

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1574
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2023**

PM-AJAY SCHEME FOR UTTAR PRADESH

1574. SHRI GHANSHYAM SINGH LODHI:

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

- (a) the total number of hostels in higher educational institutions sanctioned under Adarsh Grams vertical of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) for Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government in ensuring the participation and empowerment of Scheduled Caste (SC) women in schemes particularly incomegenerating vertical of PM-AJAY and skill development initiatives;
- (c) whether the Government has been successful in establishing SC women cooperatives under PM-AJAY for the production and marketing of consumer goods and services;
- (d) if so, the details and the number of such cooperatives established in Uttar Pradesh and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government plans to expand the scope of PM-AJAY or introduce new components in the upcoming financial year and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)**

- (a): Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM- AJAY) is a unified scheme formed by merging existing 03 Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY), Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP) and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY) and is being implemented since 2021-22. The Scheme is now being implemented as three components, as under:-
- i) Development of SC dominated villages into an '*Adarsh Gram*' component {erstwhile Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) scheme}
- ii) '*Grants-in-aid*' for District/State-level Projects for socio-economic betterment of SCs' component {erstwhile scheme of Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCA to SCSP)}
- (iii) '*Construction of Hostels in Higher Educational Institutions*' {erstwhile Babu Jagjivan Ram Chatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)}-*Hostel component*

Funds are sanctioned for construction of Hostels in Higher Educational Institutions in the Hostel component and not under Adarsh Gram component. Since the existence of the unified scheme i.e. since FY 2021-22, no funds have been sanctioned to hostels in Uttar Pradesh.

(b): For ensuring the participation and empowerment of Scheduled Caste (SC) women in schemes particularly income-generating vertical of PM-AJAY and skill development initiatives, following provisions have been made in the scheme:

(i) at least 15% of the total grants released to the States/UTs will be utilised exclusively on viable income generating economic development schemes/programmes for SC women.

(ii) In order to give necessary impetus for economic development of women, participation of at least 30% women candidates may be ensured in the skill development programme,

(iii) States/UTs may also promote SC Women cooperatives under PM-AJAY for the production and marketing of consumer goods and services

(c) & (d): Under the '*Grants-in-aid for District/State-level Projects for socio-economic betterment of SCs*' component of the scheme, for the FY 2021-22 and 2022-23, the States/UTs are required to submit their Annual Action Plans for comprehensive livelihood projects. Under the Annual Action Plan submitted by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for FY 2021-22 and 2022-23, no project proposal was received from the State particularly for establishing SC women cooperatives under PM-AJAY for the production and marketing of consumer goods and services. For FY 2023-24, no project proposal has been received so far from the State.

(e): As on date, there is no such plan to expand the scope of PM-AJAY or introduce new components in the upcoming financial year.
