Government of India
Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Panchayat Awards - 2019
Selected Case Studies of Award Winning Gram Panchayats

Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India has been incentivizing the best performing Panchayats recommended by the State Governments/UT Administrations since 2011-12. The awards are given every year to encourage the States for empowering the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and putting in place mechanism for transparency and accountability of the PRIs.
“Panchayat Raj represents true democracy realised. We would regard the humblest and the lowest Indian as being equally the ruler of India with the tallest in the land.”

Mahatma Gandhi
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Case Studies of Award Winning Gram Panchayats - 2019

The 18 case studies of Gram Panchayats (GPs) listed below have been developed as per the thematic areas in each category of awards that Ministry of Panchayati Raj awarded for the year 2019. These case studies are not intended to be extensive description of whole profile of the gram panchayat but cover brief analytical details sharing the importance of the work done by the panchayat in specified thematic area. The following are the case studies as per the thematic area:

Thematic Area: Sanitation

Case Study 1: Pogiri Gram Panchayat in Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh

Pogiri Gram Panchayat is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar in the thematic area of Sanitation for the year 2019. Key aspect that enabled this panchayat to make progress on Sanitation is that they have initiated different regulatory measures as well as generated mass awareness on importance of sanitation. The GP provided adequate infrastructure support to all households and achieved the desired Open Defecation (ODF) status. With construction of Individual household latrines (IHLs) under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM-Gramin), the Pogiri GP has achieved 100% success in the area of Sanitation.

On GPs development agenda, sanitation has been accorded high priority with shared responsibility among different stakeholders. Apart from managing the sanitation work with Own Source Resources (OSR), the GP converged utilization of funds from different schemes such as SBM, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) etc. The Pogiri Gram Panchayat also took initiative to integrate sanitation plans into GPD. Engaging GP village sanitation Committees, ward level elected representatives, SHG members, representatives from disadvantaged groups and youth-groups made a positive impact in the whole process.

The GP has undertaken measures for collection of waste from every household. Green Ambassadors were appointed in the GP to ensure implementation of safe sanitation practices. Waste management is done by construction of Solid Waste Processing Center (SWPC) along with maintenance of organic vermicompost unit. Many poor young people got employment through SWPC in Pogiri. With different sanitation initiatives, the GP could able improve the health status of its citizens. The quality of life of people living in GP area improved considerably.
Case Study 2: Sreerampore Gram Panchayat in Bardhaman Purba District, West Bengal

Sreerampore Gram Panchayat is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar in the thematic area of Sanitation for the year 2019. The GP consists of 24 Wards and has a literacy rate of 80%. The Gram Panchayat implemented various schemes like providing water supply, solar light etc. to address different issues relating to sanitation. The GP has been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) with construction of IHHL through SBM. Role of elected representatives, community level workers and volunteers helped the GP immensely helped to achieve the target of ODF. They also took-up leadership for evening and morning nazzardari (Vigilance/Patrolling). During the implementation of the sanitation programme, Sreerampore Gram Panchayat focused and achieved success on the following areas:

I. Overall environmental development
II. Improved personal hygiene
III. Fewer cases of diarrhoea, malaria, dengue in the GP

Sreerampore Gram Panchayat worked closely with SHGs under its sanitation initiative. They formed “Sarbajaya Sangha” (Clusters) as well as Sreerampore Sarbajaya Mohila Co-operative Society to work on different development issues. Through SHGs, use of sanitary napkins, jute bags and purified drinking water has increased. GP is utilizing Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) funds for safe drinking water supply. With same funds, there is tremendous improvement in the drainage system.

Case Study 3: Madvarayapuram Gram Panchayat in Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu

Madvarayapuram Gram Panchayat is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar in the thematic area of Sanitation for the year 2019. The Panchayat stands as a model to other GPs in complete elimination of open defecation and obtaining cleaner villages. Community based organisations including SHGs and local volunteers played an important role towards maintaining best sanitation practices. The GP has good waste management system with collection points throughout the wards, and for its disposal. The Panchayat Union Elementary School got the award of ‘Clean School’ recently and the Gram Panchayat expects to be announced Plastic Free Village soon.

With a strong base of women SHGs, GP has achieved important milestones through formulation of a comprehensive Gram Panchayat Development planning. Through CBOs and health workers, Gram Panchayat is able to deliver various awareness generation activities throughout the year that resulted in
reduction of dengue cases in the GP. Schools and Anganwadis in the GP are provided with clean and adequate toilets.

**Thematic Area: General**

**Case Study 4: Bankadaha Panchayat in Bankura District, West Bengal**

Bankadaha Gram Panchayat (GP) is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar under the General category for the year 2019. Agriculture and government job are the major occupations of the people in this GP. The GP is equipped with good drainage systems and street lighting across all wards and market area. Role of the elected representative with an impetus from people is seminal in bringing the GP to its present condition.

Through GPDP process people identified local needs and incorporated the developmental areas in the GPDP. In addition, the Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats Project (ISGPP) Cell funded by State Govt. provided the necessary guidance to fill the gaps and improve the panchayat in all aspects.

Under its future plans, the Gram Panchayat would be installing Solar lights, provide drinking water facility through solar energy in all wards of GP. They are preparing their own website through which they will be able to show progress of their works in front of the world. They want to also install a Flat TV at GP office to showcase their activities to all public including daily works, facilities and GP Act etc.

**Case Study 5: Gaati Gram Panchayat in Etawah District, Uttar Pradesh**

Gaati Gram Panchayat (GP) is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (General) for the year 2019. With total population of 1595 and literacy rate of 80%, the GP has taken various measures to improve the provision of civic services to people. The notable features are:

- Timely planning and execution of works by members & all committees
Regular guidance from Panchayat Sachiv, Teachers, ADO(P) and BDO

The Sarpanch says that cooperation from villagers has enabled the panchayat to improve civic services to all. With efforts of the GP, villagers adopted cleanliness and cooperated with the administration in accomplishing what it is today. To reduce pollution and prevent open cremation on the banks of Yamuna river, the GP constructed a separate site in the GP area.

**Case Study 6: Vyahad Khurd Gram Panchayat in Chandrapur District, Maharashtra**

Vyahad Khurd Gram Panchayat (GP) is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar under the General category for the year 2019. The Gram Panchayat consists of three revenue villages namely Vyhad khurd, Kisan nagar and Chak no-1. As per Census 2011, Vyhad khurd have total population of 4139, out of which male population is 2143 and female population is 2096. Nearly 17% population of GP is below poverty line. Source of income for villagers is mainly agriculture and other small scale businesses.

Participatory planning and participation of villagers in every activity and co-ordination of all stake holders enabled the Panchayat to provide all the civic serves to its citizens. Special mention has to be made of Mahatma Gandhi Tanta Mukt Samiti (Village Level Dispute Settlement Committee), where the Samiti made it possible to maintain harmony and peace in village and grievance redressal at Gram Panchayat level. The Samiti is highly influential in leading all the villagers towards progress and development.

**Thematic Area: Child Friendly Gram Panchayats**

**Case Study 7: Patteeswaram Gram Panchayat in Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu**

Patteeswaram Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the best Child friendly Gram Panchayat for the year 2019. It is noted that most of the child development indicators in the GP are in practice. The panchayat has made child development as one of the areas in their development agenda. For better outcomes in Child development, a *Panchayat-Level Integrated Development Plan (PLIDP)* has been developed, which helped the Panchayat in developing locally appropriate targets & benchmarks to meet the educational, health, sanitation, environment and social needs of rural children.

With the PLIDP, the GP has set-up different educational institutions such as Government Pre Primary, Private Pre-Primary, Govt Primary, Private Primary, Government Middle and Govt Secondary Schools.
nearest Govt Medical College is in Thanjavur. The nearest Private Disabled School, Private Arts and Science Degree College, Private Engineering College, Private MBA College, Private Polytechnic College and Private ITA College are in Kumbakonam that paved a way for all children in the GP to receive education.

**Case Study 8: Dharnai Gram Panchayat in Jehanabad District, Bihar**

Dharnai Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the Child friendly Gram Panchayat for the year 2019. The Panchayat has taken many steps to improve the situation of children in myriad ways. The Panchayat has taken perceptible steps to provide a conducive environment for children to study and inculcate learning habits for their growth. The school enrollment ratio of the children in the GP is good. The Panchayat is running a website ‘Dharnai Live’ for motivating other villages and asking the government to adopt similar methods. Dharnai declared itself an energy-independent village where students no longer have to limit their studies to the day time, women no longer need to fear stepping out of their homes at night, and small industries are prospering.

**Case Study 9: Sarberia Agarhati Gram panchayat, in North 24 Parganas, West Bengal**

Sarberia-Agarhati Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the best Child friendly Gram Panchayat for the year 2019. In the Gram Panchayat, 48.98% are engaged in activities such as Agriculture, fisheries and wage labour (working in brick-kilns, masonry), while 55.02% are involved in marginal activities.

In terms of addressing children issues, all gram panchayat sansad members resolves the most vulnerable issues in their individual sansad (or mini Parliament) on issues relating to child marriage, child trafficking, school drop-out, unsafe migration, child labour etc. They even prepared a safety net for children in their sansad. All the Sansad Members (Ward Members) have also prepared annual action plan for addressing children issues. In 17 sansads, Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) was set-up.

Panchayat Members have arranged community sensitized programmes about Children vulnerability issues. In highlighting the child centric issues, Community based Organizations such as SHGs/NGOs supported the GP regarding child safety activities. Under the future plans, Panchayat is aiming to form a Child Cabinet and youth resource centre at the village level. The Sarberia-Agarhati GP is committed to children’s well-being as well as providing healthy environment for children’s activities.
Case Study 10: Paidimadugu Gram Panchayat in Jagtial District, Telangana

Paidimadugu Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the Child friendly Gram Panchayat for the year 2019. It has 61% (2635) population engaged in either main or marginal works. 60% male and 61% female population are working population. 55% of total male population are main (full time) workers and 5% are marginal (part time) workers. For women 54% of total female population are main and 7% are marginal workers. The Gram Panchayat has (13) elected representatives i.e. (1) Sarpanch & (12) Ward Members along with a Panchayat Secretary. The following parameters have been followed and implemented in the Gram Panchayat for making it into a Child Friendly Gram Panchayat with the support from Sarpanch, Panchayat Secretary, Mandal Panchayat Officer, NGOs & Public.

1. Vaccination/Immunization of Children in GP has been done through a campaign
2. School enrolment in GP has increased through persuasion
3. Attendance of teachers in Government school(s) in GP has risen
4. Dropout rate in school(s) in GP at primary/upper primary/secondary level has reduced
5. GP has been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF) GP
6. Girl Child hygiene - sanitary pads have been distributed to adolescent girls in GP
7. Mid day meal scheme is implemented successfully in schools in GP
8. Purified water has been supplied to schools in GP
9. Playgrounds have been properly demarcated secure & are made functional in GP
10. Nutrition of children in GP has been take care.

IEC activities are planned in the Gram Panchayat to create awareness among the public in the village for achievement of Child Friendly GP. Public awareness campaigns are being held in all wards and with support from elected representatives, officials, NGOs & Public.
Case Study II: Mandawar Gram Panchayat in Tonk District, Rajasthan

Mandawar Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the best Child friendly Gram Panchayat for the year 2019. Mandawar GP has a total population of 4,501. There are about 863 houses in Mandawar village. Realising the importance of inclusive growth and sustainable human development, the Sarpanch of the GP has relentlessly worked for the welfare of the children.

Starting the Swachh Bharat Mission Programme, the GP has been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). This has been done through relentless awareness raising and advocacy using Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on the negative effects of ODF on child’s physical and cognitive development. By achieving ODF, the GP has been able to protect children from the contagious water-borne diseases, increased their productivity. ODF especially impacted girls who do not have to walk distance to defecate. Furthermore, the GP distributed sanitary napkins to 117 adolescents in the Financial Year (FY) 2017-18. By doing this they not only have respected the dignity of girls but also prevented dropout rates from school among adolescent girls.

The GP paid special attention to both the enrolment and retention rates in schools under Samagra Siksha Abhiyan. As of now, total number of children enrolled in Government schools in GP (FY 2017-18) is 525 and number of children retained (at the beginning of academic FY 2018-19) is 597. The GP conducts regularly monitoring of the nutrition and immunization programme to ensure proper vaccination and diet of the pregnant women and children.

The GP regularly organises Sabha and various other meetings with line departments staff such as Aganwadi workers of Women and Child Development, Social Justice, teacher from Education, ASHA from Health; to discuss issues related to child health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and their social security and participation. The inputs of such meetings are reflected in the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Witnessing the efforts of the GP, the administration starting from the block to the state level has provided support to create and maintain an atmosphere of healthy growth and development for all its children irrespective of gender, class, caste and religion.
Thematic Area: Revenue Generation

Case Study 12: Yangthang Gram Panchayat in West District, Sikkim

Yangthang Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the best Revenue Generating Panchayat for the year 2019. The GP has 8 wards. The rural productive marketing center under the GP created revenue generation infrastructure for the Panchayat. It was constructed in the year 2006 from the gram panchayat fund. Later the marketing centre was extended and handed over to a school. The following are the revenue generation modes that the GP has adopted in recent years:

- Newly house construction fees.
- Temporary License fees collection from individuals who sells goods from door to door such as hawkers etc within GP.
- Drinking Water-Charges for every households
- House-Tax from each household
- Trade License fees for renewal and new license.
- Revenue collection as cost of tender form.
- Revenue collection through Panchayat recommendation or NOC.
- Revenue collection through uses of GP’s assets like sound system, chairs etc.
- Collection through settlements of minor disputes or cases within GP.
- Revenue collection through provision of other services from GP.

The best practices and achievements for which the GP has made contribution are as follows:-

1) All work has been executed through GPDP successfully.
2) Participation of maximum people, including women, in the gram sabha meetings.
3) Eliminating maximum alcohol and drugs abuse in GP.
4) Eliminating most communicable diseases through measures taken by members of GP.
5) Banning plastic uses in GP.
6) Encouraging and making maximum women involvement in GPDP and in other programs.
7) Minimized of dropouts students in GP.
8) Providing skill development trainings and programs for unemployed youths for the employment

The Panchayat is planning for tax collection of Garbage from all Road side of Langang and Upper Yangthang. Planning is in progress to collect charges from Pitlomba tourist sport and also by collecting Parking fees of Vehicles- through Village police guard.
Case Study 13: Soorand North, Gram Panchayat in Kollam District, Kerala

Sooranad North Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the best Revenue Generating Panchayat for the year 2019. The main employment for men and women of the Panchayat is cashew nut processing, which takes place in several factories. There are also workers who manufacture tiles and "country burnt" bricks. In addition, there are people who work as casual laborers/ small shop entrepreneurs.

The GP has put in its best efforts in order to provide basic amenities to its people. The GP has implemented many projects of the economic enhancement and poverty reduction among the villages. The greatest learning from this GP is that team work by all elected representatives and staff for achievement of common good is of critical importance. There are systems in place in all areas for effective implementation of the schemes and programs.

The GP has touched needy through various initiatives like child development, differently abled, farmers, small entrepreneurs, women’s well-being, sanitation, street-lights, rural connectivity, housing, employment, education and training, and many more. In addition, the GP is instrumental in initiating several resource generation activities in the village Panchayat. The impact created is positive, effective and successful in providing quality services with additional resources generated from village Panchayat income generation activities. These multi various programs have made perceptible change in the lives of the underprivileged in the Village Panchayats. All these were made possible with firm determination and unprecedented leadership of President, elected representatives and Secretary at the GP level.

Case Study 14: Pusda Gram Panchayat in Amravati District, Maharashtra

Pusda Gram Panchayat is awarded as one of the Revenue Generating Panchayat for the year 2019. In Pusda, there are 938 total families out of which 54 families are under Below Poverty Line. Majority of people in the Panchayat are depended on Agriculture income.

Among own sources of revenue of the Panchayat, Land and Building Tax provided major and regular income. The following measures have been adopted by the Panchayat to increase its revenue:

- Established Aapala Sarkar Seva Kendra (ASSK) to provide G2C service and collect revenue
- GP recovered pending rent of shopping complex
- Elected Representatives helped to recover tax revenue
- Administration such as Block Panchayat and District Panchayat supported and guided Gram Panchayat
The increase in own source revenue by the GP enabled the panchayat to reduce dependence on State and Central governments. It helped in delivering basic services, helped them fill resource gaps at the panchayat level in addressing local needs. From governance point of view, increase in OSR such as taxes, fees and user charges made the panchayat accountable to the public and also enhanced citizen’s participation in the decision making. For example, increased proportion of the own revenues in the public service expenditure was seen to have resulted in increased participation in Gram Sabha (GS) meetings and has impacted quantity and quality of public services.

**Thematic Area: Community Based Organisation (CBOs) Individuals Taking Voluntary Action**

**Case Study 15: Singhwahini Gram Panchayat in Sitamadhi District, Bihar**

For the year 2019, Singhwahini Gram Panchayat is awarded with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Samriddhi Puraskar in the thematic area of CBOs and Individuals Taking Voluntary Action. In the GP, a large percentage of adult populations are illiterates.

Singhwahini Gram Panchayat is the one of best performing Panchayats not only in the Block Sonbarsa but in the whole Sitamarhi district and Bihar state. Severely affected by floods, this Panchayat has been recognized nationally in the recent years due to the able leadership of the Sarpanch. First challenge was the widespread practice of open defecation. To tackle this, Sarpanch created an *army* of women who would be active every morning to track those men and women on their way to defecate in the fields. The hard work paid off when Singhwahini was declared ODF in October 2016. Apart from being ODF, Panchayat solved problems relating to village’s bad roads, improved water facilities, provided employment, natural resource management, civic facilities, disaster management etc.

Sanitary Pad Bank has been established for women to promote menstrual hygiene. Goat Farming was promoted among the masses thereby elevating the people economically. Students are being provided training in the fields of hotel management, electrical appliances’ repair and they are getting placed at reputed organisations. A community Bio-Gas Plant is also being constructed in the village Narkatiya. Restored female rights and dignity in the GP.
Case Study 16: Karimuddanahalli Gram Panchayat in Mysuru District, Karnataka

Karimuddanahalli Gram Panchayat is awarded with Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Sabha Puraskar for the year 2019. Under the leadership of the Sarpanch, the GP aims to holistically develop and improve the standard of living and quality of life of all sections of the population of GP through improved basic amenities. The GP is working towards generating models of local level development and effective local governance which can motivate and inspire neighboring GPs to learn and adapt such models. Through mobilizing community for participatory local level development and converging different government programs, private and voluntary initiatives, Karimuddanahalli Gram Panchayat achieved comprehensive development. The GP also partnered with CSRs, Cooperative and CBOs to focus on outcomes and sustainability. In preparing the GPD, the following implementation strategy has been adopted by the GP:

- Mapping of Priorities done
- Formation of Village Development Committees by involving youth, women & interested individuals
- Social mobilization & capacity building planned
- Strengthening Gram Sabhas/Ward Sabhas dialogue initiated
- Formation of Task Forces for effective delivery of services by departments/service providers
- Involvement of 38 development departments, their integration for holistic development of GP
  Villages as per the timeline emphasized.
- Developed timelines for each activity
- Operation strategy for each department drawn (SOP)
- Monitoring & Validation to nurture the process emphasized
- GPs institutional capacity building in terms of planning, mobilization, execution and validation systematized.
- Corporate Social Responsibility partners identified, enabling them to choose their area of interest as against the needs of the situation
- Strengthening of SAGY District Co ordination Committee (SAGY DCC).
- Utilizing services of expertise agencies and individuals emphasized.
- Convergence Priorities implemented
Thematic Area: Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)

Case Study 17: Pappinisseri Gram Panchayat, Kannur District, Kerala

Pappinisseri Gram Panchayat is awarded with best GPDP Award for the year 2019. Pappinisseri Grama Panchayath, Land of Lore’s and Looms is one of the Leading Gram Panchayats in Kerala situated the bank of Valappattanam river in Kannur District. This Gram Panchayath covers 20 wards with Elected Members. For the development of GPDP, Gram Sabha meetings are conducted in every ward. In the year 2017-18, 6 Gram Sabhas were conducted in each Ward and also conducted for Special Gram Sabhas for Physically and mentally challenged persons, old age people, other state labor and for Scheduled Caste communities.


All the developmental plan proposals from Ward Gram Sabhas are incorporated in the GPDP. Gram Panchayat after due consultations approved the proposals and t submit it to Dist. Planning Committee. After getting approval from DPC, projects are implemented by various Implementing Officers from different line Departments. The Projects are recorded in Sulekha Software developed by Information Kerala Mission an autonomous body under State government.

Gram Panchayat attained 100 % plan expenditure and revenue collection in the year 2017-18, 2018-19. As ISO 9001-2015 certified institution surveillance audit is conducted every year in Grama Panchayat. A helpdesk is in function for helping people for prepare applications. Sookhika Software is applied for Tapal, Sanchaya for Building tax, Sankhya for Accounting, Sevana for Social welfare Pension and Civil Registration (Birth & Death, Marriage registration), Sanketham for Building Permit. Panchayath meetings are recorded in Sakarma Software. A web site is also functioning in the name of Pappinisseri Grama Panchayath. (www.lsgkerala.in/pappinisseripanchayat)
Case Study 18: Gurupura Gram Panchayat in Dakshin Kannad District, Karnataka

Gurupura Panchayath is awarded with best GPDP Award for the year 2019. Gurupura panchayat consists of 2380 families in which 1056 families are Above Poverty Line (APL) and 1124 families have Below Poverty Line card. 85% of the population depend on agriculture.

To take forward the Ministry of Panchayati Raj’s initiative of developing the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), training was arranged for elected representatives and the local body leaders. To prepare a detailed plan, a meeting was held in each ward and a confluence plan was prepared by the residents of the ward. Elected Representatives, Administration, Self-help groups, Women empowerment groups, Youth Clubs have contributed to this project along with the departmental authorities.

This development plan is fully uploaded on MoPR website. Through developing GPDP, an intense dialogue on the development of the village has been achieved with the participation of representatives of the people and members of the village. The stage has been set for transparent, problem-free and aggressive implementation of the plan which is owned by its people.

Conclusion

The awards continue to provide recognition to leaders in local self-governance in the rural landscape. The awardee Panchayats serve as beacons and provide a realistic model for replication to others.