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Daanveer Initiative Aims to Digitize Gram Panchayats Through Citizen Participation

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The Daanveer Initiative, launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, seeks to accelerate the digital transformation of Gram Panchayats by encouraging citizen participation and philanthropic contributions. ?

The initiative enables individuals, institutions, corporates, NGOs, and CSR partners to donate digital infrastructure and technological resources to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), thereby strengthening grassroots governance, digital inclusion, and rural service delivery.

The initiative complements the Government's vision of Digital India, Viksit Bharat @2047, and digitally empowered Panchayats.

Key Features:

Under the initiative, citizens and organisations can voluntarily contribute digital resources such as computers, laptops, printers, scanners, smart televisions, projectors, internet connectivity devices, and other ICT equipment required by Gram Panchayats. These resources will help Panchayats improve digital governance, maintain electronic records, and deliver services more efficiently to rural citizens.

Importance of Digital Gram Panchayats:

Digitally enabled Gram Panchayats facilitate online planning, budgeting, accounting, asset management, digital payments, and transparent record-keeping. They improve the implementation of government schemes, enhance public participation in decision-making, and ensure faster, more efficient delivery of citizen services. Digital governance also strengthens accountability and promotes inclusive rural development.

Related Digital Governance Initiatives:

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The Daanveer Initiative complements several digital governance programmes of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. eGramSwaraj provides an integrated platform for planning, budgeting, accounting, and asset management and is linked with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for online financial transactions. The Meri Panchayat App, developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), provides citizens with information on Panchayat activities and development works. SabhaSaar, an AI-powered application, automatically records and summarises Gram Sabha proceedings in multiple Indian languages, making Panchayat meetings more transparent and efficient.

Constitutional and Legal Framework:

The Panchayati Raj system derives constitutional status from the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992. Article 243G empowers Panchayats to function as institutions of local self-government and authorises them to prepare plans for economic development and social justice. The three-tier Panchayati Raj structure comprises the Gram Panchayat at the village level, Panchayat Samiti at the intermediate (block) level, and Zila Parishad at the district level.

Related Government Scheme:

The Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme that focuses on strengthening the capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions through training, digital governance, infrastructure development, and institutional reforms. The Daanveer Initiative complements RGSA by improving the availability of digital infrastructure at the grassroots level.

Additional Facts:

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj was established in 2004 to strengthen democratic decentralisation and local self-governance. The Gram Sabha, consisting of all registered voters of a village, is the foundation of participatory democracy and plays a central role in approving the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). The GPDP is prepared annually to identify local development priorities and is uploaded through the eGramSwaraj platform.

Exam Focus Points:

Initiative: Daanveer.

Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Objective: Digitisation of Gram Panchayats through citizen participation.

Related Platforms: eGramSwaraj, Meri Panchayat, SabhaSaar.

Related Scheme: Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).

Constitutional Basis: 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

Key Constitutional Provision: Article 243G.