GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1774 TO BE ANSWERED ON- 31/07/2023

QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN ASHRAM SCHOOLS

1774. SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: -

- (a) whether any quality checks have been undertaken at Ashram schools during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has considered the demand for bringing these schools under the Department of Education to ensure more focus on the quality of education; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) was running a separate scheme "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas" under which funds were provided to State Governments for construction of Ashram schools. During 2018-19, the said scheme was subsumed in the scheme of 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) and Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India. Later during 2021-22, the scheme of SCA to TSS has been revamped into scheme of 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY) with the aim of integrated development of 36,428 villages which have population of 500 and above with more than 50% tribal persons.

Under the scheme of "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas", MoTA, provided construction cost to the State Governments, who are responsible for running and overall maintenance of these Ashram Schools and undertaking quality checks. The state Government depending on their requirements send proposals for upgradation and renovation of Ashram Schools/ tribal hostels under Article 275(1). There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for bringing these schools under the Department of Education.
