

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1882
ANSWERED ON – 07/08/2024

SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

1882#. SHRI CHUNNILAL GARASIYA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government proposes to increase the present grant amount of Rs.10,000 under the Special Central Assistance Scheme to Rs.1,00,000 for persons belonging to BPL families of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) to (c) One of the components of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojna (PM-AJAY) is 'Grants-in-aid to States' [erstwhile Scheme of Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan(SCA to SCSP)], under which there is provision of providing financial assistance upto Rs.50,000/- or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less, under 'Income Generation' Intervention to such Scheduled Castes (SCs) beneficiaries, who have taken loan for acquisition/creation of assets.

The scheme of 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub- Plan (SCA to TSP)' was being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs since 1977-78. After amalgamation of Plan and Non-Plan, the scheme was known as 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS)' since 2017. Under SCA to TSS, funds were provided to the State Governments for various projects in sectors like education, health, agriculture, skill development, employment-cum-income generation, etc. To further improve basic services and facilities in villages with significant tribal population, it has been decided to revamp SCA to TSS into 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY)' for integrated development of villages in an outcome-oriented and time- bound manner during the years 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Under PMAAGY Scheme, 36,428 villages having at least 50% tribal population and 500 STs across States / UTs with notified STs have been identified for undertaking development programmes / activities through convergence approach to bridge gaps prominently in 8 sectors of development viz. Road connectivity (Internal and Inter village /block), Telecom connectivity (Mobile /internet), School, Anganwadi Centres, Health Sub-Centre, Drinking water facility, Drainage and solid waste management. Under the scheme a sum of ₹20.38 lakh per village as 'Gap-filling' has been provisioned for approved activities including administrative expenses.