

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3474**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 08/08/2022

**LITERACY RATE IN TRIBAL COMMUNITY**

3474. SHRI LORHO S. PFOZE:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any action plan to increase the literacy rate in the tribal community of Manipur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has implemented several Schemes/Programmes to increase literacy rates and education levels for the tribal community living in the hills and valleys of Manipur, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c):** Government has approved a new scheme “New India Literacy Programme for the period FYs 2022-2027 to cover all the aspects of Adult Education to align with National Education Policy 2020 and Budget Announcements 2021-22. The objective of the scheme is to impart not only foundational literacy and numeracy but also to cover other components which are necessary for a citizen of 21st century.

Besides, this Ministry has been, *inter alia*, implementing various schemes for educational development including schemes aimed to increase literacy rate of tribals. These schemes include Eklavya Model Residential Scheme (EMRS), Pre & Post Matric Scholarships, Top Class scholarships, Fellowships, National Overseas Scholarships etc. Further, grants are also being provided to States/NGOs for educational related activities under the scheme of Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution, Development of PVTGs and Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for welfare of Scheduled Tribes etc. These schemes cater to the tribal population across the country, including those residing in hills and valleys of Manipur and outreach of these schemes is being gradually increased. The details of these schemes are as below:

- I. **Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS):** It is a central sector scheme introduced in the year 1997-98 to provide quality education to Scheduled Tribes (ST) students (Class 6th to 12th) in remote areas through residential schools. As on date, 684 schools have been sanctioned by the Ministry, out of which 378 are reported to be functional.
- II. **National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students:** The scheme provides financial assistance or pursuing M.Phil and PhD in Universities and for perusing graduate and post graduate courses in top 246 Institutes like IIT/AIIMS etc .

- III. **National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) to the ST Students for Studies Abroad:** Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided to 20 ST students every year for pursuing higher studies abroad.
- IV. **Pre- Matric Scholarship:** Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to ST students studying in classes IX and X.
- V. **Post Matric Scholarship:** Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to ST students studying beyond class X.
- VI. **Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution:** Under this scheme, funds are released to States to enable them to meet the cost of such schemes of development including educational development as may be undertaken by the State for the purpose of promoting welfare of Scheduled Tribes in that State or raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas therein to that of the administration of the rest of the areas of that State.
- VII. **Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):** This scheme adopts a habitat level development approach to improve the quality of life through intervention in housing, drinking water, education and health services, livelihood support, and cultural aspects.
- VIII. **Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes:** Ministry has been funding Voluntary Organizations (VOs) including Non-Governmental Voluntary Organizations (NGOs) working in tribal Hilly, remote and border areas for projects in Education, Health and Livelihood.

Further, as reported by the Govt. of Manipur, following interventions are being taken by them towards increasing education level-

- 5 Ashram Schools are functioning in the State in tribal majority districts of Senapati, Noney, Chandel and Tamenglong.
- 22 ST Boys and Girls Hostels are being established in hills and valley areas of Manipur under central assistance provided under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS), Grants under Article 275(1) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
- Primary and Upper Primary schools are also functioning under Autonomous District Councils in 6 tribal majority districts of Manipur. The districts are Tamenglong, Ukhrul, Chandel, Senapati, Churachandpur, and Kangpokpi.
- In addition, Department of Education (Schools), Manipur is running 528 Primary Schools, 173 Upper Primary Schools and 23 High and Higher Secondary Schools having Primary/Upper primary classes at the hill districts of Manipur.
- Schemes/Programmes like Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) and Residential Schools (Netaji Subhas Chandra Awasia Vidyalaya) are being implemented in the State under the Samagra Shiksha to increase literacy rates and educational level of school going children belonging to ST, SC and minority communities.

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