

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2671
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

PM-VIKAS SCHEME

2671. SHRI NARHARI AMIN:
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:
SHRI MADAN RATHORE:
DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:
SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- a) the manner in which the PM-VIKAS scheme aim to empower minority communitiesthrough skill development and entrepreneurship;
- b) the manner in which the scheme support minority women in leadership and entrepreneurship initiatives;
- c) the details of role the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) play infacilitating market linkages for artisans under this scheme; and
- d) the manner in which Governmen will engage with industry stakeholders to provide betterjob opportunities for trained individuals under PM-VIKAS?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) and (b): The Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry which converges five erstwhile schemes viz. 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni' and 'USTTAD' & 'Hamari Dharohar' schemes and focuses on upliftment of six notified minority communities through the following:

- (i) Skilling and Training (Non-traditional and traditional)
- (ii) Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship
- (iii) Education (through National Institute of Open Schooling)
- (iv) Infrastructure Development (through Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram)

The scheme also provisions to facilitate credit linkages by connecting beneficiaries with loan programs offered by the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC).

(c):Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) is a knowledge partner of the Ministry under the PM VIKAS scheme to extend support to artisans trained under traditional training components of the scheme in terms of (i) providing marketing linkages; (ii) development of related Course Module content for training; (iii) provide brand positioning & visual merchandizing to the artisan products; (iv) organise awareness program during Ministry's events/exhibition; (v) mobilise artisans for formation of producer group companies; etc.

(d): Under the PM VIKAS Scheme, the implementing partners are to ensure placement of 75 per cent of total candidates trained under NSQF aligned skill programs.
