

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 125**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2022**

**SOLAR CHARKHA MISSION LAUNCHED BY GOVERNMENT**

125. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched Solar Charkha Mission in 50 clusters across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to set up 15 new state-of-the-art technology centres across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has increased budgetary allocation under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in order to incentivize entrepreneurs, mainly women and SC/ST; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to make Solar Charkha Mission successful?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
(SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA)

(a) & (d): Yes Sir, 'Mission Solar Charkha (MSC)' was started in the year 2018-19 for setting up of 50 Solar Charkha Clusters across the country. 10 projects were sanctioned during 2019, but these could not be implemented due to revision of the guidelines in 2020 and COVID Pandemic etc. After one Promoter Agency backed out due to its financial constraints, detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 9 projects based on revised guidelines were approved with a sanctioned grant of Rs.6026.46 lakhs but no fund has been released. Based on the revised guidelines, 4 Promoter Agencies have shown interest and submitted revised DPRs, which have been placed in the Scheme Steering Committee Meeting held on 23.06.2022.

(b): Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India under Technology Centre System Programme (TCSP), is establishing 15 Technology Centres (TCs) with World Bank assistance. These Technology Centres are being established to assist MSMEs in their skilling and technological needs, specially in high end technologies and are equipped with multiple cutting edge manufacturing technologies, such as CNC Machines, 3D Manufacturing/Additive Manufacturing, Laser / Ultrasonic machining, Robotics and Process Automation, Precision measurement / Metrology equipment for General Engineering and Automotive Sector, state-of-the-art electronics manufacturing facilities, Calibration and Testing facilities for Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) Sector. These Technology Centres will also provide skilled workforce to industries by conducting training programme for youth. State/UT-wise details and status of the 15 new Technology Centres is placed at **Annexure**.

(c): Ministry of MSME, Government of India is implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), to facilitate generation of self-employment opportunities for unemployed youth across the country by assisting setting up of micro-enterprises in non-farm sector.

Since its inception in 2008-09, about 8 lakh micro enterprises have been assisted with a subsidy of Rs 20,000 crore generating estimated sustainable employment for 64 lakh persons. About 50% of the micro enterprises assisted are owned by SC, ST and women categories.

The PMEGP has been approved for continuation over the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Cycle for five years from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs.13554.42 crore. Scheme will assist setting up of 5 lakh units and will create sustainable estimated employment opportunities for about 40 lakh persons in the said five financial years.

For the Financial Year 2022-23, total budget allocation for PMEGP is Rs.2500 crore, which includes Rs.406.7 crore towards SC sub-head and Rs.210.7 crore under ST sub-head. No separate allocation is made for women. However, as per budgetary instructions 30% of the total allocation is being utilized for women beneficiaries. Further, SC, ST and Women entrepreneurs are kept under special category and they are entitled for higher rate of subsidy i.e. 35% of the project cost in rural areas and 25% of the project cost in urban areas.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 125 for answer on 18.07.2022**

State/UT-wise details and status of the 15 new Technology Centres (TCs)

| S. No. | State/UT         | New TC Site             | Sector                 |
|--------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1      | Rajasthan        | Bhiwadi                 | Auto & Components      |
| 2      | Andhra Pradesh   | Pudi, Vizag             | General Engineering    |
| 3      | Madhya Pradesh   | Bhopal                  | General Engineering    |
| 4      | Haryana          | Rohtak                  | General Engineering    |
| 5      | Puducherry       | Puducherry              | ESDM                   |
| 6      | Uttar Pradesh    | Kanpur                  | General Engineering    |
| 7      | Himachal Pradesh | Baddi                   | General Engineering    |
| 8      | Uttarakhand      | Sitarganj               | Auto & Components      |
| 9      | Uttar Pradesh    | Greater Noida           | ESDM                   |
| 10     | Chhattisgarh     | Durg                    | General Engineering    |
| 11     | Manipur          | Imphal                  | Fragrances and Flavors |
| 12     | Kerala           | Ernakulam (Kochi)       | General Engineering    |
| 13     | Bihar            | Patna                   | General Engineering    |
| 14     | Tamil Nadu       | Sriperumbudur (Chennai) | General Engineering    |
| 15     | Karnataka        | Bengaluru               | ESDM                   |

**Status:**

- i) The Contract for civil work has already been awarded for all 15 new TCs.
- ii) 5 TCs (Bhiwadi, Vizag, Bhopal, Rohtak & Puducherry) have been already dedicated to the Nation.
- iii) 614 nos. of machines & labs (Training & Production) have been delivered at TCs sites.
- iv) Training courses have been started by 11 Nos. of new TCs. More than 13,000 students have been trained.