

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1779
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 05/12/2024

EMPOWERMENT OF TRIBAL WOMEN

1779. SMT. APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has implemented any specific initiatives and programmes to empower tribal women, particularly in areas of education, healthcare, and economic independence across the country, particularly in the State of Odisha, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step to enhance the representation of tribal women in local governance and decision- making bodies, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of steps being taken by the Government to raise awareness among tribal women about their rights and available Government schemes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a): Government is implementing Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) (now known as Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST)) as a strategy for the development of Scheduled Tribes and areas having tribal concentration in the country for improving the social economic condition of the tribals including tribal women. Besides Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 41 Ministries/Departments are allocating certain percentage of their total scheme budget every year for tribal development under DAPST for various tribal development projects relating to education, health, housing, employment generation, skill development, etc wherein women are also benefitted. Various schemes of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are specially dedicated for welfare and development of women. For details of these schemes, Ministry's website stcmis.gov.in may please be visited.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements the Central Sector Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS). As on date, 476 EMRSs are functional across the country benefiting 1,33,929 students covering 264 districts in 28 States/UTs. 50% of the seats are reserved for tribal girls. 114 EMRSs have been approved for State of Odisha, of which 108 EMRSs have been sanctioned. For details, Ministry's web site (nests.tribal.gov.in) may be visited.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs also implements 5 scholarship schemes. Pre-Matric and Post Matric schemes are open ended, where in every year about 30 lakh students take benefit, of which about 50% of the beneficiaries are women. Year wise State wise details may be seen at MoTA Dashboard (dashboard.tribal.gov.in). In National Fellowship scheme, meant for pursuing PhD, 30% of seats have been reserved for women.

National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), a CPSE under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, operates an exclusive scheme for the empowerment of Scheduled Tribes Women titled Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY). Under the scheme, Scheduled Tribes women can undertake any income generation activity. NSTFDC provides loans upto 90% for projects costing upto ₹2 lakh are provided @ rate of 4% p.a. The details of disbursement made under Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY) and Number of women beneficiaries covered across country including Odisha during last 3 years :

Financial Year	Amount disbursed (₹ in lakh)	No. of Women Beneficiaries assisted
2021-22	499.27	564
2022-23	644.09	782
2023-24	742.82	1828

On 15th November 2023, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha AbhiyaN (PM JANMAN) for socio- economic development of 75 PVTG communities residing in 18 states and one UT including Odisha. The mission aims to provide basic facilities including providing houses with water and electricity which improves the quality of life of tribal women. such as improved access to education, health and nutrition and sustainable livelihood opportunities in 3 years. The details of benefits given under the Abhiyan scheme in Odisha since its inception is given in **Annexure-I**.

Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan on 2nd October, 2024. The Abhiyan comprises of 25 interventions implemented by 17 line Ministries and aims to saturate infrastructural gaps in 63,843 villages, improve access to health, education, Anganwadi facilities and providing livelihood opportunities benefiting more than 5 crore tribals in 549 districts and 2,911 blocks in 30 States/UTs including Odisha in 5 years. Each Ministry has been allocated budget and targets under Abhiyan and responsible for implementing the intervention assigned to it. The Abhiyan aims at Saturation through convergence and outreach. As the mission aims to provide 20 lakh houses under PMAY for tribal families with electricity, water, toilet and gas connection, which would improve quality of life of tribal women.

(b): In view of (a), does not arise.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Panchayati Raj has informed that "Panchayat", being "Local Government", is a State subject and part of State List of Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India. Panchayats are set up and operate through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts which may vary from State to State, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Accordingly, all matters relating to Panchayats fall within the purview of State Government.

Article 243D of the Constitution of India provides not less than one- third reservation for women out of 'total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Panchayat' and total number of offices of chairpersons in the Panchayats at each level'. However, 21 States and 2 Union Territories have gone even further and have made provisions of 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules. In respect of remaining States and Union Territories, Constitutional provision as prescribed in Article 243D (i.e. not less than one -third reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions) applies.

Further, Ministry of Panchayati Raj holds extensive exercise of capacity building of Elected Representatives, including Elected Women Representatives, through the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan. This Ministry focuses on developing the capacity of Elected Women Representatives of Panchayats to enable them to function effectively in Gram Panchayats and properly discharge their leadership roles. The Ministry has also been encouraging increased involvement of women in the functioning of Panchayats through active participation in the Gram Sabha meetings for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans and various schemes being implemented by the Panchayats.

The Ministry has also issued advisories to States to facilitate holding of separate Ward Sabha and Mahila Sabha meetings prior to Gram Sabha meetings. Advisories have also been issued to States for enhancing the presence and participation of women in Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings, allocation of Panchayat funds for women- centric activities.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends support to the State Governments through the scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institute' (TRI) to strengthen Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) research & documentation, Organization of tribal festivals, exchange visits, Adi Mahotsav, traditional knowledge and practices. Some of the projects sanctioned under the scheme "Support to TRI" relating to empowerment of tribal women are given in **Annexure-II**. For details of these projects Ministry website (https://tribal.nic.in/Display_Apex_Minutes.aspx) may be visited.

Annexure-I

Annex referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1779 for answer on 05.12.2024 raised by Smt. Aparajita Sarangi regarding “Empowerment of Tribal Women”

The details of benefits given under PM JANMAN (as on 21.11.2024) in Odisha

Ministry	Intervention	Sanctions	Financial sanctions (in Rs. cr)
MoRD	Pucca houses	28757 houses	263.72
	Connecting roads	147.87 Km road	149.75
MoJS	Piped Water Supply	525 villages saturated	Not Available
MoHFW	Mobile Medical Units (MMUs)	50 MMUs sanctioned	16.94
MoWCD	Anganwadi Centers (AWCs)	90 AWCs	14.64
MoE	Hostels	30 Hostels	82.50
MoP	Energization of HHs	1326 HHs	0
MNRE	Energization of HHs	-	-
DoT, MoC	Mobile towers	130 habitations	13.5
MoTA	Multipurpose Centres (MPCs)	61 MPCs	24.64
	Setting up of VDVKs	43 VDVKs	1.7765

As per information provided by concerned Ministries

Annexure-II

Annex referred to in reply to part (c) & (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1779 for answer on 05.12.2024 raised by Smt. Aparajita Sarangi regarding “Empowerment of Tribal Women”

State Name	Project Name
ASSAM	Workshop on Tribal Women, Empowerment Entrepreneurship
CHHATTISGARH	Evaluation Studies - Evaluation of tribal development scheme taken up for women empowerment in the state
CHHATTISGARH	Evaluation Studies - Study of tribal women with respect to menstrual hygiene, knowledge practices and behavioral patterns related to it.
CHHATTISGARH	Prevalence and Screening of RCH in the KAMAR and BAIGA tribal women (Age 15-45 yr) focus will be on cancer screening and other Gynecological disease (Baiga - Kabirdaham , Gaurella-Pendra- Marwahi (GPM) Dist.) (Kamar - Gariyaband&Dhamtari Dist.)
GUJARAT	A Study on Women Empowerment and Poverty alleviation through Micro credit Self Help Groups in Tribal of Tapi District
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	Skill Development of Tribal Women
JHARKHAND	Study on existing nature of Right’s of tribal women in Jharkhand with reference to land-socio-economy
JHARKHAND	Study of Tribal Women and Girls of Jharkhand in Sports-Extending Limits to Physical Expression, Establishing Identity, Honour Economic Security
KERALA	Leadership and Empowerment Training Programme for the Elected Women Scheduled Tribe Representatives in Kerala.
KERALA	National Seminar on the Contemporary Socio Cultural Scenario of Tribal Women in India Challenges and prospects
MADHYA PRADESH	Study of Anaemia in Tribal pregnant women and foster mother
ODISHA	Capacity Building Training to Tribal Women SHG members on Value Addition and Food
ODISHA	Capacity Building Training of Tribal Women SHG Members on Value Addition of Mahua(100 Tribal Women representing 25 SHG groups in 3 batches) in collaboration with Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology(OUAT)
ODISHA	Capacity Building Training to 2 Batches of Tribal Women SHG members on Value Addition and Food Processing of Minor Forest Produces
ODISHA	Impact of FRA in Life and Livelihood of Women Headed Households including Widows- Sate Initiative, Success Story, Issue and Way Forward
SIKKIM	Empirical study on tribal women in Sikkim with special focus on education, healthcare and economic activities practices by the tribal women of Sikkim

TELANGANA	Video Documentation of Sri Gussadi Kanaka Raju, Padmasree Awardee and other Tribal achievers from PVTGs and Tribal women
TELANGANA	Economic Impact of Kalyanalaxmi Scheme
TELANGANA	Socio economic impact of ST Women sarpanches
TELANGANA	Workshops on Events like Poshan, Swatch Bharat, Women trafficking etc., and Development of IEC materials (Audio and Video clippings in Telugu, English).
TRIPURA	Role of Tribal Women in Development of Tribal Society
TRIPURA	Awareness Camp I) Superstition - a curse on Tribal Society. II)Drug Addiction- A Curse of the Tribal Society III) Trafficking of Tribal Women and Child.
WEST BENGAL	Evaluation of Tribal Development Schemes Taken up For Women Empowerment
WEST BENGAL	A study on the Educational Status of Tribal Women of four Districts in West Bengal
WEST BENGAL	Study on School Enrollment and dropout among Tribal Children of West Bengal
