GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 133 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

THE CURRENT STATUS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE NORTH EASTERN REGION

133. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of industrialization in the North Eastern Region, particularly in the States of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Sikkim;
- (b) the details of ongoing and upcoming industrial projects in the region, with specific focus on key sectors such as manufacturing, textiles; and
- (c) the specific steps Government has taken to promote entrepreneurship and create job opportunities in the North Eastern Region, especially for the local youth?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

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

* ****

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *133 RAISED BY SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA DUE FOR REPLY ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING "THE CURRENT STATUS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE NORTH EASTERN REGION".

- (a) to (c): Setting up of industries being a State subject, the primary responsibility of industrial development rests with the State Governments. Government of India supplements their efforts through various schemes to promote industrialization in the country, including in the North Eastern Region (NER). These include:
 - a) UNNATI (Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization) Scheme was launched on 09.03.2024 for extending support to the industries for enhancing regional infrastructure, create employment opportunities, and promote resilience and prosperity in the region. Under the UNNATI Scheme, the incentives like Capital Investment Incentive (CII), Capital Interest Subvention (CIS) & Manufacturing & Services Linked Incentive (MSLI) are provided to the industrial Units. As on date, 108 industrial units have been registered under the scheme.
 - b) Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE): Government is implementing this scheme to improve connectivity and infrastructure in the NER. The objectives of the PM-DevINE scheme are to fund infrastructure, support social development projects based on felt needs of the NER; to enable livelihood activities for youth and women; and fill the development gaps in various sectors.
 - c) North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) Roads: It was approved during 2017-18 and extended upto the end of 15th Finance Commission i.e. 31.03.2026 to provide specific gap-funding in construction of roads which are not getting covered under any other department of Government i.e. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, D/o Rural Development, Border Roads Organisation etc. but are necessary to (i) provide access to remote locations (ii) provide access to markets and (iii) from a security point of view. The projects leading to the creation of physical assets in roads/bridges and auxiliary infrastructure only are considered for sanction under this scheme.

- d) North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) Other Than Roads Infrastructure (OTRI): It was approved during 2017-18 and extended upto 31.03.2026 NESIDS (OTRI) component subsumes the projects sanctioned (but not yet completed) under its predecessor schemes i.e. (a) Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) and (b) Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). Under this scheme, projects leading to the creation of infrastructure for Primary and Secondary Health care, Primary and Secondary Education, water supply, solid waste management, industrial development, Civil aviation, sports, telecom etc, with project size between Rs 5 crore to Rs 50 crore, are considered for sanction.
- e) Schemes of North Eastern Council: The Scheme covers all the eight states of the North Eastern Region. Some of the focus area of the projects sanctioned under Scheme of NEC are Bamboo, Piggery, Regional Tourism, Higher Education, Tertiary Healthcare, Livelihood etc. During the last five years (FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25), 83 projects worth Rs.373.67 Crore related to industries in the NER were sanctioned under Schemes of North Eastern Council.
- f) Promotion of MSMEs in NER and Sikkim: Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises is implementing this special scheme dedicated for the development of Industrial Infrastructure in the North East Region. The scheme was initially launched in 2016 and extended upto the end of 15th Finance Commission i.e. 31.03.2026. The scheme provides financial support to create or upgrade infrastructure and common facilities for MSMEs to supplement manufacturing, testing, packaging, R&D, product & skilling activities innovations and under three components, namely, (i) Setting up of new and modernization of existing Mini Technology Centers; (ii) Development of new and existing Industrial Estates; and (iii) Development of Tourism Sector. Since inception of the scheme, a total of 73 projects have been approved.
- g) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), through its autonomous institute— Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati, has undertaken several initiatives to promote entrepreneurship in the North-Eastern Region. These initiatives aim to enhance entrepreneurial capabilities, promote enterprise creation, and ensure inclusive development.

- h) Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme named as the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana: To foster youth employment in particular, the Union Government has recently approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana. This scheme has a financial outlay of Rs 99,446 crores and will be implemented from 1-8-2025 to 31-7--2027. It is a transformative scheme aimed at catalysing employment generation, enhancing employability, with an additional focus on the manufacturing sector across India including the NER region.
- i) Employment Generation Schemes: Employment generation coupled with improving employability is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes. These inter-alia include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme National Mahatma Gandhi Rural **Employment** Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen KaushalyaYojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self **Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Stand-Up India,** Startup India, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) etc.
