



National Panchayati Raj Day 2024

Report of the National Colloquium on Governance at Grassroots

on

Governance at Grassroots



Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi | April 24, 2024

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National Colloquium on Governance at Grassroots

INAUGURAL SESSION

Introduction to Colloquium

Shri Alok Prem Nagar, Joint Secretary, MoPR

In his opening remarks, Shri Nagar wished all the distinguished guests, State officials, and special representatives from UN agencies at the “National Colloquium on Governance at Grassroots” a happy National Panchayati Raj Day. He discerned that this august gathering offers a special platform to access successes, recognise obstacles and investigate potential.

The National Colloquium on grassroots governance holds particular significance as it coincides with three decades of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act and two decades since the creation of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.



Initiatives of MoPR aimed at transforming Panchayat Governance

Dr. C.S. Kumar, Additional Secretary, MoPR

Additional Secretary, Panchayati Raj highlighted the importance of rural development, indicating that 60% of India's population lives in rural areas, and 47% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) comes from rural areas. He also underlined the need to strengthen rural areas and the Constitutional Mandate, making Panchayats a Constitutional entity.

Further, AS, PR briefly underscored the major milestones and interventions of the Ministry since the implementation of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, such as, (i) the 10th Finance Commission (1994) recommended a significant portion of Central and State Government grants to be allocated to local bodies, (ii) the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas Act (PESA) was passed in 1996, extending the Panchayati Raj System to scheduled areas and tribal regions, (iii) the Model Panchayat Act was framed in 2009 to guide states in enacting their own Panchayat acts, (iv) the 12th and 13th Finance Commissions introduced institutional reforms like Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), Audit Online, and Public Financial Management System (PFMS), mobilizing revenue sources (v) the 14th Finance Commission allocated Rs. 2,00,292 crores to strengthen decentralised governance. Since then, over 2.50 lakh Gram Panchayats have prepared context-specific GPDPs. (vi) the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhi-

-yan (RGSA) focuses on capacity building and training of elected representatives, (vii) the 15th Finance Commission implemented Audit Online, the Citizens Charter, and the Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) in 2021, (viii) Panchayat Development Index (PDI) monitors progress and provides baselines for GPDP preparation, and (ix) National Panchayat Awards (NPA) recognize the best performing Panchayats for improving service delivery and public goods.



“To empower Panchayats by 2029, fostering self-reliance and economic activity through technology interventions, messaging tools, and chat bots for seamless service delivery.”

The Additional Secretary discerned that the aim is to empower Panchayats by 2029, making them self-reliant and hubs of economic activities. The challenges include infrastructure development, workforce augmentation, devolution of powers, convergence at the grassroots, own source revenue (OSR), and service delivery at the grassroots. Infrastructure development includes Panchayat Bhawans with digital facilities, and state cooperation is needed to strengthen the workforce. Devolution of powers is a constitutional mandate, and states should incentivize and develop action plans for empowering Panchayats. Convergence at the grassroots involves bringing information related to 22 flagship schemes at the Panchayat level, and its own source of revenue needs to reach 20% of Panchayats' resource envelopes. Service delivery at the grassroots involves using technology interventions, messaging tools, and chatbots to ensure seamless delivery of services to citizens.



Convergence of Digital Governance initiatives of various Ministries in improving Governance at the grassroots

**Sh. Shailesh Kumar Singh, Secretary,
Ministry of Rural Development**

Shri Shailesh Kumar Singh, Secretary of MoRD, presented the initiatives taken by MoRD towards “Convergence of Digital Governance initiatives of various Ministries in improving Governance at the grassroots”. MoRD is working towards Aadhar-based authentication for

transferring the direct benefit transfer (DBT) benefits enabled through the convergence of GPDP with MoRD schemes. However, he emphasised that utilising GPDP has much more scope for improvement, and MoRD is striving towards it.



“Digital governance initiatives, including Aadhaar-based authentication and LGD seeding, aiming for improved governance at grassroots levels.”

With PM Gati Shakti as the baseline, MoRD is converging various schemes enabled through local government directory (LGD) seeding and Aadhaar-based authentication. He elaborated to the audience with a schematic diagram of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and explained how convergence is being achieved in this scheme. He also elaborated on the method of convergence among the MoRD schemes. The speaker ended his speech with a positive note, saying that in the coming days, the convergence of all such schemes could contribute to an effective digital governance model.

Keynote Address

Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Extending his heartfelt welcome and deep sense of gratitude to the esteemed guests and participants to the colloquium on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day, 2024, Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Panchayati Raj, observed that the Republic of India is not only an older Republic but also the largest one comprising more than 30 lakhs of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), which is higher than the total population of some countries in the world. Illustrating India's size and 2000 years of historical inscription of election system practices in Tamil Nadu during the Cholas Dynasty, the Secretary, PR emphasised the significance of Panchayats in the Constitution of India. The Panchayati Raj system was rejuvenated with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Led by Rajasthan in the 1950s, many states implemented the Panchayati Raj Act later. This day is celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day.



Secretary, PR highlighted India's Panchayati Raj system's achievements, including improved Panchayat elections, financial support from the Finance Commission, and increased transparency in Panchayats through prepared accounts and audits, despite initial reluctance from states. Secretary, PR also identified challenges in strengthening Panchayats, including educational disparity among elected representatives (60-70% below matriculation), lack of Panchayat Bhawans in 35,000 GPs out of 2,60,000 GPs, and insufficient human resources for effective functioning and development activities.

Secretary, PR suggested that Panchayats should be provided with adequate resources for development activities and the XVI Finance Commission (XVIFC) can help overcome funding challenges. He suggested conducting visits to Panchayats during state visits to understand their needs. He also advised states to encourage GPs to share human resource and funding challenges. The Ministry has found that only 850 Panchayats generate over Rs. 50 Lakh of OSR.

He urged to collaborate with elected representatives to achieve the Prime Minister's vision of a developed nation by 2047 and to strengthen Panchayats.



“To collaborate with elected representatives to achieve the Prime Minister's vision of a developed nation by 2047.”



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<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session1>

Challenges & Opportunities before PRIs in ensuring effective Public Service Delivery

SESSION II

Chair: Shri Amarjeet Sinha – Former Secretary, MoRD

Panellists:

1. **Ms. Uma Mahadevan** – ACS, Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Karnataka
2. **Shri Sanket S. Bhondve** – Joint Secretary, MeitY
3. **Dr. Joy Elamon** – DG, KILA
4. **Dr. C.S. Pran** – Teesri Sarkar
5. **Ms. Sarbani Bose** – PRADAN



The Chair, Shri Amarjeet Sinha, former secretary of MoRD, introduced the theme of discussion by asserting that the shared and inclusive growth and development of the country are contingent upon the effective decentralisation of funds, functions and functionaries at the grassroots level. Success stories and best practices related to better health, education, and nutrition outcomes as indicators of social development also reflect the active participation of women representatives and women Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

Women play fundamentally stimulating roles in converting economic growth to real human and social development. Shri Sinha demonstrated the empirical relationship between poverty and low human capital presence and highlighted the role of GPs in ensuring equitable quality education, health, nutrition, and related




“Partnership for human well-being is necessary with elected women representatives steering the development agenda.”

social welfare provisioning for rural citizens. For Panchayats to really partner in human development in rural areas, they must be facilitated by the countervailing presence of community-based organisations (CBOs), including women SHGs and strong accountability frameworks such as social audit and internal audit etc.

Ms Uma Mahadevan began her address by sharing that she has spent five years working with the Panchayati Raj Department in Karnataka. This experience has endowed her with significant experiences and insights into the workings of Panchayats and the various initiatives to strengthen local governance. She introduced the 'Panchatantra App', a comprehensive solution for Panchayats in Karnataka. The app streamlines processes from meeting management to financial transactions and enhancing administrative efficiency. She also mentioned that Karnataka has introduced a sitting fee for Panchayat members, equivalent to the daily wage under the MGNREGA, to encourage participation and engagement in local governance.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, MGNREGA operations and livelihoods were supported by various departments, ensuring economic stability in rural areas. Locally elected representatives and Panchayats played crucial roles in addressing community needs, providing localised solutions and relocating children to safer hostels, as part of broader efforts.

 “Adopt 'Panchatantra App' for streamlined Panchayat operations. Introduce sitting fees to boost participation.”

Ms Mahadevan highlighted the importance of making MGNREGA scheme data accessible for researchers, maintaining a digital library for capacity building, and promoting transparency and participation. She also mentioned collaborations between Gram Panchayats and Self-Help Groups for waste management

and the introduction of a chatbox in Karnataka to improve accessibility and communication in Panchayat services.

In her concluding remarks, Ms Mahadevan noted that data relevant to Panchayats should be shared in a simplified format. This would enable Panchayats to use the information effectively when drafting local development plans, enhancing the impact and reach of their efforts.



Shri Sanket S. Bhondve, Joint Secretary, MeitY, emphasised the pivotal roles of Jandhan, Aadhar, and Mobile in digital governance. He also highlighted that over 100,000 data sets are accessible in the Open Government Data (OGD) platform, along with an equal number of application programming interfaces (APIs). The APIs can be leveraged for designing and planning schemes and projects. He further mentioned that India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), including Digilocker, Umang, and Aadhar, constitute India's acclaimed contribution towards DPI space that necessitates a unified service framework.

Shortage of resources to provide services in rural areas was also brought forth, and with the involvement of Artificial Intelligence (AI), the resource shortage can be addressed effectively. States like Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Haryana are notably advanced in establishing Panchayat registers.



“Leverage Digital Public Infrastructure for unified grassroots service delivery framework. Focus on cyber security.”

He also informed that the development of a national family registry is underway, leveraging Panchayat family registers for proactive service delivery. The importance of cyber security awareness was also brought forth, underscoring the steps taken by the Government of India to protect citizens' personal data. He also emphasised that cyber security is paramount for secure service delivery in the digital realm.

Dr. Joy Elamon, Director General, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), discussed the impact of elected representatives in gram panchayats, particularly in Assam, on community development and child health care. He emphasised the potential of Panchayati Raj and highlighted the work of Panchayats in various ways, such as promoting initiatives, mobilizing people, implementing services and building infrastructure. Panchayats play a crucial role in service delivery, providing state government services, departmental services, and to directly driven services. They are the nearest place access these services, making them accessible and accessible for everyone. Panchayats play a vital role in promoting community development and improving services.



Kerala has transitioned to e-governance, implementing the Integrated Local Self Government Management System (ILGMS) portal and Ksmartonline for managing services. All 940 Gram Panchayats and 152 block Panchayats are ISO certified, demonstrating quality service delivery. KILA has played a crucial role in strengthening PRIs and providing ideas for model development. It is a renowned institute for quality training, providing training to various stakeholders and agencies and offering handholding support and mentorship.



“Strengthen Panchayats' role as nearest access point for quality rural services and community development.”

Dr Joy emphasised the challenges of generating new ideas, fostering innovation within the Government system, establishing an environment for information dissemination, addressing human resources and achieving convergence among departmental activities within the local system, all of which are influenced by formalities and regulations.

Dr C.S. Pran from Teesri Sarkar emphasised on foreseeing Panchayats on the basis of two aspects i.e. service delivery and social capability. He elaborated on changes in health and education campaigns for all in Panchayats over time. He mentioned about some of the campaigns like Yuva Shakti Abhiyan and other initiatives that were started in Panchayats for generating social awareness empowering youth and for resolution of social issues.





“Prioritize capacity-building initiatives on holistic Panchayat governance besides service delivery training.”

He highlighted the significance of digital governance, which was missing in panchayats during ancient times. With the evolvement of modern technologies, the transformation phase of Panchayats has taken place in terms of development, planning and holistic development.

He pointed out that capacity building and training are currently conducted to ensure service delivery. However, initiatives need to be taken to conduct training and capacity-building programs to strengthen Panchayat governance.

He emphasised the low engagement of local people at various levels of participation, i.e., discussions, decisions, and actions across the nation. He recalled an instance in Uttar Pradesh wherein it was conveyed that out of 28 lakh ward members across all Panchayats, 7.5 lakh ward members are in Uttar Pradesh. However, only 5.5 lakh out of 7.5 lakh ward members turned up for Panchayat elections, with non-participation of approx 2 lakh showing less engagement of people at Panchayat level. He urged that digital technology be used to ease things and benefit citizens. The misuse of digital technology shall be avoided and personal information of local people shall be maintained confidential at all levels.

Ms Sarbani Bose from Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN) discerns the importance of women's participation in decision-making in the social sector and their leadership in identifying women-related issues. She further enlightened the participants on the importance of various functional committees, viz Gram Panchayat Organisation Development and Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee, that can support professional input and identify the gaps for accessing different services. She ended her talk with the importance of the participation of women in Gram Sabha to bring gender issues in GPDP.



REVISIT THIS SESSION

<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session2>

Evolution of Principles of Good Governance at the Grassroots in Rural Areas

SESSION III

Chair: Shri Sunil Kumar – Former Secretary, MoPR

Panellists:

1. **Dr. G. Narendra Kumar** – DG, NIRD&PR
2. **Shri Alok Prem Nagar** – Joint Secretary, MoPR
3. **Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph** – Principal Secretary (LSDG), Govt. of Kerala
4. **Ms. Hyun Hee Ban** – Chief of Social Policy at UNICEF India
5. **Shri Jaydeep Biswas** – Chief of Policy and Partnerships, UNFPA India

Shri Sunil Kumar, Former Secretary, MoPR Chaired the panel and requested the speakers to present their points of view.



Dr. G. Narendra Kumar, DG, NIRD&PR, discussed the gaps in Panchayati Raj governance and the decentralisation of the Panchayats. He emphasised on various issues in accelerating governance at the Panchayat level and suggested various ways of improvement. He emphasised the devolution of funds to the lowest level to improve accountability. He underscored different sources of revenue that Panchayats can consider to increase their own revenue. He stressed that finances should be arranged from

the citizens of Panchayats and utilised for delivering services to them. This will encourage citizens to pay taxes at the Panchayat level.



“Arranging citizens' finances for Panchayat services, encouraging taxation at the Panchayat level.”



Shri A.P. Nagar, JS, MoPR emphasised the significance of delivery of services by the Panchayats at the last mile to ensure ease of living and quality of life for the rural citizens. He encapsulated the Citizen's Charter campaign carried out in 2021, which had large participation across the Panchayats from all States / UTs, culminating in the signing of the Mysuru Declaration wherein the States had committed to ensure delivery of 7 core common services at the grassroots level by March 2022 and also shared the Citizen's Charter Amendment as a result of Panchayat Empowerment.

He also highlighted the challenges that are limiting the delivery of services at the Panchayats, viz. devolution of functions to the Panchayats in letter and spirit; power to Panchayats to formulate and implement program schemes; slow uptake of amendments of the existing Acts/Rules authorising Panchayats for service delivery. He assured us that all the offline services offered by Panchayat would soon be available online. He mentioned that the Ministry is in advanced discussions with UNICEF India to leverage their Digital Public Good (DPG). He flashed the benefits of SVAMITVA and the way it has financially stabilised the citizens in rural India by enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans.

Resolution of property tax would accrue to the GPs directly in the states. Rapid Pro platform for delivery of citizen services utilizing WhatsApp as a communication medium, which would serve as a channel for functionaries to directly pose their issues/queries. Rural citizens can also enquire about the 9 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and any issues related to the PFMS.



“Improve last-mile service delivery for rural ease of living. Digitize offline Panchayat services through DPG.”



Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph, Principal Secretary (LSDG), Kerala, presented the initiatives that have been taken in Kerala under the decentralization move, the achievements made, and the challenges that lie ahead. According to her, 28.09% of the state's planned budget is reserved for the functioning of local bodies of the state and the details are also mentioned in Appendix IV of the budget presented by the Finance Minister in the State Assembly. There are District Planning Committees working in all districts and their function can be studied and analysed by both the state governments as well as the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to make them more scientific and systematic.

Apart from this, 4% of State Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) is also reserved for the maintenance of assets transferred to the local bodies (e.g., PHCs, Taluka-level hospitals, and road network maintenance).

Kerala's local self-governance has made significant progress, including digitalization of service centers, women's empowerment, solid waste management and the Kochi metro network. The Information Kerala Mission has developed and upgraded software for various services, including birth and death registrations and panchayat meetings.



“Kerala allocates 28% budget for local bodies. Digitalised services, women's empowerment initiatives underway.”

The Kudumbshree network, which includes over 45 Lakh women, is actively involved in planning, managing, and monitoring activities at the grassroots level. The state government's Navakeralam policy aims to upgrade healthcare facilities, improve education, and provide homes and land to the homeless and landless. The Digikeralam mission aims to make Kerala 100% digitally literate by November 2024. Urban governance is also being implemented, with active involvement of Kudumbshree members. Disaster management is being prepared by local bodies with the assistance of KILA playing a crucial role in capacity building. The Kerala government has identified 6,406 families to eradicate extreme poverty and is working on capacity building.



Shri Jaydeep Biswas, Chief of Policy and Partnerships, UNFPA India, congratulated the Ministry on the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, which decentralised governance and digital literacy for development. He praised India's approach to localising the SDGs through nine themes and partnered with the Ministry to promote Women and Girl-Friendly Panchayats.



“Ensure women's participation in governance for focusing on health, education, social justice. Provide enabling support systems.”

Women's leadership in governance is crucial due to their focus on health, education, social justice and women's rights. They advocate for policies advancing these rights.

Ensuring women's participation requires support from family, housing, workspace, transportation, mentoring, training and public campaigns to combat gender biases.

Acceptance and recognition are key factors. In summary, the speaker highlighted improvements in maternal and reproductive health services, reduction in child marriages, arresting opening of liquor vending, ensuring safety of girls and women, lighting, gender sensitization, reducing school dropout rates and sports promotion for women and girls.

Ms. Hyun Hee Ban, Chief of Social Policy at UNICEF India, spoke on the topic “Opportunities about Platform of SDGs achievement through SDGs localization Themes of Child Friendly (theme 3) and Women Friendly Villages (theme 9)”. She began by mentioning India's commitment to child protection and child development reflected through India's ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in the early 1990s.



She mentioned UNICEF's collaboration with MoPR for LSDG Theme 3- Child-Friendly Village, and jointly with UNFPA for Theme 9- Women Friendly Village. Stressing the need to focus on children, she cited examples of the multiplied benefits of investing in the health, nutrition and education of children. She cited studies establishing the efficacy of Mahila Sabha and Bal Sabha platforms prior to GPDP for child-centric GPDP.

Expressing deep faith in convergent platforms that exist in villages to promote the best interests of children, she stressed the collaborative roles of PRIs, Elected Representatives, officials, sectoral agencies at the grassroots level, SHGs, schools and Village Child Protection Committees etc. towards achieving targets of Child-friendly Village and Women-friendly Village, heading towards attaining the SDGs. Towards the end, she expressed her gratitude to MoPR for their focus on child's rights.



“India's commitment to child protection and development through collaborative roles among PRIs, elected representatives, officials, and grassroots agencies to achieve SDGs.”

Shri Anish from Transform Rural India Foundation (TRIF) pointed out the importance of good governance at the grassroots level in villages, highlighting the impact of Panchayats on developmental indexes like Gender Inequality Index, Child Birth Rate, and Maternal Mortality Rate. He underscored the need to assess women's representation in non-reserved seats and asserted the need for more inclusive growth. Shri Anish emphasised the importance of individual capital and agency freedom in social and human capital.



“Panchayats should be the third tier of federal structure. Need to assess women's representation, create revenue-generating assets to harness Panchayats' full potential for inclusive growth.”

He emphasised the need for Panchayats to create revenue-generating assets to harness their full potential. Shri Anish discussed TRIF's collaborations with government institutions, efforts to revive Rural Economic Zones for workforce diversification, and revenue generation for Panchayats.



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<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session3>

Summing Up

The Chair, Shri Sunil Kumar, summarised the key points that emerged from each of the panellists' presentations and concluded the discussion with the following observations/suggestions:

MoPR should invite the representatives of all three tier officials and stakeholders and take their suggestions before making any policies or plans. Students, professors, teachers from local institutions and universities should also be invited as "Think Tank" of grassroots and take their feedback while making policies and implementing them. Panchayats in Punjab, Gujarat, Kerala, etc., wherein large population is residing over-seas, can arrange an Overseas Corpus for collecting funds and donations from them to tackle their villagers' development and to resolve their issues as well. He emphasised that strengthening Panchayats is a work in progress. Continuous efforts have to be made, and actions on all levels have to be taken. Every stakeholder will have to **Think seriously, Reflect seriously and Act seriously** to implement the resolutions taken by State governments. Work has to be commenced by the States. If devolution of powers has to become a reality, the States will have to take responsibility and not remain at the mercy of the Union. In a federation, it is imperative to take up the roles on all three levels.



He reminded that Sumit Bose Committee recommendations have not been taken seriously by many States. It was emphasised that change in the mindset has to take place on all three levels. Instead of Top-Down approach, Down-Up approach has to be adopted for real change at grassroots level. For PESA Panchayat, empowerment of local committees has to be ensured for the development of Tribal areas as they are more inclusive and democratic in their approach.

If a Panchayat comes up with a project, District Planning Committee should include it and the appropriate funds should be allocated for that initiative. Funds from Labour cess should be utilised for reducing labour migration. He appreciated the Karnataka model of Public Libraries and suggested that every state should adopt this model of community development and forward thinking. These libraries are becoming the centres of local participation and grassroots democracy, which is exemplary and worth a positive reception. He emphasised that Panchayats should make to think, to take step, to bring some solution to their own problems. If we have a strong local government, then all local issues should be taken up by local bodies instead of writing or filing the petition with higher authorities. In the end he stressed upon the fact that MoPR and other State institutions should ensure that local bodies become the backbone of their own development and begin to sort out their issues themselves otherwise there is no point of Constitutionalisation of Panchayats.



“State institutions should ensure that local bodies become the backbone of their own development and begin to sort out their issues themselves.”

CONCLUDING SESSION



Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, expressed his sincere gratitude to all the participants for their enthusiastic engagement on National Panchayati Raj Day 2024 and especially for participating in the National Colloquium. He underscored the profound significance of this occasion for both the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the Panchayati Raj Institutions at the State and Union Territory levels. Additionally, he commended the insightful discussions and active involvement of representatives from the State/UT, Civil Society members, and Multilateral Agencies, which contributed significantly to the success of the event.

Secretary MoPR, echoed the belief that there is no better way to celebrate National Panchayati Raj Day 2024 than in the esteemed company of all participants.

In conclusion, Secretary, MoPR, extended heartfelt thanks to all participants, expressing hope that the insights gained during the event will be effectively leveraged and implemented to drive positive change at the grassroots level.



APPENDIX

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

i. Government Organizations

- Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- Shri Shailesh Kumar Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
- Shri Amarjeet Sinha, Former Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
- Shri Sunil Kumar – Former Secretary, MoPR
- Dr C.S. Kumar, Additional Secretary, MoPR
- Dr G. Narendra Kumar, DG, NIRD&PR
- Shri Alok Prem Nagar, Joint Secretary, MoPR
- Ms Uma Mahadevan – Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Karnataka
- Dr Sharmila Mary Joseph, Principal Secretary (LSDG), Govt. of Kerala
- Shri Sanket S. Bhondve – Joint Secretary, MeitY
- Dr Joy Elamon – Director General, KILA, Kerala
- Shri Vipul Ujwal, Director, MoPR

- **Officers & officials from Ministries and Departments of Government of India**
- **Officers & Officials from Panchayati Raj Departments of States/UTs and SIRDs**
- **Officers & officials of Ministry of Panchayati Raj**

ii. UN & Development Partners

- Ms Hyun Hee Ban, Chief of Social Policy at UNICEF India
- Shri Jaydeep Biswas, Chief of Policy and Partnerships, UNFPA India

iii. NGOs and Civil Society Organizations

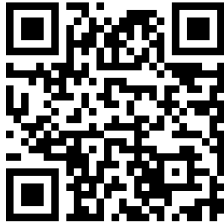
- Dr C.S. Pran – Teesri Sarkar
- Ms Sarbani Bose – PRADAN



सशक्त पंचायत सतत् विकास



REVISIT THE COLLOQUIUM



SESSION I

<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session1>



SESSION II

<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session2>



SESSION III

<https://bit.ly/nprd24-session3>



MoPR Digital Initiatives

<https://bit.ly/nprd-shortvideo>



Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Government of India



पंचायती राज



स्वतंत्रता नीचे से शुरू होनी चाहिए।

इस प्रकार, प्रत्येक गाँव एक गणतंत्र या पंचायत होगा जिसके पास पूर्ण शक्तियाँ होंगी।

-महात्मा गांधी

Independence must begin at the bottom.

Thus, every village will be a Republic or Panchayat having full powers.

-Mahatma Gandhi

राष्ट्रीय पंचायती राज दिवस

National Panchayati Raj Day

स्थानीय स्वशासन पर राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी
National Colloquium on Governance at Grassroots

24 अप्रैल, 2024 | विज्ञान भवन, नई दिल्ली
April 24, 2024 | Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi