

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 929  
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021

**SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING UNDER SCHEME FOR SDM**

929. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of individuals/youth who have received the skill development training under the scheme for Skill Development of Minorities (SDM);
- (b) the number of women/girls from minority groups who have been trained under the scheme for Modular Employable Skills (MES) since its inception; and
- (c) the total number of Institutions/Societies/Organisations/NGOs working with Government for the implementation of the said scheme?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

- (a) The Ministry of Minority Affairs undertakes several schemes for upliftment of welfare and socio-economic empowerment of the six (6) notified minority communities namely Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians, Jains and Parsis through its education empowerment schemes, skill development schemes and infrastructure development schemes.

A brief of the skill development schemes implemented by the Ministry is given below.

- i) 'Seekho Aur Kamao' (Learn and Earn)

'Seekho Aur Kamao' (Learn and Earn) or the SAK scheme or the SAK scheme a placement-linked skill development scheme for minorities. SAK scheme aims to upgrade the skills of minority youth (in the age group of 14-45 years) in various modern/traditional skills depending upon their qualification, present economic trends, and market

potential, that can earn them suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to take up self-employment. The scheme targets to earmark 33% of the total allocation for female beneficiaries.

Key objective is to impart skill training to improve employability / establish employment linkages for minority youth, school dropouts, and contribute to the human resource potential of the country to realize the national aspirations of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India. The scheme aims to integrate the trained minority beneficiaries, socially and economically in the national mainstream.

#### ii) 'Nai Manzil' scheme

'Nai Manzil' scheme launched in 2015, aims to engage with poor minority youth and help them obtain sustainable and gainful employment opportunities that can facilitate them to be integrated with mainstream economic activities. It targets to mobilise youth from minority communities who are school dropouts and provide them with formal education and certification up to level 8th or 10th through National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) or other State open schooling systems. As part of the programme, it also intends to provide integrated skill training to the youth in market driven skills and further provide placements to at least 70% of the trained youth in jobs which would earn them basic minimum wages and provide them with other social protection entitlements like Provident Funds, Employee State Insurance (ESI) etc. Skill training is conducted in modern skills.

The scheme targets school dropout, minority youth from BPL families in the age group of 17-35 years. At least 30% of the beneficiary seats are targeted to be earmarked for girl/women candidates and 5% of the beneficiary seats will be earmarked for persons with disability belonging to minority community.

#### iii) 'USTTAD' scheme

'USTTAD' scheme (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development), launched in 2015 targeting capacity building and upgrading of the traditional skills of master craftsmen/artisans. The scheme works towards preservation of the rich heritage of the traditional arts and crafts, and targets documentation of the identified traditional arts/crafts of minorities; setting up of standards for traditional skills; training of minority youths in various identified traditional arts/crafts through master craftsmen; and development of national and international market linkages for artisans. The training component of the scheme was started from 2016-17. The scheme also organizes 'Hunar Haat', that is an effective platform wherein opportunity is given to minority artisans/craftsmen and culinary experts from across the country to showcase and market their finest handicraft and indigenous products. The Hunar Haats have generated employment and employment opportunities for artisans.

Also, Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) implements Gharib Nawaz employment Scheme and the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) implements Kaushal Se Kushalta Scheme and Mahila Samridhi Yojana.

The total number of individuals/ youths who have received the skill development training for skill development of minorities is 657802 (SAK/USTTAD/NM/NMDFC) Despite the challenges faced due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the ministry has been able to successfully complete the employment oriented Skill Development training programmes.

- (b) Under skill development scheme of Seekho Aur Kamao, 84,779 women/girls from minority groups have been trained for Modular Employable Skills (MES) courses, since its inception till 2016. From 2017-18 onwards, the Ministry adopted Common Norms with NSQF complaint courses. Also, under Gharib Nawaz Employment Scheme of MAEF, 26400 women have been trained for Modular Employable Skills (MES) courses.
- (c) 381 Project Implementation Agencies (Institutions/ Societies/ Organisations/ NGOs) have been working with skill development schemes of the Ministry.

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