

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 456
ANSWERED ON – 22/07/2026

WELFARE AND EMPOWERMENT FOR SCs, OBCs, SENIOR CITIZENS AND PwDs IN TAMIL NADU

456. DR. M. DHANAPAL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) status of welfare and empowerment programmes implemented for Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, senior citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) measures undertaken by Government to improve educational, economic and social outcomes among beneficiary groups in the State;
- (c) assessment made regarding the effectiveness of ongoing social-justice interventions and welfare schemes in the State;
- (d) initiatives proposed to be taken for strengthening social inclusion, accessibility and livelihood opportunities in the State; and
- (e) category-wise number of beneficiaries covered under major schemes in the State during the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) to (e) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing several schemes for Welfare of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) across the country including State of Tamil Nadu. The major schemes along with the total number of beneficiaries in the said schemes during last three financial years in the state of Tamil Nadu is at **Annexure**. Further, the details of the schemes implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, may be seen under schemes tab on the following website links: <https://socialjustice.gov.in> <https://depwd.gov.in>

Further, there are 38 Ministries through which welfare of SCs is undertaken and monitored under the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC).

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog has conducted assessment of the major schemes of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The key findings of the evaluation report inter-alia noted that targeted interventions by the Ministry have contributed in notable improvements in access to education for marginalized communities.

Schemes are implemented on the basis of the timely receipt of the proposals from the State Governments/Administration of Union Territories including the State Government of Tamil Nadu. The funds are released after examination of the proposals after following due procedure as per the scheme guidelines including receipt of Utilization Certificates (UCs)/fulfilment of Single Nodal Agency (SNA) balance criteria under various provisions of the Schemes. Under the major scholarship Schemes, disbursement is done through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

To ensure effective implementation and wider awareness of the Schemes across the country and effective utilization of funds, the Department has taken various steps such as placing advertisements in National and Regional Newspapers, running Social Media campaigns and follow up with States/UTs. Also, the Schemes are regularly monitored by the Department through National level Chintan Shivirs, Regional Meetings and National Conferences with the stakeholders and State/UT officials.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in part (a) to (e) in respect of Rajya Sabha unstarred Q. No. 456 for answer on 22.07.2026 regarding Welfare and empowerment for SCs, OBCs, Senior citizens and PwDs in Tamil Nadu.

The number of beneficiaries in the state of Tamil Nadu, under Major Schemes during the Financial Year (F.Y.) 2023-24 to 2025-26:

(In actuals)

Sr. No.	Programme/Schemes for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Senior citizens and PwDs in Tamil Nadu	Number of beneficiaries		
		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Post Matric Scholarship for SCs	643761	934793	966840
2	Pre Matric Scholarship for SCs and Other	335642	521124	582684
3	Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS) for SCs	This is a Central Sector scheme and the fund is released directly to beneficiaries and not to States/UTs administration.		
4	Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM AJAY)	507	894	666
5	Scheme of Residential Education for Students in High School in Targeted Area (SRESHTA) for SC	238	312	267
6	Pradhan Mantri Dakshta aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi(PM-DAKSH) for SCs	2140	From 2024-25 and onwards, PM-DAKSH Scheme has been merged with the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).	
7	PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM YASASVI) for OBC, EBC and DNT			
(a)	Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT	294000	875000	276000
(b)	Post-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT	476000	459000	367000
(c)	Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls	1000	1000	0
(d)	Top Class Education in Schools for OBC, EBC and DNT Students	725	4811	10735
(e)	Top Class Education in Colleges for OBC, EBC and DNT students	150	398	448
8	Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS for OBCs and Others)			

(a)	National Fellowship for OBC Students	78	92	116
(b)	Dr.Ambedkar Central Sector Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies for OBCs and EBCs	223	69	5
9	Integrated Programme for Senior Citizen (IPSrC) component under Atal Vayo Abhuyday Yojana (AVYAY)	32940	33715	24390
10	Lending scheme of National Backward Classed Finance and Development Corporation for the welfare of OBCs	20618	18377	21437
11	Scheme/Programme for SCs implemented by National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)			
(A)	Credit Based Schemes			
(I)	Income Generating Schemes	14548	5314	8085
(II)	Educational Loan Schemes (ELS)	0	274	176
(B)	Grant Based Schemes			
(I)	National Fellowship for Schedule Caste Students	107	102	112
(II)	Vanchit Ikai Samoooh Aur Vargon ki Aarthik Sahayta (VISVAS)	Scheme was not implemented	5092	7475
12	Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes (SC) and the Scheduled Tribes (ST) (Prevention of Atrocities) {PoA} Act, 1989			
(A)	No of Relief to atrocity victims	5586	5586	6042
(B)	No. of Incentive to inter- caste marriage couples	2392	2476	2202
13	Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)	1052	1036	878
14	Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities	4046	3851	4043
