

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2672**  
ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

**IMPLEMENTATION OF PM-VIKAS SCHEME IN PUNJAB**

2672. DR. VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beneficiaries trained, funds released and projects sanctioned under the PM-VIKAS (Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan) scheme in the State of Punjab since inception, component-wise;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the outreach of the scheme among minority artisan and traditional skill clusters in the State of Punjab, particularly in handicrafts, embroidery, leather and heritage trades; and
- (c) the steps taken to enhance coverage, market linkages and livelihood outcomes for minority youth and women in the State of Punjab under PM-VIKAS?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a): The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme as a Central Sector scheme which converges five erstwhile schemes viz. 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni', 'USTTAD' and 'Hamari Dharohar'. The scheme was launched in January 2025 to focus on socio-economic empowerment of six notified minorities through skill development; entrepreneurship and leadership development of minority women; and education support for school dropouts. Under the scheme, projects have been allocated to the following PIAs for implementation in Punjab in the Skilling and Training component as follows:

<b>S N</b>	<b>PIA Name</b>	<b>Target allocated in Punjab</b>	<b>Trainees enrolled as on 12.03.2026</b>	<b>Trained as on 12.03.2026</b>
1	Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC)	7,880	4738	180
2	IIT Ropar	1,200	-	-
3	Punjab Skill Development Mission	2,500	60	60
4	Punjab State Skill Development Society	2,500	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>14,080</b>	<b>4798</b>	<b>240</b>

A target of 400 candidates has further been allocated to DSGMC in the state of Punjab under the Education component.

(b): Under the PM VIKAS scheme, the sub-component on Traditional training (para 1.5.1.1.) focuses on NSQF aligned skill development that covers training in need-based courses for minority communities who are engaged in traditional arts and crafts including languishing art forms. The objective is to generate means to create better livelihood opportunities, assist in establishing linkages with domestic and global markets, facilitate credit linkages and self-employment, as well as to preserve and enrich heritage of Indian arts and crafts. This component also covers initiatives relating to preservation/ propagation of traditional arts and crafts including ICH and celebrating the cultural practices of the minorities. Under the scheme, no target has yet been allocated under the traditional component in the state of Punjab.

(c): The Ministry has so far allocated a target of 14,080 candidates under the Skilling and Training component for implementation in the state of Punjab, out of a total target of 1,22,005 allocated under the Skilling and Training component, which constitutes 11.54% of the target allocated across India. This presents significant opportunities for the minority youth and women for skill, training and livelihood enhancement.

Further, under the PM VIKAS scheme, Ministry has been organising 'Lok Samvardhan Parv' (LSP), bringing together minority artisans from across India and assist them to scale up their operations and businesses. The platform offers artisans a unique opportunity to showcase their indigenous arts, crafts, and rich cultural heritage. The event has been designed not only to promote the traditions of minority communities but also to foster an innovative and entrepreneurial environment for artisans. To enhance their skills in areas like marketing, export & online business, design, taxation and sales etc., workshops are conducted by the Ministry, with support from the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), ensuring a holistic approach to empowering their talent and augmentation in their incomes.

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