

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4207  
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2026

**Grant under PM USHA scheme to Uttar Pradesh**

4207 **Shri Ratanjit Pratap Narain Singh:**

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

- (a) the total quantum of Central grants approved and disbursed to State universities in Uttar Pradesh under the PM Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM USHA);
- (b) the specific higher education institutions in the State selected for the upgradation of their academic and research infrastructure;
- (c) the progress of implementing multidisciplinary education frameworks within these funded Universities;
- (d) the details of the digital infrastructure, including smart classrooms and central libraries, developed using these specific funds; and
- (e) the mechanisms established by the Ministry to audit the timely and transparent utilization of the PM USHA grants by the State Government?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c): The government has launched the third phase of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) in June 2023 in the form of Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA), with an outlay of Rs. 12,926.10 crore, including the committed liabilities of the earlier phases of RUSA, to cater to the needs of educationally unserved/ underserved areas. PM-USHA is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at funding specific State government universities and colleges, so as to improve their quality by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards. Under the Scheme, support is provided to States/UTs for strengthening infrastructure, including construction of hostels, academic and administrative buildings, laboratories and other facilities required for improving access and quality in higher education.

In the State of Uttar Pradesh, under various phases of the scheme, a total of 204 units, for an amount of Rs. 1942.27 Cr have been approved. Under PM-USHA a total of 66 projects amounting to Rs. 1025.19 Cr have been approved to the State, including Rs. 739.92 Cr to 14

universities approved under components such as: Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU) (100 Cr each) and Grants to Strengthen Universities (GSU) (20 Cr each).

Under MERU component, the Universities in respective States/ UTs are expected to undertake various mandatory activities such as (i) implementation of National Credit Framework (NCrF) and Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) and implementation of elective course system; (ii) adoption of Academic Bank of Credits; (iii) courses in Indian Languages; (iv) embedding Indian knowledge System (IKS) in the Curriculum; (v) bridge courses for socially and economically disadvantaged students etc.

(d): Under PM-USHA, States/ UTs and Universities/ Colleges can undertake various activities aimed at enhancing access, equity and excellence in education, including promoting Online Distance Learning (ODL) and online programs such as SWAYAM/ MOOCs; construction of smart classrooms/ computer labs/ research laboratories/ digital libraries with subscriptions to reputed journals; and training to develop 21st-century skills, etc.

(e): Under the scheme, as per the government rules and procedures, regular audits of the scheme are conducted at Central and State/UTs level. Based on the audited statements of expenditure of the various supported HEIs, a consolidated Utilisation Certificate (UC) is sought from State/UTs for release of further grants to the State/UTs. The Ministry also reviews progress of works through various review meetings, physical visits etc. under the scheme. Furthermore, under the scheme, funds are released through the SNA-SPARSH model for all States /UTs. Under the SNA-SPARSH model, funds are released 'just in time', and vendors and beneficiaries receive direct payments through daily sanction releases based on the submission of bills on the PFMS portal.

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