

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1760
ANSWERED ON 10.02.2026

PROMOTION OF RENEWAL ENERGY IN RURAL AREAS

1760. THIRU THANGA TAMILSELVAN:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government is implementing Gram Urja Swaraj scheme for Promoting Renewable Energy in rural areas by adopting renewable energy and using it in their community, reducing carbon emissions and establishing sustainable energy practices in rural areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of activities/programmes are being implemented under this scheme in various rural areas and utilized State-wise;
- (c) the fund earmarked, released and utilised under such scheme to various States as on date, State-wise; and
- (d) whether the incentives being given to gram panchayats for implementing this scheme, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a): Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is not implementing any formal scheme having a budgetary allocation for promoting Renewable Energy in rural areas. The Gram Urja Swaraj is being implemented as an awareness and coordination campaign. Through this campaign, the Ministry seeks to promote awareness in Panchayats on renewable energy adoption. Ministry also supports the existing schemes of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) which is the nodal Ministry for all matters relating to new and renewable energy.

(b) and (c): Do not arise, in view of the above.

(d): Incentivization of Panchayats is one of the components of Centrally Sponsored scheme of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) of MoPR. Under this scheme, 'National Panchayat Awards' are given to the best performing Panchayats, annually on 24th April, which is celebrated as the National Panchayati Raj Day to commemorate 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992. As a part of this initiative, awards have been given to PRIs, under 2 special categories including 'Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' and 'Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar'. The 'Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar' is given to 3 Gram Panchayats (GPs) for their performance regarding

adoption and usage of renewable sources of energy whereas the ‘Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar’ is given to 3 GPs who have done exemplary work towards achieving Net-Zero carbon emissions similar to Gram Urja Swaraj Puraskar. In 2025, the ‘Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar’ and the ‘Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar’ have been merged to form the ‘Climate Action Special Panchayat Award’ with an aim to encourage Panchayats to act as climate-responsive local governments. The award includes a financial incentive of Rs.1 crore (Rank 1), Rs.75 lakh (Rank 2), and Rs.50 lakh (Rank 3) respectively. The awardees are also presented with specially designed trophies and certificates.
