

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 480
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025

NAI ROSHNI SCHEME

†480. SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR:
SMT. VIJAYALAKSHMI DEVI:
SHRI BUNTY VIVEK SAHU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the new vocational training courses launched specifically for minority women under the Nai Roshni Scheme;
- (b) the manner in which the Government is providing encouragement to provide access to credit and marketing links for women Self-Help Groups (SHGs);
- (c) whether a dedicated portal has been launched to showcase products manufactured by minority women entrepreneurs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the various steps taken/being taken by the Government to remove social barriers to ensure participation of minority women in economic activities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): The Nai Roshni Scheme, a Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women 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. The said scheme has now been discontinued and accordingly, no new vocational training courses have been launched specifically for minority women under the Nai Roshni Scheme.

However, the scheme has now been converged as a Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship component into an integrated scheme viz. Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS), wherein under the Women leadership and entrepreneurship component, training in following three courses are provided to minority women:-

- i. Leadership and Basic Entrepreneurship Development
- ii. Entrepreneurial Development
- iii. Business Mentorship/ Business Correspondents (Biz Sakhis/ Udyami Mitra)

Till now, an allocation of a target of 3380 candidates has been made under Women leadership and entrepreneurship component of the PM VIKAS scheme.

(b) and (c): A key deliverable in the Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship component of the PM VIKAS scheme is to promote development of individual or group enterprises amongst 30 percent of the beneficiaries trained under the Entrepreneurship Development module to setup enterprises/ self-employment ventures in line with the vision of 'Atma

Nirbhar Bharat', by establishing linkages with financial institutions such as NMDFC, Banks, NBFCs.

Besides, the Ministry of Minority Affairs organises Minority community specific events viz. Lok Samvardan Parvs to provide an effective marketing platform, wherein opportunity is given to minority artisans/ craft persons/ culinary experts (including Minority women) from across the country to display and market their handcrafted, indigenous and artisanal products. These events help in generating employment and livelihood opportunities, besides exposing them to business opportunities and a wider market presence.

As such, the Ministry has not launched a dedicated portal to showcase artisanal products manufactured by minority women entrepreneurs yet.

(d): To ensure participation of minority women, a certain percentage of total candidates to be trained are earmarked for women beneficiaries under PM VIKAS Scheme:

- i. At least 33 percent of the total target is reserved for women beneficiaries in the Traditional Training and Non-traditional Skilling sub components
- ii. At least 50 percent of the total target is reserved for women beneficiaries in the Education component
- iii. Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship Component (earlier Nai Roshni Scheme) is exclusively for women beneficiaries.
