

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 172
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29th JANUARY 2026

Initiatives to Support Tribal Entrepreneurs

172. Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy:
Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

a) the details regarding the list of schemes, initiatives and programmes undertaken by the Government to support and grow entrepreneurs and businesses of individuals belonging to tribal communities across India, especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details regarding the total funding allocated, released and utilised to support and grow tribal entrepreneurs under the said schemes and initiatives during the last five years, scheme-wise and State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details regarding the total number of beneficiaries, male, female and others, covered under the said schemes and initiatives during the last five years, scheme-wise and State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) whether the Government has undertaken any steps to increase awareness regarding the above-mentioned schemes and initiatives for tribal entrepreneurs, if so, the details thereof, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs through its two agencies namely Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) & National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC) has contributed significantly to support and grow entrepreneurs and businesses of individuals belonging to tribal communities across India.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)' through TRIFED which envisions to strengthen tribal entrepreneurship initiatives and to facilitate livelihood opportunities by promoting more efficient, equitable, self-managed, optimum use of natural resources, Agri / Minor Forest Produce (MFPs) / Non-farm produce. Under the scheme, financial support of INR 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Governments for setting up each Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) which are the centers of value addition activities of MFPs/Non-MFPs. Since the inception of the program in 2019-20, an amount of Rs. 621.13 crores has been sanctioned for establishment of 4125 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) associating 12.33 lakh members. Additionally, under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-

JANMAN) initiative, an amount of Rs. 22.98 crores has been sanctioned for establishment of 539 VDVKS associating 45,924 members. State-wise details of the same, including Andhra Pradesh is given at **Annexure-I**.

Additionally, TRIFED provides backward and forward linkages for tribal artisans and suppliers, facilitating the marketing of tribal products across various categories, including metal craft, textiles, jewelry, paintings, cane and bamboo, terracotta and pottery, as well as organic and natural food products. These products are marketed through both online and offline platforms. Furthermore, TRIFED organizes and participates in festivals, exhibitions, and trade fairs to provide a platform for tribal artisans to showcase their products, connect with potential buyers, and enhance their entrepreneurial opportunities.

The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, facilitates credit linkage by providing concessional loans to eligible Scheduled Tribe individuals/SHGs for undertaking income-generating activities and self-employment, thereby fostering entrepreneurship. The key schemes of NSTFDC are as follows:

- Term Loan Scheme: NSTFDC extends financial assistance for viable projects costing up to ₹50 lakh per unit. Under this scheme, up to 90% of the project cost is funded, with the remaining amount covered through subsidy, promoter contribution, or margin money.
- Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY): A dedicated scheme for the economic empowerment of Scheduled Tribe women, providing loans of up to ₹2 lakh per project at a highly concessional interest rate of 4% per annum, covering up to 90% of the project cost.
- Micro Credit Scheme for Self-Help Groups (MCF): Designed exclusively for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to address the small loan requirements of Scheduled Tribe members. Under this scheme, loans of up to ₹50,000 per member and a maximum of ₹5 lakh per SHG are provided.
- Adivasi Shiksha Rinn Yojana (ASRY): An education loan scheme aimed at supporting Scheduled Tribe students in pursuing technical and professional education, including Ph.D. programs, in India. Financial assistance of up to ₹10 lakh per eligible family is provided at a concessional interest rate of 6% per annum.

State-wise amount of loans disbursed and beneficiaries assisted, including Andhra Pradesh, under the schemes of NSTFDC in the last three years is given at **Annexure-II**.

The Ministry has also launched Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes (VCF-ST) to promote entrepreneurship in India among the Scheduled Tribes by providing concessional finance to them. Till date, an amount of Rs. 8.41 crore has been sanctioned in 2 cases (Chhattisgarh & Telangana) under the said scheme.

(d) Apart from regular dissemination of scheme information through social media, seminars, radio, television etc.; the central and state implementing agencies of the schemes undertakes awareness generation and propagation of scheme benefits through participation in local melas, fairs, exhibitions, tribal artisan empanelment melas and other government / public events.

**Annexure-I as referred to in reply to Part (a) to (c) of LSUQ No. 172 for answer on
29.01.2026 regarding 'Initiatives to Support Tribal Entrepreneurs'**

State-wise details of PMJVM VDVks

State / UT	No. of VDVks sanctioned	Total No. of Beneficiaries	Funds Sanctioned (Rs. In lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	415	123258	6162.9
Arunachal Pradesh	106	32897	1590
Assam	495	150765	7425
Chhattisgarh	139	41700	2085
Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	1	302	15
Goa	10	3000	150
Gujarat	200	57968	2895.65
Himachal Pradesh	4	1110	55.5
Jammu & Kashmir	100	29791	1457
Jharkhand	146	43701	2174.7
Karnataka	140	41748	2087.4
Kerala	44	12038	597.25
Ladakh	10	3000	150
Madhya Pradesh	126	37860	1890
Maharashtra	279	83850	4185
Manipur	207	62226	3088.45
Meghalaya	169	50835	2534.1
Mizoram	286	84268	4211.55
Nagaland	347	104068	5203.4
Odisha	170	50094	2479.25
Rajasthan	505	152362	7513.55
Sikkim	80	23801	1169.05
Tamil Nadu	8	2400	120
Telangana	17	5100	255
Tripura	57	16116	776
Uttar Pradesh	25	7238	359.55
Uttarakhand	12	3605	179.95
West Bengal	27	8227	402.45
Total	4125	1233328	61212.7

State-wise details of PM-JANMAN VDVks

S. No.	State / District	VDVK Sanctioned	Beneficiaries	Fund Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	A &N	1	56	2.8
2	Andhra Pradesh	73	6,162	307.55
3	Chhattisgarh	16	2395	119.75
4	Gujarat	21	1,050	52.5
5	Jharkhand	35	2,876	143.8
6	Maharashtra	40	3,624	181.2
7	Manipur	2	600	30
8	Telangana	25	1,427	73.05
9	Tripura	30	2,550	127.5
10	Rajasthan	51	8,842	442.1
11	Karnataka	33	1,836	91.8
12	Kerala	7	537	26.85
13	Madhya Pradesh	83	5,091	254.5
14	Odisha	66	5,244	262.95
15	Tamil Nadu	37	2,403	120.15
16	Uttar Pradesh	5	319	15.95
17	Uttarakhand	9	634	31.7
18	West Bengal	5	278	13.9
TOTAL		539	45,924	2298.05

**Annexure-II as referred to in reply to Part (a) to (c) of LSUQ No. 172 for answer on
29.01.2026 regarding 'Initiatives to Support Tribal Entrepreneurs'**

**State-wise amount of loans disbursed and beneficiaries under the schemes of NSTFDC in
the last three years**

S. No.	State	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
		Amt. (in lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries	Amt. (in lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries	Amt. (in lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries
1	Andhra Pradesh	4119.80	13669	5551.49	27221	6039.21	12899
2	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	0	0	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	699.90	1835	25.77	13	17.88	17
4	Assam	-	-	40.02	43	24.24	21
5	Bihar	-	-	3.06	3	0	0
6	Chhattisgarh	295.69	1216	227.29	503	499.43	4837
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	4.55	6	0	0
8	Goa	-	-	0.22	1	0	0
9	Gujarat	1019.61	5224	2810.12	11848	4931.39	18461
10	Haryana	-	-	0	0	0	0
11	Himachal Pradesh	56.90	120	2.19	2	30.60	33
12	Jammu & Kashmir	1272.54	535	295.19	106	1102.49	409
13	Jharkhand	3.00	756	684.25	1703	247.45	135
14	Karnataka	1582.42	1927	853.41	1003	1854.44	1368
15	Kerala	720.73	666	446.74	258	684.80	567
	Ladakh					73.53	13
16	Madhya Pradesh	5392.05	10857	1759.58	828	1660.72	1582
17	Maharashtra	658.19	1204	2523.52	1528	567.76	1005
18	Manipur	25.00	57	235.49	174	102.80	65
19	Meghalaya	470.60	1227	475.91	1193	298.09	112
20	Mizoram	5295.74	3584	6856.69	4573	6948.28	3529
21	Nagaland	20.39	1	1199.77	771	627.08	282
22	Odisha	63.19	4337	362.35	17025	883.56	15045
23	Rajasthan	789.35	1856	712.22	885	130.16	1091
24	Sikkim	-	-	34.23	27	201.63	46
25	Tamil Nadu	1087.13	3403	3265.67	7327	1210.39	6437
26	Telangana	4583.99	11861	3218.52	11369	5174.31	10777
27	Tripura	48.02	20	2014.62	2234	1695.98	569

28	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	3.37	4	1.92	2
29	Uttarakhand	81.42	244	32.59	8	85.81	628
30	West Bengal	1643.34	8393	1526.59	4486	2233.75	8828
	Total	29929.00	72992	24221.12	52432	37327.70	88758
