



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) Wins Gold Recognition at National e-Governance Awards 2026

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Why in News??

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj's flagship Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) received the Gold Award under Category VII – Digital Transformation through the Use of Data Analytics in Digital Platforms at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026.

What is the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI)?

The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) is India's first comprehensive data-driven framework for assessing the performance of Gram Panchayats across the country. It functions as a standardized governance report card by measuring rural development through objective indicators.

Key Highlights:

About PAI:

Developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Evaluates and ranks Gram Panchayats using data-based indicators.

Promotes evidence-based governance and grassroots-level competitive federalism.

Helps identify development gaps and improve resource allocation.

PAI 2.0 Features:

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Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040
Phone: 044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833

Covers more than 6 lakh Gram Panchayats.

Uses 150+ indicators and 230+ data points.

Provides a digital dashboard for monitoring rural development.

Categorizes Panchayats into five performance levels based on composite scores.

Alignment with LSDGs:

PAI measures performance based on the 9 Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs):

Poverty-free & enhanced livelihood villages

Healthy villages

Child-friendly villages

Water-sufficient villages

Clean & green villages

Self-sufficient infrastructure villages

Socially secured villages

Villages with good governance

Women-friendly (engendered) villages

About National Awards for e-Governance:

India's premier award for excellence in digital governance.

Instituted in 2003.

Presented by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in coordination with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Objectives:

Recognize innovative e-governance initiatives.

Encourage replication of successful digital governance models.

Promote technology-enabled public service delivery.

2026 Theme:

“Viksit Bharat 2047: AI-Enabled, Data-Driven and Secure Digital Governance”

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Award Benefits:

Gold Trophy

Citation Certificate

₹10 lakh cash incentive for further technological development and innovation.

Exam Focus Points (Quick Revision Notes):

Particulars Details

Ministry Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Platform Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI)

Coverage 6+ lakh Gram Panchayats

Indicators 150+

Data Points 230+

Linked Framework LSDGs (9 Themes)

Award Category Digital Transformation through Data Analytics

Awarding Bodies DARPG & MeitY

Award Started 2003

Cash Incentive ₹10 lakh