

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2491
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 10.08.2026

EXPANSION AND PROMOTION OF THE MSME ZED
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

2491. SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of enterprises registered and certified under the MSME ZED (Zero Defect Zero Effect) Certification Scheme up to July, 2026;
- (b) whether Government is considering providing additional incentives to ZED-certified units in Government procurement and exports; and
- (c) whether any special action plan has been prepared to extend the benefits of the ZED Certification Scheme to MSMEs in all districts, especially the aspirational and industrially backward districts, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

- (a): Under the MSME Sustainable (ZED- Zero Defect Zero Effect) Certification Scheme, as on 31.07.2026, a total of 9,83,003 MSMEs have registered and 7,03,585 MSMEs have been certified.
- (b): Under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) Order, 2012, all MSEs including the ZED Certified MSEs continue to avail its benefits. At present, no separate additional incentives for ZED-certified units in public procurement or exports exist. However, the Government is continuously taking measures to strengthen the value proposition of ZED Certification. In this regard, with effect from 18.09.2024, the Ministry introduced ZED 2.0 with key reforms, including a 20% reduction in certification cost, strengthened assessment framework and financial assistance for multiple Testing/Quality/Product Certifications to further improve the competitiveness and sustainability of MSMEs.
- (c): The Government is implementing the MSME Sustainable (ZED) Certification Scheme across the country, including aspirational and industrially backward districts. To promote greater participation, the Scheme provides an additional subsidy of 10% on the cost of certification for SC/ST-owned MSMEs and MSMEs located in the North Eastern Region (NER), Himalayan Region, Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, Island Territories and Aspirational Districts.
