

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2185
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

**SCHEME TO PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

2185. SHRI RAMBHAI HARJIBHAI MOKARIYA:

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

- (a) whether any special scheme is being run to encourage the entrepreneurship among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) the number of people having been selected under this scheme so far;
- (c) whether any financial assistance is being provided to the persons selected under said scheme; and
- (d) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided to number of persons having been selected from Gujarat during last two years, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): National Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) scheme, an initiative of the Ministry of MSME was launched in October, 2016 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister with the aim at capacity enhancement of SC-ST entrepreneurs and promoting "entrepreneurship culture" amongst the SC-ST population. The scheme is empowering the SC-ST population to participate in the public procurement process and fulfil the mandated target of 4% procurement from SC-ST enterprises under Public Procurement Policy by the Ministries, Departments and Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). Since inception of the scheme, several interventions /sub-schemes have been introduced under NSSH in consultation with various stakeholders for capacity building, financial assistance, technology upgradation, and market linkage of the SC-ST entrepreneurs. A total of 1,01,343 aspiring/existing SC-ST entrepreneurs have been benefitted across the country through the various interventions/sub-schemes of NSSH.

With an objective to motivate youth representing different sections of the society including SC, ST, Women, Differently abled, Ex-servicemen and BPL persons to consider self-employment or entrepreneurship as one of the career options, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) scheme has been launched. As per ESDP scheme guidelines, about 40% of the targeted beneficiaries of ESDPs should be from weaker sections of the Society (SC/ST/Women/Physically Handicapped). No participation fee is charged from SC, ST, Physically Handicapped, Below Poverty Line (BPL) participants and women. The number of Trainees/Beneficiaries under ESDP scheme is attached at Annexure-I.

Further, a provision of four National MSME Awards with cash prize of Rs. 3 lakhs to entrepreneurs belonging to SC-ST Category has been envisioned under National MSME Award Scheme. The details of Awardees selected under the category is attached at Annexure-II.

(c): Under National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) scheme, financial assistance is provided to the existing SC-ST entrepreneurs through the following interventions/sub-schemes:

- **Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme:** 25% capital subsidy to SC-ST owned MSEs for procurement of Plant & Machinery / Equipment through institutional finance (subsidy cap of Rs.25 Lacs) without any sector specific restrictions.
- **Special Marketing Assistance Scheme (SMAS):** Marketing support to the SC-ST enterprises for the enhancement of competitiveness and marketability of their products by way of facilitating their participation in 4 domestic and 2 international exhibitions/trade fairs in a financial year.
- **Subsidy for registration under Single Point Registration Scheme (SPRS):** There is 100% subsidy for registration under Single Point Registration Scheme of National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) and the applicant unit is required to pay token amount of Rs.100 plus GST only.
- **Reimbursement of Bank Loan Processing Fee:** 80% or Rs. 1,00,000/-, whichever is less, on Bank loan processing fee paid by SC-ST MSEs.
- **Reimbursement of Bank charges on Performance Bank Guarantee:** 80% or Rs. 1,00,000/-, whichever is less, on Performance Bank Guarantee charges paid by SC-ST MSEs.
- **Reimbursement of Testing Fee:** 80% or Rs 1,00,000/- on testing charges, whichever is less for availing testing services from Government laboratories or NABL /BIS accredited laboratories & license or certification fee from BIS, in a financial year.
- **Reimbursement of annual membership fee of Export Promotion Council:** 80% of the annual Membership fee of various Export Promotion Councils with ceiling of Rs.20,000/-.
- **Reimbursement of annual membership/subscription fee of Government promoted e-commerce portals:** 80% or maximum of Rs. 25,000/- whichever is less, on annual membership fee of Government promoted e-commerce portals such as MSME Mart, GeM, e-khadi, TRIFED, Tribes India, etc. to SC-ST MSEs.
- **Top 50 NIRF Ranked Management Institution's Short-Term Training Program Fee Reimbursement Scheme:** Reimbursement of 90% up to Rs 1,00,000/- for attending up to 2 short term training courses from top 50 NIRF ranked Management Institutes.

(d): The details of financial assistance provided to the SC-ST aspiring and existing entrepreneurs of Gujarat State in the last two years under National SC-ST Hub scheme is given at *Annexure-III*. Under National SC-ST Hub Scheme, to have synergy with the State Governments and reach out to the grass root level, state nominated agencies have been funded to carry out state level interventions for SC-ST entrepreneurs (Training for capacity building, facilitate participation in exhibitions, organizing Special Vendor Development Programs and Awareness Campaigns). In Gujarat State, the nominated agency “Centre for Entrepreneurship Development” was provided **Rs. 150 Lakhs** during FY 2018-19. Further, one person from Gujarat in the year 2020 has benefitted under National MSME Award Scheme.

Annexure-I referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2185 for answer on 20.03.2023

Trainees/Beneficiaries under ESDP scheme

Financial Year	Total No. of Trainees/Beneficiaries	No. of SC Trainees/Beneficiaries	No. of ST Trainees / Beneficiaries
2018-19	9505	905	351
2019-20	242013	13278	4798
2020-21	27604	1065	600
2021-22	59204	240	1312
2022-23 (as on 15.03.2023)	159187	9109	43548

Annexure-II

Annexure-II referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2185 for answer on 20.03.2023

Details of Awardees belonging to SC-ST Category

Year	Nos. of Awardees / Persons
2020	02 Nos.
2021	-
2022	02 Nos.

Annexure-III

Annexure-III referred to in reply to part (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2185 for answer on 20.03.2023

Details of financial assistance provided to the SC-ST aspiring and existing entrepreneurs of Gujarat State

#	Financial Year	Financial assistance provided	Number of existing/aspiring SC-ST entrepreneurs benefitted in Gujarat
1	2020-21	Rs.317.96 Lakhs	929
2	2021-22	Rs.990.61 Lakhs	556
3	2022-23	Rs.1447.69 Lakhs	323
Total		Rs. 2756.26 Lakhs	1808