

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 750
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

PROJECTS INCUBATED UNDER ASPIRE IN TAMIL NADU

750. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

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

- (a) the features of the 'A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industries and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE)';
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under this scheme within Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of the projects being incubated under this scheme in Tamil Nadu along with its present status;
- (d) the number of beneficiaries trained, employed on wage basis and self-employed under the said scheme within Tamil Nadu so far;
- (e) the list of incubation centres in Tamil Nadu along with their achievements; and
- (f) the steps taken further to promote MSME industries in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SHRI JITAN RAM MANJHI)

(a): The major features of 'A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industry and Entrepreneurship' (ASPIRE) are as follows:

- (i) ASPIRE aims at generating employment opportunities by facilitating formal, scalable micro-enterprise creation in agro rural sector through skill development and incubation programmes,
- (ii) The applicant can be any agency/institution of Government of India/ State government or existing training centres under Ministries/Departments of Government of India/State Government, Industry Associations, Academic Institutions or any not-for-profit private institutions with experience in successfully executing incubation and/or skill development programs may be eligible to set up an LBI.
- (iii) Financial assistance of upto 100 lakh is provided to Govt. institutions and of upto 75 lakh is provided to private institutions for procurement of plant & machinery. In addition, upto 100 lakh is provided to both the Govt. institutions and private institutions for operational expenses.

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(b): There is no State wise allocation of funds under ASPIRE. The year wise details of funds allocated and utilized under the scheme during last three years and current year are provided at **Annexure-I**. However, during the last three years 259.88 lakhs has been approved for setting up of LBIs to be set up in Tamil Nadu out of which 78.33 lakhs has been utilized.

(c) to (e): The details of incubation centres in Tamil Nadu along with their present status, number of beneficiaries trained, employed on wage basis and self-employed is provided at **Annexure-II**.

(f): The steps taken further to promote MSME industries, including State of Tamil Nadu, are provided at **Annexure-III**

ANNEXURE-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 750 to be answered on 29.07.2024

Fund allocated and utilized under ASPIRE Scheme		
Financial year	Fund allocated (₹ in Cr)	Fund utilized (₹ in Cr)
2021-22	10.00	08.64
2022-23	04.00	04.00
2023-24	02.84	02.84
2024-25	8.34*	--

*Fund allocated under Vote on Account

ANNEXURE-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) to (e) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No 750 due for answer on 29.07.2024

- (i) Details of the Start-ups/projects incubated under Technology Business Incubator (TREC-STEP) in Tamil Nadu

Details of the Start-ups/projects				Status
S. No.	Name of the Start-up	Industry/Sector	Products/Services	
1.	STERADIAN TECHNOLOGIES PVT. LTD.	Healthcare	Health Care Products	Graduated from the TBI
2.	PRAGATI BIOTECH	Agriculture	Kappa Careeganan Gel Extraction from Seaweed	Graduated from the TBI
3.	SOLAR INSPECT TRAP SAFS	Agriculture	Insect Light Traps - Integrated Pest Management Device	Graduated from the TBI
4.	LERNINGRO	Agriculture	Power Bullock - Stable Mini Tractor	Graduated from the TBI
5.	NASEL	Agriculture	Waterless Starch Extraction Sago Production System	Graduated from the TBI
6.	NATURAL BEVERAGES	Agriculture	Herbal Enriched Fruit Drinks	Graduated from the TBI
7.	PURE TECH INDIA	Agriculture	Cost Effective Treatment of Ground Water for Agriculture	Graduated from the TBI
8.	FRIGOSCAN	Agriculture	Online Pre-chiller for Fruits & Vegetables	Graduated from the TBI
9.	KANNAN AGRO	Agriculture	Multi-purpose Rotary Mini Expeller for Enhanced Oil Extraction	Graduated from the TBI
10.	CUTTERS AND SLICERS	Agriculture	Cutter Slicer Dicer	Graduated from the TBI
11.	NATURE BOWL INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED	Agriculture	Coconut Farm yield IOT Hardware	Graduated from the TBI
12.	BALARAM AGRO	Agriculture	Improved Moving Lever Hand Weeder	Graduated from the TBI
13.	VENKADACHA LAPATHY INDUSTRIES AND HARDWARES	Agriculture	Power Tiller based Turmeric Harvester	Graduated from the TBI

(ii) The LBIs approved under ASPIRE:

S. No.	Component	Implementing Agency	Number of trainees		
			Passed out	Employed in other units	Self employed
1.	LBI- Govt.	NSIC-Technical Services Centre, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	3,989	442	206
2.	LBI-Govt.	Coir Board, Regional Extension Center, Coir Board, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	592	0	33
3.	LBI-PPP	NIFT-TEA Knitwear Fashion Institute, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu	1,993	1,353	240
4.	LBI-Govt.	Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT)/ National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	1,352	499	376
5.	LBI-Govt.	MSME-TDC (PPDC) Extension Centre, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	362	101	65
6.	LBI-Private	Mentor Institute: EDII, Ahmedabad Host Institute: Crescent Innovation and Incubation Council	Under Implementation		
7.	LBI-Private	Mentor Institute: IIE, Guwahati Host Institute: J.K.K. Munirajah College of Agricultural Science	Under Implementation		
TOTAL:			8288	2395	920

ANNEXURE-III

Annexure referred to in reply to part (f) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 750 due for answer on 29.07.2024.

The following steps are taken further to promote MSME industries, including State of Tamil Nadu:

- i. New revised criteria for classification of MSMEs, based on Investment and Turnover, to widen the ambit of the MSME sector.
- ii. Prime Ministers' Employment Generation Programme (MEGP): Ministry of MSME, through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for assisting entrepreneurs in setting up of new enterprises in the non-farm sector. It aims to provide employment opportunities to traditional artisans/ rural and urban unemployed youth at their doorstep. PMEGP being a Central Sector Scheme assists General Category beneficiaries with Margin Money (MM) subsidy of 25% of the project cost in rural areas and 15% in urban areas. For beneficiaries belonging to Special Categories such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, Minorities, Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically Handicapped, Transgenders, beneficiaries belonging to Northeastern Region, Hill and Border areas, and Aspirational Districts, the Margin Money subsidy is 35% in rural areas and 25% in urban areas. The maximum cost of project is Rs. 50 lakhs in the manufacturing sector and Rs. 20 lakhs in the service sector.
- iii. Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE): In order to facilitate credit availability to Micro & Small Enterprises, Government of India implements the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises across the country. In association with State Governments, CGTMSE is providing additional guarantee coverage. Following significant steps have also been taken and these have been effected from 1st April, 2023:
 - (a) Reduction in Guarantee Fee: Guidelines regarding reduction of annual guarantee fee for loans upto Rs. 1 crore from a peak rate of 2% per annum to as low as 0.37% per annum have been issued. This will reduce the overall cost of credit to the MSEs to a great extent.
 - (b) The limit on ceiling for guarantees has been enhanced from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 5 crore.
 - (c) For settlement of claims in respect of guarantees for loan outstanding upto Rs. 10 lakh, initiation of legal proceedings will no longer be required.
- iv. No global tenders for procurement up to Rs. 200 crores.
- v. "Udyam Registration" for MSMEs, for Ease of Doing Business.

- vi. Ministry of MSME has launched a portal, Udyam Assist Platform, for bringing Informal Micro Enterprises in the formal ambit which helped the registered IMEs to avail the benefits of Priority Sector Lending.
- vii. Inclusion of Retail and Wholesale traders as MSMEs w.e.f. 02.07.2021.
- viii. Non-tax benefits extended for 3 years in case of an upward change in status of MSMEs.
- ix. Ministry of MSME has launched Samadhaan Portal for filing of grievances and monitoring of outstanding dues to the MSEs from the buyers of goods and services.
- x. Launching of an online Portal “Champions” in June, 2020 to cover many aspects of e-governance including redressing grievances and handholding of MSMEs.
- xi. PM Vishwakarma is a Central Government scheme launched on 17th September 2023 by the Hon’ble Prime Minister. The Scheme aims to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople who work with their hand and tools. The Scheme components include recognition through PM Vishwakarma Certificate and ID Card, Skill Upgradation, Toolkit Incentive, Credit Support, Incentive for Digital Transaction and Marketing Support.