

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO - 36  
ANSWERED ON – 03/12/2025**

**Leadership and Mentorship Programme for Tribal Girls**

**36 Smt. Sulata Deo:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry plans to support Odisha in establishing a Tribal Girls' Leadership and Mentorship Programme for secondary and higher education students; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 36 ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025 ASKED BY SMT. SULATA DEO, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING "LEADERSHIP AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR TRIBAL GIRLS"**

(a) & (b): The curriculum of education at Secondary and Senior Secondary level essentially comprises developing the character of students which includes thinking for one self, developing critical faculty and acting in a responsible manner including exhibition of leadership qualities. Learning at this level is also a collective exercise where students get mentored by peer group and teachers.

Further, Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools come under the purview of the respective State and UT Government. Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Samagra Shiksha and PM SHRI, annual plans are prepared by the respective States and UTs based on their requirements and priority and this is reflected in their respective Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) Proposals. These plans are then appraised and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) in the Department of School Education & Literacy in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme, and physical and financial progress of the State for the interventions approved. Following Schemes/components address the leadership and mentorship aspects for tribal girls:

Under PM SHRI Scheme:

- i. A component of Mentorship by Eminent Experts under Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyaan has been approved under PM SHRI for 736 schools of Odisha with approved budget of Rs. 36.8 lakh in the year 2025-26 for students including tribal girls studying in these schools.
- ii. Under Career Guidance and Counselling, funds to the tune of Rs. 2.2 crore for the year 2025-26 have been approved for 736 PM SHRI schools benefitting students including tribal girls studying in these schools.

Under Samagra Shiksha Scheme:

- i. 5639 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) have been approved for all States/UTs, out of which 333 KGBVs are currently functioning in the State of Odisha, where 21,709 tribal girls from Upper Primary to Higher Secondary levels are getting access to quality education. Funds to the tune of Rs. 230.45 crore have been approved for 2025-26.
- ii. Under the PM JANMAN Scheme, 500 hostels with non-recurring cost of Rs. 1255.24 crore have been approved in 17 States/UTs for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group, out of which 76 hostels have been approved for Odisha. These hostels aim to provide safe residential facilities, improve access to schooling, and ensure overall well-being and retention of students in the education system.
- iii. Under the DAJGUA Scheme, 692 hostels have been approved in 23 States/UTs with non-recurring cost of Rs. 2512.03 crore for tribal children, out of which 40 hostels have been approved for Odisha. The initiative is intended to strengthen residential infrastructure for vulnerable students, reduce barriers to education, and create an enabling learning environment for children from remote and disadvantaged tribal communities.

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