

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *333
ANSWERED ON 11/08/2026

WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES IN PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

*333. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by the Government to strengthen the participation, leadership capacity and effective functioning of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the country, State and district-wise including Odisha, Telangana, Gujarat, Kachchh and Jagtial districts and Keonjhar, Jalgaon, Shahdol and Dewas-Shajapur Lok Sabha Constituencies;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of programmes aimed at strengthening the leadership and participation of Women Elected Representatives (WERs) in PRIs and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details and total number of women representatives provided training and capacity-building support along with the total funds allocated and utilised during the last three years, State, year and district-wise including the said States, districts and constituencies;
- (d) the initiatives taken to promote women-led governance, digital empowerment, financial literacy and effective decision-making at the grassroots level, State, year and district-wise including Odisha, Gujarat, Keonjhar Lok Sabha constituency;
- (e) the steps taken to assess the impact of such initiatives on strengthening women's participation and leadership in PRIs; and
- (f) the steps taken to establish dedicated leadership and governance training programmes for women representatives, State and district-wise including Maharashtra and particularly in Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO Part (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*333 (13TH POSITION) TO BE ANSWERED ON 11/08/2026
REGARDING WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES IN PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS**

(a) Panchayat, being a “Local Self Government”, is a State subject and part of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Accordingly, strengthening Panchayat capacity is primarily the responsibility of States/UTs, for which the Ministry also provides funds to States/UTs. However, the Ministry is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), w.e.f. financial year 2022-23, with the objective of supporting Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs). Under the Scheme, training is imparted to Elected Representatives (ERs), including Women Elected Representatives (WERs), and other stakeholders to enhance their leadership capacity and governance capabilities for the effective functioning of PRIs across the States/UTs through induction, refresher, theme-based panchayat development plan training, etc. The State/UT-wise details of Women Elected Representatives provided training under the Revamped RGSA since 2022-23 to 2026-27 (As on 10.07.2026), including the States of Odisha, Telangana, and Gujarat, are placed at *Annexure-I*.

(b) An external evaluation of the overall revamped RGSA has been undertaken through the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA), which assessed the effectiveness of capacity-building programmes and recommended corrective measures to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions, which also includes WERs. However, no independent review has been done on the implementation of programmes aimed at strengthening the leadership and participation of WERs in PRIs, as Panchayat is a State subject.

(c) Under the scheme of Revamped RGSA, a total of 23,83,765 Women Elected Representatives (WERs) were trained during the last three financial years (2023-24 to 2025-26). The State/UT wise details of Women Elected Representatives (WERs) that provided training during the said period are placed at *Annexure II*. The component-wise funds are not allocated to the States/UTs under this scheme. However, the States/UTs utilise the funds released by the Ministry as per their priority. The States/UTs-wise details of funds released and utilized during the last three years, including such States, Districts and Constituencies, are placed at *Annexure-III*.

(d) to (f) To keep the momentum of Women-Led Governance, the Ministry launched the Sashakt Panchayat Netri Abhiyan during the National Workshop held on 4–5th March 2025 in New Delhi to empower Women Panchayat Leaders with knowledge and skills on various aspects of rural governance. During the campaign, Beacon Women Panchayat Leaders have been felicitated for their exemplary work in rural governance and provided with a national platform to share their leadership experiences and showcase best practices.

The campaign also witnessed the launch of a comprehensive Specialized Training Module “Championing of Change-Empowering Women Leaders in Local Governance and Beyond” aimed at strengthening the capacities of WERs on enhancing leadership skills and empowering WERs to serve as effective agents of change in strengthening grassroots democracy.

In addition, several capacity-building initiatives have been taken to strengthen the effective functioning of Panchayat representatives, including augmentation of own source revenue;

empowerment on digital platforms for more transparency & accountability in service delivery and management development programme, etc. to strengthen their capabilities and improve efficacy in discharging their roles & responsibilities. The State/Year-wise details of WERs trained in OSR and Digital platforms, including those for Odisha, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Keonjhar Lok Sabha Constituency, and Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency, are at *Annexure-IV&V* respectively.

The Ministry has led the process of the Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) towards the attainment of the National Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The process of localization of SDGs has been conceptualized through 9-thematic approaches by aggregating 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which also include Theme 9: Women-Friendly Panchayat. Theme 9 aims to create an inclusive and gender-sensitive local governance system that ensures women's participation, safety, rights, and empowerment at the grassroots level.

To keep the momentum of the LSDGs through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), the Ministry has developed the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), formerly known as the Panchayat Development Index (PDI). It is a composite assessment framework to measure the incremental performance of Gram Panchayats/Equivalent to Gram Panchayats (GPs) across 9 themes of LSDGs, including Theme-9.

The PAI provides theme-wise and overall scores through scorecards and dashboards of the Gram Panchayat. This enables identification of performance gaps, relative strengths, and areas requiring focused attention at the Panchayat level.

Further, the Ministry confers National Panchayat Awards (NPA) annually to the best-performing Panchayats and Institutions across the country on Themes of LSDGs & special categories, which also include Theme-9 Women-Friendly Panchayat. Now the awards are linked to the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), which measures the performance of Gram Panchayats on around 150 thematic indicators aligned with SDGs. This has emerged as a strong source of motivation for Elected Representatives (ERs) in improving development efforts at the local level and encouraged healthy competition among rural local bodies.

A total of 1,53,616 WERs (as on 10th July 2026) were trained on this module, including in the Jalgaon district of Maharashtra. The State/UT-wise details of Women Elected Representatives Trained on this Specialized Module is placed at *Annexure-VI*.

Annexure-I

Annex refer to in reply to Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

The State/UT-wise details of Women Elected Representatives Trained under Revamped RGSA during FY 2022-23 to 2026-27 (As on 10.07.2026)

S. No	States	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (till 10.07.2026)
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	217	9	270	721	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1060	15303	30947	76806	782
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1002	507	975	3668	0
4	Assam	25277	7932	997	47189	752
5	Bihar	191234	32751	125252	37728	4166
6	Chhattisgarh	53423	36934	13025	90762	7673
7	Goa	600	1173	1448	525	118
8	Gujarat	86	4	8133	1943	541
9	Haryana	1691	2324	84	39649	351
10	Himachal Pradesh	718	14376	17544	1148	0
11	Jammu And Kashmir	107089	68072	7	0	0
12	Jharkhand	1700	23802	19786	43325	0
13	Karnataka	58233	50894	31857	30156	0
14	Kerala	33749	13437	11467	14160	0
15	Ladakh	0	0	0	27	0
16	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-
17	Madhya Pradesh	27684	13478	39489	111555	5048
18	Maharashtra	181689	180760	71831	39291	11313
19	Manipur	1	233	12	844	18
20	Meghalaya	2727	25820	25359	46241	0
21	Mizoram	335	2146	1749	4268	2169
22	Nagaland	38	275	1064	610	86
23	Odisha	39865	29072	53501	15274	3945
24	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0
25	Punjab	11492	3543	19914	51370	4370
26	Rajasthan	113	26009	5015	7414	0
27	Sikkim	1324	1542	1445	1344	300
28	Tamil Nadu	42160	64765	27737	12298	2440
29	Telangana	564	12	7	42629	6206
30	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	215	357	225	1454	306
31	Tripura	1840	22146	18373	28768	5159
32	Uttar Pradesh	12459	29952	17626	86982	0
33	Uttarakhand	133173	41182	8333	38021	0

34	West Bengal	39483	98104	80630	66004	3080
	Centre level	453	74	206	295	60
	TOTAL	971694	806988	634308	942469	58883

Source: As per Training Management Portal

Annexure II

Annex refer to in reply to Part (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

The State/UT-wise details of Women Elected Representatives Trained under Revamped RGSA during FY 2023-24 to 2025-26

S.No.	States/UT	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	9	270	721
2	Andhra Pradesh	15,303	30,947	76,806
3	Arunachal Pradesh	507	975	3,668
4	Assam	7,932	997	47,189
5	Bihar	32,751	1,25,252	37,728
6	Chhattisgarh	36,934	13,025	90,762
7	Goa	1,173	1,448	525
8	Gujarat	4	8,133	1,943
9	Haryana	2,324	84	39,649
10	Himachal Pradesh	14,376	17,544	1,148
11	Jammu And Kashmir	68,072	7	-
12	Jharkhand	23,802	19,786	43,325
13	Karnataka	50,894	31,857	30,156
14	Kerala	13,437	11,467	14,160
15	Ladakh	-	-	27
16	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
17	Madhya Pradesh	13,478	39,489	1,11,555
18	Maharashtra	1,80,760	71,831	39,291
19	Manipur	233	12	844
20	Meghalaya	25,820	25,359	46,241
21	Mizoram	2,146	1,749	4,268
22	Nagaland	275	1,064	610
23	Odisha	29,072	53,501	15,274
24	Puducherry	-	-	-
25	Punjab	3,543	19,914	51,370
26	Rajasthan	26,009	5,015	7,414
27	Sikkim	1,542	1,445	1,344
28	Tamil Nadu	64,765	27,737	12,298
29	Telangana	12	7	42,629
30	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	357	225	1,454
31	Tripura	22,146	18,373	28,768
32	Uttar Pradesh	29,952	17,626	86,982
33	Uttarakhand	41,182	8,333	38,021
34	West Bengal	98,104	80,630	66,004
	Centre level	74	206	295
	Total	8,06,988	6,34,308	9,42,469

Source: As per Training Management Portal

Annexure III

Annex refer to in reply to Part (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

States/UT-wise status of funds released and utilized under revamped RGSA during the last three years

(Rs. in Cr.)

S. No.	States/ UTs	2023-24		2024-25		2025-26	
		Funds Released	Fund utilized	Funds Released	Fund utilized	Funds Released*	Fund utilized
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.79	1.28	2.12	1.18	1.00	2.12
2	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	21.35	2.52	59.64	35.00	77.29
3	Arunachal Pradesh	72.09	89.97	70.00	77.94	57.00	62.51
4	Assam	77.70	91.41	60.00	71.87	64.00	72.09
5	Bihar	25.00	51.81	0.00	75.08	26.00	40.00
6	Chhattisgarh	17.57	22.25	16.50	34.12	29.00	42.77
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.00	0.38	1.00	0.24	1.25	1.99
8	Goa	0.89	1.00	1.35	1.29	1.00	2.39
9	Gujarat	0.00	1.28	0.00	15.48	8.00	15.57
10	Haryana	0.00	8.84	5.00	8.22	17.91	37.82
11	Himachal Pradesh	19.31	69.30	27.21	42.94	14.00	21.63
12	Jammu & Kashmir	65.00	98.61	65.00	57.89	57.00	78.99
13	Jharkhand	31.00	25.95	0.00	26.47	15.20	33.51
14	Karnataka	20.00	39.02	16.25	49.53	11.03	24.53
15	Kerala	10.00	37.04	10.00	32.65	18.00	28.97
16	Ladakh	1.00	0.80	0.00	0.58	0.72	0.92
17	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Madhya Pradesh	32.17	74.16	40.00	96.82	49.95	86.19
19	Maharashtra	116.12	194.26	80.00	134.79	54.49	91.33
20	Manipur	9.56	8.34	0.00	3.91	1.48	9.79
21	Meghalaya	6.00	6.26	8.00	7.60	5.02	6.72
22	Mizoram	10.00	15.64	12.00	19.63	16.50	21.03
23	Nagaland	10.00	5.46	10.00	15.32	10.70	13.16
24	Odisha	27.33	44.22	20.00	60.15	62.24	109.62
25	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Punjab	10.00	23.06	5.00	23.89	30.30	56.93
27	Rajasthan	21.72	40.12	15.00	30.88	13.00	42.13
28	Sikkim	6.00	7.90	7.00	7.19	3.21	6.79
29	Tamil Nadu	0.00	25.98	45.00	63.69	20.00	59.03
30	Telangana	20.00	20.47	0.00	8.99	3.00	29.31
31	Tripura	7.43	10.96	10.00	20.24	29.99	32.40

32	Uttar Pradesh	84.13	158.95	38.77	180.84	28.05	80.67
33	Uttarakhand	64.67	66.29	50.00	63.72	44.09	49.45
34	West Bengal	33.69	57.32	52.68	82.56	40.00	77.49
	Other Implementing Agency	14.69	-	23.77		23.63	
	Total	814.86	1319.68	694.17	1375.34	791.76	1338.77

Note: Fund utilization includes the Central Share, the State Share, and the unspent balance of the previous year. Funds released represent the Central Share only.

Annexure IV

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

The State-wise details of Women Elected Representatives (WERs) trained in Own Source Revenue Module

S.No	State/UT Name	2025-26	2026-27 (till 10 July)
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	6	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	483	-
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	-
4	Assam	736	44
5	Bihar	859	-
6	Chhattisgarh	-	-
7	Goa	-	-
8	Gujarat	-	-
9	Haryana	1,428	-
10	Himachal Pradesh	64	-
11	Jammu And Kashmir	-	-
12	Jharkhand	156	-
13	Karnataka	2,236	-
14	Kerala	5	-
15	Ladakh	-	-
16	Lakshadweep	-	-
17	Madhya Pradesh	513	1,881
18	Maharashtra	2,299	217
19	Manipur	-	-
20	Meghalaya	-	-
21	Mizoram	331	-
22	Nagaland	-	-
23	Odisha	718	169
24	Puducherry	-	-
25	Punjab	-	-
26	Rajasthan	95	-
27	Sikkim	85	-
28	Tamil Nadu	1,489	-
29	Telangana	-	3,375
30	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	24	-
31	Tripura	547	-
32	Uttar Pradesh	6,631	-
33	Uttarakhand	-	-

34	West Bengal	1,676	1,808
	Centre level	-	-
	TOTAL	20,404	7,494

Source: As per Training Management Portal

Annexure V

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

The details of Women Elected Representatives (WERs) trained in Digital Governance/Literacy

S.No	State/UT Name	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (till 10 July)
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	-	-	91	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	7	-
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6	-	2	-
4	Assam	-	29	-	2,306	-
5	Bihar	234	1,425	5,853	2,145	-
6	Chhattisgarh	-	314	1	-	-
7	Goa	-	14	130	-	-
8	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-
9	Haryana	-	-	80	2,048	-
10	Himachal Pradesh	7	116	124	3	-
11	Jammu And Kashmir	-	399	-	-	-
12	Jharkhand	-	-	184	573	-
13	Karnataka	61	2,379	-	-	-
14	Kerala	646	-	9	51	-
15	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	-
16	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-
17	Madhya Pradesh	-	1,275	482	1,817	-
18	Maharashtra	-	9	-	-	-
19	Manipur	-	2	-	-	-
20	Meghalaya	-	-	169	-	-
21	Mizoram	-	-	-	383	220
22	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-
23	Odisha	-	-	77	178	34
24	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	-
25	Punjab	-	1	-	-	-
26	Rajasthan	-	18	49	55	-
27	Sikkim	-	-	-	46	-
28	Tamil Nadu	-	-	239	-	-
29	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-
30	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	-	-	27	27	-
31	Tripura	5	-	-	-	-
32	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	877	7,529	-

33	Uttarakhand	38,935	5,526	20	-	-
34	West Bengal	3,212	3,144	212	16,669	-
	Centre level	2	2	-	-	-
	TOTAL	43,102	14,659	8,625	33,839	254

Source: As per Training Management Portal

Annexure-VI

Annex refer to in reply to Part (d) and (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *333 to be answered on 11/08/2026 regarding Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions

State/UT-wise details of trained WERs on Specialized Module as on 10th July 2026

S.No.	States/UTs	Total Participants
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	286
2	Andhra Pradesh	5523
3	Arunachal Pradesh	88
4	Assam	3346
5	Bihar	3063
6	Chhattisgarh	2240
7	Goa	31
8	Gujarat	76
9	Haryana	3694
10	Himachal Pradesh	83
11	Jammu And Kashmir	5
12	Jharkhand	25931
13	Karnataka	21291
14	Kerala	962
15	Ladakh	2
16	Lakshadweep	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	28690
18	Maharashtra	10966
19	Manipur	853
20	Meghalaya	4691
21	Mizoram	147
22	Nagaland	81
23	Odisha	3830
24	Puducherry	0
25	Punjab	5054
26	Rajasthan	12599
27	Sikkim	339
28	Tamil Nadu	9679
29	Telangana	11
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0
31	Tripura	736
32	Uttar Pradesh	6122
33	Uttarakhand	248

34	West Bengal	2945
	Centre level	4
	TOTAL	153616

Source: As per Training Management Portal
