

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1901**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 11/12/2024

**EDUCATION FOR TRIBALS**

1901 DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to open new Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) to provide quality education to tribal students in the State of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of total fund sanctioned for establishment of EMRSs in the State of Himachal Pradesh in the current year; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to encourage tribal students in sports and provide them with a platform to enhance their capabilities and also aims to achieve the target to set up 728 EMRSs across the country by the year 2026?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SH. DURGADAS UIKEY)

**(a) & (b):** The Central Sector Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) was started in the year 2018-19 to provide quality education at par with Navodaya Vidyalaya to the tribal children in their own environment. Under the new scheme, Government decided to establish 440 EMRSs, one EMRS in every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons (as per census 2011). 288 EMRS schools were initially funded under Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. Accordingly, Government has decided to establish 728 Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) across the country. Establishment of School is dependent on provision of encumbrance free suitable land by the State for construction. As on date, 715 locations have been approved. There is no proposal to set up more EMRSs as on date including in Himachal Pradesh.

04 EMRSs have been sanctioned in Himachal Pradesh, 03 under Article 275(1) and 01 under Central Sector Scheme, all of which are functional, as per details given below.

	District	Block
Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	Brahmaur
Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	Pangi
Himachal Pradesh	Kinnaur	Nichar
Himachal Pradesh	Lahaul and Spiti	Lahul (Kukumseri)

**(c):** National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), an autonomous body under Ministry of Tribal Affairs to manage and implement scheme of EMRS releases Rs. 1,09,000/- per student for recurring grant under Grant-in Aid (GIA)-General & Rs. 829.50 lakhs have been released to Himachal Pradesh state till November-2024 in current financial year.

**(d): 15 Centre of Excellence** for sports with all necessary infrastructure (buildings, equipment's etc.) have been approved under the scheme. Each such centre is provisioned for facilities for one identified individual sport and one group sport with provision of specialized training, boarding and lodging facilities, sports kit, sports equipment, competition exposure, insurance, medical expenses etc. as per norms of Sports Authority of India. Moreover, all schools under the new scheme include modern sports facilities for developing overall sports culture among tribal students.

Further, to promote cultural activity and to encourage sports and convert sporting spirit in performance every year, National Level Cultural Fest and Sports Meet are organized.

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