

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1773
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2025**

**STRENGTHENING, UPSCALING & NURTURING LOCAL INNOVATIONS FOR
LIVELIHOOD SCHEME**

1773. SHRI KESINENI SIVANATH:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any project proposals from the State of Andhra Pradesh under the Strengthening, Upscaling & Nurturing Local Innovations for Livelihood (SUNIL) programme, if so, the details thereof including status of approval or implementation;**
- (b) the details of the number of Knowledge Institutions (KIs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that have received support under the SUNIL scheme during the last five years, State-wise;**
- (c) the total funds allocated and disbursed under the SUNIL programme during the last five years, Year and State-wise, along with details of utilisation by the implementing agencies;**
- (d) whether any impact assessment of the said scheme has been conducted to measure its outcomes on livelihood enhancement and socio-economic upliftment of EWS communities; and**
- (e) if so, the key findings thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) Yes. The Department of Science and Technology (DST), through its Science for Equity, Empowerment & Development (SEED) Division, implements the Strengthening, Upscaling & Nurturing Innovations for Livelihood (SUNIL) programme. DST received 40 proposals from State of Andhra Pradesh under the recent 'Call for proposal' launched during March-April, 2025. The proposals received under the call are being evaluated as per the extant process of the Department.

(b) to (c): Under SUNIL programme, 7 Knowledge Institutions (KI) and 7 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as project implementation partners have been supported during the last five years. The details of state-wise

implementing agencies and funds disbursed under the SUNIL programme are as under:

S. No.	State Name	Implementing KI & NGO	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)		
			2023-24	2024-25	State wise Total
1.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group, Gorakhpur 2. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	85.95	-	85.95
2.	Delhi	1. Society For Development Alternatives, New Delhi 2. Indian Institute of Education, Pune	64.89608	74.00	138.896
3.	Uttarakhand	1. People's Science Institute, Dehradun 2. ICAR KVK, Dhanauri, Haridwar	93.975	-	93.975
4.	Maharashtra	1. Vigyan Ashram, Pune 2. Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune	53.6253	40.00	93.6253
5.	Karnataka	1. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad 2. Society for Community Participation & Empowerment, Dharwad	62.3332	-	62.3332
6.	Tripura	1. N B Institute of Rural Technology (NBIRT), Tripura 2. Visva Bharti University, Tripura	77.42759	26.00	103.428
7.	Rajasthan	1. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur 2. Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS), Jaipur	20.00	12.64	32.64

DST disbursed an amount of Rs. 610.84Lakhs till date for implementation of these projects and Rs.529.14 Lakhs was utilized by implementing agencies.

(d) to (e): The projects supported under SUNIL programme are monitored regularly through Annual Performance Review, Group Monitoring Workshops and Field Visits to assess the progress and outcomes. Preliminary feedback from Expert Committee, Implementing Institutions & Principal Investigators indicates positive outcomes and impact in terms of capacity building and skill enhancement of EWS. Review further suggests enhanced livelihoods opportunities, income diversification via agri-tech & poultry, bamboo, water-efficient agriculture, adoption of ergonomically efficient technologies, support to grassroots innovations & sustainable S&T based rural enterprises in implemented areas.
