

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 460
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED TRIBES

460 DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the welfare schemes being implemented by the Union Government for the upliftment of Tribal Communities in the country during the last five years;
- (b) the details of several schemes being run in the country for the last five years, State-wise;
- (c) the main objectives of the said schemes and the achievement made thereunder so far; and
- (d) the number of Tribal Communities which have benefitted due to the said schemes so far and the improvement made in the standard of living of the said communities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) to (d): Government is implementing Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) as a strategy for the development of Scheduled Tribes and areas having tribal concentration. Besides Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 41 Ministries/Departments are allocating certain percentage of their total scheme budget every year for tribal development under DAPST for various tribal development projects relating to education, health, agriculture, irrigation, roads, housing, electrification, employment generation, skill development, etc. Schemes along-with funds allocated by the obligated Ministries/Departments for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes are given at Statement 10B of Expenditure Profile 2023-24 of Union Budget document in the link <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/eb/stat10b.pdf>

Further, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing various schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of the of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country. Details of major schemes/programmes implemented by the Ministry are given at **Annexure I**.

Schemes of Ministry aim to benefit all Scheduled Tribes communities in the country. Achievement/progress/number of beneficiaries under some schemes are given at **Annexure II**.

Data pertaining to Census, management information systems and large scale sample surveys conducted by different Ministries/ Departments of Government of India, reveal that over the years considerable improvements have been registered in socio-economic indicators with respect to the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country, for example, literacy rate for STs has improved from 59% (Census) in 2011 to 72.1 % (as per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report (July 2021 - June 2022)). Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at upper Primary level has improved from 86.4 (2012-13) to 98.0 (2021-22); GER for ST students at secondary level (IX-X) has increased from 61.9 (2012-13) to 78.1 (2021-22); GER for ST students at senior secondary level (XI-XII) has increased from 30.7 (2012-13) to 52.0 (2021-22) and GER for ST students at higher education level has increased from 11.1 (2012-13) to 18.9 (2020-21). As per

National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in respect of Scheduled Tribes, Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 44.4 (2015-16) to 41.6 (2019-21); Under Five Mortality Rate has declined from 57.2 (2015-16) to 50.3 (2019-21), and Institutional Delivery has increased from 68% (2015-16) to 82.3% (2019-21). Further, full immunization of children aged 12-23 months has increased from 55.8 % (2015-16) to 76.8 % (2019-21).

NITI Aayog has published a report “National Multidimensional Poverty Index” in July 2023 which concludes that 13.5 crore people moved out of multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21. Though the report does not explicitly mention about STs, district –wise data reveals that almost all the tribal priority districts have shown an improvement in multidimensional poverty.

Annexure I referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 460 for 06.12.2023 by SHRI KIRODI LAL MEENA regarding “UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED TRIBES”

Brief details of major schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the country:

(i) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS)/Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY): Under scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) 100% grants was provided to the State Governments for activities related to education, health, sanitation, water supply, livelihood, skill development, Ashram Schools, Boys and Girls Hostels, minor infrastructure, etc. to bridge the gap between Scheduled Tribe (ST) population and others as a critical gap filling measure. The Scheme has been revamped as Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY).

The Ministry has analyzed Mission Antyodaya data collated by Ministry of Rural Development and has identified 36,428 villages with 50% ST population and 500 STs to be covered under PMAAGY. Relevant schemes of different Central Ministries have been identified based on Tribal Sub Plan allocation. States are also be encouraged to supplement with State TSP funds, District Mineral Funds (DMF) and Finance Commission grants. Under PMAAGY, 20.38 lakh per village as ‘Gap-filling’ for approved activities including administrative expenses will be provided by the Ministry.

(ii) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution: Under the Proviso to Article 275(1) of Constitution, Grants are released to 26 States, having ST population for raising the level of administration in Scheduled Areas and for the welfare of tribal people. This is a Special Area Programme and 100% grants are provided to States. Funds are released to the State Governments depending on the felt needs of ST population to bridge the gap in infrastructure activities in the fields of education, health, skill development, livelihood, drinking water, sanitation, etc.

(iii) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs): The scheme of Development of PVTGs covers 75 identified PVTGs among Scheduled Tribes in 18 States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands for activities like education, housing, land distribution, land development, agri cultural development, animal husbandry, construction of link roads, installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, social security or any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive socio-economic development of PVTGs.

Government has launched PM JANMAN (PM- Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) which is aimed at comprehensive development of 75 vulnerable tribal communities residing in 18 states and 1 UT who continue to lag behind in socio economic indicators of educational, health and livelihood with total outlay of Rs.24,104 crore. The population of these communities is about 28 lakh and are living in about 22000 habitations in more than 800 blocks located in 200 districts.

(iv) Grant-in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes: Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, the Ministry funds projects in the fields of education and health, covering residential schools, non-residential schools, hostels, mobile dispensaries, ten or more bedded hospitals, livelihood, etc.

(v) Pre-Matric Scholarships to ST students: The scheme is applicable to students who are studying in Classes IX –X. Parental income from all sources should not be more than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Scholarship of Rs.225/-per month for day scholars and Rs.525/-per month for hostellers is given for a period of 10 months in a year. Scholarship is disbursed through the State Government/UT Administration. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except North East and Hills States/UT like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central share.

(vi) Post Matric Scholarship to ST students: The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary levels to enable them to complete their education. Parental income from all sources should not be more than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Compulsory fees charged by educational institutions are reimbursed subject to the limit fixed by the concerned State Fee fixation committee and scholarship amount of Rs.230 to Rs.1200 per month, depending upon the course of study is paid. The Scheme is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except NE and Hilly States/UT of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central share.

(vii) National Overseas Scholarships for ST Candidates: The Scheme provides for financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, PhD & Post-Doctoral study abroad. A total of 20 awards are given every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum.

(viii) National Fellowship &Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students:

(a)National Scholarship– (Top class) Scheme [Graduate level]: The objective of the scheme is to encourage meritorious ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 246 institutions of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry. Family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum. Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.

(b) National Fellowship for ST students:750 fellowships are provided to ST students each year for pursuing higher studies in India for MPhil and PhD. Fellowship is granted as per UGC norms.

(ix) Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS): Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) were introduced in the year 1997-98 to impart quality education exclusively to ST children with an objective to provide quality middle and high-level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas in order to enable them to avail of reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in government and public and private sectors. In the Union Budget of 2018-19, Government announced that every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 ST persons will be eligible to have an Eklavya Model Residential School. A total number of 740 EMRSs are scheduled to be established. Eklavya schools will be on par with Navodaya Vidyalayas and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.

(x) Pradhan Mantri Jan Jatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM): Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been implementing a Scheme ‘Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce through Minimum Support Price and Development of Value Chain for MFP (MSP for MFP)’ through

Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED), since 2011 with the objective of providing safety net to ST MFP gatherers.

Ministry is implementing another scheme 'Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products' with 100 % grant to TRIFED and State Forest Development Corporations (SDCs) for development and marketing of tribal products.

PMJVM has been conceptualized with the merger of the above two Schemes i.e. "MSP for MFP" and 'Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products'. PMJVM seeks to achieve livelihood driven tribal development through quality input, technology, credit and better marketing access etc. in the next five years.

(xi) Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs): Ministry extends support to the State Governments through the Scheme to set up new TRIs where it didn't exist and to strengthen functioning of existing TRIs to carry out its core responsibility towards Research & Documentations, Training and capacity building, promotion of rich tribal heritage etc. To preserve tribal art and culture, financial assistance is provided to TRI's to carry out various activities to preserve and promote tribal culture and heritage across the country through research and documentation, maintenance and preservation of art & artefacts, setting up of tribal museum, exchange visits for the tribals to other parts of the State, organizing tribal festivals etc. Funding under this Scheme is 100% grant-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee. TRIs prepare proposal and detailed action plan for the year along with budgetary requirement and submit it to the Ministry through State Tribal Welfare Department. Within the set of TRIs, there are cultural museum, library, training centre, research wing etc.

(xii) Tribal Festivals, Research Information and Mass Education : Through the scheme, promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage, dissemination of information and creation of awareness are given attention to which includes organization of Tribal Craft & Food Festivals, Sports, Music, Dance & Photo Competitions, Science, Art & Craft Expos, Workshops, Seminars, Production of documentary films by the Ministry & States, Bringing out Publications thereby highlighting significant studies, documenting historical facets of tribal communities, achievements of Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) & State Departments besides other advertisements etc. at regular intervals. With a view to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues, MoTA recognizes renowned NGOs, Research Institutes, Universities where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out pioneering research in the field of tribal cultures as Centre of Excellences (CoEs). It is envisaged that CoEs should play an important role in building knowledge bank to complement dedicated Activities of the Ministry.

Annexure II referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 460 for 06.12.2023 by SHRI KIRODI LAL MEENA regarding “UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED TRIBES”

Achievement/progress/no of ST beneficiaries under some schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and obligated Ministries/Departments

| S.N. | Scheme/Programme | Achievement/progress/no of ST beneficiaries/Students |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1. | Pre-Matric Scholarship (no. of scholarship) | 6886588 (2018-19 to 2022-23) |
| 2. | Post-Matric Scholarship (no. of scholarship) | 10164495 (2018-19 to 2022-23) |
| 3. | Enrollment of Students in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) | 448254 (2018-19 to 2022-23) |
| 4. | National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) schemes | 599227 (2018-19 to 2022-23) |
| 5. | Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY)-Gramin | 65.54 lakh houses sanctioned 52.54 lakh houses constructed since 2016-17 |
| 6. | Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM-Rural) | 1.48 crore Individual Household Latrines constructed since 2014-15 |
| 7. | Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) | 97,22,503 ST farmers |
| 8. | Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana* | 95.61 Lakh |
| 9. | Jal Jeevan Mission | Reported piped water supply connection in more than 60 percent household of ST concentrated habitations. |
| 10. | National Social Assistance Programme | 3009052 in 2022-23 |

*As provided by Ministry of Health & Family welfare (As on 21 June 2023).
