2025

State/UT-wise details of Computers approved under revamped RGSA

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Approved *
1	Andhra Pradesh	1922
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1936
3	Assam	2055
4	Bihar	4267
5	Chhattisgarh	6496
6	Goa	0
7	Gujarat	43
8	Haryana	1363
9	Himachal Pradesh	334
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1318
11	Jharkhand	2306
12	Karnataka	0
13	Kerala	200
14	Madhya Pradesh	289
15	Maharashtra	1625
16	Manipur	141
17	Meghalaya	1677
18	Mizoram	591
19	Nagaland	739
20	Odisha	350
21	Punjab	8334
22	Rajasthan	1554
23	Sikkim	235
24	Tamil Nadu	1594
25	Telangana	3452
26	Tripura	493
27	Uttar Pradesh	3145
28	Uttarakhand	4260
29	West Bengal	1712
30	Andaman & Nicobar	0
31	The Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	4
32	Lakshadweep	0
33	Ladakh	127
34	Puducherry	0
	Total	52562

*Approved from 2022-23 to 2025-26 (as on 31.07.2025)

Annexure-III

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 to be answered on 05/08/2025

eGramSwaraj- State wise Usage (2024-25)

S. No.	State Name	Total Number of Village Pancha yats & Equival ent*	Village Pancha yat onboard	Village Pancha yats & Equival ent With Online Paymen t	Total Number of Block Pancha yats & Equival ent*	Block Pancha yat onboard	Block Pancha yats With Online Paymen t	Total Number of Zila Pancha yats & Equival ent*	Zila Pancha yat onboard	Zila Pancha yats With Online Paymen t
1	Andhra Pradesh	13328	13320	13002	660	660	645	13	13	13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2108	2108	426	0	0	0	27	26	11
3	Assam	2662	2197	2183	191	191	191	30	29	27
4	Bihar	8054	8054	8046	534	534	531	38	38	38
5	Chhattisgarh	11701	11684	11540	146	146	146	33	33	27
6	Goa	191	191	97	0	0	0	2	2	2
7	Gujarat	14656	14645	14006	248	248	248	33	33	33
8	Haryana	6226	6226	5980	143	143	134	22	22	22
9	Himachal Pradesh	3615	3615	3557	81	81	81	12	12	12
10	Jharkhand	4345	4345	4335	264	264	263	24	24	24
11	Karnataka	5954	5954	5942	238	232	127	31	31	29
12	Kerala	941	941	941	152	152	152	14	14	14
13	Madhya Pradesh	23011	23011	22987	313	313	311	52	52	52
14	Maharashtra	27955	27940	27025	351	351	312	34	34	34
15	Manipur	3812	161	125	0	0	0	12	6	4
16	Meghalaya	6817	0	0	2241	0	0	3	3	0

S. No.	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent*	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent*	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent*	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
17	Mizoram	842	842	832	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	1289	977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	6794	6794	6794	314	314	314	30	30	30
20	Punjab	13237	13234	10240	153	151	123	23	22	19
21	Rajasthan	11222	11219	10905	361	353	351	33	33	33
22	Sikkim	199	199	195	0	0	0	6	6	6
23	Tamil Nadu	12525	12525	12520	388	388	388	36	36	36
24	Telangana	12991	12768	12648	572	540	514	32	32	32
25	Tripura	1194	1194	1175	75	75	75	9	9	9
26	Uttarakhand	7795	7795	7757	95	95	95	13	13	13
27	Uttar Pradesh	57691	57691	57638	826	826	819	75	75	75
28	West Bengal	3339	3339	3339	345	345	345	22	21	21
Total		264494	252969	244235	8691	6402	6165	659	649	616

*As per the information provided by the States on the portal

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 to be answered on 05/08/2025

State wise progress on AuditOnline for the audit period 2023-24

S.No.	State Name	Total Gram Panchayats	No. of Audit Plans Created	No. Audit Reports Generated
1	Andhra Pradesh	13328	13324	13308
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2108	2106	2093
3	Assam	2197	1713	620
4	Bihar	8056	8055	8051
5	Chhattisgarh	11656	11555	11121
6	Goa	191	191	191
7	Gujarat	14665	14638	14582
8	Haryana	6227	6218	4241
9	Himachal Pradesh	3615	3615	3614
10	Jammu And Kashmir	4291	0	0
11	Jharkhand	4345	0	0
12	Karnataka	5950	5950	5950
13	Kerala	941	941	941
14	Ladakh	193	0	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	23012	22983	22741
16	Maharashtra	27952	27909	27456
17	Manipur	161	0	0
18	Meghalaya	0	0	0
19	Mizoram	843	0	0
20	Nagaland	0	0	0
21	Odisha	6794	6794	6752
22	Punjab	13240	13107	13003
23	Rajasthan	11255	11009	9291
24	Sikkim	199	199	199
25	Tamil Nadu	12525	12525	12525
26	Telangana	12772	12769	12737
27	Tripura	1194	1176	1176
28	Uttarakhand	7795	7795	7793
29	Uttar Pradesh	57754	57744	57651
30	West Bengal	3339	3227	3225
Total		256598	245543	239261

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) & (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 to be answered on 05.08.2025

Details of Central Share released and fund spent by the States/UTs during last three years under revamped RGSA

Sl. No	State Name	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Funds Released	Funds Utilized
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.35	2.52	59.66
2	Arunachal Pradesh	108.69	132.45	72.09	89.97	70.00	77.94
3	Assam	55.29	95.15	77.70	91.41	60.00	72.60
4	Bihar	33.37	70.07	25.00	51.81	0.00	78.05
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	29.52	17.57	22.25	16.50	34.13
6	Goa	0.00	1.12	0.89	1.00	1.35	1.29
7	Gujarat	0.00	0.01	0.00	1.28	0.00	15.48
8	Haryana	0.00	3.06	0.00	8.84	5.00	8.24
9	Himachal Pradesh	60.65	37.49	19.31	69.30	27.21	43.13
10	Jammu and Kashmir	40.00	57.75	65.00	98.61	65.00	57.89
11	Jharkhand	0.00	18.44	31.00	25.95	0.00	26.56
12	Karnataka	36.00	25.67	20.00	39.01	16.25	49.52
13	Kerala	30.40	23.13	10.00	37.04	10.00	32.65
14	Madhya Pradesh	28.00	145.17	32.17	74.16	40.00	96.92
15	Maharashtra	37.84	129.03	116.12	194.26	80.00	134.81
16	Manipur	8.63	3.31	9.56	8.34	0.00	3.91
17	Meghalaya	0.00	6.41	6.00	6.26	8.00	7.60
18	Mizoram	14.27	25.48	10.00	15.64	12.00	22.69
19	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	10.00	5.46	10.00	18.28
20	Odisha	11.40	24.83	27.33	44.22	20.00	60.15
21	Punjab	34.25	42.91	10.00	23.06	5.00	23.89
22	Rajasthan	0.00	32.41	21.72	40.12	15.00	30.88
23	Sikkim	6.01	4.98	6.00	7.90	7.00	7.35
24	Tamil Nadu	25.42	8.53	0.00	25.98	45.00	63.79
25	Telangana	0.00	3.19	20.00	20.47	0.00	9.05
26	Tripura	9.80	3.76	7.43	10.96	10.00	20.29
27	Uttar Pradesh	85.05	96.33	84.13	158.95	38.77	180.84
28	Uttarakhand	42.48	57.15	64.67	66.29	50.00	63.72

Sl. No	State Name	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Funds Released	Funds Utilized	Funds Released	Funds Utilized
29	West Bengal	4.28	50.89	33.69	57.32	52.68	82.68
	Union Territories						
30	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.00	1.03	0.79	1.28	2.12	1.18
31	Dadra and Nagar Heveli And Daman And Diu	1.14	4.50	1.00	0.38	1.00	0.00
32	Ladakh	0.00	1.52	1.00	0.80	0.00	0.58
	Sub- Total	672.97	1128.25	800.17	1317.21	670.40	1385.75
	Others IA	10.01	10.01	14.69	14.69	23.77	23.77
	Total	682.98	1138.26	814.86	1331.90	694.17	1409.52

Note: Wherever the expenditure is higher than the release, it is because of the unspent fund lying with the state from previous years.

*Fund released as Central Share

^ Funds utilized includes Central Share as well as State share.

,