

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4517
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF RURAL INDUSTRIALIZATION

4517. DR. D. PURANDESWARI:

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

- (a) whether Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI) is working to empower rural communities through promotion of traditional crafts and sustainable practices, if so, the details thereof and the initiatives taken for enhancing the capacity of rural industries;
- (b) the details of various projects undertaken by MGIRI, including product development, consultancy, incubation and machinery development and the impact of these projects on micro enterprises, artisans, spinners and weavers;
- (c) the status of the project to reposition MGIRI into a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Rural Industrialization including the key components;
- (d) the proposal for constructing a Hostel-cum-Guest House at MGIRI and the manner in which it would support the capacity-building programmes at MGIRI; and
- (e) the future plans to further strengthen the role of MGIRI in empowering rural artisans and entrepreneurs across the country?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes sir. Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI) is working to empower traditional rural artisans through promotion of traditional crafts and sustainable practices. The details of the initiatives taken for enhancing the capacity of rural industries are as under:

- (i) MGIRI conducts various Skill Development Programs/Entrepreneurship Development Programs in various MGIRI developed technologies. About 1000 nos. of SDP/EDP training program have been conducted benefitting 6414 beneficiaries to enhance the capacity of rural Industries during the last 10 years (i.e. from FY 2014-15 to FY 2023-24).
- (ii) MGIRI has conducted about 100 no. of Field Trial/Dissemination of Innovative Products/Technologies/Processes during the last 10 years (i.e. from FY 2014-15 to FY 2023-24).

(b): MGIRI has undertaken various project for products/processes/machinery development. Some of the major technologies/products include Khadi finishing technologies, Solar Charkha, Panchgavya products, Herbal products, Solar Dryers, Essential Oil Extraction etc. The details are as follows:

1. MGIRI has developed more than 200 Innovative Product/Machineries/Processes during the last 10 years (i.e. from FY 2014-15 to FY 2023-24).
2. MGIRI has established a Livelihood Business Incubation Center (LBI) which has benefitted more than 500 beneficiaries.

3. Consultancy, Quality Guidance and Testings has been provided by various divisions of MGIRI and executed more than 70 nos. of externally funded projects for various Government Departments and Organizations during the last 10 years (i.e. from FY 2014-15 to FY 2023-24).

MGIRI developed innovative product/Machineries/Processes have helped in establishment of more than 200 enterprises during the last 10 years (i.e. from FY 2014-15 to FY 2023-24).

The impact of these projects on micro enterprises, artisans, spinners, and weavers are as follows:

1. MGIRI has developed & standardized various products and technologies in various types of rural industries and thus has created impact for the establishment and development of micro enterprises.
2. MGIRI is facilitating livelihood incubation, impacting the Livelihood of local artisans.
3. MGIRI has organised/participated in various Awareness Programmes, Product Exhibitions Workshops and Conferences creating awareness which has impacted the artisans lives.

(c): The project to reposition the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI) as a Centre of Excellence (COE) for Rural Industrialization has been approved by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). Further, process for allocation of funds is in progress.

Key Components of the Project:

- a) Conservation of Heritage Structures and Reuse of Heritage Buildings.
- b) Development of Research and Development (R&D) related Infrastructure

(d): The project for constructing a Hostel cum Guest House at MGIRI for Rural Industrialization has been approved to supports the capacity-building programs at MGIRI. The facility will enable MGIRI to accommodate a greater number of trainees, facilitating more extensive and frequent capacity-building programs aimed at skill enhancement and technology transfer for rural stakeholders. This will also facilitate visiting experts and officials, strengthening MGIRI's capacity to organize seminars, collaborative events, and high-level discussions focused on advancing rural industrialization.

(e): The future plans to further strengthen the role of MGIRI in empowering rural artisans and entrepreneurs across the country are as follows:

- Repositioning Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI) as a Centre of Excellence (COE) for Rural Industrialization. The initiative aims to enhance MGIRI's role in promoting sustainable rural industrialization and empowering rural communities.
- Collaborations: Strengthening partnerships with institutions, NGOs, and private entities to enhance expertise and resource availability, so as to upgrade and accelerate the process of rural industrialization.
