GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

USAID FUNDING IN INDIA

*308. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister Of External Affairs be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1659 given in Rajya Sabha on 13.03.2025 and state:

- (a) the status of the actions taken by Government on the reports suggesting the utilization of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funds to increase voter turnout in Indian elections and details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has received from the US the details of expenditures on all USAID projects in India over last three years, sought through US Embassy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, actions taken thereon; and
- (e) the quantum of USAID funding to India in the last three years, year-wise, State-wise, and beneficiary wise including NGOs and individuals?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 FOR REPLY ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING USAID FUNDING IN INDIA ASKED BY DR. JOHN BRITTAS

(a) to (e): U.S. Administration's decision to close down USAID operations worldwide

On 20 January 2025, the U.S. President signed Executive Order (EO) 14169, initiating a comprehensive review of all U.S. foreign assistance programs to ensure their efficiency and alignment with U.S. foreign policy priorities. Under this EO, all foreign assistance funded by or through the U.S. Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was paused for a 90-day period and became subject to an ongoing investigation by the U.S. Government's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

On 10 March 2025, the U.S. Secretary of State announced the elimination of 83% of US-AID's programs—approximately 5,200 out of 6,200 initiatives—with the remainder slated for transfer to the Department of State.

On 29 March 2025, the U.S. Congress was formally notified of the administration's intent to dissolve USAID permanently, with residual operations to be absorbed by the State Department's Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy (GHSD). A detailed plan was submitted to Congress outlining the modalities for integrating USAID's remaining global health functions into GHSD.

Effective 1 July 2025, USAID's operations officially ceased. Approximately 83% of its programs were terminated, and 94% of its staff were laid off. The State Department assumed responsibility for the remaining 17% of USAID's operations and foreign aid administration.

The full closure of USAID is scheduled to be completed by 2 September 2025.

USAID and the issue of "Voter Turnout" in India

While the review of USAID operations was ongoing in the United States, on 16 February 2025, the U.S. Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), in a post on the social media platform *X*, announced the cancellation of \$486 million in USAID funding for Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening (CEPPS) projects worldwide, including \$21 million allocation for increasing "voter turnout in India."

On 28 February 2025, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) requested the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to urgently furnish details of expenditure incurred on all USAID-assisted/funded projects in India over the last ten years (other than those being implemented under the seven Partnership Agreements with the Government of India). MEA also sought a list of NGOs/implementing partners through which such initiatives were executed.

On 2 July 2025, the U.S. Embassy shared data that it said covered USAID funding in India from 2014 to 2024, including details of implementing partners, objectives, and key accomplishments of each activity undertaken. The Embassy also maintains that "USAID/India did not receive or provide funding of \$21 million for voter turnout in India

from fiscal years 2014 to 2024, nor has it implemented any voter turnout-related activities in India."

On 29 July 2025, the U.S. Embassy conveyed to MEA that it plans to bring all USAID operations to a close by 15 August 2025.

On 11 August 2025, the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, in a letter to the Department of Economic Affairs, conveyed that all seven Partnership Agreements signed with the Government of India would stand closed with effect from 15 August 2025.

A beneficiary-wise breakdown of USAID allocations made available to the Ministry for three years – 2022, 2023 and 2024, as sought by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, is placed at *Annexure-A*.

Annexure- A

Details of USAID/India Funding Provided for Activities in India Other Than the Ones Executed Under the Partnership Agreements with the Government of India from U.S. FY 2022-2024

(Amounts in U.S. \$)

a) Assistance for Tibetan Communities in India and Nepal

Implementing Partner	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total	Purpose and key accomplishments of activity
THE TIBET FUND	\$5,600,000	\$5,224,800	\$5,978,000	\$16,802,800	The purpose of this activity was to strengthen the economic, social, and cultural resilience of Tibetan communities in India and Nepal, while simultaneously building the capacity of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) to lead development initiatives. Over eight years, the activity empowered over 75,000 Tibetans across India and Nepal by enhancing livelihood opportunities and improving access to quality education and learning outcomes in Tibetan children. The activity enrolled 14,500 children, trained 580 teachers, and achieved measurable impact by improving reading skills in 55% of participating students. The activity also provided basic healthcare services to Tibetan refugees, including initiatives focused on reducing substance abuse, HIV/AIDS awareness, and mental health. More than 27,500 Tibetans received subsidized health insurance coverage to support vulnerable households.
HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA'S CEN- TRAL TIBETAN RELIEF COMMITTEE	-	-	\$320,000	\$320,000	The purpose of this activity was to support the self-reliance and resilience of Tibetan communities in exile through access to improved livelihood opportunities for Tibetan youth. Partnering with the Central Tibetan Relief Committee (CTRC), the socio-economic development wing of the Central Tibetan Administration, the activity organized 18 skill development training programs for over 90 Tibetan

					youths.
TIBETAN CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL AND WELFARE FUND	-	-	\$401,000	\$401,000	The purpose of the activity was to support Tibetan students from diverse backgrounds by providing them with opportunities for higher education. More than 300 Tibetan students received scholarships for varied higher education courses.
TIBETAN VOLUNTARY HEALTH ASSOCIATION (TVHA)	-	-	\$201,000	\$201,000	The purpose of this activity was to enhance the health and well-being of mothers and children within the Tibetan refugee communities in India by ensuring access to adequate nutrition and essential health services. More than 100 baby bags and around 900 nutritional supplements were distributed to young, new mothers.
NATIONAL DEMO- CRATIC INSTITUTE (NDI)	\$3,000,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$8,600,000	The purpose of the activity was to strengthen the capacity and management systems of the Central Tibetan Administration to improve citizen engagement and develop sustainable democratic institutions in the Tibetan exile community. The activity strengthened the Central Tibetan Administration's capacity and management systems by training 378 CTA staff and settlement officials across India, Nepal, and Bhutan in key areas such as diplomatic protocol, administrative processes, project management, gender mainstreaming, and core CTA procedures.
WADHWANI INSTITUTE FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOUNDATION	-	\$1,689,514	\$200,000	\$1,889,514	The purpose of this activity was to safeguard Tibetan culture by establishing a centralized AI-powered digital library for rare manuscripts and cultural resources, while also training the Central Tibetan Administration in AI, digital technologies, and cybercrime prevention strategies. The activity developed an AI-based Tibetan language preservation system and digitized a rare collection of 476,483 pages of historical debriefing documents to preserve Tibetan culture and heritage.
SOCIAL AND RE-	-	\$750,000	\$400,000	\$1,150,000	The purpose of this activity was to build the capacity of the

SOURCE DEVELOP-					Central Tibetan Administration and Tibetan monasteries in
MENT FUND (SARD)					India to manage an AI-powered sustainable digital library for
					cultural heritage preservation. This included securing
					manuscripts, artifacts, and intangible heritage to counter
					China's repression of Tibetan identity.
Total	\$8,600,000	\$10,464,314	\$10,300,000	\$29,364,314	

b) Basic Education Activities

Implementing Partner	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total	Purpose and key accomplishments of activity
CARE INDIA SOLU-	-	-	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	The purpose of this activity was to improve foundational
TIONS FOR SUSTAIN-					learning skills for marginalized children in four Indian
ABLE DEVELOPMENT					states-Delhi, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar- through
					systemic strengthening investments.
PALLADIUM INTERNA-	\$3,000,000	-	-	\$3,000,000	The purpose of this activity was to improve early childhood
TIONAL LLC					care and development, including early stimulation and
					learning skills for marginalized children in multiple Indian
					states, through innovation and investments driven by the
					private sector.
PRATHAM EDUCATION	-	\$3,300,000	-	\$3,300,000	The purpose of this activity was to enrich and strengthen the
FOUNDATION					mainstream public education ecosystem to support
					foundational learning outcomes for children with disabilities.
ROOM TO READ INDIA	\$2,100,000	-	-	\$2,100,000	The purpose of this activity was to support an innovative
TRUST					early grade reading program at scale, benefiting children in
					government primary schools in the selected states of India.
Total	\$5,100,000	\$3,300,000	\$3,000,000	\$11,400,00	
				0	

c) Energy/Environment Activities

Implementing Partner	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total	Purpose and key accomplishments of activity
COUNCIL ON EN- ERGY ENVIRON- MENT AND WATER	-	-	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000	The purpose of this activity was to strengthen air pollution mitigation in India by developing evidence-based models for improved air quality management. It achieved emission avoidance of 11.9 metric tons through the transition of 1,200 diesel to electric autos and the introduction of 155 pink e-autos, and trained 18,735 people on air pollution mitigation.
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000	The purpose of this activity was to conduct collaborative grid integration studies, enhance the capacity of India's power sector stakeholders, support grid integration pilots through modelling, and develop open-source tools with Indian utilities. The activity resulted in the first grid integration study charting India's roadmap for meeting its 175 GW of renewable energy, grid integration studies for six RE-rich states, two pilots on distributed energy resources, and four white papers with Grid India.
RTI INTERNATIONAL	\$500,000	-	-	\$500,000	The purpose of this activity was to improve access to affordable, secure, reliable, and sustainable energy in six countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka—strengthening systems and processes in line with these countries' clean energy transition goals and energy-security priorities, while highlighting India's role as a leader in clean and renewable energy and a key to expanding cross-border electricity trade. The activity mobilized \$9.25 billion in clean energy investments, added 2.2 GW of clean energy capacity, saved 776 GWh of energy, 15.9 million MWh of power trade in South Asia, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 5.5 million metric tons.
Total	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,950,000	\$4,950,000	

d) HIV/AIDS Activities

Implementing Partner	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total	Purpose and key accomplishments of activity
FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL	\$2,300,000	\$700,000	\$1,352,513	\$4,352,513	The purpose of this activity was to provide technical assistance to the Government of India to strengthen community systems under its National AIDS Control Program. The activity worked closely with National / State AIDS Control organizations and was instrumental in capacity building of 230+ community-based organizations (CBOs) through focused mentoring and organization development. \$1.1 million was raised by CBOs through corporate social responsibility funding, philanthropies and other diversified resources demonstrating sustainability of system. Additionally, the activity supported lifesaving activities including access to treatment, adherence support and viral suppression for approximately 1,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV); screening of more than 800 PLHIV for tuberculosis (TB), opportunistic infections, and non-communicable diseases.
JOINT UNITED NA- TIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS UNAIDS	-	-	\$200,000	\$200,000	The purpose of this activity was to strengthen the HIV response by accelerating combination prevention, treatment for all, and community- and youth-led responses to HIV in India. It advanced the HIV prevention agenda and access to combination HIV prevention—especially for key populations; enhanced the capacity of community-based and other civil society organizations conducting service delivery and monitoring; and supported community-led research and advocacy to address stigma against people living with HIV.
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY	\$7,590,082	-	\$4,897,487	\$12,487,569	The purpose of this activity was to provide technical assistance to the national, state, and district HIV/AIDS programs in India. Specifically, the activity supported the national program in addressing gaps in current programming

					across the HIV care continuum.
JHPIEGO CORP	-	-	\$250,000	\$250,000	The purpose of this activity was to provide technical support to national and state governments in their efforts to implement the Government of India's vision of a Comprehensive Primary Healthcare (CPHC) system through effective and responsive technical assistance. The activity developed a robust and responsive primary healthcare system catering to future public health emergencies in states by providing strategic technical assistance at the state and district levels and co-designing and implementing innovative solutions for strengthening state health systems.
RIOS PARTNERS NY, LLC	\$1,000,000	\$300,000	-	\$1,300,000	The purpose of this activity was to carry out a detailed study on drug sales in the private sector to estimate PLHIV not accessing government-provided ARVs. Detailed methodologies were discussed and presented to NACO, and eventually the estimates were adopted by NACO for the purpose of estimating the 2nd and 3rd 95. The partner also proposed a private sector partnership model to improve access and choice for PLHIV—with the ultimate objective of improving HIV outcomes. A situational assessment was carried out in Pune and Thane, Maharashtra, and the model was shaped according to feedback from governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. Tools and draft MoUs were also developed and presented to SACS, after which the project was kept on hold and did not get rolled out.
SATTVA MEDIA AND CONSULTING PRI- VATE LIMITED	\$200,000	\$700,000	\$780,000	\$1,680,000	The purpose of this activity was to support National AIDS Control Society to pilot Community-Led Monitoring (CLM) in three states from 2020, developing Standard Operating Procedures, tools, and platforms, and conducting workshops to institutionalize and expand CLM efforts.
SWASTI	\$290,000	-	-	\$290,000	The purpose of this activity was to initiate the country's formal community-engaged responses as key to the

WORLD HEALTH OR-GANIZATION	\$11,380,082	\$188,919 \$1,888,91	\$200,000 \$7,680,000	\$388,919 \$2 0,949,001	elimination of HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination. It supported NACP Phase V's focus on institutionalizing community engagement and meaningful participation at the most granular level in the form of community system strengthening. It supported the development, piloting, and mainstreaming of structured systems for CLM to help achieve improved health outcomes under NACP—specifically through strengthening the TI program, supporting advocacy and rapid-response efforts for reducing stigma and discrimination, enhancing treatment literacy, and encouraging greater involvement of communities in decision-making. The purpose of this activity was to provide technical and operational support to the national program with a focus on adopting the latest national guidelines on HIV care and treatment and creating synergies between the National AIDS & STD Control Program Phase V (NACP-V) and other national health programs. It provided technical and operational support for implementing integrated service delivery for HIV and comorbidities, helped enhance treatment literacy and positive living among PLHIV, and supported the national program to improve retention and the quality of HIV care and treatment services.
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e) Others

Implementing Partner	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total	Purpose and key accomplishments of activity
PANAGORA GROUP INC.	\$750,000	-	-	\$750,000	The purpose of this activity was to support the achievement of USAID/India's Country Development Cooperation Strategy by integrating collaborating, learning, and adapting (CLA) into the design and implementation of its projects and activities. This approach enhanced the Mission's monitoring and evaluation (MEL) capabilities and ensured the use of empirical evidence for programming, learning, and adaptation.
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP	-	\$1,212,244	\$574,340	\$1,786,584	The purpose of this activity was to strengthen the India staff and implementing partners through high-quality support in performance monitoring, evaluation, learning, and activity design. By fostering data-driven decision-making and adaptive management, the activity enhanced the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of development initiatives, ultimately accelerating progress towards planned outcomes.
PEOPLE'S SCIENCE INSTITUTE	\$141,037	-	-	\$141,037	The purpose of this activity was to support the design phase of USAID/India's "Local Works" program. The activity built on existing knowledge on air pollution and engaged with local actors in Indore, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, and Bhubaneshwar to better understand local priorities, existing efforts and networks, and gaps in the local system. Solutions were co-developed with communities to ensure they reflected local priorities and could be sustained through local leadership.
Total	\$891,037	\$1,212,244	\$574,340	\$2,677,621	
