

also approved Atal Innovation Mission including SETU as one scheme titled as 'AIM' with two sub-components—(i) SETU, wherein the innovators would be supported and mentored as successful entrepreneurs; and (ii) Innovation.

(b) AIM is a new scheme approved by the Government on February 24, 2016. A budget of ₹ 150 crore has been approved in the Union Budget 2016-17.

(c) and (d) The Atal Innovation Mission has two core functions:

- (1) Entrepreneurship promotion through Self-Employment and Talent Utilization, wherein innovators would be supported and mentored to become successful entrepreneurs. This will be achieved through setting up Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) and upgrading Established Incubation Centres. These centres will provide high class incubation facilities across the country with suitable physical infrastructure in terms of capital equipment and operating facilities, coupled with the availability of sectoral experts for mentoring the start-ups and funding agencies like venture capitalists, angel investors, etc.
- (2) Innovation promotion to provide a platform where innovative ideas are generated. The Mission is setting up Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country for fostering curiosity, creativity and imaginations in young minds; and inculcates skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing etc.

AIM is an umbrella scheme for radical transformation of innovation and entrepreneurship eco-system landscape of the country. However, the Start-up India Action Plan of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Technology Business Incubators (TBI) Scheme of the Department of Science and Technology, Biotechnology Parks Scheme of the Department of Biotechnology, ASPIRE Scheme of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Schemes under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship are some of the initiatives supporting different aspects of innovations, entrepreneurship and start-ups for creating impact in the country on a massive scale.

Discontinuation of special category status

2949. SHRI K. G. KENYE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to discontinue the support as special category status to entire North Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the decision of NITI Aayog thereon;
- (c) the details of Centrally sponsored schemes under 90:10 funding ratio proposed for those States, during the last five years; and

(d) the present status of those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Special Category Status for plan assistance has been granted in the past by the National Development Council (NDC) to some States that are characterized by a number of features necessitating special consideration. There is no proposal to discontinue the special category status of North Eastern States and the Himalayan States. The Fourteenth Finance Commission in its recommendations has not made any distinction between special and general category States in determining the norms and recommendations. In the assessment of State resources, it has taken into account the disabilities arising from constraints unique to each State to arrive at the expenditure requirements. As per the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, block grants of Normal Central Assistance (NCA), Special Plan Assistance (SPA) and Special Central Assistance (untied) (SCA) have been discontinued from Budget 2015-16 and the recommendation to increase the States' share in the net proceeds of the Union tax revenues from 32% earlier to 42% for the period 2015-20 have been accepted by the Union Government. This would provide more untied resources to the States. The objective has been to fill the resource gap of each State to the extent possible through tax devolution.

(c) and (d) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) were restructured to 66 in 2013. These have been rationalized into 28 umbrella schemes as per the Report of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The funding pattern of the schemes is based on the recommendations of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (October, 2015). Some schemes were merged with others while States have been given the option to continue any earlier schemes left out in the restructuring, in a sharing pattern of 50:50 between the Centre and States. This change in funding pattern is being implemented from the fiscal year 2016-17.

Of the 28 umbrella Schemes, 6 Schemes have been categorized as Core of the Core Schemes, 20 Schemes as Core Schemes, and remaining two as Optional Schemes. The existing funding pattern will continue for Core of the Core Schemes. These include: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), National Social Assistance Programme (Old Age Pension etc.), umbrella programmes for the development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities, Development of Backward Classes, Differently Abled and Other Vulnerable Groups.

The funding pattern for Core Schemes, for the eight North-Eastern States and the three Himalayan States is in the ratio of Centre: State of 90:10 whereas, for the rest of the States, this ratio shall be 60:40 between the Centre and States. These include

the following broad category of Schemes (part of the national development agenda): Krishi Unnati Yojana, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, National Rural Drinking Water Programme, National Health Mission, National Education Mission, Integrated Child Development Service, Mid-Day Meal Programme, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Environment, Forestry and Wild Life, Police Modernisation and Infrastructure for Judiciary.

The funding pattern for Optional Schemes for the eight North Eastern States and the three Himalayan States is in the ratio of Centre: State of 80:20 while it is 50:50 for the rest of the States.

Achievement of SDGs

2950. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set forth by the UN;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any progress has been made on the goals and targets of SDGs so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related Targets have been resolved in September, 2015 in the UN General Assembly by 193 countries including India and came into effect on January 1, 2016. At the Central Government level, NITI Aayog has been assigned the role of overseeing the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is responsible for evolving the indicators related to the 17 SDGs and 169 targets. NITI Aayog has carried out a detailed mapping of the 17 Goals on the Nodal Central Ministries, Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and the major Government initiatives and of each target on other Ministries. It has circulated the mapping to the Central Ministries and uploaded it on the NITI Aayog's website (*niti.gov.in*) to facilitate better awareness and faster implementation of the SDGs and targets. NITI Aayog has also sent a copy of the draft mapping to all the Chief Secretaries of States and UTs requesting them to carry out similar mapping of the SDGs and related targets in respect of their respective