

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 75
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2022

E-GOVERNANCE IN PRIs

75. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state

- (a) the steps taken by Government to promote e-Governance in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);
- (b) the aim, scope and success of the e-Gram Swaraj portal launched by Government for decentralised planning, progress reporting and accounting;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated/ released for the development of the same;
- (d) whether Government has conducted an assessment of the intended impact and benefits of the portal and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of steps of financial management for the PRIs that the e-Gram Swaraj seeks to provide?

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.

(b) to (d) The Ministry launched eGramSwaraj, a work-based Accounting Application for Panchayati Raj Institutions 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. Under e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) funds are provided to National Informatics Center

Services Inc. (NICS) for Central-level support for maintenance of e-Panchayat applications, faculty support and programme management. So far, Rs. 11.22 cr. has been released to NICS/NIC in the current year. Further, in the current year under the e-Panchayats component of the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Yojana, States are provided with e-Governance Resource Groups (e-State Project Monitoring Unit and e-District Project Monitoring Unit) and fund approved under e-Panchayat component of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Yojana is Rs. 32.95 crores. So far 2.55 lakh GPs for 2021-22 have prepared and uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs). 2.36 lakh GPs have closed their year books for the year 2020-21 and 2.19 lakh GPs have closed month books for 2021-22. Furthermore, under 15th Finance Commission, 1.14 lakh GPs and 1.81 lakh GPs have carried out online transactions during 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively. The Ministry constantly engages with the States for continuous improvement of the eGramSWARAJ Application.

(e) eGramSwaraj has been integrated with Public Financial Management System (PFMS), called eGramSwaraj-PFMS Interface (eGSPI), for tracking fund flow under Central Finance Commission provided to the Panchayats and carrying out real time payments to service providers. eGSPI envisages to establish sound financial management system, enhance transparency and accountability of Panchayats. Further, for strengthening financial management of PRIs, Ministry also launched an application – AuditOnline, on 15th April 2020, for online audit of PRI accounts. This is in compliance with the XV Finance Commission recommendations of ensuring availability of audited accounts online.
