

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1930
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

STRENGTHENING AND EXPANSION OF EMRSs

1930. SMT. HIMADRI SINGH:
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific measures undertaken to strengthen the existing Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) network across the country with special reference to tribal-dominated Lok Sabha Constituencies in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha;
- (b) the steps taken to enhance the educational quality, digital literacy tools and smart-classroom infrastructure in functional EMRSs in the country including Shahdol Lok Sabha Constituency schools located in Sohagpur, Jaitpur, Anuppur and Umaria;
- (c) the institutional and administrative reforms introduced through the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) for the effective management, standardized teacher recruitment and timely allocation of funds to these schools;
- (d) the progress made in the expansion and operationalisation of EMRSs across the country including the number of schools sanctioned, functional and under construction in Odisha, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh particularly in the Keonjhar, Araria and Shahdol Lok Sabha Constituencies; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated, student enrollment, teaching staff and infrastructure created for EMRSs in Odisha particularly in the Keonjhar Lok Sabha Constituency?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) to (d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the scheme of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) for providing quality education to tribal students in their own environment preserving local art and culture. EMRS are established in tribal dominated blocks having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, as per Census 2011. As on date, 728 EMRSs have been approved out of which 508 are functional across the country.

Various steps have been undertaken to enhance the quality of education and extra-curricular activities in EMRSs across the country viz. well-equipped classrooms with modern teaching aids, bridge courses, remedial classes science and computer laboratories, libraries with diverse learning resources, playgrounds and sports equipment,

facilities for extracurricular activities like music, art, and sports, smart classrooms for digital education, computer labs with internet access, skill development and vocational training programs on apparel, Automotive, AR/VR, AI, Beauty & Wellness, Agriculture, Electronics, and retail to enhance employability, etc.

To strengthen digital learning in EMRSs, smart classrooms, digital boards, computer labs with internet connectivity, and a dedicated DTH TV have been provided. Eklavya channel provides curriculum-based learning and competitive exam content for Classes 9th to 12th, ensuring continuous access to quality educational resources. At present there are 284 Smart classrooms in EMRSs across the country including the blocks of Sohagpur, Jaitpur, Anuppur and Umaria located in Shahdol Lok Sabha Constituency.

Further, National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) continuously follows up with the State Governments and the execution agencies to expedite construction of EMRSs and to make them functional at the earliest. Besides, State Governments have also been advised to make the EMRS functional in alternate buildings, wherever feasible.

To strengthen the governance, management and operation of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs), various institutional reforms have been taken such as;

- Establishment of **National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS)** as an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to provide overall policy direction, academic support, monitoring, capacity building, recruitment, standardization of processes and implementation of the EMRS Scheme across the country;
- **State EMRS Societies** to oversee the implementation, administration and day-to-day management of EMRSs within their jurisdictions;
- **District Level EMRS Committees**, under the Chairmanship of the **District Collector/District Magistrates** to strengthen local oversight and resolve local implementation issues.
- Comprehensive operational guidelines and circulars covering academic administration, financial management, procurement, student welfare, health and safety, hostel management, and grievance redressal to ensure uniform standards across all EMRSs.
- Centralized recruitment mechanism through the EMRS Staff Selection Examination (ESSE) has been instituted to ensure the appointment of qualified and competent teaching and non-teaching personnel across EMRSs.
- Structured induction programmes, regular in-service training, and continuous capacity-building initiatives to enhance professional competencies and strengthen institutional effectiveness.
- In order to provide timely funds to EMRSs, NESTS is releasing recurring grant directly to the schools.

These institutional reforms have strengthened accountability, coordination, monitoring and thereby improving overall management of EMRSs.

The State-wise details of sanctioned, operational and construction status of EMRSs, including Odisha, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, are at **Annexure I**.

The details of sanctioned, operational and construction status of EMRSs in Keonjhar and Shahdol Parliament Constituency are at **Annexure II**.

None of the blocks in Araria Lok Sabha Constituency fulfill the prescribed criteria for establishing EMRS.

(e): Enrollment of students in the EMRSs situated in Keonjhar Lok Sabha constituency:

District	EMRS	Total No. of Students (AY-2025-26)
Keonjhar	EMRS Champua	329
Keonjhar	EMRS Ranki	407
Keonjhar	EMRS Patana	120
Keonjhar	EMRS Karanjia	415
Keonjhar	EMRS Thakurmunda	120

Total fund released for EMRS scheme to State of Odisha during last 5 years is Rs. 2254.71 Crore.

To address the issue of vacancies, 9111 teaching & non-teaching staff have already been recruited and examination has been conducted for another batch of 7267 teaching & non-teaching staff for EMRSs across the country. Total 514 teaching staff have been posted in EMRSs across Odisha in first phase of recruitment including 59 teaching staff in EMRSs in Keonjhar Lok Sabha constituency. In addition, State Governments have also been advised to depute staff on deputation and contract basis to address the issue of vacancies so that academic activities are not hampered.

EMRSs are well equipped with modern design with separate Boys' and Girls' Hostels, integrated dining and kitchen facilities, quarters for teaching and non-teaching staff, well-ventilated classrooms with modern teaching aids, science and computer laboratories, libraries with diverse learning resources, playgrounds and sports equipment, facilities for extracurricular activities like music, art and sports to preserve local art and culture.

Annexure I

Annexure as referred in part (a) to (d) of the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1930 for 30.07.2026 raised by Smt. Himadri Singh, Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh and Shri Ananta Nayak regarding “ STRENGTHENING AND EXPANSION OF EMRSs”

State wise status of EMRSs as on 30th June 2026

Sl. No	State / UT	Sanctioned	Functional/ EMRS	Various stages of Construction
1	Andhra Pradesh	28	28	4
2	Arunachal Pradesh	11	5	3
3	Assam	17	6	7
4	Bihar	3	2	1
5	Chhattisgarh	75	75	31
6	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	1	1
7	Gujarat	47	44	12
8	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	2
9	Jammu & Kashmir	6	6	3
10	Jharkhand	91	51	28
11	Karnataka	12	12	0
12	Kerala	4	4	1
13	Ladakh	3	0	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	71	71	16
15	Maharashtra	39	37	14
16	Manipur	21	5	14
17	Meghalaya	38	2	29
18	Mizoram	17	11	7
19	Nagaland	22	3	19
20	Odisha	114	47	45
21	Rajasthan	31	31	0
22	Sikkim	4	4	0
23	Tamil Nadu	8	8	1
24	Telangana	23	23	1
25	Tripura	21	12	5
26	Uttar Pradesh	4	3	0
27	Uttarakhand	4	4	2
28	West Bengal	9	9	1
	Grand Total	728	508	249

Annexure II

Annexure as referred in part (a) to (d) of the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1930 for 30.07.2026 raised by Smt. Himadri Singh, Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh and Shri Ananta Nayak regarding “ STRENGTHENING AND EXPANSION OF EMRSs”

The Status of sanctioned, operational and under construction EMRSs in Keonjhar and Shahdol Parliament Constituency

S. No.	Parliament Constituency	State	District	Block/ Taluka	Functioning Status	Construction Status
Keonjhar Parliament Constituency						
1	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Bamebari (Joda)	Non Functional	Pre-Construction Stage
2	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Baria (Jhumpura)	Non Functional	Pre-Construction Stage
3	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Champua	Functional	Completed
4	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Ghatgaon	Non Functional	Completed
5	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Harichandanpur	Non Functional	Completed
6	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Kendujhar Sadar	Functional	Completed
7	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Nayakote (Banspal)	Non Functional	Completed
8	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Patana	Functional	Completed
9	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Saharapada	Non Functional	Completed
10	Keonjhar	Odisha	Kendujhar	Telkoi	Non Functional	Completed
11	Keonjhar	Odisha	Mayurbhanj	Karanjia	Functional	Completed
12	Keonjhar	Odisha	Mayurbhanj	Thakurmunda	Functional	Completed
Shahdol Parliament Constituency						
S.No.	Parliament Constituency	State	District	Block/ Taluka	Functioning Status	Construction Status
1	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol	Shahdol	Functional	In Progress
2	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol	Sohagpur	Functional	Completed
3	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol	Jaitpur	Functional	Completed
4	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Anuppur	Jaitahari	Functional	Completed
5	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Anuppur	Pushparajgarh	Functional	In Progress
6	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Umaria	Pali (MP)	Functional	Completed
