

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 470
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 20/07/2022

**AWARENESS ON PROGRAMMES, POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
FOR TRIBALS**

470 SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Tribal Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noted that tribal population is unaware of the programmes, policies and development schemes that are conducted for their upliftment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the tribal people are unable to participate in any of these programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has established any mechanism to combat this difficulty; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): Ministry of Tribal Affairs along with 41 Ministries of Central Government and States are implementing various schemes as part of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)/Schedule Tribe Component (STC) mechanism. Under these scheme, there are some schemes like scholarship schemes, pension schemes where funds are directly transferred to the account of the beneficiaries. In other schemes funds are routed through the state Government, Tribal research Institutes and Civil Society Organizations, TRIFED and NSTFDC for the welfare of the tribals. As tribal population is located in remote areas, forests, hills; Ministry has undertaken several steps to make tribal population aware about these schemes so that the benefit of these schemes reach the last mile.

(i). Ministry has developed online portal for all the scholarship schemes and advertisement in newspaper is also given when the portals are opened for inviting applications. All Universities, colleges and Institutions are also asked to make wide publicity about these schemes. Regular interaction and workshops are organised with the The nodal officers of all education institutions who implement the Central Sector schemes. The applications received under various scholarship schemes are manifold as compared to the number of slots available under each scheme. For Pre-Matric and Post Matric Scholarships, which are implemented by states, due publicity is given through newspaper and schools.

(ii). Ministry has taken various initiatives to train members of Panchayti Raj Institutes through TRIs, UNDP and through Civil Society organisations working with the ministry.

(iii). Ministry gives funds to TRIs, State Governments for organising workshops, seminars for creating awareness about Forest Rights Acts.

(iv). The Ministry through TRIFED and NSTFDC organizes various Adi Mahotsav across country where artisans from across country are invited to showcase and sell their products. As part of Azadi Ka Mahotsav, Ministry organised more than 200 programs across country to make people aware about different initiatives of Ministry in education, livelihood and health. During national and regional programs, events, fair and exhibitions mass awareness is created through exhibits, posters, pamphlets, leaflets and cultural programmes by States/UTs administration, TRIFED and NSTFDC.

(v). Ministry also through its website and social media handles (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Koo and YouTube) and digital portal facilitates dissemination of initiatives for welfare of tribals. Further, in this context, dedicated Adi Prasaran portal (<https://adiprasaran.tribal.gov.in/>) has been developed which is a dynamic application with provision to show updated information on Innovative Initiatives, activities, events, Seminars, Webinars, Conferences, News, PIB News, programs and functions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(vi). Various IEC materials in tribal mother tongues are created and disseminated in tribal areas to generate awareness about various schemes and programmes with a view to percolate to the tribal so as to avail benefits of tribal development programme.

(vii). Ministry of Tribal Affairs continuously strives for fostering partnerships with reputed organizations working for the welfare of tribal like Assocham, Microsoft, Art of Living Foundation, Tata Foundation, SECMOL, BAIF Foundation, VVKI etc., aimed at taking up projects with community participation and for creating awareness among tribals. Ministry has launched GOAL (GOing Online as Leaders) with Facebook for digital entrepreneurship of tribals and

(viii). Ministry in partnership with IIPA has started initiative of Tribal Talent pool, in order to get connect with Tribal Talent of 4000 research scholars funded by Ministry for doing PhD, harness their strength by understanding their areas of interest and empowering them to develop as entrepreneurs, researchers and make them aware about various other schemes of Government of India for their welfare.

(ix). NESTS an autonomous organization under Ministry has collaborated with CBSE and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) for Innovation Ambassador Programs and National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) to build capacities of teachers and students and to identify hidden talent amongst tribal youth.

(x). Ministry monitors the fund utilization of Central Government Ministries through STC-MIS.

(xi). For provisioning of mobile services in Uncovered Villages of Aspirational Districts across five States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Odisha, cabinet in November 2021 has approved a Project which envisages to provide 4G based mobile services in the 7,287 uncovered villages of 44 Aspirational Districts across five States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Odisha at an estimated cost of implementation about Rs 6,466 crore including operational expenses for 5 years. The project would be funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). In 36,428 villages, covered under Pradhan Mantri Adi Adrash gam Yojna, road and digital connectivity are the key areas to outreach remote tribal areas.

Through these efforts Ministry is making continuous efforts to outreach tribal communities who are residing in remote and inaccessible areas.
