## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*300 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025

## NATIONAL CAREER SERVICES CENTRES FOR SC/ST

\*300. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the disparity in the number of trained candidates and those receiving job offers under the National Career Services (NCS) Centres for SC/ST job seekers;
- (b) the reasons for this shortfall and the corrective measures being undertaken;
- (c) whether SC/ST candidates in 11 States/UTs are being excluded from the scheme's benefits due to the absence of training centres; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure equitable access and better employment outcomes for SC/ST candidates?

## ANSWER

## MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 300 DUE FOR REPLY ON 27.03.2025 BY SHRI MANOJ KUMAR JHA REGARDING "NATIONAL CAREER SERVICES CENTRES FOR SC/ST".

(a) to (d): Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the "Welfare of SC/ST jobseekers Scheme". The objective of the scheme is to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers through vocational guidance, career counselling, computer training, pre-recruitment training etc.

The scheme envisaged opening of these centres as model institutes to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers through guidance/coaching/training in States/UTs on their request. The State/UT Govt. are at liberty to open similar Centres in the States/UTs from their own resources depending on their requirement. Till date, 25 NCSCs for SC/ST have been opened as per the request of State/UT and are functional.

The mandate of the scheme is to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers and efforts are made to place the SC/ST jobseekers by conducting job fairs. During the year 2023-24, 5085 candidates were trained in Special Coaching Programme and various Computer Courses conducted through NCSCs for SC/ST. During the year 2023-24, 302 job fairs/ placement drives were organised by NCSCs for SC/ST in collaboration with State Govt./ NGOs etc. in which 4649 candidates were placed.

Government of India, is also implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project across the country which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services including jobs from private and government sectors, information on online & offline job fairs, job search & matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [www.ncs.gov.in]. NCS brings all the jobseekers (including SC/STs) and employers on a single platform for job matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner. As on 28.02.2025, more than 4.7 crore vacancies have been mobilised on NCS Portal.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India is striving to uplift and empower disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society, particularly the SC and OBC Community. A first of its kind, Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC) was launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, in 2014-2015. A similar scheme for backward classes (VCF-BC) was launched in 2017-2018. Financial support from Rs I0 lakh to Rs 15 Crores is provided under VCF-SC and VCF-BC at coupon rate of 4% and 6% respectively. The scheme is applicable PAN India. Till date, 86 SC and 5 OBC entrepreneurs have benefited from Maharashtra.

The schemes inter-alia, aim to provide concessional finance to Schedule Caste and Backward Classes entrepreneurs, who will create wealth and value for society and at the same time will promote their profitable businesses, which also enhances direct and indirect employment generation for these communities.

Further, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJ&E) has also 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. The main objective of PM-DAKSH Scheme is to enhance the skills of target group including SC/STs and make them employable in both wage-employment and self-employment. The scheme is being implemented on pan India basis. Once the training programmes under this scheme are completed, assessment and certification of trainees are conducted and the certified trainees are provided with placement opportunities either in wage-employment or self-employment.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)' through TRIFED which envisions to strengthen tribal entrepreneurship initiatives and to facilitate livelihood opportunities by promoting more efficient, equitable, self-managed, optimum use of natural resources, Agri / Minor Forest Produce (MFPs) / Non-farm produce. Under the scheme, financial support of INR 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Governments for setting up of each Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) which are the centers of value addition activities of MFPs/Non-MFPs.

The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, facilitates credit linkage by providing concessional loans to eligible Scheduled Tribe individuals/SHGs for undertaking income-generating activities and self-employment, thereby fostering entrepreneurship.

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