



पंचायती राज

COMPENDIUM

MODEL YOUTH GRAM SABHA (MYGS)

2025-2026



A joint initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj
(MoPR), Department of School Education & Literacy
(DoSEL) and Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA),
Government of India

THE VISION AND CONCEPT OF THE MODEL YOUTH GRAM SABHA (MYGS)

Bringing democracy to life in schools

The **Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS)** is grounded in India's strong tradition of grassroots democracy under the Panchayati Raj system, which provides citizens with formal spaces for participation in local decision-making. However, for most young people, this democratic process remains distant from lived experience.

In India, many children actively participate in platforms like Model United Nations, where they debate global conflicts, diplomacy, and international policy with confidence. Yet, the local and national issues that shape their everyday lives—schools, health services, livelihoods, water, sanitation, and climate risks—are rarely discussed by them, largely because there are no structured, credible platforms for student voices at the grassroots level to help them **decolonize** their thinking.

This disconnect highlighted a critical gap between civic learning and lived reality. It was in response to this gap that the idea of the MYGS was born: to create a meaningful, participatory space where young people can engage with real issues, real institutions, and real democratic processes.



A group of students ready to initiate the proceedings of a Model Youth Gram Sabha in their school in Jaspur, Chattisgarh

CONCEPT

Simulated Gram Sabhas for experiential learning

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL) and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), envisioned MYGS as a way to bring the spirit of the Gram Sabha into schools. Instead of learning about Panchayats only in theory, students step into roles such as Sarpanch, Ward Member, Secretary, and community representatives. Through these roles, they deliberate on real issues and collectively decide priorities, closely mirroring the processes of an actual Gram Sabha.

The journey of MYGS began with a central question: **what value does this experience offer students?** This guided a careful pedagogical design focused not on creating a one-time event, but on developing a repeatable, classroom-friendly model aligned with India’s education reforms, particularly the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. MYGS was designed to support experiential, competency-based and community-linked learning, ensuring that democratic participation becomes an integral part of students’ educational experience.



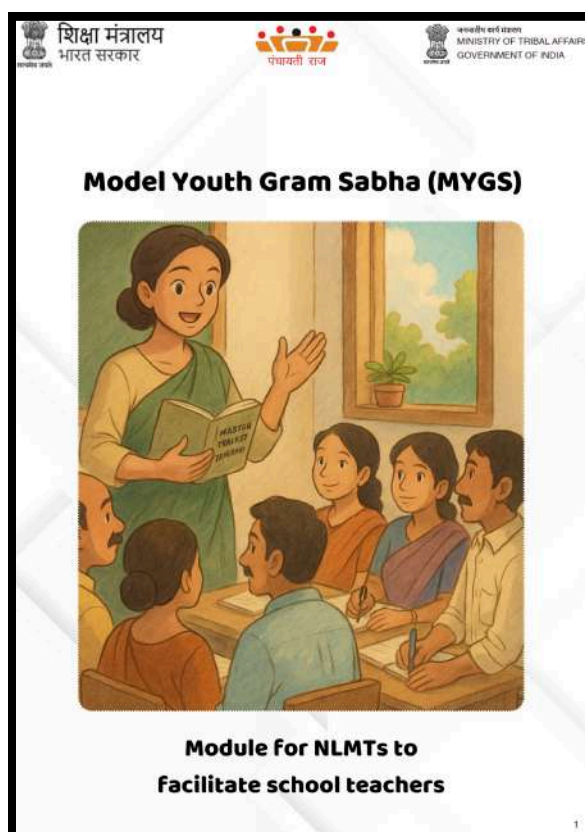
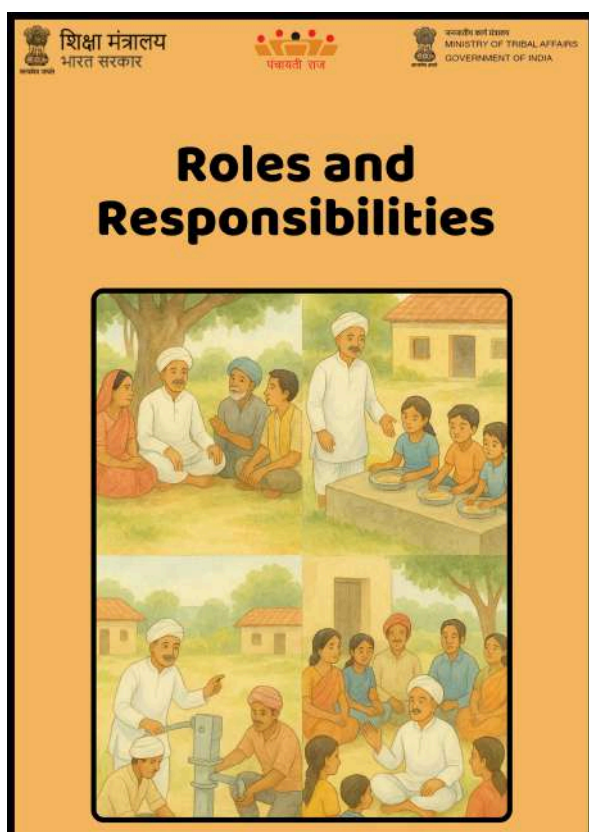
A glimpse of audio podcasts created to support various stakeholders to facilitate MYGS effectively

CONCEPTUALIZATION

Modules designed on Adult Learning Principle

MYGS was conceptualised as a school-based experiential learning model that brings the constitutional idea of the Gram Sabha into schools as a lived democratic practice. The conceptual design focused on creating a teacher-enabled and student-driven system that could be implemented uniformly at scale, while retaining openness, choice, and strong local relevance rooted in village realities.

As part of this conceptualisation, a structured training module for National Level Master Trainers (NLMTs) and teachers was developed, grounded in **adult learning principles and a facilitation-led approach**. The module prioritised experience, simulation, and co-creation, enabling trainers and teachers to internalise Gram Sabha processes by practicing democratic facilitation, role-play, and collective decision-making rather than receiving instructional inputs.



A glimpse of the module and IEC material

CONCEPTUALIZATION

Plug and Play approach for Schools

To support school-level implementation, a teacher-facing module and IEC package was developed, including core MYGS content, role and responsibility posters, a visual flipbook mapping the Gram Sabha journey, and podcasts for teachers and students. These tools were designed to equip teachers to prepare students for a meaningful experience, not to prescribe outcomes.

Teachers facilitated open discussions while students identified village-level issues and proposed solutions for deliberations and resolutions. The MYGS module followed a **plug-and-play approach** with clear facilitation prompts, supported by evaluation SOPs for uniform assessment and national-level recognition.



A snapshot of the flipbook providing a visual journey of the MGS enactment process

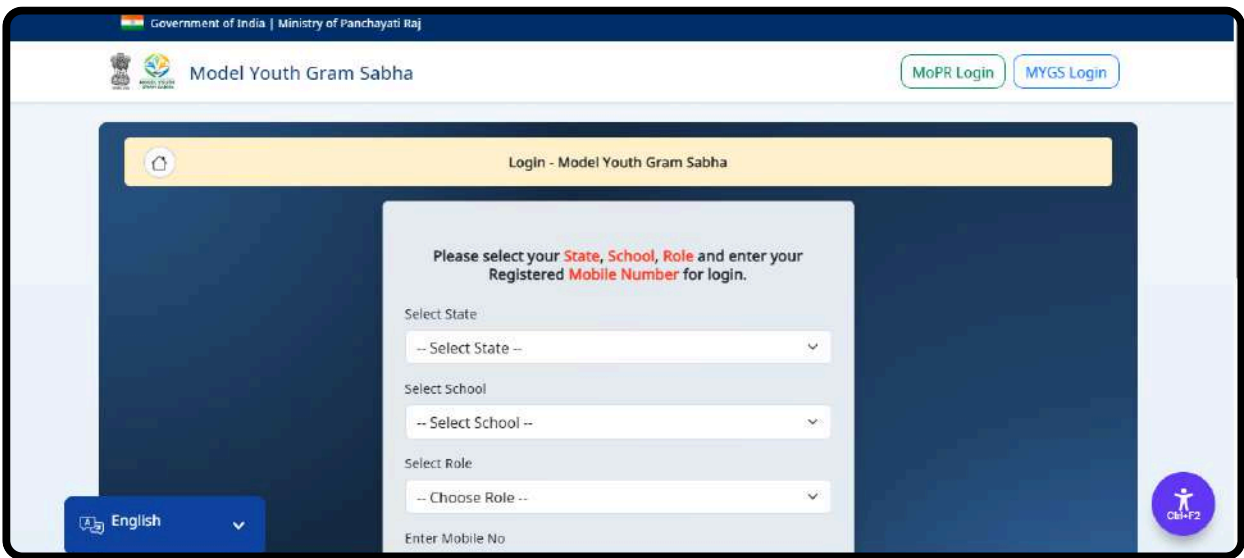
DIGITAL PREPAREDNESS

Real Gram Sabha scheduling experience

To enable systematic tracking of MYGS implementation, a dedicated page on the Panchayat Nirnay portal was created as a real-time monitoring and reporting tool. The portal captures school-wise and session-wise data on MYGS progress, including the number of students participating, teachers facilitating sessions, and gender-disaggregated participation.

The platform also tracks the roles assumed by students during MYGS, such as Sarpanch, Sachiv, ward members, frontline workers, and other governance functionaries, enabling a clear view of how students engaged with different institutional responsibilities. In addition, the portal helped schools schedule Gram Sabhas for traction and participation of relevant stakeholders. It also acted as an exact replication of the real Gram Sabhas scheduling by Panchayats.

By digitising participation and role-based engagement, the Panchayat Nirnay Portal enables consistent documentation, progress tracking, and aggregation of insights from MYGS sessions.



A snapshot of the Panchayat Nirnay Portal developed and hosted by MoPR to track the progress of MYGS

PILOT OF THE MYGS – THE FIRST STEPS

Activating Youth Voice in Local Governance

The MYGS pilot was conducted through mock sessions in **Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh**, and **Alwar, Rajasthan**, engaging 95 students from Classes 9–11, with an additional 50 observers in Baghpat. Over 80–90 minutes, students assumed diverse roles, represented multiple community sectors, and demonstrated meaningful engagement, deliberation, and confidence in local democratic processes.

The pilot also surfaced key learnings. While students in Alwar showed sincere effort and effective role portrayal, gaps in preparation reduced overall effectiveness, underscoring the need for clearer guidelines and stronger facilitation. These learnings led to the development of a detailed pedagogical framework. Overall, the pilot validated MYGS as a promising experiential civic learning platform and informed refinements for future scale-up.



Glimpses from mock sessions during the pilot phase in Baghpat and Alwar

LAUNCH OF MYGS – SCALING THE IMPACT

The Hon'ble Minister of State for MoPR Prof. S.P Singh Baghel launched the event at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi

The MYGS initiative was officially launched by the MoPR, in collaboration with the MoE (DoSEL) and the MoTA at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, in the presence of students, teachers, and elected members of the Panchayati Raj.

The event was graced by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, hon'ble Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Shri. Durgadas Uikey, hon'ble Minister of State for Tribal Affairs. Senior officials, including Secretary MoPR, Shri. Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary DoSEL, Shri. Sanjay Kumar, and Officer on Special Duty MoTA, Smt. Ranjana Chopra, along with other dignitaries.



MoPR, along with MoE and MoTA, launched the MYGS in New Delhi on October 30 and also unveiled the MYGS training module on the occasion

“Realizing the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047 requires nurturing a generation of young leaders who understand and strengthen India’s democracy.” Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel



Shri Manmohan Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Kaivalya Education Foundation Aspirational Bharat Collaborative - A Piramal Foundation initiative, being felicitated for his organizations support in developing the pedagogical framework and training the NLMTs for MYGS

NLMT'S CAPACITY BUILDING - FOUNDATION

To support effective implementation, 128 Master Trainers were prepared at NIRDPR on 11–12 September 2025 to guide and equip teachers to cascade MYGS

The MYGS initiative commenced with a two-day National-Level Master Trainer (NLMT) workshop at NIRDPR, Hyderabad, on 11–12 September 2025. The workshop brought together key representatives from SoEPR and SIRDPR across states and regions. This phase focused on strengthening conceptual clarity on MYGS objectives, facilitation methodologies, and role-play and simulation-based learning. The NLMTs were prepared to effectively cascade the training, ensuring consistency and quality in nationwide implementation and enabling experiential learning in grassroots democracy and local governance.



NLMTs spent two days in NIRDPR and developed understanding of the pedagogical framework of MYGS

** SoEPR- School of Excellence in Panchayati Raj

** NIRDPR- National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

** SIRDPR: State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, or simply State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)

TEACHER ORIENTATION & CAPACITY BUILDING

Teacher orientation on MYGS roles and facilitation processes.

Following the NLMT phase, teachers from **Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs)** and **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)** were oriented on the MYGS framework. A total of **1,638 teachers**—including **1,238 teachers from JNVs** and **400 teachers from EMRSs**—received training to assume the roles of Sarpanch, Ward Members, and Gram Panchayat functionaries, enabling them to effectively guide students through realistic and participatory Model Youth Gram Sabha sessions.



Teachers trainings began with morning assemblies, creating a school-like environment of learning

Building school-level readiness for Model Youth Gram Sabha enactment.



Educators preparing to mentor students in democratic practices.



ENACTMENT OF MYGS – DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Students witnessed democracy in action

The enactment of MYGS represents the core of the initiative, where democratic principles were translated into meaningful practice within school environments. MYGS enactments were conducted across **619 JNVs, 200 EMRSs**. The roll-out is ongoing in **172 Zila Parishad schools in Maharashtra, and 315 State Government schools in Karnataka**, demonstrating the programme's wide geographic reach and institutional adoption.

Across these schools, **28,773 students** actively participated in simulated Gram Sabha meetings, experiencing firsthand the processes of grassroots governance. Students assumed Panchayat roles such as **Sarpanch, Ward Members, and officials**, enabling them to understand responsibilities, procedures, and decision-making dynamics within local self-government institutions.



A student-led Gram Sabha in session!

Students simulating Gram Sabha

During the enactments, students identified local and community-level issues, engaged in structured discussions, debated priorities, prepared action plans, and deliberated on budgeting and resource allocation. Each session culminated in democratic voting and formal adoption of resolutions, reinforcing principles of participation, consensus-building, and accountability.

Through this experiential learning approach, MYGS contributed to the development of informed and confident young citizens, while significantly enhancing leadership, communication, and decision-making skills among participating students. The enactment phase stands as a powerful demonstration of how early exposure to democratic practices can foster civic responsibility and active citizenship at the grassroots level.



A student modelling the role of a Sarpanch reading out a resolution passed by the Gram Sabha

Experiential learning of democratic processes at the school level.

Glimpses of various activities from MYGS enactment in different schools across the country

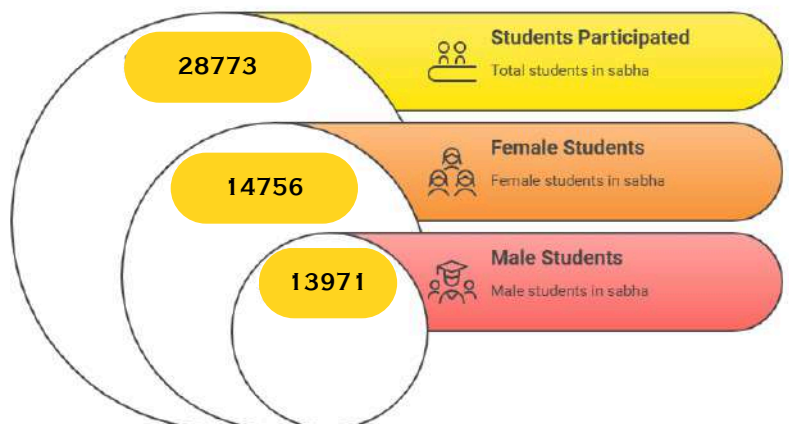


GLIMPSE OF MYGS – FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE COUNTRY

34 States/UTs | 627 Districts | 819 Schools (619 JNV and 200 EMRS) | 128 NLMTs | 1,099 Nodal Teachers | 819 Sabhas



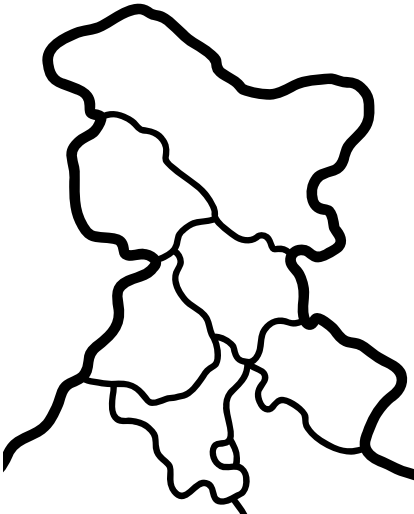
Student Participation in MYGS



LET’S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK,
ZONE-WISE

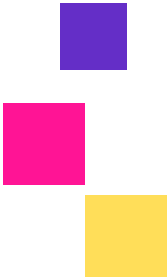
MYGS- North Zone

J&K, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh



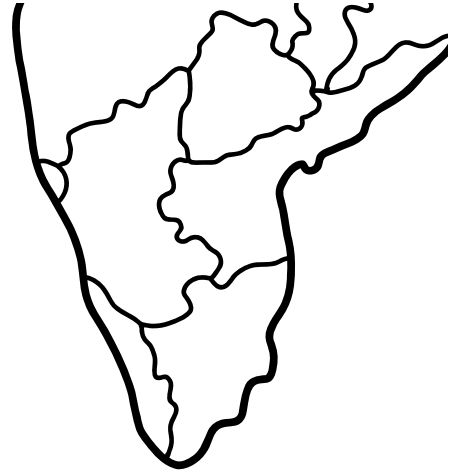
Glimpses of various activities from MYGS enactment in different schools in the North Zone





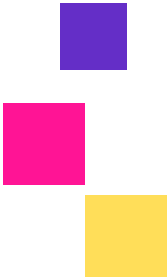
MYGS- South Zone

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka



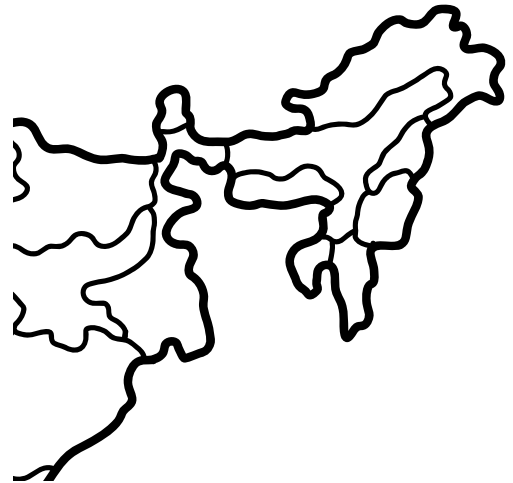
Glimpses of various activities from MYGS enactment in different schools in the South Zone





MYGS- East Zone

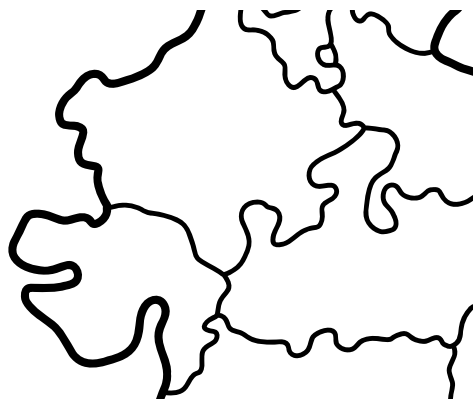
Chattisgarh, Odisha, Meghalaya, Assam



Glimpses of various activities from MYGS enactment in different schools in the East Zone

MYGS- West/Central Zone

Maharashtra, Gujrat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman
and Diu (DNHDD), Madhya Pradesh



Glimpses of various activities from MYGS enactment in different schools in the West/Central Zone

MEDIA COVERAGE, OUTREACH & NATIONAL RECOGNITION

National media highlighting the impact of Model Youth Gram Sabha.

HOME / OPINION / COMMENT

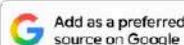
The vision of Model Youth Gram Sabhas

TH Premium

If the Model United Nations cultivates global citizenship, the Model Youth Gram Sabha can nurture civic pride and local leadership

Published - November 03, 2025 12:48 am IST

SUSHIL KUMAR LOHANI, MANMOHAN SINGH



Gram sabha meeting in progress. File image used for representation only. | Photo Credit: Special Arrangement

In India's democratic architecture, the Gram Sabha holds a significance that is as fundamental as that of the Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha. Yet the Gram Sabha the constitutional

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Model Youth Gram Sabhas

Published on November 3rd, 2025. Last modified on November 8th, 2025. Comments

All India Simulators for Prelims 2026 Experience Prelims before the Real Prelims Online & Offline in 30+ cities 01 March 2026

UPSC Syllabus Topic: GS Paper 2 – issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

Model Youth Gram Sabhas.

न्यूज़ सरकारी जगह

Top Stories National International Mann ki

Home • National • Model Youth Gram Sabha: Empowerment In Grassroots Democracy

31/10/25 | 2:08 pm | grassroots democracy | Model Youth Gram Sabha: Empowerment In Grassroots Democracy

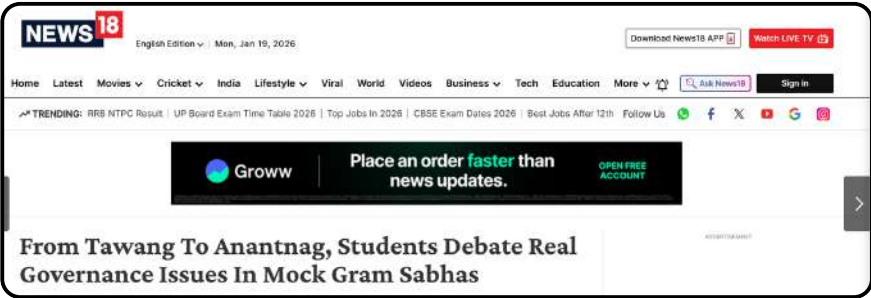
Model Youth Gram Sabha: Empowerment In Grassroots Democracy

Industan, Dt 25.11.2025

छात्राओं ने अपनी प्रस्तुति से

वडहर, हिप्र। पीएम श्री स्कूल जवाहर नवोदय विद्यालय शिवहर में मॉडल ग्राम सभा 2025-26 का आयोजन सोमवार को किया गया। कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य छात्रों में नेतृत्व, लोकतांत्रिक सोच और नीय शासन तंत्र की समझ प्रसारित करना था। कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ प्राचार्या एवं गणमान्यजनों द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से जलाकर किया गया। इसके बाद सप्तम एवं अष्टम के छात्राओं ने तत् शिक्षिका निहारिका श्रीवास्तव मार्गदर्शन में सरस्वती वंदना और गीत प्रस्तुत कर समारोह को कुतर्क रंगों से भर दिया। प्राचार्या श्री सिन्हा ने कहा कि मॉडल युवा सभा विद्यालय में लोकतांत्रिक शिक्षा का व्यवहारिक पाठ है, जो विद्यार्थियों को भविष्य के जिम्मेदार नागरिक के रूप में तैयार करता है। विद्यालय के वरिष्ठ शिक्षक श्री दुर्गेश नंदन सिन्हा ने ग्राम सभा की उपयोगिता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए बताया कि यह मंच छात्रों में निर्णय लेने की क्षमता और सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व जगाता है। छात्र मुखिया सल्वी कुमारी ने मॉडल ग्राम सभा के उद्देश्यों और विभिन्न भूमिकाओं को विस्तार से प्रस्तुत किया। इसके अलावा, अध्यक्षता में संचालन हुआ। विकास से जुड़े प्रस्तुत किया। मुखिया द्वारा

Media highlighted the impact of MYGS through live discussions, including coverage on DD News’ “Live Charcha” programme.



Link:
<https://www.news18.com/education-career/from-tawang-to-anantnag-students-debate-real-governance-issues-in-mock-gram-sabhas-ws-l-9743947.html>

Home • National • Model Youth Gram Sabha: Empowering students with practical lesson...

31/10/25 | 2:08 pm | grassroots democracy | Model Youth Gram Sabha | MYGS | Students

Model Youth Gram Sabha: Empowering Students With Practical Lessons In Grassroots Democracy

The infographic is titled "Model Youth Gram Sabha" and features the PIB logo. It lists four key points:

1. Launched on October 30, 2025
2. Initiative by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, in partnership with Department of School Education and Literacy and Ministry of Tribal Affairs
3. Targets students studying in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)
4. Strengthens the 73rd Constitutional Amendment in practice

Live Telecast:
<https://www.youtube.com/live/60poFjSnRjk?si=Sdv988v2eDmrSsp7>







Gram Pradhan/ Elected Representatives Testimonials



“MYGS has empowered youth in our village by building awareness around leadership and local governance. Through the digital library and youth meetings, young people are now actively engaging in village development.”

— Resu Patel, Gram Pradhan, Bagahi Village, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh



“Continuous efforts toward improving school infrastructure and education are essential for nation-building. When children in our Gram Panchayat grow and learn well, it strengthens the future of the entire country.”

— Uday Singh Negi, Gram Panchayat Bhadwani, Dharanpur Block, Badrinath, Chamoli District, Uttarakhand



“The MYGS is a powerful initiative that nurtures democratic values among youth and builds their confidence as future leaders. It truly serves as a school of democracy, strengthening grassroots governance for generations to come.”

— Hariom Kuber Singh, Jasrajpur Gram Panchayat, Hathgam Block, Fatehpur District, Uttar Pradesh



“Participating in the MYGS has been a valuable learning experience. The initiative meaningfully connects students with grassroots democracy, and the learnings will help us strengthen education and youth engagement in our Gram Panchayat.”

— Amrin Nisha, Gram Pradhan, Amkotwa Gram Panchayat, Lakhimpur Kheri District, Uttar Pradesh



Teachers' Testimonials



“The MYGS enactment helped students clearly understand how Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat function at the grassroots level. Such experiential learning prepares students to become informed and responsible citizens of the future.”

— **Teacher, PM SHRI Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi**



“The initiative provided our students with deep insights into the role of Gram Sabhas in monitoring Panchayat functions, understanding governance, and local governance. This program has meaningfully strengthened their civic awareness and practical learning.”

— **Anju Rani, Teacher, PM SHRI Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi**



“This initiative provides students a valuable opportunity to understand the country’s most basic and important system of governance. The Model Youth Gram Sabha is creating awareness and inspiring young minds to actively contribute to national development.”

— **Deepti, Teacher, Eklavya Model Residential School, Sejawade**



“MYGS was a wonderful learning experience for me. I learned how a Gram Sabha works, who its members are, and it was inspiring to interact with students.”

— **Rekha Bhatia, Teacher, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi**



Students' Testimonials



“Participating in the MYGS has helped me understand how Gram Sabhas and Panchayats function in solving community issues. This experience will inspire our generation to carry forward the values of democracy and collective responsibility.”

— **Saloni Verma, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi**



“Participating in the MYGS was a new and enriching experience for me. It helped me learn beyond textbooks and understand how democracy works at the grassroots level.”

— **Rahul Aznaare, Class 9, Eklavya Model Residential School, Sejawada**



“The MYGS helped me learn about leadership, citizens’ rights, and how Gram Sabhas guide Panchayats and local planning. This experience gave me practical knowledge that I do not usually learn in classrooms.”

— **Student, Model Youth Gram Sabha Participant**

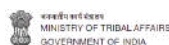


“This initiative helped me understand the basics of democracy through the Gram Panchayat system. It taught us important civic knowledge that every citizen should know but often does not learn.”

— **Student, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi**

CONSOLIDATED JOURNEY OF MYGS





MYGS: An initiative to inculcate democratic values and active citizenship in decision makers of tomorrow

SCAN TO KNOW MORE

QR Code for MYGS Compendium, guidelines, and learning resources

Weblink:



<https://meetingonline.gov.in/model-youth>

<https://panchayat.gov.in/>

