

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- †590
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 28/11/2024

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES IN GUJARAT

†590. SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any project/programme/welfare scheme for the development of STs in Gujarat, particularly in Dahod district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the conditions and strength of tribes and if so, the number of tribes in other tribal dominated districts of the country;
- (d) whether any monitoring mechanism has been put in place for their all-round development;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) to (b): 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 condition of the tribals. 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, agriculture, irrigation, roads, housing, electrification, employment generation, skill development, etc.

Further, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing various schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of the of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country including Gujarat. Details of major schemes/programmes implemented by the Ministry are given at **Annexure**.

(c): Ministry of Tribal Affairs through Centrally Sponsored scheme of “Support to Tribal Research Institutes” is providing financial assistance to State / UTs for various activities to be undertaken by State Tribal Research Institutes. These State TRIs take up research studies/publication of books/documentation on tribal cultural heritage. The domain of research studies carried out by State TRIs includes tribal traditions and various social and cultural practices, which are characteristic to the particular tribal communities. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has undertaken evaluation studies of its schemes through third party. The evaluation reports inter-alia indicated the conditions of tribal communities in the country.

Further, Ministry uses data pertaining to Census, management information systems and large-scale sample surveys conducted by different Ministries/ Departments of Government of India to assess the conditions of STs. The data reveals that over the years considerable improvements have been registered in socio-economic indicators with respect to the Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country. There are over 700 Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India, spread over different States and Union Territories (UTs) of the Country.

(d) to (f): The monitoring mechanism put in place is as detailed below: -

- i. Release of funds to States/UTs in the scheme is made through Public Financial Management System (PFMS) platform.
- ii. Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds as per the norms of GFR.
- iii. Progress reports regarding the status of implementation of scheme is obtained.
- iv. Officers while visiting States/UTs also ascertain the progress of implementation of the scheme.
- v. Meetings/ Conferences are convened at the Central level with State officials for ensuring timely submission of proposals, speeding up of implementation of the scheme, and reviewing the physical and financial progress.
- vi. Scheme/programme-wise progress and utilization of funds are also monitored through dedicated online portals and performance dashboard.
- vii. To regularly monitor the intervention-wise or ministry-wise progress of the mission, ministry-wise interactive dashboards have been developed on PM Gati Shakti portal under PM JANMAN
- viii. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has developed STC MIS Portal with web address: <https://stcmis.gov.in> for monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) / Schedule Tribe Component (STC) funds of obligated Ministries/Departments.
- ix. Besides, evaluation of the schemes is conducted from time to time.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. †590 for 28.11.2024 by SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR regarding “WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES IN GUJARAT”

Brief details of major schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the country:

(i) Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan: Hon'ble PM 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 in 5 years. The Abhiyan has total budgetary outlay of Rs.79,156 Cr (Central share: ₹56,333 Cr and State share: ₹22,823 Cr).

(ii) Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN): Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) on 15th November 2023, which is celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. The mission with financial outlay of around Rs.24,000 Crore aims to saturate PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, electrification of un-electrified households and sustainable livelihood opportunities in time bound manner in 3 years.

(iii) Pradhan Mantri Jan Jatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Jan Jatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM), which has been designed through the merger of two existing schemes for the promotion of tribal livelihood, i.e., “Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP” and “Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce”.

The scheme envisages fixation and declaration of Minimum Support Price for the selected MFP. Procurement and Marketing operation at pre-fixed MSP will be undertaken by the designated State Agencies in the event of the prevailing market price of the particular MFP item falling below the stipulated MSP. Simultaneously other medium- and long-term issues like sustainable collection, value addition, infrastructure development, knowledge base expansion of MFP and market intelligence development will also be addressed.

(iv) Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS): Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) were introduced in the year 1997-98 to impart quality education exclusively to ST children with an objective to provide quality middle and high-level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas in order to enable them to avail of reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in government and public and private sectors. In the Union Budget of 2018-19, Government announced that every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 ST persons will be eligible to have an Eklavya Model Residential School. A total number of 740 EMRSs are scheduled to be established. Eklavya schools will be on par with Navodaya Vidyalayas and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.

(v) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution: Under the Proviso to Article 275(1) of Constitution, Grants are released to States, having ST population for raising the level of administration in Scheduled Areas and for the welfare of tribal people. This is a Special Area Programme and 100% grants are provided to States. Funds are released to the State Governments depending on the felt needs of ST population to bridge the gap in infrastructure activities in the fields of education, health, skill development, livelihood, drinking water, sanitation, etc.

(vi) Grant-in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes: Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, the Ministry funds projects in the fields of education and health, covering residential schools, non-residential schools, hostels, mobile dispensaries, ten or more bedded hospitals, livelihood, etc.

(vii) Pre-Matric Scholarships to ST students: The scheme is applicable to students who are studying in Classes IX –X. Parental income from all sources should not be more than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Scholarship of Rs.225/-per month for day scholars and Rs.525/-per month for hostellers is given for a period of 10 months in a year. Scholarship is disbursed through the State Government/UT Administration. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except North East and Hills States/UT like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central share.

(viii) Post Matric Scholarship to ST students: The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary levels to enable them to complete their education. Parental income from all sources should not be more 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. The Scheme is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except NE and Hilly States/UT of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central share.

(ix) National Overseas Scholarships for ST Candidates: The Scheme provides for financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, PhD & Post-Doctoral study abroad. A total of 20 awards are given every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum.

(x) National Fellowship &Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students:

(a)National Scholarship– (Top class) Scheme [Graduate level]: The objective of the scheme is to encourage meritorious ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 265 institutions of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry. Family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum. Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.

(b) National Fellowship 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.

(xi) 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 & Documentations, Training and capacity building, promotion of rich tribal heritage etc. To preserve tribal art and culture, financial assistance is provided to TRI's 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 & artefacts, setting up of tribal museum, 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.
