

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 655
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2026**

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

655. SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of specific criteria and selection process prescribed for including a district under the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) and the details of its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and data sources;**
- (b) whether Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh is eligible under the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP);**
- (c) whether the inclusion of Shahjahanpur district in the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) is presently under consideration;**
- (d) if so, the status of the process and the timeline thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY
OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF
STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) Under the Aspirational Districts Programme, 117 Districts, across 27 States and 1 Union Territory, were selected based on a Composite Index of Backwardness created from the database in the public domain. Out of 117 Districts, 35 Districts were recommended by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the basis of their being adversely affected by the Left Wing Extremism. While selecting the districts, it was also ensured that at least one District is selected from every State (except for Goa) and many Districts are not selected from the same State. After selection, the list was shared with the respective State/ UT Governments with a request to recommend any change based on any objective criteria. Subsequently, these were incorporated while finalizing the list. List of data sets and the weight attached to them for selection of these districts along with details of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) is placed at Annexure -I & Annexure – II respectively.

(b) & (c) Shahjahanpur District of Uttar Pradesh is not covered under the Aspirational Districts Programme. Currently, the Government does not have any proposal for expanding the list of Aspirational Districts.

(d) & (e) Question does not arise.

ANNEXURE – I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) of LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 655 FOR 22.7.2026 REGARDING CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS BY SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR****List of data sets and weights used for selection of Aspirational Districts**

DATABASES	SECTOR	WEIGHT
Landless household's dependent on Manual labour (Socio Economic Caste Census – Deprivation 7)	Deprivation (25%)	25%
Antenatal care (National Family Health Survey (NFHS) - 4)	Health & Nutrition (30%)	7.5%
Institutional delivery (NFHS-4)		7.5%
Stunting of children below 5 years (NFHS-4)		7.5%
Wasting in children below 5 years (NFHS-4)		7.5%
Elementary dropout rate (Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE) 2015-16)	Education (15%)	7.5%
Adverse pupil teacher ratio (U-DISE 2015-16)		7.5%
Un-electrified households (Ministry of Power)	Infra (30%)	7.5%
Households without individual toilets (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation)		7.5%
Un-connected PMGSY village (Ministry of Rural Development)		7.5%
Rural Household without access to water (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation)		7.5%
Total		100%

The sources of the data set are as follows:

- 1. http://rchiips.org/NFHS/districtfactsheet_NFHS-4.shtml (NFHS 4 Datasheet)**
- 2. <http://secc.gov.in/categorywiseDeprivationReport?reportType=SC%20Category#> (SECC 2011- Deprivation Datasheet)**
- 3. <http://udise.in/drc2015-16.htm> (U-DISE 2015-16 Datasheet)**
- 4. <http://saubhagya.gov.in/> (Saubhagya Website)**
- 5. <http://pmgsy.nic.in/> (PMGSY Website)**

ANNEXURE – II**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) of LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 655 FOR 22.7.2026 REGARDING CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS BY SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR****List of KPIs under Aspirational Districts Programme**

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
1	Health & Nutrition	1.1	Percentage of Pregnant Women receiving four or more antenatal care check-ups against total ANC registrations	Annual
2	Health & Nutrition	1.2	Percentage of ANC registered within the first trimester against total ANC registrations	Monthly
3	Health & Nutrition	1.3	Percentage of pregnant women (PW) registered for ANC against estimated pregnancies	Monthly
4	Health & Nutrition	2	Percentage of pregnant women taking Supplementary Nutrition under the ICDS programme regularly	Monthly
5	Health & Nutrition	3.1	Percentage of Pregnant women having severe anaemia treated against PW having sever anaemia tested cases	Monthly
6	Health & Nutrition	3.2	Percentage of Pregnant Women tested for Haemoglobin 4 or more	Annual

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
			than 4 times for respective ANC's against total ANC registration	
7	Health & Nutrition	4.1	Sex Ratio at birth	Monthly
8	Health & Nutrition	4.2	Percentage of institutional deliveries out of total estimated deliveries	Monthly
9	Health & Nutrition	5	Percentage of home deliveries attended by an SBA (Skilled Birth Attendance) trained health worker out of total home deliveries	Monthly
10	Health & Nutrition	6.1	Percentage of new-borns breastfed within one hour of birth	Monthly
11	Health & Nutrition	6.2	Percentage of low birth weight babies (Less than 2500 gms)	Monthly
12	Health & Nutrition	6.3	Proportion of live babies weighed at birth	Monthly
13	Health & Nutrition	7	Percentage of underweight children under 5 years	Monthly
14	Health & Nutrition	8.1	Percentage of stunted children under 5 years	Quarterly
15	Health & Nutrition	8.2	Percentage of children with Diarrhoea treated with ORS	Quarterly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
16	Health & Nutrition	8.3	Percentage of children with Diarrhoea treated with Zinc	Quarterly
17	Health & Nutrition	8.4	Percentage of children with ARI in the last 2 weeks taken to a health facility	Quarterly
18	Health & Nutrition	9.1	Percentage of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)	Monthly
19	Health & Nutrition	9.2	Percentage of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)	Monthly
20	Health & Nutrition	10.1	Breastfeeding children receiving adequate diet (6-23 months)	Quarterly
21	Health & Nutrition	10.2	Non-Breastfeeding children receiving adequate diet (6-23 months)	Quarterly
22	Health & Nutrition	11	Percentage of children fully immunized (9-11 months) (BCG+ DPT3 + OPV3 + Measles1)	Monthly
23	Health & Nutrition	12.1	Tuberculosis (TB) case notification rate (Public and Private Institutions) against estimated cases	Monthly
24	Health & Nutrition	12.2	TB Treatment success rate among notified TB patients (public and private)	Monthly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
25	Health & Nutrition	13.1	Proportion of Sub centres/ PHCs converted into Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs)	Quarterly
26	Health & Nutrition	13.2	Proportion of Primary Health Centres compliant to Indian Public Health Standards	Quarterly
27	Health & Nutrition	13.3	Proportion of functional FRUs (First referral units) against the norm of 1 per 5,00,000 population (1 per 3,00,000 for hilly terrain)	Quarterly
28	Health & Nutrition	13.4	Proportion of specialist services available in District hospitals against 10* core specialist services	Quarterly
29	Health & Nutrition	13.5	Percentage of Anganwadis centres/Urban PHCs reported to have conducted at least one Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition day / Urban Health Sanitation & Nutrition day/ respectively in the last one month	Quarterly
30	Health & Nutrition	13.6	Proportion of Anganwadis with own buildings	Quarterly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
31	Health & Nutrition	13.7	Percentage of First referral units (FRU) having labour room and obstetrics OT NQAS certified (ie meet LaQShya guidelines)	Monthly
32	Education	1.1	Transition Rate - Primary to Upper Primary level	Annual
33	Education	1.2	Transition Rate - Upper Primary to Secondary level	Annual
34	Education	2	Toilet access: Percentage schools with functional girls' toilets	Monthly
35	Education	3.1	Mathematics performance in Class 3	Quarterly
36	Education	3.2	Language performance in Class 3	Quarterly
37	Education	3.3	Mathematics performance in Class 5	Quarterly
38	Education	3.4	Language performance in Class 5	Quarterly
39	Education	3.5	Mathematics performance in Class 8	Quarterly
40	Education	3.6	Language performance in Class 8	Quarterly
41	Education	4	Female literacy rate (15+ Age group)	Quarterly
42	Education	5	Percentage of schools with functional drinking water facility	Monthly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
43	Education	6	Percentage of schools with functional electricity facility at secondary level	Monthly
44	Education	7	Percentage of elementary schools complying with RTE specified Pupil Teacher Ratio	Monthly
45	Education	8	Percentage of schools providing textbooks to children within 1 month of start of the academic session	Annual
46	Agriculture & Water Resources	1.1	Percentage of net sown area under micro-irrigation	Monthly
47	Agriculture & Water Resources	1.2	Number of water-bodies rejuvenated under MGNREGA	Half Yearly
48	Agriculture & Water Resources	2	Crop Insurance- Percentage of net sown area under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	Half Yearly
49	Agriculture & Water Resources	3.1	Percentage increase in agricultural credit	Half Yearly
50	Agriculture & Water Resources	3.2	Certified quality seed distribution	Half Yearly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
51	Agriculture & Water Resources	4	Number of district mandis linked to electronic market	Monthly
52	Agriculture & Water Resources	5	Percentage change in Price Realization - difference between Farm Harvest Price (FHP) and Minimum Support Price (MSP)	Half Yearly
53	Agriculture & Water Resources	6	Percentage share of high value crops to total sown area in district	Annual
54	Agriculture & Water Resources	7	Agricultural productivity of 2 major crops	Half Yearly
55	Agriculture & Water Resources	8	Percentage of animals vaccinated	Monthly
56	Agriculture & Water Resources	9	Artificial Insemination coverage	Monthly
57	Agriculture & Water Resources	10	Number of Soil Health Cards distributed	Monthly
58	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	1	Total Disbursement of Mudra loan (in rupees) per 1 Lakh population	Monthly
59	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	2	Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY): Number of Enrolments per 1 Lakh population	Monthly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
60	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	3	Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY): Number of Enrolments per 1 Lakh population	Monthly
61	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	4	Atal Pension Yojana (APY): Number of Beneficiaries per 1 Lakh population	Monthly
62	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	5	Percentage of accounts seeded with Aadhaar as a percentage of total banking accounts	Monthly
63	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	6	Number of accounts opened under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana	Monthly
64	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	7	No of youth certified in short term and long-term training# schemes / no of youth in district in age group 15-29	Monthly
65	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	8	No of certified youth employed# /No of youth trained under short term and long-term training	Monthly
66	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	9	Number of Apprentices completing/Total number of trainees registered on the portal	Monthly
67	Financial Inclusion &	10	No of people certified under Recognition of Prior Learning#/Non-	Monthly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
	Skill Development		formally skilled workforce**	
68	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.1	Women - certified trained	Monthly
69	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.2	SC - certified trained	Monthly
70	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.3	ST - certified trained	Monthly
71	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.4	OBC - certified trained	Monthly
72	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.5	Minorities – certified trained	Monthly
73	Financial Inclusion & Skill Development	11.6	Differently abled – certified trained) / Total Number of youth certified trained	Monthly
74	Basic Infrastructure	1	Percentage of households with electricity connection	Monthly
75	Basic Infrastructure	2	Percentage of Gram Panchayat with internet connection	Monthly
76	Basic Infrastructure	3.1	Percentage of habitations with access	Monthly

S.No	Theme	Indicator Number	Monitorable data point	Periodicity
			to all weather roads under PMGSY	
77	Basic Infrastructure	3.2	Cumulative number of kilometres of all-weather road work completed as a percentage of total sanctioned kilometres in the district under PMGSY	Monthly
78	Basic Infrastructure	4	Percentage of households with Individual Household Latrines	Monthly
79	Basic Infrastructure	5	Percentage of Rural habitations with access to adequate quantity of potable water - 40 lpcd drinking water in rural	Monthly
80	Basic Infrastructure	6	Coverage/ establishment of Common Service Centres at Gram Panchayat level	Monthly
81	Basic Infrastructure	7	Percentage of pucca houses constructed for household who are shelter-less or having one room with kuchha wall and kuchha roof or having 2 room with kuchha wall and roof	Monthly