

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4400
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

NATIONAL SC-ST HUB

4400. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) Scheme aims to promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST communities, if so, the key objectives and components of the scheme;
- (b) the number of SC-ST entrepreneurs benefited from the scheme from January to November 2024 and the total number of women entrepreneurs among them;
- (c) the details of the Special Vendor Development Programmes (SVDP) organized in various locations including the participation of CPSEs, SC-ST entrepreneurs and other stakeholders;
- (d) the manner in which the Mega Event (NSSH Conclave) contributed to sensitizing and augmenting SC-ST participation in public procurement and the number of entrepreneurs involved; and
- (e) whether the Government plans to expand the scope of NSSH or introduce additional initiatives to further promote SC-ST entrepreneurship and enhance their participation in the public procurement process and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) and (b): The National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) Scheme aims to promote entrepreneurship among the SC-ST and to fulfill the obligations under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises. To boost entrepreneurship among SC-ST, the hub has taken several interventions which include capacity building programmes; market linkage programmes viz, participation in domestic and foreign exhibitions, organization of Special Vendor Development programmes, workshops/awareness programmes, subsidy on purchase of plant & machinery/equipment, subsidy for registration under Single Point Registration Scheme, subsidy for enrollment on Government promoted e-commerce portals, etc. From January to November 2024, 12,962 SC-ST entrepreneurs including women have availed benefit under various components of the scheme.

(c): 82 Special Vendor Development Programmes with participation of 3557 SC-ST entrepreneurs have been organized in association with CPSEs under NSSH during FY 2024-25 (upto 31.01.2025).

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(d): In order to sensitize and create widespread awareness among SC-ST entrepreneurs and to encourage their larger participation in Public Procurement, several awareness campaigns are undertaken under the scheme. As part of awareness campaign, this Ministry organizes Mega Events/Conclaves at various locations across the country to disseminate various components of NSSH and other major initiatives of the Ministry among SC-ST entrepreneurs. The NSSH Mega Event/Conclave provides an interactive platform for SC/ST entrepreneurs to interact with diverse stakeholders viz CPSEs, Industry Associations, lending institutions and State Governments concerned. Major stakeholders like Banks, CPSEs, TRIFED, NSTFDC, NSFDC, GeM, Udyam Registration etc. are also invited to share their initiatives and to handhold the participating entrepreneurs. During last three years (FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24), 12 NSSH Conclaves were organized with participation of 7213 SC/ST entrepreneurs.

(e): To achieve objectives of the scheme, several initiatives under the scheme have been undertaken from time to time such as inclusion of service sectors under Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS), assistance for participation in virtual exhibitions, reimbursement of membership fee of SC-ST entrepreneurs charged by various Commodity Boards, Export Development Authorities, Export Promotion Organisations etc.
