GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 967
ANSWERED ON 29/07/2024

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG SCs AND STs IN TAMIL NADU

967.   KM. SUDHA R:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Government has introduced programmes to encourage entrepreneurship among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, State and district-wise especially in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of SC and ST entrepreneurs who have set up small or micro enterprises on completion of skill development courses during the last five years, State and district-wise especially in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the details of SC/STs beneficiaries under its various programmes and schemes during the last five years for the State of Tamil Nadu, especially districts of Mayiladuthurai and Thanjavur?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d)   Yes Sir. The Government has taken various initiatives to promote entrepreneurship across various sections of the society including Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) across the Country including the State of Tamil Nadu. The details of the various initiatives taken by Ministries/Departments of the Government to promote entrepreneurship are as under:

1.   **Department of Financial Services** – Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) was launched on 08.04.2015 to extend collateral free credit up to Rs.10 lakh by Member Lending Institutions (MLIs), i.e., Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs). Any individual, who is otherwise eligible to take a loan and has a business plan for small business enterprise can avail loan under the Scheme for income generating activities in the manufacturing, trading, service sectors including activities allied to agriculture across three loan categories, viz. Shishu (loans up to Rs. 50,000/-), Kishor (loans above Rs. 50,000/- and up to Rs. 5 lakh) and Tarun (loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10 lakh). As on June 2024, a total of 48.78 crore loans have been extended under PMMY, since inception of the Scheme, out of which 5.55 crore loans have been sanctioned in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Stand-Up India (SUI) Scheme launched on 05.04.2016 has been extended up to the year 2025. The objective of the Scheme is to facilitate loans from Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) of value between Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 1 crore to at least one Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) borrower and one Women borrower per bank branch for setting up greenfield enterprise in manufacturing, services or trading sector including activities allied to agriculture. The Stand Up India scheme has facilitated over 2.35 lakh loans to SC/ST and Women entrepreneurs across the country, out of which a total of 0.22 lakh loans have been sanctioned in the State of Tamil Nadu as on June 2024.

The District-wise number of loans sanctioned to SC/ST entrepreneurs during last five years in the State of Tamil Nadu under PMMY and SUPI is at **Annexure-I**.

2.   Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) - Start-ups, Innovation & IPR Division under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has initiated various startup centric programmes/scheme to encourage the innovation led startup ecosystem to develop indigenous products in ICT domain pan India basis including startups led by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu State. These initiatives are for the promotion of startups and entrepreneurs irrespective of caste and applicable for SC and ST also. Some of the major initiatives have been elucidated here:

(i) **TIDE 2.0 Scheme**: Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0) Scheme was initiated in the year 2019 to promote tech entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting ICT startups using emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Block-chain, Robotics etc. The scheme aims to provide comprehensive support to tech-startups in seven thematic areas of National concern by leveraging emerging technologies. The supported thematic areas are Healthcare, Education, Agriculture, Financial inclusion (including digital payments), Infrastructure and Transportation and Environment and Clean Tech. The Scheme is being implemented through 51 incubators through a three tiered structure with an overarching objective to promote incubation activities at institutes of higher learning and premier R&D organisations. The scheme is envisaged to provide incubation support to approximately 2000 tech start-ups over a period of five years. Under TIDE 2.0 Scheme, following 6 incubation centre are functioning as TIDE 2.0 centre in the State of Tamil Nadu:

Sl. No.	Name of TIDE 2.0 Centre	Centre belongs to District	Start-ups supported
1.	FORGE Accelerator (Coimbatore Innovation Business Incubator), Coimbatore	Coimbatore	32
2.	PSG Science and Technology Entrepreneurial Park (PSG-STEP), PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore	Coimbatore	26
3.	IITM Incubation Cell (IIT Madras Incubation Cell), Chennai	Chennai	38
4.	Vellore Institute of Technology-Technology Business Incubator (VITTBI), Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli	38
5.	OASYS Institute of Technology, Anna University, Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli	11
6.	Vel Tech Technology Business Incubator, Vel Tech Institute of Science and Technology, Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	18

(ii)   FinBlue – FinTechCoE – FinTech Centre of Excellence set-up at Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) Chennai for supporting the FinTech Start-ups with a target beneficiary of 58 startups over a period of 5 years with budget outlay of Rs. 11.13 Crore. The CoE is supported by MeitY, Government of India, Government of Tamil Nadu and STPI.

3.   Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for assisting entrepreneurs in setting up of new enterprises in the non-farm sector. It aims to provide employment opportunities to traditional artisans/ rural and urban unemployed youth at their doorstep. PMEGP being a Central Sector Scheme assists General Category beneficiaries with Margin Money (MM) subsidy of 25% of the project cost in rural areas and 15% in urban areas. For beneficiaries belonging to Special Categories such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, Minorities**,** Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically Handicapped, Transgenders, beneficiaries belonging to Northeastern Region, Hill and Border areas, and Aspirational Districts, the Margin Money subsidy is 35% in rural areas and 25% in urban areas. The maximum cost of project is Rs. 50 lakhs in the manufacturing sector and Rs. 20 lakhs in the service sector. Also, own contribution of beneficiaries under Special Category

including women is 05% and 10% for General Category beneficiaries. Since 2018-19, existing PMEGP/REGP/MUDRA enterprises are also supported based on past good performances with 2nd loan for upgradation and expansion. Under 2nd Loan, maximum project cost admissible for Margin Money (MM) subsidy under Manufacturing sector is Rs. 1.00 crore and for Service sector is Rs. 25 Lakhs. Eligible subsidy on 2nd loan for all categories is 15% of project cost (20% for NER & Hill States). Since inception i.e., FY 2008-09, more than 9.69 lakh micro enterprises have been assisted with Margin Money subsidy of more than Rs 25,500 Crore providing employment to an estimated ~79 lakh persons. Approximately, 50% of the units are set up by SC/ST/Women and 80% of the units are set up in rural area. During the next 2 years FY (2024-25 to 2025-26), Ministry has a target to set-up 1.6 lakh new enterprises with employment generation potential for 12.8 lakh persons.

The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under SC and ST category throughout the country for the last 5 years is at **Annexure-II**.

The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under SC and ST category **in Tamil Nadu District-wise** for the last 5 years is at **Annexure-III**.

4. **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW)** - Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme: Under the scheme, Agriculture Extension of umbrella scheme Krishonnati Yojana of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Extension Division is implementing a Central Sector component, "Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (AC&ABC)" since April, 2002 to supplement the efforts of public extension, support agricultural development and create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed youths with qualification in agriculture and allied sectors. The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad is the implementing agency for Training Component and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is the implementing agency for Subsidy Component of AC&ABC programme. MANAGE implement, through selected Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) under MoU with MANAGE, in various parts of the country

There is a provision of credit linked back-ended upfront composite subsidy on the bank loan availed by trained candidates under the programme. The subsidy is 44% in respect of women, SC/ST and all categories of candidates from North-Eastern and Hill States and 36% in respect of other categories. The subsidy is admissible for loans up to Rs.20 lakhs in case of individual and Rs.100 lakhs in case of Group Projects (for ventures set up by a group of 5 trained candidates).

5. **Department of Science and Technology (DST)** - In order to support young innovators and entrepreneurs through NIDHI-Technology Business Incubator (TBI), NIDHI-inclusive Technology Business Incubator (iTBI) program, Department of Science and Technology (DST) has established startup incubation centres in metropolitan cities, Tier-II and Tier-III cities in various parts of the country including Tamil Nadu. Through these centres, mentoring and financial support is provided to startups for development of prototype/products in order to promote youth from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, irrespective of their social status.

6. **Ministry of Rural Development -** Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP), the sub-scheme under the DAY-NRLM programme supports the Self-Help Group (SHG) or their family members to set-up small enterprises in the non-farm sector. SVEP is Implemented across 31 states and UTs, with 358 project proposals approved, 235 DPRs sanctioned, and support extended to 2.98 lakh enterprises. However, the scheme does not specifically focus on the SC/ST population. The SVEP is approved in 10 Blocks in the State of Tamil Nadu. The details are as under:

SI No.	State	District	Block
1	Tamil Nadu	Kanchipuram	Thiruporur
2	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	Thirumangalam
3	Tamil Nadu	Namakkal	Rasipuram & Vennandur (2)
4	Tamil Nadu	Villupuram	Ulundurpet
5	Tamil Nadu	Kallakurichi	Chinnasalem
6	Tamil Nadu	Thoothukudi	Kovilpatti
7	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	Sedapatti
8	Tamil Nadu	Chengalpet	Acharapakkam
9	Tamil Nadu	Trichy	Pullampadi
10	Tamil Nadu	Virudhunagar	Vembakottai

The District/Block wise SC/ST entrepreneurs supported in the state of Tamil Nadu under SVEP are as under:

SI No.	District	Block	Total SC entrepreneurs	Total ST entrepreneurs
1	Chengalpattu	Thiruporur	1112	24
2	Kallakurichi	Ulundurpet	443	0
3	Madurai	Tirumanagalam	30	0
4	Namakkal	Rasipuram and Vennadur	55	0
			1,640	**24**

7.   **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** - The Government with an intent to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and encouraging investments launched the Startup India initiative on 16th January 2016. For attaining specific objectives, various programs are implemented by the Government under the Startup India initiative. All the steps undertaken by the Government under the initiative are inclusive and are implemented across States/Union Territories (UTs), cities, towns, and rural areas, including the State of Tamil Nadu. The details of such Government initiatives are placed as **Annexure-IV**.

8.   **Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)** is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) that is designed to address the challenges faced by the micro enterprises and to tap the potential of groups and cooperatives in supporting the upgradation and formalization of these enterprises. The Scheme has a Capacity Building component, which envisages providing 24 Hours/ 3 Days, Food Processing EDP (Entrepreneurship Development Programme) Training for, all applicants viz individuals and Groups(SHGs/ FPOs/ Cooperatives) recommended for availing credit linked grant by District Level Committee (DLC) and 8 hours/1 day training to SHG beneficiaries of Seed Capital under PMFME scheme engaged in micro food processing. The details of SC/ST beneficiaries of Tamil Nadu State trained under this capacity building component are as under:

(i) The total number of SC and ST entrepreneurs who have got the loan sanctioned under PMFME Scheme for setting up of processing units during the last 4 years for the state of Tamil Nadu are as under:

SI No.	Category	SC	ST
1	DLC Beneficiaries	1583	110
2	Seed Capital Beneficiaries (SHG Members)	1760 (Individual), 362 (Group) 1 (Activity Group)	62 (Individual) 13 (Group)

(ii) Seed Capital benefits received by SC/ST beneficiaries in Mayiladuthurai and Thanjavur Districts of Tamil Nadu under the above component of the Scheme are as under:

Sl. No.	Districts	Seed Capital Category (SHG Members)	SC	ST
1	Mayiladuthurai	Individual	13	1
2	Thanjavur	Individual	45	0

9. **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** through National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) has been working for the empowerment, upliftment and development of entrepreneurs including Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu. The details of the initiatives taken are as under:

(i) NIESBUD has implemented Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness of Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Programme of MSDE for strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem across different sections of the society including marginalized population. A total number of 90 SC/ST participants have been trained through the project in Tamil Nadu. The District wise details as is under:

State	District	SC	ST
Tamil Nadu	Madurai	6	2
	Chennai	10	0
	Madurai	38	1
	Villupuram	19	1
	Sivaganga	2	0
	Thrivallur	11	0
	Total	**86**	**4**
	Grand Total	**90**	

(ii) NIESBUD implemented a project for creating entrepreneurial climate through Training of Trainers and Entrepreneurship Development Programme in Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS). The District wise details of SC/ST beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu under the project are as under:

State	District	SC	ST
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	8	1
	Madurai	31	1
	Salem	68	11
	Total	**107**	**13**
	Grand Total	**120**	

(iii) STRIVE Project – Under the Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) project of MSDE, NIESBUD is conducting Entrepreneurship Awareness, Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Mentoring, and Handholding of trainees (and future trainers) in Industrial Training Institute (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institute (NSTIs). A total number of 456 participants have been trained under the Strive Project in Tamil Nadu. The District wise details are as under

State	District	SC	ST
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	18	79
	Gadag	199	121
	Tumakaru	14	25
	Total	**231**	**225**
	Grand Total	**456**	

(iv) PMJANMAN - The Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), a Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on 15th November, 2023 at Khunti District of Jharkhand. The Mission is aimed at targeted development of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in 18 States including 1 Union Territory. These communities had been by and large left out of the schemes/interventions of Ministries/Departments, and therefore require multi-sectoral handholding through this Mission. The scheme focuses on 11 critical interventions related to 9 key Ministries including Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, in about 22,000 villages in 200 districts. One of the key interventions in the mission is facilitating skill and vocational training in PVTG habitations, multipurpose centres, tribal hostels, training skilling, entrepreneurship developments of Van Dhan Vikas Kendra as per the suitable skills of these communities. A total number of 627 participants have been trained under the PMJANMAN Project in Tamil Nadu. The District-wise details are as under:

State	District	PVTG
Tamil Nadu	Ariyalur	305
	Chengalpattu	170
	Coimbatore	46
	Namakkal	2
	The Nilgiris	104
	Total	**627**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 967 REGARDING "ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG SCs AND STs IN TAMIL NADU" TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024.

The District-wise number of loans sanctioned to SC/ST entrepreneurs during last five years in the State of Tamil Nadu under PMMY and SUPI is as under:

Sl. No.	District Name	Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)		Stand Up India Scheme (SUPI)	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
1	Ariyalur	23,055	3,259	0	0
2	Chengalpattu	40,888	3,907	9	0
3	Chennai	202,755	15,654	489	13
4	Coimbatore	53,630	9,473	178	10
5	Cuddalore	177,717	27,622	51	7
6	Dharmapuri	53,923	6,558	33	4
7	Dindigul	38,988	3,868	66	35
8	Erode	64,625	8,440	88	3
9	Kallakurichi	22,189	1,492	2	0
10	Kanchipuram	152,231	49,981	121	4
11	Kanniyakumari	30,216	6,521	109	10
12	Karur	11,451	1,002	16	5
13	Krishnagiri	36,986	9,600	25	2
14	Madurai	40,125	5,194	207	17
15	Mayiladuthurai	14,018	259	12	0
16	Nagapattinam	93,179	4,478	18	0
17	Namakkal	68,657	9,934	35	8
18	Nilgiris	72,909	4,964	38	7
19	Perambalur	13,038	357	32	0
20	Pudukkottai	28,500	2,474	24	2
21	Ramanathapuram	30,522	4,721	21	2
22	Ranipet	14,346	655	0	0
23	Salem	78,152	13,670	114	8
24	Sivaganga	20,204	7,432	49	5
25	Tenkasi	6,127	789	1	0
26	**Thanjavur**	86,976	4,958	30	5
27	Theni	25,680	2,273	36	0
28	Thiruvallur	166,075	25,028	154	10
29	Thiruvarur	116,642	12,685	24	1
30	Tiruchirappalli	30,436	7,539	69	4
31	Tirunelveli	99,729	41,474	128	3
32	Tirupathur	50,888	9,624	10	0
33	Tiruppur	38,050	2,309	23	2
34	Tiruvannamalai	39,930	6,075	129	10
35	Tuticorin	101,860	33,488	48	8
36	Vellore	146,971	51,426	106	3
37	Villupuram	119,763	29,601	89	26
38	Virudhunagar	32,981	7,876	46	5
39	Other #	237,831	7,403	0	0
Total		**2,682,243**	**444,063**	**2,630**	**219**

 # District-wise data for some of the NBFCs/ MFIs is not available.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 967 REGARDING "ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG SCs AND STs IN TAMIL NADU" TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024.

The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under SC category throughout the country for the last 5 years is as under:

Sl. No.	State	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated
1	Andaman Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	329	2,632	303	2,424	414	3,312	526	4,208	1,216	9,728
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	8	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-
4	Assam	207	1,656	191	1,528	207	1,656	115	920	109	872
5	Bihar	206	1,648	198	1,584	194	1,552	398	3,184	701	5,608
6	Chandigarh-Ut	2	16	1	8	7	56	2	16	1	8
7	Chhattisgarh	302	2,416	286	2,288	294	2,352	259	2,072	299	2,392
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Daman And Diu	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Delhi	15	120	7	56	7	56	6	48	6	48
11	Goa	5	40	-	-	3	24	-	-	1	8
12	Gujarat	263	2,104	189	1,512	313	2,504	243	1,944	274	2,192
13	Haryana	409	3,272	296	2,368	307	2,456	298	2,384	250	2,000
14	Himachal Pradesh	387	3,096	416	3,328	427	3,416	304	2,432	343	2,744
15	Jammu Kashmir	254	2,032	229	1,832	537	4,296	374	2,992	658	5,264
16	Jharkhand	107	856	99	792	92	736	115	920	130	1,040
17	Karnataka	629	5,032	808	6,464	1,146	9,168	1,063	8,504	877	7,016
18	Kerala	164	1,312	152	1,216	169	1,352	245	1,960	292	2,336
19	Ladakh	1	8	1	8	2	16	-	-	-	-
20	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Madhya Pradesh	132	1,056	447	3,576	921	7,368	725	5,800	653	5,224
22	Maharashtra	843	6,744	502	4,016	627	5,016	510	4,080	374	2,992
23	Manipur	20	160	27	216	16	128	9	72	4	32
24	Meghalaya	3	24	3	24	9	72	1	8	2	16
25	Mizoram	3	24	3	24	4	32	1	8	-	-
26	Nagaland	7	56	1	8	11	88	-	-	3	24
27	Odisha	277	2,216	313	2,504	393	3,144	320	2,560	248	1,984
28	Puducherry	13	104	8	64	16	128	5	40	6	48
29	Punjab	569	4,552	417	3,336	502	4,016	423	3,384	370	2,960
30	Rajasthan	340	2,720	266	2,128	238	1,904	140	1,120	92	736
31	Sikkim	7	56	5	40	7	56	1	8	6	48

32	**Tamil Nadu**	508	4,064	534	4,272	691	5,528	765	6,120	823	6,584
33	Telangana	301	2,408	328	2,624	449	3,592	354	2,832	347	2,776
34	Tripura	100	800	117	936	143	1,144	99	792	93	744
35	Uttar Pradesh	785	6,280	1,109	8,872	1,405	11,240	1,279	10,232	1,685	13,480
36	Uttarakhand	307	2,456	399	3,192	290	2,320	279	2,232	223	1,784
37	West Bengal	260	2,080	253	2,024	320	2,560	282	2,256	278	2,224

The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under ST category throughout the country for the last 5 years is as under:

Sl. No.	State	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated
1	Andaman Nicobar	2	16	5	40	8	64	-	-	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	108	864	87	696	82	656	115	920	203	1,624
3	Arunachal Pradesh	158	1,264	89	712	196	1,568	155	1,240	166	1,328
4	Assam	421	3,368	353	2,824	474	3,792	310	2,480	271	2,168
5	Bihar	51	408	61	488	61	488	81	648	88	704
6	Chandigarh-Ut	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	323	2,584	273	2,184	320	2,560	267	2,136	212	1,696
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli	-	-	6	48	2	16	1	8	1	8
9	Daman And Diu	2	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Delhi	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Goa	2	16	4	32	2	16	1	8	3	24
12	Gujarat	120	960	142	1,136	171	1,368	127	1,016	94	752
13	Haryana	-	-	3	24	1	8	2	16	2	16
14	Himachal Pradesh	117	936	107	856	171	1,368	128	1,024	107	856
15	Jammu Kashmir	83	664	73	584	226	1,808	175	1,400	235	1,880
16	Jharkhand	149	1,192	130	1,040	162	1,296	167	1,336	206	1,648
17	Karnataka	169	1,352	188	1,504	307	2,456	305	2,440	286	2,288
18	Kerala	12	96	6	48	19	152	16	128	13	104
19	Ladakh	303	2,424	271	2,168	292	2,336	90	720	117	936
20	Lakshadweep	-	-	2	16	7	56	2	16	-	-
21	Madhya Pradesh	78	624	256	2,048	567	4,536	466	3,728	368	2,944
22	Maharashtra	112	896	92	736	113	904	91	728	79	632
23	Manipur	610	4,880	548	4,384	403	3,224	211	1,688	140	1,120
24	Meghalaya	348	2,784	315	2,520	581	4,648	272	2,176	259	2,072
25	Mizoram	756	6,048	805	6,440	645	5,160	410	3,280	401	3,208
26	Nagaland	1,102	8,816	739	5,912	1,228	9,824	469	3,752	513	4,104

27	Odisha	122	976	115	920	214	1,712	169	1,352	94	752
28	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Punjab	3	24	1	8	-	-	-	-	1	8
30	Rajasthan	266	2,128	227	1,816	236	1,888	170	1,360	121	968
31	Sikkim	27	216	25	200	38	304	34	272	68	544
32	**Tamil Nadu**	20	160	42	336	63	504	31	248	48	384
33	Telangana	267	2,136	235	1,880	319	2,552	352	2,816	387	3,096
34	Tripura	197	1,576	192	1,536	215	1,720	147	1,176	116	928
35	Uttar Pradesh	18	144	27	216	28	224	27	216	31	248
36	Uttarakhand	52	416	56	448	62	496	40	320	38	304
37	West Bengal	22	176	21	168	12	96	19	152	13	104

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The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under SC category **in** Tamil Nadu District-wise for the last 5 years is as under:

Sl. No.	District	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated
1	Ariyalur	11	88	11	88	8	64	7	56	5	40
2	Chengalpet	0	0	13	104	21	168	22	176	24	192
3	Chennai	16	128	17	136	42	336	25	200	27	216
4	Coimbatore	14	112	12	96	5	40	21	168	15	120
5	Cuddalore	14	112	14	112	34	272	30	240	18	144
6	Dharmapuri	9	72	17	136	7	56	6	48	10	80
7	Dindigul	17	136	18	144	20	160	21	168	17	136
8	Erode	8	64	17	136	8	64	9	72	18	144
9	Kallakurichi	0	0	4	32	10	80	19	152	34	272
10	Kanchipuram	15	120	20	160	23	184	28	224	20	160
11	Kanniyakumari	2	16	1	8	5	40	3	24	3	24
12	Karur	7	56	8	64	14	112	33	264	16	128
13	Krishnagiri	9	72	7	56	11	88	13	104	6	48
14	Madurai	15	120	25	200	24	192	31	248	34	272
15	**Mayiladuthurai**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**24**	**49**	**392**	**29**	**232**
16	Nagapattinam	24	192	37	296	31	248	25	200	14	112
17	Namakkal	8	64	17	136	24	192	23	184	39	312
18	Nilgiris	7	56	12	96	12	96	18	144	13	104
19	Perambalur	8	64	15	120	16	128	19	152	14	112
20	Pudukottai	15	120	26	208	28	224	32	256	18	144
21	Ramanathapuram	7	56	6	48	8	64	7	56	10	80
22	Ranipet	0	0	0	0	8	64	20	160	20	160
23	Salem	7	56	19	152	18	144	25	200	13	104
24	Sivagangai	13	104	14	112	10	80	13	104	3	24
25	Tenkasi	0	0	4	32	4	32	11	88	19	152
26	**Thanjavur**	**44**	**352**	**34**	**272**	**61**	**488**	**51**	**408**	**85**	**680**
27	Theni	15	120	9	72	6	48	10	80	15	120
28	Thiruchirappalli	19	152	17	136	12	96	12	96	21	168
29	Thiruvallore	57	456	29	232	47	376	41	328	46	368
30	Thiruvarur	35	280	28	224	44	352	29	232	31	248
31	Thoothukudi(Tuticorin)	17	136	12	96	22	176	21	168	22	176
32	Tirunelveli	18	144	13	104	19	152	12	96	16	128
33	Tirupattur	0	0	2	16	22	176	3	24	16	128

34	Tirupur	5	40	4	32	8	64	9	72	16	128
35	Tiruvannamalai	17	136	18	144	12	96	20	160	17	136
36	Vellore	24	192	13	104	9	72	11	88	37	296
37	Villupuram	19	152	18	144	21	168	19	152	27	216
38	Virudhunagar	12	96	3	24	14	112	17	136	35	280

The total number of PMEGP Units Assisted and estimated employment generated under ST category in Tamil Nadu District-wise for the last 5 years is as under:

Sl. No.	District	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated	Units Assisted	Employment Generated
1	Ariyalur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Chengalpet	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	1	8
3	Chennai	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0
4	Coimbatore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Cuddalore	0	0	0	0	1	8	1	8	1	8
6	Dharmapuri	0	0	1	8	1	8	3	24	0	0
7	Dindigul	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0
8	Erode	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0
9	Kallakurichi	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Kanchipuram	0	0	2	16	17	136	2	16	22	176
11	Kanniyakumari	0	0	0	0	1	8	1	8	1	8
12	Karur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Krishnagiri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
14	Madurai	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	**Mayiladuthurai**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**8**	**1**	**8**
16	Nagapattinam	2	16	0	0	1	8	1	8	0	0
17	Namakkal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	24
18	Nilgiris	0	0	5	40	4	32	2	16	7	56
19	Perambalur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Pudukottai	1	8	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Ramanathapuam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Ranipet	0	0	2	16	2	16	1	8	1	8
23	Salem	2	16	3	24	10	80	0	0	2	16
24	Sivagangai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Tenkasi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	**Thanjavur**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
27	Theni	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
28	Thiruchirappalli	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	24	0	0
29	Thiruvallore	0	0	0	0	1	8	1	8	0	0

30	Thiruvarur	3	24	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0
31	Thoothukudi(Tuticorin)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Tirunelveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	40	0	0
33	Tirupattur	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	1	8
34	Tirupur	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0
35	Tiruvannamalai	7	56	6	48	4	32	0	0	2	16
36	Vellore	3	24	12	96	13	104	6	48	4	32
37	Villupuram	1	8	7	56	5	40	2	16	0	0
38	Virudhunagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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The details of various programs undertaken by the Government to promote startups across the country are as under:

1. **Startup India Action Plan:** An Action Plan for Startup India was unveiled on 16th January 2016. The Action Plan comprises of 19 action items spanning across areas such as "Simplification and handholding", "Funding support and incentives" and "Industry-academia partnership and incubation". The Action Plan laid the foundation of Government support, schemes and incentives envisaged to create a vibrant startup ecosystem in the country.

2. **Startup India: The Way Ahead:** Startup India: The Way Ahead at 5 years celebration of Startup India was unveiled on 16th January 2021 which includes actionable plans for promotion of ease of doing business for startups, greater role of technology in executing various reforms, building capacities of stakeholders and enabling a digital Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

3. **Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS):** Easy availability of capital is essential for entrepreneurs at the early stages of growth of an enterprise. The capital required at this stage often presents a make-or-break situation for startups with good business ideas. The Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization. Rs. 945 crore has been sanctioned under the SISFS Scheme for period of 4 years starting from 2021-22.

4. **Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) Scheme:** The Government has established FFS with corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore, to meet the funding needs of startups. DPIIT is the monitoring agency and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is the operating agency for FFS. The total corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore is envisaged to be provided over the 14th and 15th Finance Commission cycles based on progress of the scheme and availability of funds. It has not only made capital available for startups at early stage, seed stage and growth stage but also played a catalytic role in terms of facilitating raising of domestic capital, reducing dependence on foreign capital and encouraging home grown and new venture capital funds.

5. **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS):** The Government has established the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups for providing credit guarantees to loans extended to DPIIT recognized startups by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Venture Debt Funds (VDFs) under SEBI registered Alternative Investment Funds. CGSS is aimed at providing credit guarantee up to a specified limit against loans extended by Member Institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers viz. DPIIT recognised startups.

6. **Regulatory Reforms:** Over 55 regulatory reforms have been undertaken by the Government since 2016 to enhance ease of doing business, ease of raising capital and reduce compliance burden for the startup ecosystem.

7. **Ease of Procurement:** To enable ease of procurement, Central Ministries/ Departments are directed to relax conditions of prior turnover and prior experience in public procurement for all DPIIT recognised startups subject to meeting quality and technical specifications. Further, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) also facilitates and promotes procurement of products and services by the Government from startups.

8. **Self-Certification under Labour and Environmental laws:** Startups are allowed to self-certify their compliance under 9 Labour and 3 Environment laws for a period of 3 to 5 years from the date of incorporation.

9. **Income Tax Exemption for 3 years:** Startups incorporated on or after 1st April 2016 can apply for income tax exemption. The recognized startups that are granted an Inter-Ministerial Board Certificate are exempted from income-tax for a period of 3 consecutive years out of 10 years since incorporation.

10. **Faster Exit for Startups:** The Government has notified Startups as 'fast track firms' enabling them to wind up operations within 90 days vis-a-vis 180 days for other companies.

11. **Exemption for the Purpose Of Clause (VII)(b) of Sub-section (2) of Section 56 of the Act (2019):** A DPIIT recognized startup is eligible for exemption from the provisions of section 56(2)(viib) of the Income Tax Act.

12. **Support for Intellectual Property Protection:** Startups are eligible for fast-tracked patent application examination and disposal. The Government launched Start-ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) which facilitates the startups to file applications for patents, designs and trademarks through registered facilitators in appropriate IP offices by paying only the statutory fees. Facilitators under this Scheme are responsible for providing general advisory on different IPRs, and information on protecting and promoting IPRs in other countries. The Government bears the entire fees of the facilitators for any number of patents, trademark or designs, and

startups only bear the cost of the statutory fees payable. Startups are provided with an 80% rebate in filing of patents and 50% rebate in filling of trademark vis-a-vis other companies.

13. **Startup India Hub:** The Government launched a Startup India Online Hub on 19th June 2017 which is one of its kind online platform for all stakeholders of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in India to discover, connect and engage with each other. The Online Hub hosts Startups, Investors, Funds, Mentors, Academic Institutions, Incubators, Accelerators, Corporates, Government Bodies and more.

14. **International Market Access to Indian Startups:** One of the key objectives under the Startup India initiative is to help connect Indian startup ecosystem to global startup ecosystems through various engagement models. This has been done though international Government to Government partnerships, participation in international forums and hosting of global events. Startup India has launched bridges with around 20 countries that provides a soft-landing platform for startups from the partner nations and aid in promoting cross collaboration.

15. **Startup India Showcase:** Startup India Showcase is an online discovery platform for the most promising startups of the country chosen through various programs for startups exhibited in a form of virtual profiles. The startups showcased on the platform have distinctly emerged as the best in their fields. These innovations span across various cutting-edge sectors such as Fintech, EnterpriseTech, Social Impact, HealthTech, EdTech, among others. These startups are solving critical problems and have shown exceptional innovation in their respective sectors. Ecosystem stakeholders have nurtured and supported these startups, thereby validating their presence on this platform.

16. **National Startup Advisory Council:** The Government in January 2020 notified constitution of the National Startup Advisory Council to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities. Besides the ex-officio members, the council has a number of non-official members, representing various stakeholders from the startup ecosystem.

17. **National Startup Awards (NSA):** National Startup Awards is an initiative to recognize and reward outstanding startups and ecosystem enablers that are building innovative products or solutions and scalable enterprises, with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation, demonstrating measurable social impact. Handholding support is provided to all the finalists across various tracks viz. Investor Connect, Mentorship, Corporate Connect, Government Connect, International Market Access, Regulatory Support, Startup Champions on Doordarshan and Startup India Showcase, etc.

18. **States' Startup Ranking Framework (SRF):** States' Startup Ranking Framework is a unique initiative to harness strength of competitive federalism and create a flourishing startup ecosystem in the country. The major objectives of the ranking exercise are facilitating states to identify, learn and replace good practices, highlighting the policy intervention by states for promoting startup ecosystem and fostering competitiveness among states.

19. **Startup Champions on Doordarshan:** Startup Champions program on Doordarshan is a one-hour weekly program covering stories of award winning/ nationally recognised startups. It is telecasted in both Hindi and English across Doordarshan network channels.

20. **Startup India Innovation Week:** The Government organises Startup India Innovation week around the National Startup Day i.e., 16th January, with the primary goal was to bring together the country's key startups, entrepreneurs, investors, incubators, funding entities, banks, policymakers, and other national/international stakeholders to celebrate entrepreneurship and promote innovation.

21. **ASCEND:** Under ASCEND (Accelerating Startup Caliber & Entrepreneurial Drive), sensitization workshops on startups and entrepreneurship were conducted for all eight North Eastern States with the objective to capacitate and augment knowledge on key aspects of entrepreneurship and continue efforts towards creating a robust startup ecosystem in these States.

22. **The Startup India Investor Connect Portal** has been co-developed under the Startup India Initiative with SIDBI, serving as an intermediary platform that links startups and investors in order to help entrepreneurs from various industries, functions, stages, regions, and backgrounds in mobilizing capital. The portal has been built with the aim to enable in particular; early-stage startups located anywhere in the country to showcase themselves to leading investors/ venture capital funds.

23. **National Mentorship Portal (MAARG):** In order to facilitate accessibility to mentorship for startups in every part of the country, the Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth (MAARG) program has been developed and launched under the Startup India Initiative.

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