

# Social Science

# Class 6

Chapter 11: Grassroots Democracy — Part 2: Local Government in Rural Areas



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#### **Questions, Activities & Projects**

### Q 1. Test yourself - without looking at the text above, can you name the three tiers of the Panchayati Raj system? What are the key functions of each of the three tiers?

Ans: Three levels of Panchayati Raj and their functions:

- 1. Gram Panchayat (village level): Looks after village sanitation, water, roads, education and health.
- 2. Panchayat Samiti (block level): Monitors gram panchayats, implements development plans.
- 3. Zila Parishad (district level): Planning, budgeting and monitoring of schemes across the district. This system has been created for the development and participation of rural areas.

## Q 2. Write a letter to the Sarpanch regarding the issue of plastic bags lying on the roadside in the village.

Ans:

To,
Shriman Sarpanch Ji,
Gram Panchayat—[Name of your village],
District—[Name of the district].

Subject: Request for cleaning of plastic bags lying on the roadside.

Sir,

It is humbly requested that a large number of plastic bags and other garbage have accumulated on both sides of the main road of our village. This is not only spreading dirt, but also polluting the environment. Plastic is also causing harm to animals, who sometimes eat them.

You are humbly requested to solve this problem soon. To maintain cleanliness in the village, regular cleaning system should be done and awareness campaign should be run to stop the use of plastic.

We villagers will always be grateful for your kindness.

Regards,

[Your name]
[Name of the village]
[Date]

#### Q 3. In your view, what type of person should be a Gram Panchayat member?

**Ans:** In my opinion, a member of the Gram Panchayat can be a person who is honest, responsible, public servant, aware of the local problems and dedicated towards the development of the village.

Q 4. Let us suppose that you study in a village school. The school is located next to a highway and students find it difficult to cross the road when they come to school or leave at the end of the day. What are the options to solve this issue? Which institutions in the Panchayati Raj can help you? What can the students do?

#### Ans:

#### **Solution options:**

- 1. Make zebra crossings and speed breakers on the road.
- 2. Post traffic signals and security personnel near the school.
- 3. Make an underpass or foot over bridge.

#### Panchayati Raj Institutions that can help:

Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad—they can implement schemes related to road safety and construction.

#### What students can do:

- 1. Give an application to the Pradhan or Panchayat Samiti.
- 2. Run a signature campaign.
- 3. Meet the officials along with the teacher.

