

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1848
ANSWER ON 05.08.2025**

Appraisal and Approval of CSSs and CSs

1848, Shri Ryaga Krishnaiah:

Smt. Rekha Sharma:

Shri Narhari Amin:

Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and scope of the “Appraisal and Approval of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and Central Sector Schemes (CSs)” exercise initiated on 29th May, 2025;
- (b) whether the exercise entails third-party evaluation of existing schemes, including sunset reviews and outcome assessments as outlined in the 2016 Union Budget policy;
- (c) if so, the modalities and criteria being used for such evaluations;
- (d) the number of schemes currently up for re-appraisal and what proportion require fresh Cabinet approval;
- (e) whether the Department of Expenditure has outlined norms for allocating the resource envelopes for each Ministry’s schemes;
- (f) if so, the key parameters and formulas being applied?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)**

(a) to (c) The objective and scope of the “Appraisal and Approval of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and Central Sector Schemes (CSs)” exercise initiated on 29th May, 2025 is based on the policy announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 2016, which stated that *“To improve the quality of Government expenditure, every new scheme being sanctioned by the Government which have sunset date and outcome review”* every scheme is subjected to an outcome review in the form of a third party evaluation before it is presented for appraisal and approval for another cycle. The evaluation exercise brings out, *inter alia*, the

relevance, sustainability, effectiveness, equity, coherence and impact of an ongoing scheme ensuring that, while appraising and approving a scheme for the next cycle, optimum use of public resources is made through improvement in the quality of government expenditure

(d) Number of schemes for re-appraisal and the proportion which will require Cabinet's approval will depend upon the results of the evaluation exercise which will be used by the Ministries to rationalise and re-formulate existing schemes and the fiscal resources projected to achieve the desired outputs and outcomes.

(e) to (f) As per general guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure, the total projected outlay of a continuing scheme will be assessed from expenditure during FYs 2021-22 to FY 2023-24 (AE) and FY 2024-25 (RE) and any special requirements.
