

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1253**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2021

**INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL HAMLETS**

1253. SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA:

Will the Minister of **TRIBAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) the strategies or action-plans by Government for the infrastructural development of tribal hamlets across the country;
- (b) whether tribal hamlets are provided health related infrastructural development to fight against Covid pandemic, if so, the detailed data in this regard;
- (c) the utilization of the funds allotted to the NGOs working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, strengthening education among Scheduled Tribe girls in Low Literacy Districts and other schemes and programmes being implemented for the welfare of the tribal people; and
- (d) the data for the year 2019, 2020 and 2021?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)/Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)/Development action Plan for STs (DAPSTs) is a dedicated source of fund for tribal development. TSP is a multi-pronged strategy which includes support for education, health, sanitation, water supply, livelihood etc. Major part of infrastructure development in tribal dominated areas and provision of basic amenities to tribal people in the country is carried out through various schemes / programmes of concerned Central Ministries/Departments and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging gaps. Besides, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 40 Central Ministries / Departments have been mandated to earmark STC funds in the range of 4.3 to 17.5 percent of their total Scheme allocation every year for tribal development. State Governments are also supposed to earmark TSP funds in proportion to ST population (Census 2011) in the State with respect to total State Plan.

(b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken up various proactive measures to lessen the adverse effects on tribal community during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some of the measures taken by the Government with respect to health related infrastructural development are as under:

(i) A team of Officers was constituted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) who were in touch with the officers in State Tribal Welfare Department to assess the preventive and curative needs, to curb the spread of COVID-19 among tribal communities and extend helping hand in meeting the urgent requirement in coordination with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(ii) The Secretary, Tribal Affairs (TA) wrote to all Chief Secretaries of States to regularly assess the situation arising out of spread of COVID-19 in the tribal inhabited areas and ensure testing, availability of essential medicines, vaccination facilities.

(iii) The Union Minister of Tribal Affairs also provided Rs 10 lakh from MP LAD fund to Bundu Anumandal Hospital in Tamar for establishing 10 oxygen supported beds through District Collector.

(iv) State Governments have been advised to include proposals for meeting health related urgent requirements in view of COVID-19 in the annual plan under Article 275(1) Grants within their share of allocation for consideration by the Project Appraisal Committee in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Besides, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) took various interventions for better healthcare in areas with significant tribal population as indicated below:

(i) States/UTs are being provided required technical and financial assistance for strengthening of their healthcare system, including management of the COVID-19 public health challenge, from time to time.

(ii) All States/UTs are provided with necessary financial support under India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package. Under the India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package (COVID Package), States/UTs have been provided financial support, besides the supply of essential materials such as PPEs, N95 masks, ventilators, etc from MoHFW.

(iii) A Scheme on “India Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package - Phase-II” (ECRP-Phase-II) during 2021-22 has been approved by the Cabinet on 8.07.2021 for an amount of Rs.23,123 crores, to be implemented in 9 months from 1st July, 2021 to 31st March, 2022. The Scheme aims to prevent, detect and respond to the continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national health systems for preparedness in India.

(iv) Support is provided to the States for provision for establishing District Paediatric Units (42 or 32 bedded units including Oxygen Supported beds and ICU beds) in all the Districts of the Country including the Districts with predominantly tribal population.

(v) Support is extended to create pre-fabricated structures for establishing 6 bedded units at Sub Health Centres and Primary Health Centres and 20 bedded units at Community Health Centres for meeting the requirement of hospital beds in rural, peri-urban and tribal areas.

(vi) To fast-track the availability of Medical Oxygen in rural and peri-urban areas, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare envisages to provide 1 lakhs Oxygen Concentrators to the Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub-Health Centres (SHCs) including Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) in the country under PM-CARES Fund. States/UTs are requested to give preference to the rural, peri-urban and tribal areas. Accordingly, so far, more than 18,000 Oxygen Concentrators have been allocated to various States.

(c) & (d) The funds released under the schemes/programmes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs including the NGOs working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, strengthening education among Scheduled Tribe girls in Low Literacy Districts during last three financial years are given at **Annexure**.

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) & (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1253 for 29.07.2021 by SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA regarding “INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL HAMLET”**

(Rs. in Lakh)				
S. No.	Scheme	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS)	134500.00	134562.00	79536.82
2	Article 275(1) of Constitution of India including Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)	181498.70	266140.83	79969.55* (Article 275(1))
				120000.00* EMRS
3	Development of PVTGs	25000.00	24999.00	14000.00
4	Institutional Support for Marketing and Development of Tribal Products/Produce	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00
5	Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP	6538.00	1720.60	712.00
6	NSTFDC / STFDCs	52000	80000	59046
7	Grant- in-Aid to Voluntary organizations working for the Welfare of STs	8917.18	8078.15	5138.98
8	Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts	2265.19	1406.89	811.02
9	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	217.63	0.00	0.00
10	Support to Tribal Research Institutes	10000.00	10998.00	6000.00
11	Pre Matric Scholarship for ST students	31150.00	43999.00	24890.24
12	Post Matric Scholarship for ST students	164698.00	186264.75	182908.02
13	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education for ST students	8208.91	8100.00	9100.00
14	Scholarship for Higher Education (Top Class Edu) Component	1789.09	1900.00	2900.00
15	National Overseas Scholarship for ST students	200.00	200.00	476.00

**Note:** \*Upto 2019-20, release figures also include the amount of funds released for EMRS. However, during 2020-21, due to separate budget allocation for EMRS, this Ministry released funds amounting to Rs. 1200.00 Crore to National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) under the scheme of EMRS for its onward transmission to concerned State and construction agencies.

\*\*\*\*\*