

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO †973**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021

**WELFARE SCHEME TO TRIBES IN MAHARASHTRA**

†973: SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from the State of Maharashtra seeking central assistance for upliftment of people belonging to Scheduled Tribes during last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of welfare schemes operational for the welfare of scheduled tribes in the State of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) & (b): Receipt of proposals from the State Governments under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSS) including Maharashtra is a continuous process. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has received proposals of Government of Maharashtra under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) during the last five years for various activities related to education, health, sanitation, water supply, livelihood, skill development, minor infrastructure etc. Details of the funds released to the Government of Maharashtra under the scheme of SCA to TSS during the last five years is as under:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Funds Released based on proposals received from State Government (Rs. in lakh)</b>
2015-16	12514.91
2016-17	9547.00
2017-18	13760.38
2018-19	13802.57
2019-20	11929.09

(c) & (d): The list of welfare schemes operational for the welfare of scheduled tribes in the State of Maharashtra is at **Annexure**.

**Annexure referred in reply to part (c) & (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.973 for 08.02.2021 by SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL regarding “Welfare Scheme to Tribes in Maharashtra”.**

Following are the schemes/programmes that are administered by the MoTA:

- 1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS):** Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) is 100% grant from Government of India (since 1977-78). It is charged to Consolidated Fund of India (except grants for North Eastern States, a voted item) and is an additive to State Plan funds and efforts for Tribal Development. This grant is utilized for economic development of Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Modified Area Development Approach (MADA), Clusters, Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and dispersed tribal population.
- 2. Grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution:** Grants-in-aid under Proviso to Article 275(1) of Constitution of India is 100% annual grant from Government of India to States. It is charged to Consolidated Fund of India (except grants for NE States, a voted item) and is an additive to State Plan funds and efforts for Tribal Development. Funds are utilised for the socio-economic development of ITDA, MADA, Clusters and for PVTGs.
- 3. Scheme of Pre Matric Scholarship:** This scheme was introduced with effect from 1.7.2012 for needy Scheduled Tribe children studying in classes IX and X. It has the twin objectives of supporting parents of Scheduled Tribe students for education of their wards studying in classes IX and X so that the incidence of drop out, especially in transition from the elementary to secondary and during secondary stage of education is minimized, and to improve participation of ST students in classes IX and X of Pre-Matric stage, so that they perform well and have a better chance of progressing to Post-Matric stages of education. Parental income from all sources should be less than Rs.2.00 lakhs per annum, which is proposed to be revised to Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Scholarships are paid @ Rs.150/- per month for Day Scholars and @Rs.350/- per month for Hostellers, for a period of 10 months in a year. This is proposed to be revised from existing Rs.150/- to Rs.225/- p.m. for Day Scholars, and from Rs.350/- to Rs.525/- p.m. for Hostellers. Central assistance in the share of 75:25 (90:10 for NER and Hilly States) to State Governments/UT Administrations is available from the Government of India. Scholarship is distributed through the State Government/UT Administration.
- 4. Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship (PMS):** Applicable to students who are studying in any recognized course from a recognized institution for which qualification is Matriculation/Class X or above. Parental income from all sources should be less than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Compulsory fees charged by educational institutions are reimbursed

subject to the limit fixed by the concerned State Fee fixation committee and scholarship amount of Rs.230 to Rs.1200 per month, depending upon the course of study, is paid. Central assistance in the share of 75:25 (90:10 for NER and Hilly States) to State Governments/UT Administrations is available from the Government of India. Scholarship is distributed through the State Government/UT Administration.

5. **National fellowship & scholarship for higher education of ST students:** SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (earlier known as Top Class Education) For ST students is granted. Scholarship is given to ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 246 institutes of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry. Total number of scholarships is 1000 per year. Family income from all sources does not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum. Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.

FELLOWSHIP SCHEME FOR ST STUDENTS): 750 fellowships are provided to ST students each year for pursuing higher studies in India for MPhil and PhD. Fellowship is granted as per UGC norms, @Rs.25,000/- for JRF and @Rs.28,000/- for SRF.

6. **National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Higher Studies abroad:** Provides financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral study abroad. A total of 20 scholarships are awarded every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum. Annual maintenance allowance of ₹9900/-, annual contingency & Equipment allowance of ₹1116/-, tuition fees as per actuals and other admissible fees are provided for candidates in United Kingdom. For candidates in USA, annual maintenance allowance of \$15400/-, annual contingency & equipment allowance of \$1532/-, tuition fees as per actuals and other admissible fees are provided. For candidates in other countries, US dollar or equivalent rate would be applicable. Disbursement of scholarships is through the Ministry of External Affairs/ Indian Missions abroad.
7. **Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP:** This was introduced by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the year 2013-14, to provide much needed safety net and support to people belonging to Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers whose very livelihood depends on collection and selling of MFP. The scheme seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns for their efforts in collection, primary processing, storage, packaging, transportation etc. It also seeks to get them a share of revenue from the sales proceeds with cost deducted. It also aims to address other issues for sustainability of process. The scheme envisages fixation and declaration of Minimum Support Price for the selected MFP. Procurement & Marketing operation at prefixed MSP will be undertaken by

the designated State Agencies. Simultaneously, other medium and long term issues like sustainable collection, value addition, infrastructure development, knowledge base expansion of MFP, market intelligence development, strengthening the bargaining power of Gram Sabha/ Panchayat will also be addressed.

**Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram** is an initiative under the Scheme 'Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP' targeting livelihood generation for tribals by harnessing the wealth of forest i.e. Van Dhan. This is not a separate scheme. The programme aims to tap into traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribals by adding technology; IT to upgrade it at each stage and to convert the tribal wisdom into a viable economic activity. Under this Karyakram, it is proposed to set-up tribal community owned Minor Forest Produce centric multi-purpose Kendras in predominantly tribal districts. The Kendras would act as common facility centres for procurement cum value addition to locally available Minor Forest Produce. Value addition of raw produce is expected to increase the value of the MFP considerably and consequently the income of the gatherers.

8. **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs):** This scheme was introduced in the year 1997-98 to provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population. Initially funded under a Special Area Programme, 'Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India' which is a constitutional obligation, it has been carved out as a separate scheme in 2019-20. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) initiative has been giving greater focus on improving the education standard of tribal children including girls. In the 285 currently functional schools, girls constitute around 50% of the total students enrolled. Establishment of the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) in lines with Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti for management of the Schools is envisaged under the new guidelines. Moreover around 20 EMRSs are Girls only schools. These schools have given a platform to the tribal children especially girls to excel in academic, co-curricular and sports activities.
9. **Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes:** Under the scheme, the Ministry has funded projects covering residential schools, non-residential schools, hostels, mobile dispensaries, ten or more bedded hospitals, etc. The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health, drinking water, agro-horticultural productivity, social security net etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations, and to provide favourable environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Any other innovative activity having direct positive impact on the socio-economic development or livelihood generation of STs may also be considered through voluntary efforts. The scheme is Central Sector Scheme. The

grants are provided to the non-governmental organizations on application, in a prescribed format, duly recommended by the multi-disciplinary State Level Committee of the concerned State Government / UT Administration. Funds are generally provided to the extent of 90% by the Government. The voluntary organization is expected to bear the remaining 10% balance from its own resources.

10. **Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs):** Ministry extends support to the State Governments through the Scheme to set up new TRIs where it didn't exist and to strengthen functioning of existing TRIs to carry out its core responsibility towards Research & Documentation, Training and capacity building, promotion of rich tribal heritage etc. To preserve tribal art and culture, financial assistance is provided to TRIs to carry out various activities to preserve and promote tribal culture and heritage across the country through research and documentation, maintenance and preservation of art and artefacts, setting up of tribal museums, exchange visits for the tribals to other parts of the State, organizing tribal festivals etc. Funding under this Scheme is 100% grant-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee. TRIs would be responsible to prepare proposal and detailed action plan for the year along with budgetary requirement and submit it to the Ministry through State Tribal Welfare Department.
11. **Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):** Under the scheme, the Ministry provides funds to States/UT with PVTG populations for implementation of prioritized activities for PVTGs as per approved "Conservation-cum-Development (CCD) Plans". The scheme of Development of PVTGs covers 75 identified PVTGs in 18 States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands for the activities like housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural development, animal husbandry, construction of link roads, installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, social security including JanashreeBima Yojana or any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive socio-economic development of PVTGs. The scheme is flexible as it enables the States to focus on areas that they consider is relevant to PVTGs and their socio-cultural environment.
12. **Tribal Festival, Research Information and Mass Education:** Through the scheme, promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage, dissemination of information and creation of awareness are given attention to, which includes organization of Tribal Craft and Food Festivals, Sports, Music, Dance and Photo Competitions, Science, Art and Craft Expos, Workshops, Seminars, Production of documentary films by the Ministry and States, Bringing out Publications thereby highlighting significant studies, documenting historical facets of tribal communities, achievements of Ministry of tribal Affairs (MoTA) and State departments besides other advertisements etc. at regular intervals. With a view to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues, MoTA recognizes renowned NGOs, Research Institutes, Universities where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out

pioneering research in the field of tribal cultures as Centre of Excellences (CoEs). It is envisaged that CoEs should play an important role in building knowledge bank to complement dedicated Activities of the Ministry.

13. **Equity Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)/State Tribal Finance and Development Corporations (STFDCs):** NSTFDC is an apex organisation set up exclusively for economic development of Scheduled Tribes. The Corporation continues to function as a catalytic agent for promoting economic development activities of STs by providing financial assistance at concessional rates of interest. The main objectives of NSTFDC are (i) to identify economic activities of importance to the Scheduled Tribes so as to generate self-employment and raise their income level; (ii) to upgrade their skills and processes through both institutional and on the job training; (iii) to make existing State/ UT Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (SCAs) and other developmental agencies engaged in economic development of the Scheduled Tribes more effective; (iv) to assist SCAs in project formulation, implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes and in imparting training to their personnel and (v) to monitor implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes in order to assess their impact. The STFDCs are catering to STs in various States and are provided assistance in the form of contribution towards share capital by this Ministry. The ratio of its contribution is in the share of 51:49 between State Government and Central Government. The main objectives of the scheme are (i) identification of eligible ST families and motivating them to undertake economic development schemes; (ii) Sponsoring those schemes to financial institutions for credit support; (iii) providing financial assistance in form of margin money on low rate of interest; and (iv) providing necessary linkage/tie-up with other poverty alleviation programmes.
14. **Institutional Support for Development & Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce:** Under the scheme, Grants-in-aid are released to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) which is a multi-State Cooperative under MoTA. The objective of the Scheme is to create institutions for the Scheduled Tribes to support marketing and development of activities they depend on for their livelihood. These are sought to be achieved by specific measures like (i) market intervention; (ii) training and skill up-gradation of tribal Artisans, Craftsmen, MFP gatherers etc.; (iii) R&D/IPR activity; and (iv) Supply chain infrastructure development.

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