

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *282
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

INCENTIVES TO MAHADALIT GIRLS IN SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME

*282. SHRI NARESH BANSAL:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the additional incentives, such as scholarships or job reservations being considered to encourage the participation of mahadalit girls in skill training programmes;
- (b) the specific steps being taken to change societal attitudes that discourage girls' participation in sports, education, and skill development;
- (c) whether there is any plan to expand the best practices from Dehradun, Haridwar, Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Champawat to other districts of Utrakhand and across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *282 FOR 26.03.2025 RAISED BY SHRI NARESH BANSAL, MP(RS) REGARDING ‘INCENTIVES TO MAHADALIT GIRLS IN SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME’

(a) to (d): Under the Government of India’s Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Sikhshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country including women. The brief details are as under:

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY): PMKVY Scheme is for imparting skill development training through Short-Term Training (STT) and up-skilling through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to youth across the country with an aim of enhancing employability of the youth.

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme: The main target of the JSS is to impart vocational skills to the non-literates, neo-literates and the persons having rudimentary level of education up to 8th standard and school dropouts up to 12th standard in the age group of 15-45 years. Priority is given to Women, SC, ST, OBC and Minorities.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS): This Scheme is for promoting apprenticeship training and increasing the engagement of apprentices by providing financial support for payment of stipend to apprentices. Training consists of Basic Training and On-the-Job Training / Practical Training at workplace in the industry.

Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS): This scheme is for providing long-term training through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across the country. ITIs offer a range of vocational/skill training courses covering many economic sectors with an objective to provide skilled workforce to the industry as well as self-employment of youth.

Details of the overall and female candidates trained under various schemes of MSDE for India and Uttarakhand are given below:

	PMKVY (Since inception to 31.12.2024)	JSS (Since 2018-19 to 28-02-2025)	NAPS (Since 2018-19 to 28.02.2025)	ITI (2018-19 to 2023-24)
All India	1,60,33,081	29,52,539	37,11,414	79,57,128
All India (Female)	72,37,043	24,42,237	7,72,810	10,56,752
% share	45.14%	82.72%	20.82%	13.28%

Uttarakhand	2,47,404	81,495	75,639	63,542
Uttarakhand (Female)	1,27,095	69,574	13,571	10,929
% share	51.37%	85.37%	17.94%	17.20%

MSDE in collaboration with Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD), has launched 'Skilling of Adolescent Girls in Aspirational Districts' project on pilot basis to provide skill development training to 3,850 adolescent girls in 27 aspirational and difficult districts covering 19 States/UTs.

The schemes of MSDE for skill development are demand driven and the training centres (TCs) are set up/ engaged on need basis to impart the training across the country. To encourage participation of women in the Skill development Programmes, special provisions have been made in the Common Cost Norms (CCN), in terms of reimbursement of boarding & lodging and conveyance costs. Under PMKVY, training programs in sectors like Electronics, Retail, Healthcare, Beauty & Wellness, Handicrafts and Apparel are structured to attract higher participation. Further, there are 324 ITIs & 19 National Skill Training Institutes for women. Under the JSS scheme, focus is being given to women and other vulnerable sections by giving age relaxations and since July 2018, coverage of women beneficiaries under the scheme has been around 82% of the total beneficiaries.

Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education is implementing two scholarship component schemes under the Pradhan Mantri Uchcharat Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Yojana namely (i) Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship (CSSS) for College and University Students and (ii) Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (SSS for J&K and Ladakh).

PM-USP - Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students is operational since 2008. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the meritorious students having family income upto Rs.4.5 lakh per annum, to meet a part of their day-to-day expenses while pursuing higher studies. Annual target is 82000 scholarships per year (50% slots are earmarked for girls) which has been divided amongst the State Education Boards based on the State's population in the age group of 18-25 years. Students who are above 80th percentile of successful candidates in the relevant stream from a particular Board of Examination in class XII and pursuing regular course and not availing benefit of any other scholarships, are eligible to apply under this Scheme. The rate of scholarship is Rs. 12,000/- per annum for the first three years and Rs. 20,000/- per annum for the fourth and fifth year. Students belonging to all categories including SC, ST, OBC and Students with Benchmark Disabilities are eligible to get the benefit of reservation as per central reservation policy [i.e. 15% seats are earmarked for SCs, 7.5% for STs and 27 % for OBCs and 5% horizontal reservation for Students with Benchmark Disabilities (SwBDs).

The PM-USP Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students is covered under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) w.e.f. 1.1.2013. The scholarship is disbursed

directly into the savings bank account of the scholarship recipients in DBT mode using PFMS gateway.

‘PM-USP Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students’ has onboarded the National Scholarship portal <http://www.scholarships.gov.in> with effect from 1.8.2015. The students can apply online and can get all scheme related information through this portal.

PM-USP - Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has been in operation since 2011. The Scheme aims to encouraging the youth from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to take advantage of the educational institutions outside these UTs, which would provide them an opportunity, to interact with their counterparts from the rest of the country, thereby helping them become a part of the mainstream.

The scheme envisages providing 5000 fresh scholarship every year (2070 for General Degree Courses, 2830 for Professional Courses and 100 for Medical Courses). Scholarship is provided towards academic fee and maintenance allowance. The rate of scholarship towards tuition fee for General Degree courses is up to Rs. 30,000 per annum, for Professional courses up to Rs. 1.25 Lakhs per annum and for Medical studies up to Rs. 3.0 Lakhs per annum. Fixed maintenance allowance of Rs. 1.0 Lakh per annum is provided to all students under the scheme. The Scheme is implemented by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Maintenance Allowance is disbursed through PFMS in DBT mode into the bank account of the student. Academic fee is disbursed as per actual or as per maximum ceiling whichever is lower through PFMS into the Institute’s bank account.

Students belonging to the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh having family income of less than Rs. 8.0 Lakhs per annum and having passed Class XII/Equivalent Examination from the State are eligible to apply under the scheme. Students who have secured admission outside the State either in allotted seats through centralized counseling as well as those students who have taken admission in Central Universities or Medical/Engineering Colleges based on Government conducted National level examination are eligible for award of scholarship. Technology is being used extensively to bring in transparency and accountability of the process. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) – on Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has been constituted for effective implementation and monitoring of this Scheme. The reservation given to SC and ST is 8% and 20% respectively.

National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) is a flagship scheme of Government of India for on-the-job training and skilling of Indian youth. It is implemented by the Ministry of Education through four regional Boards of Apprenticeship Training/Practical Training (BoATs/BoPT) located at Mumbai, Kanpur, Chennai and Kolkata.

NATS provides apprenticeship training to fresh graduates, diploma holders and degree apprentices. The prescribed minimum stipend for Graduate/Degree apprentices is INR 9,000 per month and for Technician/Diploma apprentices is INR 8,000 per month. Government of India provides 50% of the prescribed minimum stipend for apprentices.

The NATS is open to all the sections of the country, including SCs/STs and Women. To reach out to apprentices of SC/ST categories and women, several outreach activities have been conducted in the form of Apprenticeship Fairs, Career Guidance Programmes, and Industry–

Institute meets. Further, to improve the reach of NATS, an MoU has been signed with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. to leverage the CSC network.

During the current FY 2024-25, 15,552 female SC candidates are enrolled in the scheme, a total of 42,230 SC apprentices have been benefitted, and a total of 1,85,437 women have been benefitted.

Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education is implementing the scheme of Samagra Shiksha, effective from 2018-19, for universalization of quality education throughout the country in coordination with the States and UTs. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Bridging gender and social category gaps at all levels of school education is one of the major objectives of Samagra Shiksha. The scheme reaches out to girls, and children belonging to SC, ST, minority communities and transgender. To ensure greater participation of girls in education, various interventions under Samagra Shiksha have been targeted. These interventions include:

- Opening of schools in the neighbourhood as defined by the State
- Provision of Free Textbooks and Uniform.
- Provision of gender-segregated toilets in all schools
- Stipend to Children with Special Needs (CwSN) girls from pre-primary to Class XII.
- Self-defence training for Girls under Samagra Shiksha.
- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) are residential schools for girls from class VI to XII belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL).
- Teachers' sensitization programmes to promote girls' participation under NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement).

Under **Vocational Education component of 'Samagra Shiksha'**, National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) aligned vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in the schools covered under the scheme, which has been aligned with the NSQF. At the Secondary level i.e., Class IX and X, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Sr. Secondary level, i.e., Class XI and XII, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. As of now, 138 Job Roles have been approved for introduction as Skill subjects to school students for Class IX to XII. Employability Skill modules including Communication Skills, Self-Management Skills, Information and Communication Technology Skills, Entrepreneurship Skills, and Green Skills has been made a mandatory part of skill subject under Samagra Shiksha Scheme.

Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched the Pradhan Mantri – Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme, in the financial year 2020-21, for providing skill training to SCs, OBCs, EWSs, DNTs, Safai Karamcharis, including Waste Pickers through the

empanelled training institutes in the job roles available on SIDH Portal of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The main objective of PM-DAKSH Scheme is to enhance the skills of target group and make them employable in both wage-employment and self-employment. The scheme is implemented on Pan India basis for both men and women belonging to target group of the age bracket of 18 to 45. Under the Scheme, there is a provision of payment of stipend to the candidates. The number of Male and Female Scheduled Caste (SC) beneficiaries trained under PM-DAKSH Scheme during the financial year 2020-21 to 2023-24 are as under:

Financial Year	Male	Female	Total Number of Trainees
2020-21	3700	4364	8064
2021-22	6268	10127	16395
2022-23	3452	6922	10374
2023-24	10547	20113	30660
Total	23967	41526	65493

Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is running various sports promotional schemes across the country. These schemes include: (i) Khelo India- National Programme for Development of Sports; (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs); (iii) Cash Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches; (iv) National Sports Awards; (v) Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons; (vi) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Scheme; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India (SAI). Details of these schemes are available in the public domain on the website of the Ministry at <https://yas.nic.in/>.

Further, under the “Promotion of Inclusiveness” vertical under Khelo India scheme through Promotion of Sports among Women component endeavors to provide additional avenues for development of sports, competitions, leagues, and tournaments specifically for women and offer opportunities to women for participating and excelling in sporting activities. The Government has started Khelo India Women’s League (ASMITA League) which offers opportunities to women for participating & excelling in sporting activities. Till date 1056 competitions under Khelo India women’s leagues in 20 disciplines have been conducted across the nation with participation of 115786 women athletes.
