GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 940

TO BE ANSWERED ON- 09/02/2022

ESTABLISHMENT OF EMRS

940. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the budget allocation for establishing Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in the last five years, the details thereof;
- (b) the percentage of the budget allocated in 2021-22 which has been utilised so far, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the target of establishing 462 new Eklavya schools has been achieved; and
- (d) if not, in how many sub districts are Eklavya schools yet to be built?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Till the year 2019-20, funds for the construction of EMRS and day to day recurring expenses were being released under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. After the scheme of EMRS was approved as a separate scheme by the cabinet, funds under the scheme are released by this Ministry to National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) for further disbursement to various State/UT societies for running and maintenance of EMRSs and CPWD/PSUs/States for construction/upgradation of EMRSs across the country.

Cabinet has recently approved an amount of Rs 38 cr and 48 crore as against Rs. 20 cr and 24 crore in plain and hilly/NE/LWE areas respectively for construction of new EMRSs being constructed. Funds are released @ Rs. 1.09 lakh per student/annum towards recurring expenses.

The fund released towards Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in the last five years and current year (as on 3.2.2022) are given as under.

(Rs. in Lakh)

	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Fund released	126581.37	150939.89	181498.70	266140.83	119997.88

Note:- upto the year 2019-20, the release figure includes EMRS and other activities under Article 275(1).

During the current year 2021-22 an amount of Rs. 86648.00 lakhs has so far been released to NESTS against the RE allocation of 105774.00 lakh which is around 82% of RE allocation.

(c) and (d): Government has decided to establish 740 EMRSs across the country in blocks having more than 50% tribal population and at least 20,000 tribal persons. Out of these 740, 288 are old schools [sanctioned under Article 275(1) of the Constitution], whereas 452 schools are to be established as per new scheme. Under new scheme, Ministry has so far approved EMRSs at 377 locations. Formal sanction letter is issued by NESTS when the state sends Land suitability report and certifies availability of land free from all encumbrances. The construction agency is asked to prepare a Master Lay out and Detailed project report. After due verification, the approval is given to go ahead with the tender process and start construction. A period of 18 months is provided for completion of construction. It is expected that the entire process from giving formal sanction to completion of construction would take 24 months. However due to covid lock-down, there has been delays in completion of the projects at some places. Ministry has fixed target of construction of all schools by 2025.
