

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †4573**  
ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

**SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR WOMEN BELONGING TO MINORITY COMMUNITY**

†4573. SMT. GENIBEN NAGAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is running any special schemes to provide self-employment opportunities, education and health services to the women belonging to minority community;
- (b) if so, the name of such major schemes; and
- (c) the number of women who have benefitted so far under the said schemes, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Minority Affairs is implementing Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS), a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry which converges five erstwhile schemes viz. Seekho Aur Kamao, Nai Manzil, Nai Roshni, USTTAD and HamariDharohar schemes and focuses on socio-economic empowerment of six notified minority communities through skill development; entrepreneurship and leadership of minority women; and education support for school dropouts. Skill training was provided to youth from minority communities to increase employment and livelihood opportunities under the 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni' and 'USTTAD' schemes, which have now been converged into PM VIKAS scheme. A brief of these schemes along with achievements made therein is as under:

**(i) Seekho aur Kamao (SAK) scheme**, started in 2013-14, targeted upgrading the skills of minority youth (14-45 years) in various modern/ traditional skills depending upon their qualification, prevailing economic trends, and market potential, that could earn them suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to take up self-employment.

Since inception, about 4.68 lakh beneficiaries were trained under this scheme.

**ii) Nai Manzil scheme** started in 2015, and was implemented with an objective to benefit the minority youth who do not have formal school leaving certificate. The scheme provided a combination of formal education (Class VIII or X) and skills and enabled the beneficiaries to seek better employment opportunity and livelihood. Since inception, 98,712 beneficiaries were trained under this scheme.

**iii) Nai Roshni scheme** was a Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women and was launched in 2012-13 with an objective to empower and instill confidence among minority women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels. It was a six-days non-residential/five-days residential training programme conducted for the women belonging to minority community between the age group of 18 years to 65 years. Since inception, about 4,35,125 beneficiaries were trained under the scheme till date, and all were women.

iv) **USTTAD scheme** started in 2015 and targeted capacity building and upgrading of the traditional skills of master craftspersons/ artisans. Since inception, approx. 21,611 beneficiaries were trained under this scheme.

(c): The number of women who were benefitted under the above 4 schemes, are as below:

Name of States	Seekho Aur Kamao	Nai Manzil	USTTAD	Nai Roshni
Andaman & Nicobar	259	259		
Andhra Pradesh	9845	682	325	6875
Arunachal Pradesh	989	427		625
Assam	9940	4276	1660	24500
Bihar	20378	4987	393	10000
Chandigarh	191			
Chattisgarh	2200	1376	89	3000
Delhi	7251	1640	5	4925
Goa	386	343		
Gujarat	5622	2278	90	3900
Haryana	7562	1032	149	2225
Himachal Pradesh	1659	413	133	500
Jammu and Kashmir	25385	4580	1819	2950
Jharkhand	10662	4176	501	5500
Karnataka	6356	1563	45	9875
Kerala	2157	1082		5700
Ladakh	2			
Madhya Pradesh	26993	2500	1684	43975
Maharashtra	8424	746	602	7475
Manipur	2440	611	582	6975
Meghalaya	1419	1332	89	250
Mizoram	850		291	
Nagaland	937	467		1700
Odisha	1469	920		6375
Puducherry	71			
Punjab	20965	2821	579	3525
Rajasthan	6076	1069	692	18600
Sikkim	786	1379		400
Tamil Nadu	2999	2604		5200
Telangana	9329		174	1150
The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	1			
Tripura	1391	242		850
Uttar Pradesh	53518	6469	8365	237900
Uttarakhand	3684	379		11325
West Bengal	17921	3580	983	8850
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>270117</b>	<b>54233</b>	<b>19250</b>	<b>435125</b>

Further, the implementation of PM VIKAS has commenced only recently.

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