

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1044**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021

**VAN DHAN KENDRAS IN MAHARASHTRA**

1044. SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Van Dhan Kendras involving Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Maharashtra State under the Van-Dhan Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any such guidelines have been issued for this scheme and districts selected for the implementation of the scheme, State/UT-wise and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides funds to Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), an autonomous organization under the Ministry, for establishment of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) in the country including State of Maharashtra under the scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce(MFP) through Minimum Support Price(MSP) and Development of Value Chain of MFPs'. Under this programme, tribal community owned Minor Forest Produce centric multi-purpose Kendras are set-up in localities with significant tribal population. The Kendras act as common facility centres for procurement cum value addition to locally available Minor Forest Produce, training of tribal MFP gatherers etc. to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities at community level while creating enabling environment to prevent distressed migration. A typical Van Dhan Kendra is a cluster comprising of 15 Self Help Groups (SHGs) consisting of a total of around 300 members.

(c) The guidelines for implementation of Van Dhan Vikas Karyakaram have been notified by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs vide Notification No. 19/17/2018 – Livelihood dated 26.02.2019. The same are available at Ministry of Tribal Affairs' website - <https://tribal.nic.in/Livelihood.aspx>. This is a demand-based initiative and proposals for establishment of VDVKs are received from the respective State Governments. Hence, there is no pre-selection of districts under this initiative. State-wise status of establishment of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras along with number of beneficiaries, including Maharashtra, is enclosed as Annexure.

**Annexure**

**STATE-WISE STATUS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF VAN DHAN VIKAS KENDRAS ALONG  
WITH NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES**

S. No.	State	No. of VDVKS Sanctioned	No. of Tribal Beneficiaries	Total Funds Sanctioned (In Rs. Lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	263	77658	3882.9
2	Assam	128	37786	1920
3	Bihar	8	1630	81.5
4	Chhattisgarh	139	41700	2085
5	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	302	15
6	Goa	10	3000	150
7	Gujarat	116	34424	1721.2
8	Ladakh	10	3000	150
9	Jharkhand	39	11601	569.7
10	Karnataka	39	11448	572.4
11	Kerala	28	7732	385.25
12	Madhya Pradesh	86	25800	1290
13	Maharashtra	264	79350	3960
14	Manipur	200	60390	2996.8
15	Meghalaya	39	11835	584.1
16	Mizoram	159	46168	2306.55
17	Nagaland	206	61800	3090
18	Odisha	156	46807	2269.25
19	Rajasthan	189	57292	2832.2
20	Sikkim	80	24000	1169.05
21	Tamil Nadu	7	2100	105
22	Telangana	17	5100	255
23	Tripura	32	9039	436.95
24	Uttar Pradesh	12	3591	179.55
25	Uttarakhand	12	3305	164.95
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2240</b>	<b>666858</b>	<b>33172.35</b>

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