

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 744
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

IMPACT OF PM VISHWAKARMA SCHEME

744. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether PM Vishwakarma Scheme has been successful in increasing the participation of women in the labor force, if so, the details thereof and outcomes achieved;
- (b) whether Government has taken any measures to support women artisans in overcoming traditional barriers to workforce participation, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Ministry have plans to establish dedicated innovation hubs or incubation centers in low-connectivity, less-developed areas to align with the 'Make in India' initiative; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including timelines, locations, and budget allocations?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): PM Vishwakarma Scheme was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 17.09.2023 to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople, including women, of 18 trades who work with their hands and tools. As of 04.02.2025, 9.56 lakh women beneficiaries have been successfully registered after three stages of verification, which is 35% of the total registrations under the Scheme. Of the registered women beneficiaries, 6.45 lakh women beneficiaries have successfully completed their skill training, and loans have been sanctioned to 1.06 lakh women beneficiaries.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of MSME implements MSME Innovative Scheme, an amalgamation of Incubation, Design, and IPR Schemes. To foster 'Make in India' initiative, the Incubation component aims to promote and support untapped creativity and the adoption of latest technologies in MSME that seek validation of their ideas at 'proof-of-concept' level.

The Incubation component was launched on 10th March 2022. Under this component, there are 780 Host Institutions (HIs) recognized Pan-India, covering locations across the country. These HIs act as Business Incubators (BIs) for nurturing ideas from initial stage of conceptualization to commercialization stage.

So far, Ministry of MSME has conducted four MSME Idea Hackathons: Idea Hackathon 1.0, Idea Hackathon 2.0 (Theme-based), Idea Hackathon 3.0 (for women innovators), and the latest, Idea Hackathon 4.0 (for young innovators), which has a special focus on fostering innovative solutions in the traditional trades of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

Under the Incubation component, financial assistance of up to Rs. 15 lakh per idea is provided to innovators through the approved HIs. For ideas submitted by MSMEs or others (excluding students), the Ministry of MSME covers 85% of the total approved cost. For student innovators, the Ministry bears the full cost of idea development, up to Rs. 15 lakh per idea.
