

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1232
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

PROMOTION OF MSMES AMONG SC/ST's IN NER

1232. DR. K. LAXMAN:

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

- (a) the manner in which the National SC/ST Hub (NSSH) Scheme boosted SC/ST entrepreneurship and increased their public procurement participation;
- (b) the initiatives that have supported SC/ST entrepreneurs under NSSH;
- (c) the key outcomes of NSSH, including the 17-fold growth in public procurement value from SC/ST-owned MSEs;
- (d) the manner in which the promotion of MSMEs in North East Region (NER) and Sikkim improved MSMEs infrastructure, manufacturing, and skilling; and
- (e) the impact of financial grants under the NER and Sikkim Scheme on innovation, R&D, and process improvements in the region?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been implementing National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) Scheme since October 2016 across the country to promote entrepreneurship among the SC-ST and to fulfill the obligations under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises. To boost entrepreneurship among SC-ST, the hub has taken several interventions which include capacity building programmes; market linkage programmes viz, participation in domestic and foreign exhibitions, organization of Special Vendor Development programmes, workshops/awareness programmes, subsidy on purchase of plant & machinery/equipment, subsidy for registration under Single Point Registration Scheme, subsidy for enrollment on Government promoted e-commerce portals, etc. As on 31st January 2025, 1.38 lakh SC/ST entrepreneurs have been facilitated under various activities of the scheme since its inception.

There has been 21-fold growth in share of SC/ST MSEs in public procurement i.e, from Rs. 99.37 crore (0.07%) in 2015-16 to Rs.2119.62 crore (1.30%) in FY 2024-25 (MSME Sambandh Portal as on 05.03.2025).

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(d) & (e): For improved infrastructure, manufacturing, and skilling for industry especially MSMEs in North East Region (NER), Ministry of MSME is implementing a dedicated scheme “Promotion of MSMEs in NER and Sikkim” for North East Region. The scheme has been specifically designed for development of MSMEs in NER through financing support to NER States for setting up of Mini Technology Centers, Industrial Estates, Flatted Factory Complex etc. for Industry specially MSMEs and Common Facility Centers for development of Tourism sector. Since inception, 55 infrastructure projects related to Mini Technology Centres, Industrial Estates/Flatted Factory Complexes have been approved under the scheme.

Under Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), beneficiaries belonging to **Northeastern Region**, margin money subsidy is 35% in rural areas and 25% in urban areas for setting up of new enterprises in the non-firm sector. The maximum cost of project is Rs. 50 lakhs in the manufacturing sector and Rs. 20 lakhs in the service sector.

In addition, the Ministry implements several schemes and programmes for development of MSME Sector in the country including NER which include PM Vishwakarma (PMV), Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), A Scheme for Promoting Innovation, Rural Industry & Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE), Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP), Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) etc.
