

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 48
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR BETTER AWARENESS OF SCHEMES ON MINORTIES

48. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps being taken to ensure that minority-centric schemes are effectively implemented across the country;
- (b) the details of outreach programs aimed at ensuring better awareness and access to these schemes for women and youth from minority communities;
- (c) the roles the Ministry is playing in strengthening institutions and local bodies that directly work with women and youth in the country; and
- (d) Whether there is any special focus on promoting vocational training and employment opportunities for youth from marginalized minority communities in Punjab's rural and urban areas, if so the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b) The Government implements various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every section of the society, including minorities, specially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society. The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements various schemes across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six (6) notified minority communities.

Ministry has taken up multi-media campaigns to spread awareness and outreach of schemes initiatives of the Ministry through both print and electronic media, FM Channels all over the country. Pocket booklets and pamphlets on various schemes / programmes of the Ministry are published in Hindi, English, Urdu and other regional languages and circulated among public. In order to directly reach out to the public, especially minority communities, and spread awareness among them, "Hunar Haat"/"Lok Samvardhan Parv' have been organized at various locations.

(c) Ministry through NMDFC provided assistance to State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs), mainly State financial institutes, for strengthening infrastructure in order to improve their operations including recovery of loan.

(d) The Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS). PM VIKAS scheme comprises of the following components which target to improve employability and support in generating better livelihood opportunities for the targeted beneficiaries.

- a) Skilling and Training component
- b) Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship component
- c) Education support component (for school dropouts)

Further, the scheme targets to promote credit and market linkages for the beneficiaries. This is a central sector scheme and implemented across the country including Punjab.

The details of these schemes and outreach programs are available on the website of the Ministry www.minorityaffairs.gov.in
