

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †268
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2017**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NGOs

†268. DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ:

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

- (a) whether the Government is running any programme to provide financial assistance to the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working for the welfare of Other Backward Classes and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the funds released to the NGOs under various schemes being run for the welfare of Other Backward Classes in Uttar Pradesh State during the years 2015-16 and 2016-17;
- (c) whether any monitoring or evaluation study has been conducted in regard to the utilisation of released funds; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)**

- (a): Yes. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is operating a Central Sector Scheme to provide financial assistance to NGOs working for the welfare of OBCs named Assistance to Voluntary Organisation working for Welfare of Other Backward Classes. The details of the scheme are given at Annexure-I.
- (b): No funds have been released to the NGOs in Uttar Pradesh State during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 under the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working for Welfare of Other Backward Classes.
- (c): Yes.
- (d): The details and outcome as per third party evaluation are given at Annexure-II.

Assistance to Voluntary Organizations working for the Welfare of OBCs (NGO Scheme)

The purpose of this scheme is to involve the Voluntary Organization working for welfare of OBCs by providing skill up-gradation in various trades. The beneficiaries whose parents/guardians income from all sources including the income of beneficiary does not exceed Rs.1.00 lakh per annum are eligible under the Scheme.

2. The quantum of assistance shall be determined in each case on merit. The Government of India may, however, meet 90% of the approved expenditure of the training. Presently, GIA is given to the extent of about Rs.2.50 lakh to an NGO on an average for imparting training to 50 beneficiaries, i.e. Rs.5,000/- for the training of a person. This includes cost of manpower, training material, rent, stationery, etc.

3. The scheme has been made fully online w.e.f. 2014-15. All the processes including applying, processing up to release of grant has been made online.

4. A list of indicative activities under the scheme for skill upgradation is as under:

1. Carpentry
2. Computer Education
3. Craft Centre
4. Dari Making Training
5. Diesel Pump Set Repair Training
6. Electrician Training
7. Fruit Preservation Training
8. Gem Cutting Training
9. Motor Winding & Fitting Training
10. Photography Training
11. Plumbing Training
12. Printing, Composing and Book Binding Training
13. Scooter, Motorcycle and Auto Rickshaw Repair Training
14. Spinning and Weaving Training
15. Typing and Shorthand Centre
16. Tie and Die Training
17. Leather Art Training
18. Spray Painting & Denting Training
19. Welding & Fitter Training
20. TV, VCR and Radio Repair Training

Note: The above is not exhaustive but merely an illustrative list of activities

Evaluation Study under the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations working for the Welfare of Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

- (1) Conducted by the NABARD Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS), New Delhi during 2015-16 in the States of Manipur, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The following suggestions were made by the NABCONS:
- (i) Enhance the scope of the Programme to a holistic level thereby enabling and handholding the candidate to the job markets or entrepreneurship. This would require more team building at the implementation level with prospective employers, corporate, financial institutions etc.
 - (ii) Course modules and duration may be considered for a thorough revamp based on market surveys and employer needs.
 - (iii) New technology adoptions are very slow or rare among the agencies in view of the inadequate and delayed release of funds.
 - (iv) Course modules like tailoring and embroidery need to be up-scaled to current trends and demands.
 - (v) Many women have cultural constraints in moving out of own village and get engaged on the skill trained. The Ministry may consider involvement of local bodies and public personalities in the review and implements process.
 - (vi) Consider providing skill Coupons with specific validity period to identified OBC trainees and provide freedom of choice of training agencies and place by them through integration of the trainee details into national level trainee identification process/Aadhaar etc.
 - (vii) Scale up from minimalist skills to marketable skills acquisition process. The program can also endeavour to provide different levels of skills training. While level One can be entry level basic skills, Level two could be intermediate level etc. In this case, the level of grant support can be on a tapering basis so that at advanced level, the scheme could be made to 50:50 sharing basis.
 - (viii) Accreditation and skill porting facilities should be factored into the Scheme.
 - (ix) Entrepreneurship trainings should be add on programme.
 - (x) More hand holding systems and risk covers have to be factored into the Program design to encourage young people from disadvantaged sections of society to venture into new avenues of income and livelihoods diversification.

(xi) A real time communication platform (as web portal or through group messaging services like CUG) may be considered for getting periodic and reliable beneficiary feedback on the conduct and progress of skill acquisition.

(2) Conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi during 2016-17 in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Haryana and Odisha. The following suggestions were made by NPC:

- (i) There should be a minimum hike of 100% under rent and further provision for 10% annual encasement may be consider.
- (ii) To include provision for replacement/upgradation of machinery/equipment in order to keep up with the latest technology as per market demand.
- (iii) To ensure quality training under the scheme that rate of honorarium needs to be revised and hike to the extent of Rs. 6000/- p.m.
- (iv) Courses offered under the scheme are uniform and synchronized with that wing offered by other Department /Ministry.
- (v) Increasing instant of assistance per project to Rs. 5.00 lakh in ordered to counter the inflation over the years.
- (vi) To increase the stipend amount at least 5 times to motivates the training the programme.
- (vii) Time bound speedy processing of applications/proposals and disbursement of the respective grants request within the same financial year.
- (viii) Revisit all the trades in background of its relevance and market demand.
- (ix) Courses need to review periodically by related specialised institutions for upgradation/modifications.
- (x) To push for grater publicity in order to ensure receipt of number of more proposals.
- (xi) To develop a roves monitoring system to trach the activities of the implementing agencies (VO).
- (xii) To develop the online monitoring system to get status and progress of NGOs in real time.
- (xiii) To appoint a third party agency to provide adequate feedback at central level that would monitor coordinate and overseas the quality implementation and timely reporting of the programme impacts.
