

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2650  
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2025**

**RURAL POVERTY IN ASSAM**

**2650. Md. Rakibul Hussain:**

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has identified any districts in Assam with high rural poverty or unemployment rates, district-wise;**
- (b) whether special projects have been implemented for livelihood diversification in such districts, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of beneficiaries covered under skill-linked rural employment schemes; and**
- (d) the results achieved in terms of income generation and self-employment?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)**

**(a) & (b): As per information provided by the State of Assam, the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development has not identified any district in Assam with high rural poverty or unemployment rates. However, seven (7) districts have been identified as Aspirational Districts by NITI Aayog, namely Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Hailakandi, and Udalguri, based on underperformance in key socio-economic indicators.**

**The Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ASRLM) under the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development is implementing various livelihood diversification measures across the entire State, covering agriculture, livestock, fisheries, organic cultivation, value chain development, formation of producer groups and promotion of women-led enterprises. These interventions have benefited a large number of women Self Help Group (SHG) members statewide.**

**Special value chain projects and enterprise development initiatives are also being implemented in selected areas of the State, along with support for producer groups, integrated farming clusters, Farmer Producer Organizations, village-level entrepreneurs and food processing units under convergence with relevant schemes.**

**(c) & (d): Under the skill-linked rural employment schemes of this Ministry, the Rural Mason Training (RMT) programme has been rolled out in assistance from the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) with a set target to train adequate number of masons. As of 09.12.2025, under the RMT program, 3,81,986 candidates have been enrolled, of which 3,08,330 have been certified. In the State of Assam, 12,914 candidates have been enrolled, out of which 11,819 have been certified.**

**In addition to the on-site training model, a parallel RMT initiative has been introduced from Financial Year 2025-26 through the Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) operating under the DeenDayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) to broaden outreach and strengthen livelihood opportunities. As on 30.11.2025, a total of 8,048 candidates have been certified through this initiative at national level and 207 candidates have been certified in the State of Assam.**

**Further, under DDU-GKY, 86118 rural youth have been trained and 53288 have been placed while under RSETI, 189061 rural youth have been trained and 123587 have been settled since inception till Oct 2025 in the State of Assam.**

**The SECC 2011 list and the finalised Awaas+ 2018 list have been saturated in the State under PMAY-G, with interventions focused on three core areas, namely provision of PMAY-G houses, mason skill training including training through RSETIs, and employment generation linked to PMAY-G. Further, under PMAY-G, the construction of a house generates direct employment of approximately 201 person-days, which includes 56 skilled, 34 Semi-skilled, and 111 unskilled person-days.**

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