

**44**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE  
AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23)**

**(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2023-24)**

**FORTY FOURTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**March, 2023/Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)**

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**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS**

**(2023-24)**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 14.3.2023**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 14.3.2023**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**March, 2023/Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)**

<b>CONTENTS</b>		<b>Page No.</b>
<b>COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2022-23)</b>		
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>		
<b>REPORT</b>		
<b>CHAPTER - I</b>	<b>INTRODUCTORY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CHAPTER – II</b>	<b>BUDGETARY ALLOCATION AND EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CHAPTER - III</b>	<b>PRADHAN MANTRI ADI ADARSH GRAM YOJANA (PMAAGY)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>CHAPTER – IV</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS (PVTGS)</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>CHAPTER – V</b>	<b>GRANTS UNDER ARTICLE 275 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>CHAPTER – VI</b>	<b>POST- MATRIC AND PRE- MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES FOR STs</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Chapter – VII</b>	<b>SCHEME OF GRANT IN AID TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WORKING FOR THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>CHAPTER – VIII</b>	<b>SUPPORT TO TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES (TRIs)</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>CHAPTER –IX</b>	<b>PRADHAN MANTRI JANJATIYA VIKAS MISSION (PMJVM)</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>CHAPTER –X</b>	<b>EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL (EMRS)</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>ANNEXURES</b>		
<b>I.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE NINTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23) HELD ON 17.02.2023</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23) HELD ON 13.03.2023.</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>83</b>

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23)**

**SMT. RAMA DEVI - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Deepak (Dev) Adhikari
3. Smt. Sangeeta Azad
4. Shri Bholanath (B.P. Saroj)
5. Smt. Pramila Bisoyi
6. Shri Thomas Chazhikadan
7. Shri Chhatar Singh Darbar
8. Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi
9. Shri Hans Raj Hans
10. Shri Abdul Khaleque
11. Smt. Ranjeeta Koli
12. Smt. Geeta Kora
13. Shri Vijay Kumar
14. Shri Akshaibar Lal
15. Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann
16. Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad
17. Smt. Supriya Sadanand Sule
18. Shri K. Shanmuga Sundaram
19. Smt. Rekha Arun Verma
20. Shri Devendrappa Y.
21. Shri Tokheho Yephthomi

**Rajya Sabha**

22. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
23. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
24. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
25. Smt. Geeta *alias* Chandraprabha
26. Shri N.Chandrasegharan
27. Shri Naryana Koragappa
28. Smt. Mamata Mohanta
29. Shri Ramji
30. Shri Anthiyur P. Selvarasu
31. Shri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik

## **LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Anita Bhatt Panda Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ved Prakash Nauriyal Joint Secretary
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal Director
4. Shri Krishendra Kumar Deputy Secretary
5. Shri Marshal Titto Under Secretary

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2022-23) having been authorized by the Committee, do present, on their behalf, this Forty Fourth Report on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2023-24' pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which were laid on the Table of the House on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. After obtaining the Budget Documents, Explanatory Notes, etc., the Committee took evidence of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at the sitting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for appearing before them and furnishing information in connection with the examination of the 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)'.

4. For ease of reference, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold in the body of the Report.

**New Delhi**  
**13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**  
**22 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)**

**SMT. RAMA DEVI**  
**Chairperson**  
**Standing Committee on Social**  
**Justice and Empowerment**

## **CHAPTER-I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Tribal Development has been at the centre stage of the Government since independence. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for development of Scheduled Tribes. The population of Scheduled Tribes in the Country is 10.45 crore which is 8.6% of total population of India as per census 2011. The Ministry with the objective of providing more focused approach on the integrated socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes, undertakes following responsibilities:-

- (i) Social security and social insurance with respect to the Scheduled Tribes;
- (ii) Tribal welfare planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics and training;
- (iii) Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare;
- (iv) Scheduled Tribes, including scholarship to students belonging to such tribes;
- (v) Development of Scheduled Tribes;
- (vi) All matters including legislation relating to the rights of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes on forest lands;
- (vii) Scheduled Areas; regulations framed by the Governors of States for Scheduled Areas;
- (viii) Commission to report on the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes ; and issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in any State;
- (ix) The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes;
- (x) Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (22 of 1955) and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (33 of 1989),

excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences in so far as they relate to Scheduled Tribes; and

- (xi) Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan, based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Aayog.

1.2 The schemes and programmes for welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes have been grouped into two categories such as (i) Centrally Sponsored Schemes and (ii) Central Sector Schemes as mentioned below:-

### **Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Scheme/Programme</b>
1.	Post- Matric Scholarship for STs
2.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for STs
3.	Support to Tribal Research Institute
4.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)
5.	Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY) (previously known as Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme - SCA to TSS)
6.	Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India

### **Central Sector Schemes**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Scheme/Programme</b>
1.	Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
2.	Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes
3.	Tribal Research Information, Education Communication and Events (TRIECE)
4.	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students
5.	Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad
6.	Marketing and Logistics Development for promoting Tribal Products from the North Eastern Region (PTP-NER)
7.	Equity Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC/STFDSC)
8.	Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes (VCF-ST)



1.3 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for coordination of programmes of development for the Scheduled Tribes. However, with regard to sectoral programmes and schemes of development of these communities, policy, planning, monitoring, evaluation etc. as also their coordination are the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries / Departments, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Each Central Ministry / Department is the nodal Ministry or Department concerning its sector.

1.4 The Ministry has set up following Organisation/Commission / Corporation/ Society/ Centre to look into the matters of welfare and upliftment of Scheduled Tribes in the country:-

- (i) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST);
- (ii) National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC);
- (iii) Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED);
- (iv) National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS);  
and
- (v) National Informatics Centre

1.5 The detailed examination of the budgetary allocation for certain important Schemes and Programmes are being dealt in the succeeding chapters.

## CHAPTER-II

### BUDGETARY ALLOCATION AND EXPENDITURE

The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2023-24 are given under Demand No.100. The Detailed Demands for Grants with regard to Ministry of Tribal Affairs were laid on the House on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

2.2. The Ministry of Finance have provided ₹12,386.00 crore for the implementation of various Schemes/ Programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. A statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlays and actual expenditure during the last three years (2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23) and Budget Estimate for 2023-24 is as follows:-

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme/ project/ Programme	2020-21				2021-22				2022-23				% of Short-fall/excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief	BE 2023-24
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp. If any indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp. (As on 31.01.2023)	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution	1350.01	800.00	800.00	--	1350.01	900.00	923.44	--	1350.01	925.00	455.24	--	--	1472.11
2	EMRS	1313.23	1200.00	1200.00	--	1418.04	1057.74	1057.74	--	2000.00	2000.00	1465.27	--	--	5943.00
3	Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/ Produce'	140	105	105	-	150	120	113.06	-						
4	Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP	152.51	85.74	82.86	-	155	115	106.29	-						

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme/ project/ Programme	2020-21				2021-22				2022-23				% of Short-fall/excess exp., year-wise	BE 2023-24
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp. If any indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp. (As on 31.01.2023)	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
5.	Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)									499	140.27	135.27	-		288.49
6	Scheme for Development of PVTGs	250.00	140.00	140.00	-Nil-	250.00	160.00	160.00	-Nil-	252.00	124.79	6.48	Funds are being released to the State Govts.	-	256.14
7	Support to TRIs	110.00	60.00	60.00	-	120.00	60.00	60.00		121.00	58.50	6.97			118.64
8	Post Matric Scholarship for ST students	1900.00	1833.00	1830.18	Shortfall due to non receipt of complete proposals from States/ UTs due to unutilized fund released during previous year/s. However, RE has been fully utilized	1993.00	2257.72	2257.72	No shortfall.	1965.00	1965.00*	1920.52	No shortfall. Further releases under process.	No shortfall	1970.77

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme/ project/ Programme	2020-21				2021-22				2022-23				% of Short-fall/excess exp., year-wise	BE 2023-24
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp. If any indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp. (As on 31.01.2023)	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9	Pre-Matric Scholarship for Needy Scheduled Tribe students studying in classes IX & X	400.00	250.00	248.90	Shortfall due to non receipt of complete proposals from States/ UTs due to unutilized fund released during previous year/s. However, RE has been fully utilized	400.00	400.00	394.14	No shortfall.	419.00	357.30	314.98	No shortfall. Further releases under process.	No shortfall	411.63
10	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students (Top Class Education Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship)	100.00	120.00	120.00	No shortfall	150.00	120.00	119.98	No shortfall.	145.00	140.00	129.94	No shortfall. Further releases under process.	No shortfall	145.00
11	National Overseas Scholarship for STs	2.00	4.76	4.76	No shortfall	3.00	4.95	5.00	No shortfall.	4.00	4.00	1.62	No shortfall. Further releases under process.	No shortfall	4.00
12	Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes	110.00	60.00	59.66	-	110.00	90.00	89.43	-	110.00	110.00	88.92	-	-	140.00
13	Tribal Research Information,	24.00	12.00	9.00	Due to impact Covid-	30.00	15.00	14.61		15.00	18.00	8.82			25.00

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/ project/ Programme	2020-21				2021-22				2022-23				% of Short-fall/excess exp., year-wise	BE 2023-24
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp. If any indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief	BE	RE	Actual Exp. (As on 31.01.2023)	Shortfall/ excess exp., if any, indicating reasons in brief		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Education, Communication and Events (TRIECE)				19 activities could not be conducted.										
14	Scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme	1350.00	800.00	799.49	N.A.	<b>The scheme of SCA to TSS revamped into the scheme of PMAAGY</b>									
15	Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY)			-		1350.00	785.00	784.99	N.A.	1354.38	1354.38	1146.26	N.A.		1485.00
16	Monitoring, Evaluation, Survey, Social Audit (MESSA)	4.00	2.00	1.82	-	5.00	5.00	3.14	--	15.00	15.00	7.81			23.00
17	Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	20.00	0.00			30.00
18	Marketing and Logistics Development for Promoting Tribal Products from North Eastern Region	-	-	-	-	-	36.00	36.00	-	107.53	0.01	-			20.00
19	Administrative Cost to States/UTs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.05	00			53.22
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7355.76</b>	<b>5472.50</b>	<b>5461.67</b>		<b>7484.07</b>	<b>6126.46</b>	<b>6125.51</b>		<b>8406.92</b>	<b>7246.30</b>	<b>5688.10</b>			<b>12386.00</b>

2.3 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had proposed for an amount of ₹12,437.41crore in BE 2023-24 under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes to the Ministry of Finance. The proposal was made as per requirement of the schemes. Out of the proposed amount of ₹12,437.41crore, Ministry of Finance has provided for an amount of ₹12,386.00 crore. The details of budget estimates, proposals made by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and allocation made as per ceiling provided by the Ministry of Finance under these Schemes are given below:-

(₹ in crore)

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of Scheme</b>	<b>BE 2023-24 proposed by the Ministry</b>	<b>BE 2023-24 provided by the MoF</b>
1.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for STs	417.13	411.63
2.	Post Matric Scholarship for STs	1995.76	1970.77
3.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)	275.00	256.14
4.	Tribal Research information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)	25.00	25.00
5.	Monitoring, Evaluation, Survey, Social Audit (MESSA)	23.00	23.00
6.	Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)	1485.00	1485.00
7.	Support to Tribal Research Institutes	122.00	118.64
8.	Grants under proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution (Charged)	1500.00	1472.10
9.	Grant to Assam Government under Clause A of the Second Provision to Article 275(1) of the Constitution	0.01	0.01
10.	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students	145.00	145.00
11.	National Overseas Scholarship	4.00	4.00

	Scheme		
12.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes	140.00	140.00
13.	Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)	5943.51	5943.00
14.	Pradhan Mantri Jan Jatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)	312.00	288.49
15.	Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes	30.00	30.00
16.	Marketing and Logistics Development for Promoting Tribal Products from North Eastern Region	20.00	20.00
17.	Administrative Cost to States/UTs	0.00	53.22
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12437.41</b>	<b>12386.00</b>

2.4 On being asked the reasons for low utilisation of funds allocated for 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 even after downward revision of allocation at RE stage, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“During 2020-21 and 2021-22, the Budget Estimates for the Ministry were reduced at RE stage keeping in view the capacity of the States to spend the allocation in the wake of pandemic. During 2020-21 due to the prevalent COVID pandemic both Governmental and Non-Governmental implementing agencies had not been able to completely carry out the field level activities, which led to slow down in implementation of Schemes. In 2021-22, Ministry of Finance implemented revised procedure for flow of funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the States/UTs and some of the States/UTs reported facing technical problems in the system. Further, the funds could not be released as budgeted as the States/UTs could not utilize the money released earlier and submit UCs. This caused delay in release of funds. Further, Ministry of Finance has changed the procedure for release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, where only 25% of the State share can be released in one instalment. The second instalment of 25% can only be released when the State utilized at least 75% of the previous release. Nevertheless this Ministry

spent 99.98% of the RE for the year 2021-22 and has been spending the entire budgetary allocation in the past.”

2.5 On being enquired about the reasons due to which the Ministry has not been preparing Budgetary Estimates on the realistic requirement as a result allocation have to be revised every year, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted in their written reply that:-

“The requirement of funds is projected after assessing the expenditure trend, pending Utilization Certificates from States; discussions within the Ministry and with the States to assess the requirement. During 2020-21 and 2021-22, there was some reduction of funds at RE in view of the capacity of the States/UTs to spend the allocations in the wake of pandemic and technical issues reported in implementation of revised procedure related to PFMS system and SNA procedure. For the year 2022-23, in the case of scheme for Marketing, Logistics Development for Promoting Tribal Products in NER, the financial allocation of ₹143.53 cr, initially approved for two years from 2020-21, could not be utilized as preparatory activities were being done by TRIFED in implementation. Nevertheless, the issues have been discussed and the Scheme has now been modified and revised. The period of implementation of the Scheme has been extended up to 2025-26. Similarly under the PM Jantatiya Vikas Mission which is a merger of two schemes *viz.* MSP for MFP and Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/produce, the utilization of funds is lower as there were problems in the provision of various components of the Scheme. The same have been modified and revised with the approval of the Ministry of Finance recently. For the welfare of PVTG population, PM PVTG Development Mission is being launched. Further, pace of financial progress was slower due to non receipt of Utilisation Certificates from some of the States/UTs and the technical issues experienced by States/UTs in the PFMS system.”

2.6 When asked about the steps taken for utilizing balance allocation of funds for 2022-23 in the remaining period of the fiscal year, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* stated in their written reply that:-

“The Ministry has been meeting the Monthly and Quarterly Expenditure targets. As per the monthly and quarterly Expenditure Plan, 80% was to be spent by January, 2023. It may be noted that the Ministry has already spent 80.89 % of the Revised Estimates. The UCs are being received from



States. Hence, the budget allocation at RE will be fully utilized by the Ministry as planned.”

2.7 On being asked the reasons for enhancing budgetary allocation of 2023-24 to ₹12,437.41 crore from ₹8451.92 at BE in 2022-23, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“The enhancement of Budget during 2023-24 is mainly due to increased allocation for the Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential Schools which is around 6000 crore of rupees. The enhancement is to facilitate construction of additional EMRS schools in the next two years. It may be noted that it has been targeted to establish 740 EMRSs by 2025-26.”

2.8 In this regard, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs briefed the Committee during the course of deliberation that:-

“इस साल के बजट में हमें 12 हजार 386 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया गया है, जो पिछले साल के रिवाइज्ड एस्टीमेट से करीब 70 प्रतिशत अधिक है। यह बढ़ता रहा है। इस साल जो बजट बढ़ा है, उसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि हम लोग जो एकलव्य विद्यालय बना रहे हैं, उसके निर्माण हेतु इस साल हमें 4 हजार करोड़ रुपये अधिक मिले हैं, जिससे और गति से हम इसका निर्माण करवा सकें। करीब 250 स्कूल्स हैं, जो निर्माण के विभिन्न फेजेज में हैं। हम लोगों ने एकलव्य विद्यालय का भी एक स्टॉल लगाया है। एकलव्य विद्यालय के इस साल जो नए 14 स्कूल्स बने हैं, उद्घाटित हुए हैं, उनका भी स्टॉल में डिस्प्ले किया गया है। करीब 250 स्कूल्स हैं, जो अभी निर्माणाधीन हैं। उनको पैसा देने के लिए और बाकी स्कूलों को चलाने के लिए इस बार करीब 4 हजार करोड़ रुपए केवल एकलव्य विद्यालय के लिए सरकार ने अतिरिक्त रूप से दिया है।”

2.9 It is pertinent to quote a revised procedure, referred to by the Ministry during their oral evidence before the Committee for release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) implemented by the Ministry and monitoring utilization of the funds released, as per the PFMS Division, Department of Expenditure Circular dated 23.3.2021 and further modification dated 16.2.2023, which *inter-alia* include the following:-

“The General Financial Rule 232(v) prescribes the release of funds to the State Governments and monitoring utilization of funds through PFMS. For better monitoring of availability and utilization of funds released to the States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes(CSS) and to reduce float, the Department of Expenditure *vide* letter of even number dated 16.12.2020 had shared a draft modified procedure for release of funds under CSS with all the State governments and Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India to seek their comments. The comments received from the State Governments and Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India were considered and the procedure has been suitably modified. With a view to have more effective cash

management and bring more efficiency in the public expenditure management, it has been decided that the following procedure will be followed by all the State Governments and Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India regarding release and monitoring utilization of funds under CSS with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021:-

- (a) Every State Government will designate a Single Nodal Agency (SNA) for implementing each CSS. The SNA will open a Single Nodal Account for each CSS at the State level in a Scheduled Commercial Bank authorized to conduct Government business by the State Government.
- (b) In case of Umbrella schemes which have multiple sub-schemes, if needed, the State Governments may designate separate SNAs for sub-schemes of the Umbrella Scheme with separate Single Nodal Accounts.
- (c) Implementing Agencies (IAs) down the ladder should use the SNA's account with clearly defined drawing limits set for that account. However, depending on operational requirements, zero-balance subsidiary accounts for each scheme may also be opened for the IAs either in the same branch of the selected bank or in different branches.
- (d) All zero balance subsidiary accounts will have allocated drawing limits to be decided by the SNA concerned from time to time and will draw on real time basis from the Single Nodal Account of the scheme as and when payments are to be made to beneficiaries, vendors etc. The available drawing limit will get reduced by the extent of utilization.
- (e) The Ministries/ Departments will release the central share for each CSS to the State Government's Account held in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for further release to the SNA's Account.
- (f) After opening of Single Nodal Account of the scheme and before opening zero balance subsidiary account of IAs or assigning them drawing rights from SNA's account, the IAs at all levels shall return all unspent amounts lying in their accounts to the Single Nodal Account of the SNA. It will be the responsibility of the State government concerned to ensure that the entire unspent amount is returned by all the IAs to the Single Nodal Account of the SNA concerned. For this, the State Governments will work out the

modalities and the timelines and will work out Central and state share in the amount so available with IAs.

- (g) Ministries/ Departments will ensure that releases under all CSS are made strictly as per the actual requirement on the ground, without resulting in any material float with the implementing agencies at any level.
- (h) The State Government will transfer the Central share received in its account in the RBI to the concerned SNA's account within a period of 21 days of its receipt. The Central share shall not be diverted to the Personal Deposit (PD) account or any other account by the State Government. Corresponding State share should be released as early as possible and not later than 40 days of release of the Central share. The funds will be maintained by the SNA in the Single Nodal Account of each CSS. State Governments/SNAs/IAs shall not transfer scheme-related funds to any other bank account, except for actual payments under the Scheme.
- (i) State Governments will register the SNAs and all IAs on PFMS and use the unique PFMS ID assigned to the SNA and IAs for all payments to them. Bank accounts of the SNAs, IAs vendors and other organizations receiving funds will also be mapped in PFMS.
- (j) Ministries/Departments shall undertake monthly review of the release of funds (both the Central and State Share) from the State treasury to the SNA, utilization of funds by SNAs and IAs and outputs/outcomes vis-à-vis the targets for each CSS.

In partial modification of the aforesaid provision in the guidelines, the Committee observed, it has been decided by the competent authority that the State Government shall transfer the Central share as well as the commensurate State share to the SNA account within 30 days of receipt of Central share

Further, it has been decided to charge interest w.e.f. 01.04.2023 on the number of days of delay beyond 30 days in transfer of Central share to the SNA account at the rate of 7% per annum. PFMS division, O/o CGA will

issue guidelines regarding procedure for deposit of penal interest by the State Government concerned in the Consolidated Fund of India”.

**2.10 India has one of the largest tribal populations in the world, which has rich traditions, cultures and heritage with unique lifestyles and customs. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of various programmes /schemes for welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes. Before analyzing last years’ budgetary trends in this Ministry, the Committee appreciate the fact that the Budgetary allocation for 2023-24 has been enhanced to a substantial amount of ₹12,386.00 crore from ₹8,406.92 crore in 2022-23, with an increased allocation and focus on facilitating construction of additional EMRS schools in the next two years. This is to complete the target of 740 EMRS by 2025-26. It would, though, remain for the Committee to see if the enhancement in the Budgetary allocation for 2023-24 stays put as it has been the trend in the Ministry so far to get reduced funds from BE to RE stage. Nonetheless, as the Budgetary Estimates for 2023-24 has been substantially enhanced, the Committee would expect that the funds are fully utilized for the purpose and are not subsequently revised for one or the other reason. They would also like to reiterate that identification of all ST beneficiaries through ST Certificates is a must before the benefits accruing from the increased allocation of funds to the Ministry is to reach them all.**

**2.11 Coming to the budgetary analysis of the last three years, the Committee note that in the year 2020-21, the budgetary estimate of the Ministry was revised from ₹7,205.74 to ₹5,472.50 crore and in 2021-22 the budgetary estimate of 7484.07 crore was revised to ₹6,126.46 crore. Similarly, in 2022-23, the BE of ₹8,406.92 crore was also reduced to ₹7,246.30 crore at RE stage. The contention of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs that the implementation of the schemes slowed down during 2020-21 and 2021-22 as the Governmental and Non-Governmental**

implementing agencies were not able to carry out the field level activities in the wake of Covid-19 Pandemic is not convincing at least for 2022-23 as by 2022 the impact of the Pandemic had weakened considerably. An oft-repeated submission is that the budget could not be released to States/UTs as implementing agencies could not submit Utilisation Certificates and second installment could only be released on submission of Utilisation Certificates after 75% of first installment is utilized as per the procedure revised by the Ministry of Finance. Adding another revised procedure this year, which the MoTA explained during their oral evidence, the Ministry of Finance has reportedly asked States/UTs receiving Central share under CS Schemes, to set up a Single Nodal Agency having a single Nodal Account (SNA) in which States/UTs will transfer amount received from Centre as well as their own corresponding share and release of funds will be through SNA only which will be tracked by PFMS. This procedure is particularly for scholarship schemes. After overall analysis of all the reasons given by the Ministry, the Committee have found that absence of advance planning, change in procedures and failure of States/UTs to implement Schemes with the requisite enthusiasm and procedural discipline, are the major reasons, due to which actual expenditure during these years was less in comparison to Budgetary Estimates. The Committee desire that the Ministry should make an exhaustive exercise to keep all stakeholders informed about adherence to procedural requirements in implementation of various Schemes as well as collect proper data of beneficiaries and take corrective measures to ensure maximum public awareness on welfare schemes for STs so that the entire funds allocated at BE stage are utilized. The Committee would also like that the State/UT Governments should be involved in the process by conducting more interactions online before any procedural/policy change is made as they are playing an important role for implementing various Schemes.

### CHAPTER-III

#### PRADHAN MANTRI ADI ADARSH GRAM YOJANA (PMAAGY)

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was implementing 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub- scheme since 1977-78. After the amalgamation of the plan and non-plan expenditure, the nomenclature of the scheme was changed to Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan in 2017. Since there was a gap in the development of Tribal villages, the scheme was further revamped into Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsh Gram Yojana. The main aim and objective of the 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)' is to develop 36428 villages with a significant tribal population having at least 50% tribal population and 500 STs in a phased manner by bridging gaps in various sectors of development. A sum of ₹20.38 lakh per village as 'Gap-filling' has been provisioned for approved activities including administrative expenses under PMAAGY. The scheme plans to address gaps with regard to 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.

3.2. The Budgetary Estimate, Revised Estimate and Actual Expenditure for 2021-22, 2022-23 and Budgetary Estimate for 2023- 24 under the scheme are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	AE
2021-22	1350.00	785.00	784.99
2022-23	1354.38	1354.38	1146.26 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	1485.00	---	---

3.3. On being asked the reasons due to which Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme was revamped, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

"During the year 2019-20, MoTA conducted a gap analysis using the Census 2011 data and Mission Antyodaya data as maintained by

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). Through the analysis it was found that there are about 145000 tribal villages in India with ST population  $\geq 25\%$ , where gaps exist in various sectors of development including health, education, livelihood, housing, road connectivity, mobile internet connectivity, vocational training, drinking water, electric supply etc. It was felt that long-term planning would be required to saturate these tribal villages with requisite infrastructure and other basic services. It was thus decided as a part of policy decision that the focus of the scheme of 'SCA to TSS' be shifted to integrated Village Development by way of appropriate convergence. The objective of holistic development of tribal dominated villages in the existing scheme has been included. Thus, Ministry has revamped the existing Scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) into 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)' with the aim of integrated development of 36428 villages with significant tribal population having at least 50% tribal population and 500 STs in a phased manner by bridging gaps in various sectors of development"

3.4 As regards to the funding pattern of the Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee vide their written reply that:-

"100% Grant-in-Aid to the State Government

(i) Funds up to the tune of ₹20.38 lakh per village will be provided for new villages to the State as 'Gap-filling' component including for administrative expenses;

(ii) Financial assistance will be released in two installments;

(iii) First installment, up to 50% of the admissible grant, will be released immediately on selection of the tribal villages to enable State/UT Governments to carry out capacity building, awareness generation, need assessment, preparation of Village Development Plans including the works identified for undertaking from the 'Gap-filling' funds;and

(iv) The balance admissible Central Assistance would be released in respect of the village development plans (VDPs) finalized by the Gram Sabha as 2nd installment".

3.5. On being asked about the period during which all the identified villages are likely to have integrated development and the current status of scheme, the Ministry *inter-alia* submitted in their written reply that:-

“The scheme ‘Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)’ has the vision to transform the villages with significant tribal population into model villages (adarsh gram), having saturated basic services and adequate infrastructure, through convergence of government schemes, so as to enable the villagers to develop their potential for a meaningful contribution to the economy and society. The Scheme is to be implemented during the years 2021-22 to 2025-26. The details of villages identified, taken up and funds released under the scheme is as follows:-

(₹ in lakh)

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Villages	2021-22		2022-23 (as on 15.02.2023)	
		Total No. of Villages	Villages Approved	Total Released	Villages Approved	Funds Released
1	Andhra Pradesh	517	109	0.00	94	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	141	72	733.68	26	0.00
3	Assam	1700	858	8743.02	309	10317.37
4	Bihar	184	76	774.44	34	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	4029	1530	15595.8	733	23021.82
6	DNDD	55	12	0.00	10	173.23
7	Goa	21	4	0.00	4	0.00
8	Gujarat	3764	1562	15916.78	684	19401.76
9	Himachal Pradesh	90	37	377.03	16	0.00
10	J & K	302	64	0.00	55	932.39
11	Ladakh	132	28	0.00	24	407.60
12	Jharkhand	3891	819	6531.79	707	6915.28
13	Karnataka	507	210	2139.9	92	937.48
14	Kerala	6	1	0.00	1	0.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	7307	1538	12268.76	1329	25542.51
16	Maharashtra	3605	759	0.00	655	13485.495
17	Manipur	254	53	427.98	46	295.47
18	Meghalaya	836	176	0.00	152	3342.30
19	Mizoram	344	72	580.83	63	641.97
20	Nagaland	530	112	886.53	96	681.60
21	Odisha	1653	348	2771.68	301	1001.24
22	Rajasthan	4302	906	7224.71	782	15269.66
23	Sikkim	62	13	0.00	11	0.00
24	Tamil Nadu	167	35	285.32	30	76.12
25	Telangana	533	222	2262.18	97	593.06
26	Tripura	375	79	631.78	68	904.48
27	Uttarakhand	64	13	0.00	12	0.00
28	Uttar Pradesh	183	39	0.00	33	0.00
29	West Bengal	874	184	0.00	159	2685.06
	<b>Total</b>	<b>36428</b>	<b>9931</b>	<b>78152.21</b>	<b>6623</b>	<b>126625.895</b>



3.6 When asked about the yearly target fixed to accomplish the objectives of the scheme, the Committee were *inter-alia* informed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in their written reply that: -

“The scheme guidelines provisions to select about 7500 villages with significant tribal population every year for achieving integrated development. During 2021-22 and 2022-23, a total of about 16554 villages have been taken up. So far, an amount of ₹ 2,047.00 Crore has already been released to the States and Village Development Plan in respect of 6264 villages approved for implementation.”

3.7 In this regard, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs added before the Committee that:

“मैडम, पिछले साल से इसे शुरू किया गया है। इस साल हम लोगों ने इसमें दिया है। मुख्यतः हमारे मंत्रालय से हम लोग एक गांव में 20 लाख रूपये ही दे रहे हैं। उसी से केवल करना है, ऐसा नहीं है, बल्कि हम लोगों की यह अपेक्षा है कि दूसरे जो मंत्रालय हैं, केन्द्र के भी और राज्यों के भी, उनकी जो योजनाएं अलग-अलग जगहों पर बिखरी रहती थीं, उन सबको समेकित करके वैसे गांवों में उनका उपयोग किया जाए, जिससे कि उस गांव का समेकित विकास हो। हमने इस अवधारणा से इसे बनाया है। इसमें बहुत मेहनत करने की जरूरत है। हम लोग यह कर भी रहे हैं। जैसे वित्त आयोग का ग्रांट होता है, उसके बाद मंत्रालयों के अलग-अलग ग्रांट्स होते हैं, ग्रामीण विकास का ग्रामीण अभिवृद्धि का जो ग्रांट होता है, उन सबको मिलकर इसमें काम कर रहे हैं। इस साल की डिटेल्स और आगे की जानकारी हम आपको भिजवा देंगे।”

3.8 On being asked about the role of the State Governments in the implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted vide written reply that:-

“State Governments concerned are responsible for implementation of the projects. So far, State Governments have been cooperative in the implementation of the scheme”.

**3.9 The Committee are happy to note that under Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have identified 36428 villages having at least 50% tribal population and 500 STs for integrated development to bridge the gap existing in various sectors of development including health, education, livelihood, housing, road connectivity, etc. in a phased manner between 2021-22 to 2025-26. The Committee find that 16554 villages were taken up for integrated development during 2021-22 and 2022-23 and an amount of ₹2,047 crore has been released to the States/UTS under Village Development Plan in support of 6264 villages. It has also been found that no funds were released to Andhra Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal during 2021-22 for 1251 villages approved in the States/UTs. Similarly, funds were also not released to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh for 231 villages approved for 2022-23. The Committee are constrained to observe that the objective of the Scheme may witness a setback as the funds have been released for less than 40% of the total number of villages approved for integrated development. Hence, they would like to be apprised of the reasons for not releasing funds to several villages in 2021-22 and 2022-23. The Committee further note that no time limit has been fixed for the integrated development of each village. The timeline taken for completing the identified works in a village need to be planned, therefore they recommend that stage wise time limit, along with provision of monitoring at the level of Ministry, should be worked out for the integrated development of villages. The Committee like the Ministry to lay down guidelines/SOPs with regard to the integrated development of tribal villages alongwith time limit. The Committee would not like the Ministry to hold State/UTs responsible for the slow pace of progress of different activities under the Scheme hence it is the utmost requirement that the possible causes for delay should be**

**identified at the present stage itself. The Committee also recommend that the criteria for selection of villages would need to be reviewed at later stage so that the villages having less than 50% ST population are also covered, once the works in villages identified as per the prevailing criteria, are completed so that all tribal villages progress in a similar fashion.**

## CHAPTER-IV

### DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS (PVTGs)

The scheme of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal affairs through State Governments and UT Administration covering all the 75 PVTGs in the Country. The Scheme aims at planning for the socio-economic development of the PVTGs in a comprehensive manner while retaining the culture and heritage of the community to improve their quality of life by adopting habitat development approach and intervening in all spheres of their social and economic life. The scheme covers funding for activities like housing, enhancement of education and health infrastructure, land distribution, land development, agricultural development, animal husbandry, construction of link roads and installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, irrigation, social security (including Janshree Bima Yojana), skill development and upgradation, conservation of culture or any other innovative activity meant for inclusive development of PVTGs.

4.2 When asked about the State-wise population of PVTGs, the Ministry submitted in their written reply as follows:

"As per information received from the Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner, Registrar General of India (RGI), no data on Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) is collected in Census and only those tribes are enumerated separately which are specifically notified as Scheduled Tribes (STs) as per Presidential Order under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 amended from time to time. As the enumeration of tribes other than STs has not been done separately in any of the decadal Censuses since 1951 Census, the population figure/ trend for the PVTGs communities as a whole is not available centrally. With regard to population of PVTGs, Ministry had requested the States / UT to carry out baseline surveys in concerned States / UTs. Ministry is in the process of verification of the population data so received in consultation with States / UTs. Information, as provided by the Office of Registrar General of India, on the State-wise population for PVTGs is given as follows:-

**State-wise population of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**

(

<b>S.No</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Population as per Census 2011</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh (Including Telangana)	176785
2.	Bihar	10050
3.	Jharkhand	292359
4.	Gujarat	39593
5.	Karnataka	50870
6.	Kerala	25316
7.	Madhya Pradesh	415192
8.	Chhattisgarh	116274
9.	Maharashtra	NIL
10.	Manipur	NIL
11.	Odisha	68588
12.	Rajasthan	NIL
13.	Tamil Nadu	255600
14.	Tripura	188220
15.	Uttar Pradesh	6005
16.	Uttarakhand	54727
17.	West Bengal	2241
18.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	769
<b>Total</b>		<b>17,02,589</b>

4.3. The Budgetary Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and Budgetary Estimates for 2023-24 under the scheme are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	AE
2020-21	250.00	140.00	140.00
2021-22	250.00	160.00	160.00
2022-23	252.00	124.79	6.48 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	256.14	---	---

4.4. On being enquired about the role of the State Governments in implementation of the Scheme and criteria for inter-State allocation of funds, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“Development of PVTGs’ is a Centrally Sponsored scheme with 100% Central Share. The funds are released to States / UT in accordance with the annual programme proposed for a particular financial year in the Conservation Cum Development (CCD) plan subject to submission of UCs / PPRs and availability of funds under the scheme. The scheme will cover all the identified PVTGs. The scheme is flexible because it enables each State to focus on areas that they consider relevant to the PVTGs and their socio-cultural environment. State Tribal Development / Social Welfare or other Department (in charge of tribal development activities) will formulate PVTG community wise long-term CCD plan (3-5 years) with the approval of Executive Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary. The scheme will be implemented in accordance with aforesaid CCD Plan prepared by the State/UT and executed through various Government agencies. The State Government concerned will be responsible for proper execution, implementation, supervision and coordination of the scheme.

“The criteria for inter-state allocation of funds shall be as under from 2019-20 onwards:-

i) The admissibility/share of funds in respect of each of the PVTG States/UT, out of total fund allocation for the financial year under the Scheme of 'Development of PVTGs', shall be in proportion to PVTG population in the State, as compared to (out of) total PVTG population in the country. Population figure of last census or Baseline population survey conducted by State Governments (whichever figure is later) will be the basis for calculation of share of funds of PVTG States.

ii) In respect of States with very small total PVTG population, a minimum limit of ₹50 lakhs for each PVTG shall be fixed to enable meaningful intervention like creation of infrastructure etc.

iii) However, the actual release of funds to a State/UT in any financial year would be subject to submission of a proposal by the State/UT, approval of activities proposed and submission of all pending/due requisite documents including Utilisation Certificate (UC) and Physical Progress Reports (PPR). In case of those States which do not fulfil these conditions in time, their admissible share of funds would be reallocated during the last quarter of the financial year to other States with additional demand and complete proposals/documents, for approved activities for their PVTGs"

4.5. On being asked about the reasons due to which there was downward revision in allocation at RE stage during the last three years, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted in their written reply that:-

"With regard to reduction in allocation at RE stage, it is stated that this has been done keeping in consideration pendency of utilization certificates and demands / proposals from State Governments / UT Administrations and compliances in so far as revised procedure for release of funds.

The allocation at RE stage is derived by keeping in consideration pendency of utilization certificates and demands / proposals from State Governments / UT Administration and thereby the likely funds which can be released to States/UT. During last three years, because of substantial pendency of UCs, allocation has been reduced at RE stage. Moreover, from the past financial year, State Governments are also required to designate a Single Nodal Agency in terms of revised procedure by Ministry of Finance for release of funds and monitoring

and comply with the allied instructions on the subject. The delay by States in complying with the said instructions is also a major factor in reducing the allocation at RE stage.”

4.6. On being enquired whether the Ministry would be able to utilize the unspent balance amount within the fiscal year and specific roadmap proposed for utilization of unspent funds during 2022-23, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* stated in their written reply that:-

“Ministry is making consistent efforts towards utilization of balance funds under the scheme by regular coordination with the State Governments. Ministry is providing appropriate guidance to State Governments to adopt the new procedure, wherever possible.”

4.7. On being asked the reasons for not releasing the funds to the States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Island, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala in 2019-20 & 2020-21, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* stated in their written reply that:-

“Funds were not released to Andaman & Nicobar Island, Bihar and Manipur in 2019-20 and 2020-21 due to non-submission of UCs. With regard to Uttar Pradesh & Kerala, funds were not released during 2019-20 due to non-submission of UCs; however during 2020-21, ₹82.04 lakhs were released to Uttar Pradesh and ₹88.00 lakhs were released to Kerala.”

4.8. On being asked about the features of the Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Development Mission and the roadmap for the implementation of this Mission including its funding, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission will aim to saturate PVTG families and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road connectivity etc. The modalities and roadmap for implementation of the proposed mission are under formulation.”



4.9. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee with regard to the Mission for PVTG during deliberation that:-

आदिम जाति मिशन के बारे में पूछा है। आदिम जाति मिशन के लिए इस बजट में बहुत बड़ा अनाउंसमेंट किया गया है। हमारे जो अलग-अलग मंत्रालय होते हैं, उन सभी में शेड्यूल ट्राइब कम्पोनेंट होता है। इस साल वह 1 लाख 12 हजार करोड़ है। पिछली बार हमने सभी मंत्रालयों को मिलकर उसे दिखाया था। उसी से निकलकर हमने आदिम जातियों के लिए बनाया है। माननीय राष्ट्रपति महोदया से हम लोग मिलने गए थे, तो उन्होंने भी इस बारे में कहा ताकि आप लोग आदिम जनजाती के लिए मिशन मोड में कुछ अलग से बनाइए। मैडम, आपने जो पॉइंट कहा है कि हम लोग पहले से करते आ रहे हैं, वह एकदम सही है, लेकिन तब डेढ़ सौ-दो सौ करोड़ ही खर्च होते थे और पूरा खर्च सैचुरेशन मोड में नहीं हो पाता था। इस बार हमने यह किया है कि यदि हम लोग प्रतिवर्ष पांच-पांच हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च करेंगे, तो तीन साल में करीब 15 हजार करोड़ रुपये में हम काफी कुछ कर लेंगे। हम लोग बहुत सारी चीजें नहीं करना चाहते हैं, क्योंकि यदि बहुत सारी चीजें करेंगे, तो उतना हम कर भी नहीं पाएंगे। इसीलिए हमने 10 चीजों को सिलेक्ट किया है, जिसमें पक्का घर बनना, घर में शौचालय, पीने के पानी की सुविधा, जिस गांव में आदिम जाति के लोग रहते हैं, वहां पर प्राइमरी स्कूल की बिल्डिंग का पक्का होना, इसके अलावा उसके पास जो सबसे छोटा वाला स्वास्थ्य केंद्र (सब-सेंटर) है,...

**4.10 The Committee are rather apprehensive on the enhanced budgetary allocation for PVTGs and its utilization by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as data on population of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in several States/UTs is still not available with them. During oral evidence, the representatives of the Ministry had informed that for PVTGs, annual expenditure to the tune of ₹5,000 crore has been planned. The Committee have also been informed that the Ministry had requested States/UTs to carry out baseline surveys and now they are in the process of verification of the population data received in consultation with States/UTs. The Committee feel that this should have been done earlier because they strongly believe that in the absence of correct details of the population of PVTGs, the financial allocation for the Scheme may not bear the desired**

**results. An evaluation study has also brought out the fact that PVTG data is absent in many States/UTs, including A&N islands visited recently by the Committee, where 6 out of 7 ST groups fall under PVTGs. The Committee hope that now the details of the population of PVTGs in different States/UTs would be collected seriously and verified at the earliest so that the budgetary allocation for them is utilized correctly and socio-economic development of PVTGs could be done in a comprehensive manner. The Committee, at the same time, appreciate that at least some initiatives for the socio-economic development of PVTGs have been taken for the 17,02,589 persons from PVTGs, as revealed by the office of Registrar General of India. As only a very meagre amount of ₹6.48 crore could be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 out of the Budgetary Estimates of ₹252 crore for the year 2022-23 and the budgetary estimates had to be substantially reduced at RE stage in 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 awaiting the utilization certificates and demand/proposals from State Governments/UT Administrations, the Committee expect the Ministry to focus on the welfare of PVTGs under a well-conceived Action Plan. Since the latest introduction of Single Nodal Agency model under PFMS (SNA) has also reportedly resulted in non-release of funds to States/UTs, the Committee would like the Ministry to take suitable necessary action for enabling States/UTs to do timely nomination of Single Nodal Agency so that the problem of lower expenditure due to the pendency of utilization certificates is resolved and the grant due is released to the States/UTs. The Committee would also like the Ministry to guide the State/UT Governments on how to submit the Conservation-cum- Development plan for the socio-economic development of the PVTGs, and release funds accordingly. The Committee feel that the new initiative of the Government i.e. Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Development Mission, if implemented with the requisite push, will rejuvenate the crumbling Scheme as it is expected to overcome the flaws of the Scheme. Hence, the Committee would like the Ministry to**

**expeditiously frame the modalities/SOPs/guidelines of the said Mission. The Committee would like to be informed of the necessary steps taken in this regard by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.**

## CHAPTER-V

### **GRANTS UNDER ARTICLE 275 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA**

Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India is a Constitutional mandate of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. It is one of those special Schemes through which funds are released to 26 States, having ST population. Under this programme, 100% funding is made by Government of India towards various sectors such as education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy and skill development/other income generating schemes to enable the States for promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

5.2. The Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 alongwith Budget Estimates for 2023-24 is as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	AE
2020-21	1350.01	800.00	800.00
2021-22	1350.01	900.00	923.24
2022-23	1350.01	925.00	455.24 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	1472.11	---	---

5.3. When asked about the State-wise release of funds under the programme in the past five years, the Ministry submitted as follows:-

(₹.in Lakh)

S.N	States	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Total Release	Total Release	Total Release	Total Release	Total Release
1	Andhra Pradesh	4591.11	6390.77	8942.43	2055.55	2638.65
2	Arunachal Pradesh	8378.82	12170.52	13202.25	6014.00	9830.00
3	Assam	0.00	3916.32	10802.85	4592.37	2570.00
4	Bihar	991.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	642.08
5	Chhattisgarh	10964.49	11352.92	22500.77	9976.24	11604.02
6	Goa	103.00	345.66	0.00	0.00	600.41
7	Gujarat	11384.08	11648.20	16833.88	5940.04	6923.79

8	Himachal Pradesh	2074.70	3378.16	5314.70	1161.00	1500.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3049.06	2051.79	5410.00	0.00	0.00
10	Jharkhand	12386.93	7354.30	11166.77	10278.00	12264.19
11	Karnataka	5881.74	5220.61	10435.46	3305.68	3210.00
12	Kerala	803.17	472.28	633.29	0.00	0.00
13	Madhya Pradesh	22399.48	24635.30	44938.92	4279.78	5319.10
14	Maharashtra	13862.24	17015.91	23136.70	4573.16	0.00
15	Manipur	2308.80	5367.645	6151.91	0.00	0.00
16	Meghalaya	3603.40	5129.79	4799.53	492.71	1595.25
17	Mizoram	2504.41	3507.71	6598.83	1909.71	2971.54
18	Nagaland	4434.11	9194.485	6802.11	1717.38	3202.39
19	Odisha	15995.30	21449.15	15110.66	6304.62	11382.05
20	Rajasthan	10240.58	13769.23	15586.19	9166.00	10435.21
21	Sikkim	405.30	355.34	3175.35	516.00	2045.00
22	Tamil Nadu	378.00	773.57	6356.07	0.00	0.00
23	Telangana	5015.32	3248.89	9973.28	2517.00	2050.00
24	Tripura	2040.89	2006.73	2952.63	201.74	607.53
25	Uttar Pradesh	189.00	252.43	2760.71	927.426	832.71
26	Uttarakhand	1577.56	1255.265	428.37	0.00	100.65
27	West Bengal	5376.51	9235.725	12127.17	4041.14	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>150939.89</b>	<b>181498.7</b>	<b>266140.8</b>	<b>79969.55</b>	<b>92324.57</b>

5.4. The Sector-wise release of funds is as follows:-

(₹. In Lakhs)

S. No.	Sector	Funds approved/Released during the financial year				
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	Education	121812.80	118125.80	211079.30	60442.65	33459.46
2	Health and Nutrition	6923.05	11563.86	9945.12	10611.61	7692.03
3	Infrastructure Development	8398.01	12379.81	8981.89	6363.01	15097.02

4	Livelihood & Income generation (AH & Agri.)	10614.30	22674.25	25160.85	22918.47	16624.72
5	Drinking Water	4677.22	6100.27	3656.32	3990.66	1551.40
6	Skill Development	545.83	4751.41	2812.00	898.17	1804.64
7	Sports and Games	1255.16	4758.98	3130.13	1898.00	1931.59
8	Road and Connectivity	2005.00	5098.91	7564.67	8475.25	10936.64
9	Research and Documentation & Misc. Other	4616.98	15800.40	9636.34	1532.49	13163.97
<b>Total fund Approved</b>		<b>160848.40</b>	<b>201253.60</b>	<b>281966.60</b>	<b>117130.30</b>	<b>102261.50</b>
<b>Total fund Released*</b>		<b>150939.90</b>	<b>181498.70</b>	<b>266140.80</b>	<b>79969.55</b>	<b>92324.57</b>

\*Gap between approved and released fund is due to pending UCs.

5.5 On being enquired about the monitoring mechanism available for effective implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted as under:

"The following steps are taken by the Ministry for monitoring of the schemes:-

- a. MoTA has developed an online portal "ADI-GRAMS" to ensure effective planning, management and implementation of Schemes/Grants of MoTA "Grant under Proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution" and "Development of PVTGs" etc. The portal is functional on NIC platform at <https://grants.tribal.gov.in>. The portal is meant to capture necessary data and information for monitoring of these schemes/grant.
- b. Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds.
- c. Progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained.

- d. Officers while visiting States / UTs also ascertain the progress of implementation of various schemes/ programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- e. Review Meetings / Conferences are convened at the Central level with State officials for ensuring timely submission of proposals, speeding up of implementation of the schemes/ programmes, and reviewing the physical and financial progress.

5.6. With regard to the utilization of the unspent balance of the allocated Budget of 2022-23 within the remaining period of the fiscal year, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply submitted that:-

“The actual release of funds under Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution as on 15.02.2023 is as given below:-

(₹. In Crore)		
Year	Revised Estimates	Actual Release
2022-23	925.00	613.62

Further, an amount of ₹100 cr is under process for release and the approved amount of ₹52.01 crore would be released to the States of Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura after lifting of the Model Code of Conduct. The remaining amount of fund is also scheduled to be released to states as per prescribed procedure. It is thus submitted that the Ministry would be able to utilize the unspent allocation and meet the target for revised estimates within the remaining period of the fiscal year.”

5.7. On being asked to justify the achievement of the objectives of this Constitutional provision as the allocation has been continuously revised downward at RE stage during the last three years, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

“Financial assistance is provided by this Ministry based upon proposals received from the State Government duly approved by Executing Committee and after appraisal and approval thereof by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) constituted in this Ministry for the purpose within the share of allocation of each State as per schematic norms. However, actual release of funds is

subject to the submission of outstanding UCs and PPRs by the state as per provisions of GFRs. The States are required to prepare the project proposals based on the infrastructural gaps and needs of the tribal communities. It is also submitted in this context that most of the projects being sanctioned under this programme relates to creation of capital assets and it takes substantial time to complete the projects as per prescribed procedure. It is also submitted that majority of the States have submitted utilization certificates in respect of the released funds. However, some States with substantial share of allocation such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Andhra Pradesh have not been able to take full share of allocation from the Ministry due to outstanding UCs over the years and hence the allocation of the scheme was reduced at RE stage. Ministry is continuously taking up the matter with the concerned States through periodic reviews, communications at highest level and meetings and these states have assured they will shortly complete the earlier sanctioned projects and will submit the outstanding UCs."

5.8. On being asked the reasons for not releasing the funds to the States of Bihar, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Manipur, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand in 2020-21 under the Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* stated in their written reply that:-

"In 2020-21, no funds were released to the States of Bihar, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Manipur, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand under Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution due to the following reasons:-

(a) No proposals were received from the States of Bihar and Goa in 2020-21, thus, no funds were released to these States in 2020-21.

(b) Though proposals were received from the States of Kerala, Manipur, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, and funds were duly approved after appraisal by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), the actual release of funds is subject to the submission of outstanding UCs and PPRs by the state as per provisions of GFRs. Due to high amount of pending UCs for the above-mentioned States, no funds were released in 2020-21.

(c) Grants under Proviso to Article 275(1) of Constitution of India are 100% annual grant from Government of India to States, not Union Territories. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019 reconstituted the State of Jammu & Kashmir into two Union Territories- Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh, effective from 31 October 2019. This reconstitution thus made Jammu and Kashmir ineligible to avail of Grants



under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India from 2020-21.”

5.9. On being enquired about the achievements of the Scheme and the factors taken into consideration for the preparation of Budgetary Estimates, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted *vide* their written reply that:-

“Achievements of the scheme are measured on the basis of UCs and Progress Report received from the States. The projected financial requirements for a financial year is made on the basis of expenditure trends over the years and committed liabilities over the previous years.”

5.10. On being enquired about the roadmap laid down by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the implementation of the scheme in 2023-24, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“In the upcoming financial year, the Ministry plans to convene more rigorous review meetings/conferences with the State Governments to ensure timely submission of proposals, expedite submission of pending UCs and PPRs and speed up implementation of the schemes/programmes to ensure timely and proper utilization of the Budgetary Allocation for the year.”

5.11. On being asked about evaluation study conducted during the last five years to assess the impact of the Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in their written reply stated that:-

“No evaluation study has been conducted during the last five years to assess the impact of Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.”

**5.12 The Committee note that Proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India provides for release of Grants to 26 States having ST population. Under this Programme, 100 per cent funding is made by Government of India towards various sectors such as education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy, skill development and other income generating Schemes to enable the States in promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee have, however, found that the Budgetary Estimates were substantially reduced at RE stage as several States/UTs did not comply to the provision of submission of Utilisation Certificates and PPRs as per provisions of GFR and also due to nature of the Projects sanctioned which require creation of Capital Assets thus taking substantial time for completion. The Committee are happy to note that majority of the States/UTs have submitted Utilisation Certificates now in respect of the funds released. However, some States such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Andhra Pradesh have not been able to take full share of allocation due to outstanding Utilization Certificates over the years. The Committee also found that the overall expenditure on various sectors has gone considerably down during 2020-21 and 2021-22 in comparison to 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 and hence would like to know reasons therefor. The Committee have further observed that no evaluation study has been conducted to assess the performance of the Scheme. Hence, they urge the Ministry to conduct periodic evaluation of the progress under this Constitutional Provision so that the lacunae in the implementation of the Scheme are timely identified and plugged suitably.**

## CHAPTER-VI

### POST- MATRIC AND PRE- MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES FOR STs

Post- Matric Scholarship Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented through the State Governments and Union Territory Administration. Central assistance is at the ratio of 75:25 (90:10 for NER and Hilly States and 100% Central assistance to UTs without legislature) to all States Governments/UTs Administration. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students for pursuing Post-secondary level of education. The scheme covers professional, technical as well as non-professional and non-technical courses at various levels and is open to all ST students whose parents' annual income is upto ₹2.50 lakh. The Scheme introduced in 1944-45 has been revised from time to time. The last revision of the scheme has been made *w.e.f.* 01.04.2022. The students are also provided maintenance allowance depending on the type of course. The courses have been divided into following four categories for the purpose of maintenance allowance:-

Group	Courses
Group I	Graduate and Post Graduate courses leading to Degree, PG Diploma, M. Phil, Ph. D in professional courses in various streams.
Group II	All non-professional recognised courses leading to a Graduate, Post-Graduate Degree not covered under Group I in Arts, Science and Commerce like B.A/ B.Sc./B.Com or M.A/M.Sc../M.Com etc.
Group III	Vocational stream, ITI courses, 3 year Diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.
Group IV	All post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. senior secondary certificate (Class XI and XII).

Similarly, Pre Matric Scholarship Scheme is also a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented through the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations since 1.7.2012. Through this scheme, it is intended to support education of children studying in classes IX and X so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the elementary to the secondary stage is minimized. The Scheme has been revised from the year 2021-22. Funding ratio between Centre and States is 75:25 for all States/UTs except North East and Hills States/UTs like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central Share. Scholarships are available for studies in India only. States/UTs are responsible for identification, verification and timely disbursement of scholarships to beneficiaries. Scholarships are paid @ ₹225/- per month for day scholars and @ ₹525/- per month for hostellers, for a period of 10 months in a year. Books and ad-hoc grant are paid @ ₹750/-per year for day scholars and ₹1,000/- per year for hostellers. ST students with disabilities will get an additional grant of ₹800/- monthly (₹9,600 annually) for hostellers and ₹600/monthly (₹7,200 annually) for day scholars.

6.2. The BE, RE and AE for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 along with the BE for 2023-24 under both the Schemes are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)

Year	BE		RE		AE	
	Post Matric	Pre Matric	Post Matric	Pre Matric	Post Matric	Pre Matric
2020-21	1900.00	400.00	1833.00	250.00	1830.18	248.90
2021-22	1993.00	400.00	2257.72	400.00	2257.52	394.14
2022-23	1965.00	419.00	1965.00	357.30	1920.52 (As on 31.01.2023)	314.98 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	1970.77	411.63				

6.3. On being enquired about the parameters taken into consideration for calculating annual Budgetary Estimates and the reasons due to which the Budgetary Estimates have remained stagnant in the last three years under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted in their written reply that:-

“The State Government/UT administration are required to submit the proposals for release of funds. The proposals contain the data pertaining to utilization of funds released during the previous year/s and physical progress in terms of number of beneficiaries covered. Based on the proposals received from State Government/ UT administrations, the Ministry calculates Budgetary estimates. In order to check unrealistic proposals, the State is required to justify if the fund requirement is more than 20% of previous release. In case of non-receipt of proposal from any state, the amount is restricted to the amount released during the last fiscal, to arrive at budgetary estimates.

The Scheme is open ended. All students with annual family income of ₹2.50 lakhs are eligible to apply for the Scheme. The Invitation of applications and selection of beneficiary is the primary responsibility of the respective State Government/UT Administration and funds are released as per requirement of the States/UTs. There is an increase in actual expenditure from ₹1,833 Cr to ₹2,257.72 Cr in 2021-22. The BE for 2022-23 is ₹1,965 Cr and an amount of ₹1,849.16 Cr has already been spent and the balance amount will also be spent during the last quarter of FY 2022-23. Further, request has been sent for additional allocation of ₹380 Cr”.

6.4. On being asked reasons for not being able to utilise the allocation even after being reduced in 2020-21 and 2022-23 at RE stage and the steps taken to utilise the remaining balance during the fiscal under Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted *vide* their written reply that:-

“Almost the entire amount of revised allocation under Pre matric Scholarship Scheme has been utilized during 2020-21. During 2021-22 an amount of nearly ₹6 cr. could not be booked under pre matric scholarship scheme as there was no proposal. The balance amount was re-appropriated to Post Matric Scholarship Scheme. It may please be noted that the actual expenditure of ₹2,257.72 Cr, booked against Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for 2021-22 was more than the BE of ₹1,993 Cr.

As on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb., 2023 an amount of ₹317.65 cr. has been released and only ₹39.65 cr. is available for release. Currently proposal of ₹57.00 cr. has been concurred by IFD and pending for SNA compliance i.r.o proposal of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, Ministry would be able to utilize the unspent balance within the fiscal year 2022-23.”

6.5. On being enquired about the evaluation study conducted to assess the performance of Pre and Post-Matric scholarship Schemes, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* stated that:-

“An Evaluation Study of Pre & Post Matric Scholarship Schemes was conducted by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) during 2020. The findings of the study and action taken by the ministry is as follows:

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Recommendation in the evaluation study</b>	<b>Action taken by the Ministry</b>
1.	The financial assistance from Centre to State/UTs vis-à-vis State or UTs /Districts to beneficiary accounts need to be released in a timely manner. However, in the last rectification/ intervention/ suggestion to ensure the flow of fund to be regulated uninterruptedly did not make much change. The liability of Centre and States/UTs to dispense the amount on priority basis should be developed with timely disbursement of the amount to the beneficiaries account. Also, it requires dedicated staff at all levels. The dedicated staff to manage the schemes will be held accountable for any delay in the disbursement. The staff would also be keeping all information related to budget estimate, revised estimate, actual expenditure and the number of beneficiaries targeted. The staff members also need to ensure that the amount reaches the beneficiaries on a yearly basis. All transactions involved	The Ministry is following the new procedure of release of fund, through SNA, under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes. The Central Share is released to States/UTs and State Govt. is required to transfer this amount along with corresponding State Share to the Single Nodal Account (SNA). The release of scholarship to students are done through the SNA account only which can be tracked through the PFMS reports. The transactions are tracked through PFMS.

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Recommendation in the evaluation study</b>	<b>Action taken by the Ministry</b>
	in the scheme are to be preserved by States/UTs. The States/UTs demand should be prepared in time by the State Tribal Department and be forwarded to the Ministry. The States/UTs need to ensure that the aforementioned details are shared with the Centre.	
2.	For Post Matric Scholarship Scheme, Book Bank in the Institutions (in prescribed disciplines), as per the Scheme guidelines, need to be set-up immediately and action taken report to be forwarded to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on an urgent basis. The States/UTs Tribal Departments need to ensure the existence of the Book Bank. In case of book banks are not set-up, in coordination with Education Department/Higher Education, the required steps need to be taken.	The provision of Book Bank under the Post-Matric Scholarship has been done away with as per the approval of CCEA.
3.	Educational Institutions may be provided with some non-recurring grant to procure internet facility providing easy access to scholarship processing.	Noted
4.	In order to improve the outreach and effectiveness of the schemes, both financial and physical scaling up is recommended. To cover up all the potential-beneficiaries, fund availability in advance is to be ensured by States/UTs.	The scheme of Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship is a demand driven open ended scheme where all eligible beneficiaries are provided scholarship support. The Ministry releases the Central Share based on the proposal received from States/UTs.
5.	The study also recommends for an annual social audit in order to assess	The performance audit of the Pre-Matric and Post-Matric

S.N.	Recommendation in the evaluation study	Action taken by the Ministry
	the actual usefulness and the degree to which needy ST beneficiaries are being covered. The recommendations of the social audit will keep the Scheme resurrected and not let it be obsolete.	Scholarship is being undertaken by CAG at both Central and State/UT level.

Currently, CAG is undertaking the performance audit of Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes of the Ministry. The performance audit of CAG, among other things, is covering dropout rates also. The Report is awaited. Further, the Ministry has devised a format in which the States/UTs are required to furnish progress of students availing scholarship. This information is included in the format of proposal for release of funds”.

6.6. On being enquired about the method adopted to assess the students eligible for Post Matric/ Pre Matric scholarship, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in their written reply submitted that:-

“The Post Matric Scholarship Scheme is a Central Sponsored Scheme and is implemented through respective State/UT administrations. The Ministry has been conducting regular meetings with State Govt functionaries to monitor the progress of the Scheme. In such meetings, the State Govt. functionaries are being requested to cover all the eligible students. The targets under Pre-Matric Scholarship are fixed on the basis of past trends and the proposals received from the States/UTs. No specific survey is conducted to fix the targets.”

6.7. On being asked regarding the revision of the Post Matric Scholarship schemes to absorb the inflation effect as it was held long time back in 2013, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted *vide* written reply that:-

“The scheme of Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship is a demand driven open ended scheme where all eligible beneficiaries are provided scholarship support. Therefore, the increase in income limit will increase the number of eligible beneficiaries under the scheme. Thus, increase in income ceiling or 40% escalation in scholarship amount will result in sizable increase in the total



budget required for the implementation of these schemes. It is pertinent to mention here that DoE had instructed to keep the total cost of the scheme for FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 under the 5.5 times of expenditure incurred in FY 2019-20. In view of this, the increase in income limit and rate of scholarship under these schemes could not be done. Group of Ministers (GoM) is also examining the rationalization of Scholarship Schemes and income limit”.

**6.8 For educational empowerment of STs, the Pre-matric and Post-Matric scholarship Schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implemented by the State Governments and UT Administrations to support the education of the Scheduled Tribe students. The Committee are surprised to find that the Budgetary Estimates under Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes have almost remained same as ₹1,970.77 crore have been estimated for 2023-24 whereas ₹1,965 crore was estimated for 2022-23 under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. Similarly, ₹411.63 crore have been estimated for 2023-24 against ₹419 crore estimated for 2022-23 under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme. The Committee also find that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have not been able to fully spend the Budgetary allocation for 2022-23 under both the schemes as ₹1920.52 crore have been spent out of the Budgetary Estimate of ₹1,965 crore under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme and ₹314.98 crore could be spent out of ₹419 crore under Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme upto 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. It was seen that from certain States, the proposals are not received for scholarships. The Committee believe that the recent procedural requirement of Single Nodal Agency is also likely to hamper the disbursement of scholarships, being a new addition, unless the State Governments and UT Administrations are directed to implement this system in a time bound manner. The Committee have also found that the Ministry is yet to take action on some of the pertinent recommendations made under the Evaluation study by Indian Institute of Public Administration, such as facility of Book Bank in schools, making funds available in advance, social audit etc. Hence, the Committee feel that this**

**should be seriously considered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs so that suitable action is taken urgently in the interest of the socially and educationally backward tribal students. Further, the Committee strongly believe that the current income eligibility criteria fixed for these Scholarships needs to be urgently reviewed and revised as it deprives many needy students from availing the scholarships benefits. A Group of Ministers is considering this matter. Hence, the Committee would await for a positive outcome and urge that the income ceiling needs to be appropriately revised for expansion of coverage of ST students. The Committee believe that the Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarships are playing a pivotal role in providing education to Tribal students who have no financial resources for the same. To contain the school drop out rate among the tribals, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should direct all the States/UTs to publicize the Schemes vigorously particularly in tribal dominated areas.**

## CHAPTER-VII

### SCHEME OF GRANT IN AID TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WORKING FOR THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES

The scheme 'Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for welfare of Scheduled Tribes is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas. The sectors such as education and health along with an environment which is favourable for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes are given importance through the efforts of voluntary organizations. The grants are provided to the non-governmental organizations duly recommended by the State Government/UT Administration of the concerned State/UT. The grants are also provided to strengthen the education among Scheduled Tribe girls with the objective to bridge the gaps existing among the general female population and Scheduled Tribe women in the Country. The Ministry is funding around 190 NGOs for approximately 320 projects in service deficient areas, LWE affected areas and Border areas in mainly Health and Education sectors.

7.2 An NGO Portal (<http://ngo.tribal.gov.in>), has been developed for streamlining the process of sanction and release of grants to the NGOs under the Scheme. The entire process from inviting of applications, verification and release of funds is done through the NGO portal where the NGOs can even track their application.

7.3. The BE, RE and AE for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 along with the BE for 2023-24 under the scheme are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	AE
2020-21	110.00	60.00	59.50
2021-22	110.00	90.00	89.25
2022-23	110.00	110.00	88.92 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	140.00	---	---

7.4 The details of number of new projects applied by NGO, no. of projects recommended by various State Governments and approved by Ministry of Tribal Affairs during last 5 years are placed below:-

<b>Year wise no. of New Projects applied</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Projects applied</b>	<b>Recommended by State/UT</b>	<b>Approved projects by Ministry</b>
2017-18	259	63	30
2018-19	691	107	69
2019-20	1192	107	18
2020-21	1529	127	49
2021-22*	-	-	-
* NGO portal for new projects was not opened. However, this Ministry has invited applications for ongoing projects only.			

7.5. When asked about the major findings of the evaluation study conducted by Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF) on the Scheme alongwith the action taken by the Ministry, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted as follows:-

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.	Insufficient access to middle and high schools (both quantity and quality of schools) led to high dropout rates among migrant students. Propose the budget for the grant system be revised - 5% of the cumulative budget is earmarked for funding NGOs / VOs, which would result in a three-fold increase in the budget allocation for financing various interventions. By increasing the grants, NGOs/VOs could have better access to qualified staff and improve the infrastructure that enables tribal beneficiaries to receive high-quality education and close the literacy gap with other social groups. Increasing the program's budget will also improve health outcomes by increasing beds for 10-bed hospital units and mobile units for tribal communities.	It is seen that over the years, Ministry is able to cater to ongoing and new NGOs within the allocated budget and the fact that the scheme is demand-driven and is subject to various oversights like the organizations bound to follow the GFR guidelines, Finance Ministry's guidelines like implementation of EAT/REAT module after registration on PFMS, etc.  Funding to NGOs is a gap filling measure and aims primarily to supplement the efforts of Government. The projects funded are located in tribal areas or areas where similar projects by government agencies are few

		<p>and far between or are non-existent and participation of NGOs is necessary.</p> <p>Also, the Ministry, through other schemes being administered by it through the state governments, is catering to the needs of tribal communities.</p> <p>During the last EFC and CCEA approval the total budget for 5 years was increased to 5.5 times. Accordingly, the allocation for year 2023-24(BE) has been enhanced to ₹140.00 crore.</p>
2.	In view of the limited scope of interaction between the ministry and the NGOs, particularly for those NGOs/VOs located in geographically challenging areas, the Ministry can consider recruiting young independent consultants and assign them with a particular jurisdiction to operate at.	A dedicated helpline no. and email ID has structured in the Ministry to provide technical assistance, grievance redressal and resolve/ assist in other issue.
3.	Newer projects in the field of education are given priority to organizations that wish to set up residential educational complexes, hostels or schools in service deficient areas for female beneficiaries in the tribal communities.	Female/Girls specific education scheme is already a component of the scheme of Grants in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of STs. Otherwise also, the guidelines of the scheme also lays emphasis on female literacy.
4.	Prioritizes raising the salary of teachers, by revising the salary guidelines comparable to the ones of the MOSJ&E operating a similar scheme.	Incorporated in revised guidelines issued by the ministry. The allocation of the budget under the scheme is being made keeping in view the annual/total outlay approved by the CCEA for the current financial cycle.

		Ministry is providing grants only for the core activities such as honorarium of teachers, diet charges, clothings etc. keeping in view that, implementing agencies are required to carry out expenditure on secondary staff / items out of their own funds.
5.	Provide one-time financial support to organizations to set up digital learning facilities. Organizations being funded under the Grant-in-aid scheme could also reach out for CSR funding supporting educational interventions for socio-economically marginalized communities. In Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, organizations being funded by the MoTA, could apply for funding under the Atal Innovation Mission. The MoTA could also consider collaborating with Ed-Tech companies/start-up to identify delivery of digital content to schools in tribal areas without continuous internet connectivity.	Provision for reimbursement of internet charges has been kept in revised guidelines issued by Ministry so that NGO/VO's can provide digital connectivity to the project and further can give exposure to the students through virtual classes and internet.

7.6. On being enquired about the criteria for selection of NGO for implementation of the scheme and the process to transfer the funds to NGOs, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply submitted that:-

“Criteria for selection of projects of NGO are as given below:

- i. Eligibility of the Organization.
- ii. Running projects in tribal dominated area.
- iii. Sustainability and viability of the project.
- iv. Service deficiency in the proposed area of the project based on credible data of beneficiaries to be covered
- v. Availability of similar projects under the scheme of Central Govt./ State Govt.
- vi. Overall capacity of the applicant NGO to deliver the intended benefits.
- vii. Recommendation of State Govt./ District Authority.

As per direction contained in Ministry of Finance, O.M dated 09.03.2022 on revised procedure for flow of funds, scheme is being implemented through a Central Nodal Agency (CNA). National Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), an organisation under Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been designated as CNA and Canara Bank has been designated as scheduled commercial bank for implementing the scheme.

For receiving funds from Ministry, Voluntary Organization/NGOs has to open a Zero Balance Subsidiary Account (ZBSA) in Canara Bank and has to link their account on PFMS. Following due process and formalities, Sanction Order from Ministry is issued to NSTFDC for releasing GIA to the Organizations for running their projects. Grant is released to Organizations in their ZBSA Bank Account. Organization does expenditure by adding their vendors on PFMS and transfers amounts using Receipts, Expenditure, Advances & Transfers (REAT) module of PFMS”.

7.7. On being asked about the parameters fixed for approval of the project under the scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

“The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health & livelihood.

Funding to NGOs aims primarily to supplement the efforts of Government. The projects funded are located in tribal areas or areas where similar projects by government agencies are few and far between or are non-existent and participation of NGOs is necessary. Further, projects are approved after verification of the organization statutory compliances.

Release of GIA is considered after mandatory annual inspection by District Authorities and satisfactory recommendation of State Government every year. Grant in Aid is released to the NGOs with due formalities as per scheme guidelines.”

7.8 With regard to the role of the State Governments in implementation of the scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

- a. “The online application/proposal submitted by NGOs is directed to the account of State/UT Tribal Welfare Department which in turn gets the projects inspected through District Level officer and district level recommendation.

- b. The authorised district level Officer is required to upload comments/ physical inspection report about the project and its functioning on the portal in prescribed format, duly signed and stamped, and forward the to the State.
- c. For new projects/applications, State Committee for Support of Voluntary Efforts (SCSVE) under chairmanship of Principal Secretary/Officer in-charge of Tribal Welfare Department/Social Welfare Department is required to make specific recommendation about the application(s)/project(s) of the NGO. If a project is not recommended by State Committee, the reasons will be indicated.
- d. Ongoing proposals/applications (ones which received grants from MoTA in previous year(s)) can be recommended to the Ministry by the Principal Secretary/Officer in charge Tribal Welfare Department without seeking the approval of the SCSVE. He would also get the field verification done through District Collector or District Welfare Officer, or any other authority at district /state level, who will upload the Inspection report, duly signed and stamped, on the portal.

A project which is not recommended by the State Government is not considered for grants by the Ministry. Therefore, the State Governments have a very crucial role in proper implementation of the scheme.”

7.9 On being enquired about the reasons due to which the funds allocated during 2020-21 and 2021-22 was reduced at RE stage and steps taken to stop this trend in 2023-24 particularly when the funds have been enhanced, the Ministry submitted that:

“The scheme is demand-driven. Grant-in-aid was released based upon the projects recommended by State Governments. During 2020-21 & 2021-22, non-compliance of PFMS EAT module was an issue and due to Covid-19 pandemic, RE was reduced. Further, portal was opened only for ongoing projects during 2021-22.

Scheme Guideline has been revised *w.e.f* for 2022-23 and portal is open for new as well as ongoing projects. There is an upward revision in financial norms of the projects in revised guidelines. Further, along with the committed liability of 2022-23, funds/grants for 2023-24 will also require to be released



in next year. Therefore, the enhanced allocation under the scheme for 2023-24 is likely to be utilised.”

7.10. On being asked about the criteria laid down for annual allocation of funds and fixing of physical targets, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *inter-alia* submitted in their written reply that:-

“The scheme is demand-drive. After verifying the recommended number of ongoing projects by State Government for a particular year, adding committed liabilities of previous years, allocation of funds is prepared. The physical targets are fixed as tentatively on the basis of allocation of funds in a particular year. Further, targets are also fixed on the basis of physical achievements of the previous year. The allocation of the budget under the scheme is being made keeping in view the annual/total outlay approved by the CCEA for the current financial cycle.”

**7.11 The Committee find the performance of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs commendable with regard to the actual expenditure *vis-à-vis* revised estimate in the Scheme of “Grant in aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes” as they were able to spend ₹59.50 crore out of ₹60 crore in 2020-2021, ₹89.25 crore out of ₹90 crore in 2021-2022 and ₹88.92 crore out of ₹110 crore upto 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 in 2022-2023. Further, the Ministry has got a substantially increased budgetary provision by ₹30 crore for 2023-2024 to ₹140 crore in comparison to ₹110 crore budgeted for 2022-2023. However, the Committee are perplexed to note that the Ministry had approved only 166 projects out of 404 recommended by States/UTs between 2017-2018 to 2020-21 and that no new projects were sanctioned in 2021-22 as the NGO portal was not opened. The Committee do not find any reason attributed by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for non-approval of the Projects recommended by the State Committee for support of voluntary efforts and thus feel that making the scheme suffer for want of an open NGO portal only is not desirable. Non-approval of the Projects discourages Voluntary Organisations particularly when the Scheme is demand driven. The**

**Committee do not find any logic in fixing targets on the basis of allocation of funds for the particular year and physical achievements of previous year when the percentage approval of the project is very less. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry to ensure that all viable Projects are approved with a view to achieve the objectives of the Scheme. The Committee would also appreciate if the Budgetary Estimates are not reduced at RE stage as happened in previous years and due efforts are made to make the scheme effective in the interest of tribal population of the Country. The Committee feel that to contain dubious NGOs and encourage genuine NGOs, regular evaluation of the Scheme should be held by an agency. The recommendations contained in such evaluation study should be examined and suitably implemented to remove flaws in the Scheme. The Committee also observe that *inter-alia* remarks of the Ministry, as submitted by them on the recommendations of Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation pertaining to revision in Ministry's share of the budget, prioritization of the projects, enhancement in salary and financial support to set up digital learning facilities in schools are not convincing. The Committee desire that these recommendations should be reviewed and if found appropriate, these may be implemented. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.**

## CHAPTER-VIII

### SUPPORT TO TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES (TRIs)

The Scheme of Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) is a Centrally sponsored scheme wherein 100% grant-in-aid is provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to TRIs. There are 27 Tribal Research Institutes across Country which are supported and administered by State Governments. The Ministry extends support to the State Governments to strengthen Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, research & documentation activities and training & capacity building programmes, Organization of tribal festivals/ yatras for promotion of unique cultural heritage and for promoting tourism and organisation of "exchange visits by tribal's", so that the tribal cultural practices, languages and rituals are preserved and disseminated.

8.2 The State-wise details of the Tribal Research Institutes established in the Country alongwith the year of establishment are as follows:-

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State Name</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Year of Establishment</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Tribal Research Institute	2014
2.	Assam	Assam Institute of Research for Tribals and Scheduled Castes	1962
3.	Andaman & Nicobar	Tribal Research Institute	2014
4.	Chhattisgarh	Tribal Research & Training Institute	2004
5.	Goa	Tribal Research Institute	2020
6..	Gujarat	Tribal Research & Training Institute	1962
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Institute of Tribals Studies	2008
8.	Jharkhand	Tribal research Institute	1953 (undivided Bihar)
9.	Jammu&Kashmir	Tribal Research Institute	2016
10.	Kerala	Kerala Institute for Research Training & Development studies	1971
11.	Karnataka	Tribal Research Institute	2005

12.	Manipur	Tribal Research Institute	1988
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Tribal Research & Development Institute	1954
14.	Maharashtra	Tribal Research & Training Institute	1962
15.	Orissa	SC/ST Research & Training Institute	1952
16.	Rajasthan	Tribal Research & Training Institute	1964
17.	Tamil Nadu	Tribal Research Center	1983
18.	Tripura	Tribal Research & Cultural Institute	1993
19.	Uttar Pradesh	SC/ST Research & Training Institute	1972
20.	WestBengal	Cultural Research Institute	1955
21.	Sikkim	Tribal research Institute	2016
22.	Telangana	Tribal Culture Research & Training Institute	1963
23.	Uttarakhand	Tribal Research Institute	2016
24.	Nagaland	Tribal Research Institute	2018
25.	Mizoram	Tribal Research Institute	2018
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	Tribal Research Institute	2018
27.	Meghalaya	Tribal Research Institute	2018

8.3. The BE, RE and AE during the last three years along with the BE for 2023-24 under the scheme are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	AE
2020-21	110.00	60.00	60.00
2021-22	120.00	60.00	60.00
2022-23	121.00	58.50	6.96 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	118.64		

8.4. On being enquired about the performance of Institutes as actual expenditure incurred was less during last three years, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

“During the last three years due to COVID - 19 pandemic and restriction in movement due to COVID, State TRIs could not complete their projects and were unable to submit UC in time. Resultantly, it was not feasible for TRIs to either complete their projects in time or claim the funds under the scheme in an optimal manner.”

8.5. On being asked the reasons for low utilization of funds in 2022-23 and proposal of the Ministry to spend 88 percent of RE during the remaining fiscal, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

“As on date, concurrence of IFD has been obtained for ₹32.91 crore. As per the revised procedure of fund flow through PFMS, only first installment of 25% was released and the balance amount will be released as and when the funds are utilized by the TRIs. Due to the pandemic and inability of the TRIs to utilize funds released earlier, and due to the introduction of the new procedure for release of funds, including the SNA requirements as well as the stipulation that only 25% of the funds can be released as one installment, and the second installment can be released only when 75% of the previously released installment is utilized, has led to under-utilization of the funds under the scheme by the Ministry.”

8.6. When asked about the steps taken for full utilization of allocated funds, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted in their written reply that:-

“Ministry will sensitize all the TRIs on regular basis and to ask them to review their projects and complete their projects in time and submit the utilization certificates and reduce the unspent balance. Continuous monitoring will be undertaken to ensure that the projects are completed in a time-bound manner and the initial issues associated with the new procedure for release of funds are overcome.”

8.7. On being asked about the Tribal Research Institute set up/proposed to be set up in the Country along with their status and objectives, the Ministry submitted that:-

“The Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) are engaged in the work of conducting research and evaluation studies, collection of data, identification of challenges in the field of socio-economic development

of tribals and in understanding, promoting and preserving their culture through various studies and other kinds of interventions. Training and capacity building of stakeholders, and knowledge advocacy that would help formulate evidence-based policy and planning are also the thrust area of these TRIs. All these activities are eligible to be supported by the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'support to TRIs', though the TRIs are primarily institutions under the State Government/UT Administration. As part of the research activities of the TRIs, the Ministry also supports construction of tribal museums within the premises of the TRIs to preserve the tribal art, craft and culture.

**8.8 The Committee find that 27 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been established in the country from the 1950s till 2020. The first TRI at Jharkhand (erstwhile undivided Bihar) was established as early as 1953 and TRI at Goa was established in 2020. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends support to strengthen TRIs in their infrastructural needs, research and documentation activities and training and capacity building programs, exchange points by tribals, etc. so that the tribal cultural practices, languages and rituals are preserved and disseminated. The Committee had an opportunity to visit TRIs in Gujarat and A&N Islands and appreciated their efforts, however, they are yet to find any Institute that has performed extraordinarily with a ground breaking discovery of tribal history, hence they are of the firm opinion that these Institutes need to work more and in-depth to gain on tribal research. The Committee are also not happy to note that budgeted estimates for 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-23 were reduced almost to half at RE stage. The actual expenditure of ₹6.96 crore against RE of ₹58.50 crore by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 in 2022-23 does not seem to be a healthy implementation of the TRI Scheme. The Committee are not convinced with the routine reply of the Ministry for slow progress of the scheme in 2022-23. They feel that mere allocation of funds does not assure the success of any Scheme. It is a known fact that the traditional culture of the various communities is disappearing fast and in the case of tribal communities, the situation cannot be more true. The Committee are highly concerned about the preservation and dissemination of tribal history, practices, languages and rituals. The Committee believe**

**that any change in procedure should not prove be detrimental for the scheme rather it should help in better management and monitoring of funds. The Committee therefore recommend that appropriate expertise is developed and disseminated so that viable proposals from TRIs are received from States. The Committee also desire that research activities of all the Tribal Research Institutes should be increased. In this connection, the Committee, during their recent visit to Ahmedabad, had called attention towards the Siddi tribe in Gujarat and Karnataka, which are originally negroid, having come originally from the African Continent eons ago, but are now completely amalgamated in the Indian ethos, as this particular group had largely remained on the margins so far. Bearing an athletic build, this tribe can show real promise in sports activities too, once provided proper support from the Government. The Committee would like to be informed of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.**

## CHAPTER-IX

### PRADHAN MANTRI JANJATIYA VIKAS MISSION

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) has been formulated with the merger of the two earlier schemes for promotion of tribal livelihood, i.e., "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through "Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP" and "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce". During 2021-22 to 2025-26, the PMJVM has the vision to strengthen tribal entrepreneurship initiatives and to facilitate livelihood opportunities by promoting more efficient, equitable, self-managed, optimum use of natural resources, MFP/farm & non-farm, tribal product-based enterprises promoted. A budget provision of ₹1,612.27 crore has been kept for implementing PMJVM from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

9.2. Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) scheme has four following components:

- (i) Release of Revolving Funds to State Implementing Agencies for procurement of MFPs on MSP rates.** - The objective of this component of the scheme is to establish a framework for ensuring fair prices for the tribal gatherers, primary processing, storage, transportation etc. while ensuring sustainability of the resource base.
- (ii) Operational arrangement / Infrastructure creation at State Level (Setting up of Haat Bazaar and storage Godown, infrastructure related to Special projects etc.)**—Under the component, State Implementing Agencies are provided with funds for Infrastructure Development like modernisation of haats, storage godowns etc.
- (iii) Setting up of Van Dhan Dhan Vikas Kendras**—Van Dhan Dhan Vikash Kendras have been created to attract tribal community-owned Micro Enterprises at Village Level in predominantly forested tribal districts in order to optimize the tribal income, locally, using non-timber forest produces by way of collection, processing, value-addition, packaging, branding and sale of value-added products. One VDVK comprises of around 15 Van Dhan Self Help Group (VDSHG) and each SHG is comprised of upto 20 tribal gatherers/ beneficiaries.
- (iv) Marketing Support for tribal produce / products**—Marketing support for tribal produce/products is aimed at creating livelihood opportunities for scheduled Tribes and also to sustain the same on a regular basis. TRIFED is engaged in generating livelihood opportunities for tribal communities through marketing development of the tribal products - organic and natural - created by them in terms of handicraft, handloom and other items.



9.3 The main objective of this scheme is to promote livelihood through income generation / augmentation activities for overall socio-economic development of tribal communities in the following ways:-

- a. Increasing productivity and profitability of disadvantaged tribal households and generation of multiple livelihood opportunities through diversification and integration of production system.
- b. Building capacity of STs and other traditional forest dwellers as individuals or as members of VDSHG, VDKs or VDPEs.
- c. Providing enabling environment to enhance access of tribal forest gatherers to minor forest produce and for value addition of MFPs for optimization of forest based sustainable livelihood;
- d. Encouraging and facilitating farm / non-farm enterprise development focused towards traditional and other skills of the tribal people and diversification of products/skills to meet the demand of the larger economy through sustainable and environment friendly practices.
- e. Facilitating appropriate linkages to help the tribal entrepreneurs to access finance, capacity building opportunities, acquire quality and other certifications, technological upgradation and related aspects.
- f. Providing market support through direct procurement by TRIFED or through other marketing mechanisms for tribal products / produce to facilitate income augmentation. Branding and promotion of such products / produce would be a part of this exercise.
- g. Promoting and strengthening institutional capacity of various stakeholders including TRIFED to work effectively for achieving the objectives of the scheme.

9.4. The BE, RE and AE for the year 2022-23 along with the BE for 2023-24 are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	AE
2022-23	499	140.27	135.27 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	288.49	---	---

9.5 The budgetary allocation for stipulated activities under the Scheme between 2021-22 to 2025-26 is as follows:-

( ₹ in crores)

S. No.	Activities	Indicators	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Total
1	Additional Revolving funds and Replenishment of losses	a) Additional revolving fund for MSP based on proposals from States	0	30	25	25	20	100
2		b) Replenishment of losses on actual basis based on deocuments submitted by States						
3	Operational arrangement / Infrastructure creation at State Level (Setting up of Haat Bazar and Storage Godowns etc.)	Setting up of Haat Bazaar and Storage Godowns etc.)	0	19.93	28.25	62.58	58.74	169.5
4	Setting up of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras	Setting up of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras	106.29	95	60	75	38.71	375

5	Van Dhan Producer Companies, M&E, R&D, PMU/ Consultancy, Survey	Van Dhan Producer Companies, M&E, R&D, PMU/ Consultancy, Survey	2.27	7.82	21.26	27	27.09	85.44
6	Administrative and Maintenance of retail outlets, repair, renovation decoration/ designing, opening of new outlets and purchase of space for outlets including procurement of tribal products & related activities	Administrative and Maintenance of retail outlets, repair, renovation decoration/ designing, opening of new outlets and purchase of space for outlets including procurement of tribal products & related activities	31.9	19	33.3	48.29	60.97	193.46
7	Buiding ecommerce platform, IT Platform & Digitization in an integrated manner	Buiding ecommerce platform, IT Platform & Digitization in an integrated manner (Rs in crores)	0.5	4	5.12	4.56	4.57	18.75
8	Organising & Participation in Fairs/ Festivals/ Exhibitions etc, Branding, Advertising, Skill, Incubation, GI and related activities	Organising & Participation in Fairs/ Festivals/ Exhibitions etc, Branding, Advertising, Skill, Incubation, GI and related activities	5.70	19.55	22.46	26.25	33.09	107.04

9	Procurement of TRIFOOD products and related activities		2	2	2	3	3	12
10	Salary, Administrative and Maintenance of HO/RO (OE & OAE), Purchase of assets and Office Space etc.		71.24	106.13	114.61	124.86	134.24	551.08
TOTAL			219.90	303.43	312.00	396.54	380.41	1612.27

9.6 The Year-wise targets for stipulated activities under the scheme is as follows:-

S. No.	Activities	Indicators	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Total
1	Operational arrangement / Infrastructure creation at State Level (Setting up of Haat Bazar and Storage Godowns etc.)	<i>Physical Target - Haat Bazaar In Nos</i>	0	350	500	1115	1035	3000
		<i>Physical Target - Storage Godowns In Nos</i>	0	75	100	210	215	600
2	Setting up of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras	<i>Physical Target - VDK New Sanction (In Nos)</i>		300	275	200		775
		<i>Physical Target - VDK Earlier Sanctioned Balance funds to earlier sanctioned VDKs (In Nos)</i>		667	253	600	418	1938

3	Van Dhan Producer Companies, M&E, R&D, PMU/ Consultancy, Survey	<i>Physical Target - Setting up of 50</i>	0	0	10	20	20	50
		<i>Physical Target - Van Dhan Societies/ Cooperatives -3800 VDKs @ Rs.0.50 Lakhs per VDK (In Nos)</i>	0	0	1400	1200	1200	3800
		Physical Target of Beneficiaries for Survey - Survey @Rs.50 per Beneficiary (In Nos)	0	300000	300000	300000	300000	1200000
4	Administrative and Maintenance of retail outlets, repair, renovation decoration/ designing, opening of new outlets and purchase of space for outlets including procurement of tribal products & related activities	<i>Physical Target - purchase of space for outlets (No)</i>		0	1	1	1	3
6	Organising & Participation in Fairs/ Festivals/ Exhibitions etc, Branding, Advertising, Skill,	<i>Physical Target - Aadi Mahotsav In Nos</i>		8	8	8	8	32
		<i>Physical Target -</i>		14	14	14	14	56

Incubation, GI and related activities	<i>Aadi Bazaar In Nos</i>					
	<i>Physical Target - TAM In Nos</i>	40	45	50	55	190
	<i>Physical Target - Other Exhibitions In Nos</i>	180	200	220	240	840
	<i>Physical Target - CTP In Nos</i>	2	5	7	10	24
	<i>Physical Target - DWT In Nos</i>	13	15	17	20	65
	<i>Physical Target - DPTW In Nos</i>	2	4	5	6	17
	<i>Physical Target -GI In Nos</i>	23	25	25	25	98

9.7. The State-wise details of sales done by the VDVks are as follows:-

**State-wise details of sale made by VDVks**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Number of VDVks Sanctioned</b>	<b>Number of operational VDVks</b>	<b>Total Amount of Sales (Rs. Lakhs)</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	415	152	218.23
2	Arunachal Pradesh	85	0	0.00
3	Assam	302	128	204.64
4	Chhattisgarh	139	70	753.04
5	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	1	0.52
6	Goa	10	1	27.00
7	Gujarat	116	3	3.12
8	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	0.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	100	0	0.00
10	Ladakh	10	0	0.00
11	Jharkhand	39	16	20.43
12	Karnataka	140	25	7.25
13	Kerala	44	16	6.50
14	Madhya Pradesh	107	62	32.66
15	Maharashtra	264	34	107.00

16	Manipur	200	139	278.12
17	Meghalaya	39	24	7.56
18	Mizoram	159	87	278.86
19	Nagaland	206	147	195.33
20	Odisha	170	56	355.33
21	Rajasthan	479	16	70.90
22	Sikkim	80	12	8.64
23	Tamil Nadu	8	5	67.85
24	Telangana	17	0	0.00
25	Tripura	32	19	7.19
26	Uttar Pradesh	25	5	7.89
27	Uttarakhand	12	0	2.20
28	West Bengal	22	0	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3225</b>	<b>1018</b>	<b>2660.26</b>

9.8. As regards to the monitoring mechanism adopted under PMJVK and steps proposed to streamline the system, the Ministry stated in their written reply:-

- a. "TRIFED has been assigned to devise a suitable framework for regular monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the scheme.
- b. TRIFED may engage third-party agency for mid-term review and/or undertake social audit for evaluation of the implementation of the scheme.
- c. In order to effectively manage the scheme of such scale and coverage there will be a dedicated online portal and mobile app for the scheme with an integrated Management Information System (MIS) to manage the activities online. The MIS will have in-built systems for online submission of application, MIS tracking, monitoring of physical & financial progress, sharing of reports and other tools for scheme management. The system will enable all the associated institutions and stakeholders to monitor the progress of projects and work collaboratively to ensure successful implementation of the scheme.
- d. MoTA will periodically review the progress of the projects under the scheme."

9.9 The performance of the various interventions undertaken in the two schemes is as follows:

**(a) Procurement of MFPs by State Govts. under MSP for MFP scheme**

Sl. No.	State	F/Y 2018-19	F/Y 2019-20	F/Y 2020-21	F/Y 2021-22	F/Y 2022-23
		Procurement Value (₹ In lakhs)	Procurement Value (₹ In lakhs)	Procurement Value (₹ In lakhs)	Procurement Value (₹ In lakhs)	Procurement Value (₹ In lakhs)
1	Odisha	3.61	36.21	2274.77	578.75	1622.10
2	Chhattisgarh	381.27	1632.24	15374.10	10191.85	4070.24
3	Andhra Pradesh	253.5	227.94	748.33	95.40	26.33
4	Gujarat	102.16	168.32	364.09	90.99	102.04
5	Rajasthan		15.12	5.92	2.65	
6	Maharashtra	43.26		64.92	119.01	22.66
7	Jharkhand	126.64		410.22	263.05	183.98
8	Nagaland	4.53	40.00	49.82	0.67	7.12
9	Tripura		55.68	19.00	0.00	
10	West Bengal	49.69	30.34			8.63
11	Assam			34.79	0.00	
12	Manipur			12.70	0.00	
13	Karnataka			109.26	36.58	
14	Madhya Pradesh		9.26	217.14	5.55	1180.88
15	Kerala				79.27	
16	Uttar Pradesh				1.67	
17	Tamil Nadu					4.46
<b>Total</b>		<b>964.66</b>	<b>2215.11</b>	<b>19685.06</b>	<b>11465.44</b>	<b>7228.44</b>



**(b) Details of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras sanctioned by TRIFED under MSP for MFP Scheme**

Sl. No.	State	2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022	
		No. of VDKs sanctioned	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of VDKs sanctioned	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of VDKs sanctioned	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Andhra Pradesh	75	21280	188	56378	152	45600
2	Arunachal Pradesh					85	25500
3	Assam	50	16059	78	23,530	174	52530
4	Chhattisgarh	139	41700				
5	Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT)			1	302		
6	Goa	1	300	9	2700		
7	Gujarat	116	34424				
8	Himachal Pradesh					4	1110
9	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)					100	29791
10	Jharkhand	39	11601				
11	Karnataka	19	5700	20	5748	101	30300
12	Kerala	13	3900			31	8138
13	Ladakh (UT)	10	3000				
14	Madhya Pradesh	86	25800			21	6360
15	Maharashtra	64	19350	200	60000		
16	Manipur	77	23269	123	37134		
17	Meghalaya			39	11835		
18	Mizoram	44	11668	115	34500		
19	Nagaland	78	23398	128	38,400		
20	Odisha	156	45882			14	4212
21	Rajasthan	25	7580	164	49,712	290	87511
22	Sikkim	80	23801				
23	Tamil Nadu	7	2100			1	300
24	Telangana	17	5100				
25	Tripura	17	4649	15	4244		

26	Uttar Pradesh	5	1238	7	2100	13	3900
27	Uttarakhand			11	3305	1	300
28	West Bengal					22	6719
Grand Total		1118	331799	1098	329888	1009	302271

**(c) Details of Sale / Purchase of tribal products by TRIFED under Institutional Support scheme**

Year	Total Sale of tribal products by TRIFED (in Crore)	Procurement of tribal products (in Crore)
<b>2017-18</b>	20.02	16.32
<b>2018-19</b>	32.59	38.62
<b>2019-20</b>	40.30	50.95
<b>2020-21</b>	30.13	16.52
<b>2021-22</b>	44.66	25.73

9.10. On being asked about the reasons for the merger of the schemes into PMJVM, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:-

“Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been implementing two Schemes namely (i) ‘Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP’ (with two sub-components of MSP for MFP and Van Dhan Yojana) and (ii) ‘Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products’ with the objective of providing safety net to Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribe MFP gatherers and development and marketing of Tribal Products and Produce. In January, 2020, NITI Aayog advised the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to work out sector specific programme in a mission mode to promote tribal livelihood. In October 2020, the Group of Ministers (GoM) for “Skill Development and Employment generation”, chaired by the Hon’ble Minister of Social Justice & Employment, recommended the launch of an umbrella program viz., “Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) - Mera Van Mera Dhan Mera Udyam” in their final report. In this backdrop, Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) has been conceptualized with merger of the above two schemes”.

**9.11 The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) was launched in 2021-22 by merging two earlier schemes i.e., 'Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) & Development of Value Chain for MFP' and 'Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce' for promotion of Tribal livelihood with a budgetary provision of ₹1612.27 crore for 2021-22 to 2025-26. The Committee, however, find that out of the budgetary estimate of ₹499.60 crore for 2022-23, the Ministry was able to spend only ₹135.27 crore by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The Committee also find that no target was fixed in 2021-22 against the budgetary allocation of ₹219.90 crore for the stipulated activities under the Mission. They are quite surprised to note that the procurement of MFPs by State Governments has also gone down in 2021-22 and 2022-23 in comparison to 2020-21. The Committee further note that 1018 VDVks have been made operational in various States out of 3225 sanctioned VDVks. As regard to the prime objective of promotion of Tribal livelihood, the Committee are constrained to observe that the number of beneficiaries have also gone down in 2021-22 in comparison to 2019-20 and 2020-21 as the number of beneficiaries was 302271 in 2021-22 whereas it was 331799 in 2019-20 and 329888 in 2020-21. Similarly, under Institutional Support Scheme, the procurement of Tribal products by TRIFED has also gone down to ₹25.73 crore in 2021-22 in comparison to 2019-20 where the procurement was of ₹50.95 crore. In a nutshell, from the figures mentioned above on the various activities under the scheme, the Committee do not find the performance of the Mission very encouraging in initial phase in all parametres. The Committee are of the firm belief that mere distribution of the budgetary provision between 2021-22 to 2025-26 and fixing of target on the stipulated activities to make the Mission successful is not sufficient. The Ministry needs to develop a fool-proof and constant monitoring mechanism and adopt**

**stringent measures to achieve the laid down targets in the given time frame well within the budgetary provision. Hence, here the initiatives/revisited procedures under PFMS must play a definite role. The Committee feel that concerted efforts are required to be taken to achieve the objectives of the Mission so that through this Mission, financial support is provided to maximum number of tribal people who are engaged to collect forest produce for their livelihood. The Committee desire that establishment of Van Dhan Kendras should be accelerated and infrastructure of all the existing Kendras should be strengthened so that coverage of beneficiaries can be maximum under the Mission. The Committee desire to be apprised of target fixed and achievement under all parameters in this Mission beyond 31.1.23 at the action taken stage.**

## CHAPTER-X

### EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL (EMRS)

Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS), a Central Sector Scheme was started in the year 2018-19 to provide quality education to the tribal children by setting up of residential schools specifically for Scheduled Tribes in the Country. The EMRS schools are established in every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons (as per census 2011). The EMRSs are being established at par with Navodaya Vidyalayas with special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development. 740 EMRSs have been identified to be established to extend benefit to 3.5 lakh Scheduled Tribe students across the Country by 2025-26. Till date 689 schools have been sanctioned and 401 EMRS have been made functional. Construction with regard to 247 schools has been completed and 229 schools are under construction and 213 schools are in pre-construction stages.

10.2 Construction of EMRS requires provision of 15 acres of land for creating a conducive environment for imparting quality education and provisioning of infrastructure towards sports & extra-curricular activities. Facilities in the school include state-of-the-art classrooms; fully equipped labs; library; administrative facilities for Principal and Staff; sanitation and drinking water facility; sports and games facilities (indoor and outdoor). Other facilities include Hostels for boys and girls, kitchen & dining hall and residential quarters for teaching and non-teaching staff, etc. As per the norms, 60 students per class divided into two sections with 30 students each from class VI to Class X and 90 students per class in three sections with 30 students each in the streams of Science, Commerce and Humanities in Class XI and XII are to be admitted.

10.3 The Capita cost for setting up of the School complex including hostels and staff quarters has been increased from ₹20.00 crore to ₹37.80 crore in plain areas and from ₹24.00 crore to ₹48.00 crore in hilly areas, N.E and LWE affected areas in 2021-22. Recurring cost upto ₹1.09 lakh per year per student is paid for running of the schools and towards expenses of the students (uniform, books & stationary, food etc).

10.4 When asked about the steps taken to streamline the operation of National Education Society for Tribal students (NESTS) which was established for monitoring of EMRS, the Ministry submitted that the following initiatives taken to streamline the operation of NEST:

- Model Recruitment Rules for Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff have been shared with States.
- States are being advised to take necessary and appropriate action for the recruitment of Staff in EMRS as per recruitment rules and policies of the State in a time bound manner.
- Recruitment Rules are being notified by States.
- A Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) and a technical wing have been set up in NESTS to oversee matters related to academic, construction, technical, finance, monitoring etc.
- A technical wing by engaging technical manpower to oversee the development of Projects, including vetting & monitoring of construction work entrusted to various agencies.

### **State EMRS Societies:**

10.5 Concerted efforts were made to set up the State/UT Level EMRS Society, duly registered under the Societies Registration Act. Accordingly, State/UT Level EMRS Society has been established in 27 out of 28 States/UTs. Efforts are being made to ensure that the Society is in place in the remaining States at the earliest. 25 States have signed MoU with NESTS. The MoU outlines the roles and responsibilities of NESTS and State /UTEMRS Societies in implementing the revamped programme of EMRS.

10.6. The BE, RE and AE for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 along with the BE for 2023-24 are as follows:-

( ₹ in crore)			
<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2020-21	1313.23	1200.00	1200.00
2021-22	1418.04	1057.74	1057.74
2022-23	2000.00	2000.00	1465.27 (As on 31.01.2023)
2023-24	5943.51	---	---

10.7 When asked about the State-wise details of EMRS sanctioned and functional, the Ministry submitted as under:-

**Summary of EMRS in India as on 28.02.2023**

S. No.	State / UT	Grand Total Schools	Total EMRS Sanctioned	Functional EMRS	Non Functional EMRS	Building Status of EMRS			Enrollment					Affiliation	
						Completed	In Progress	Yet to Start	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	CBSE	State Board
1	Andhra Pradesh	28	28	28	0	11	12	5	2800	3424	4609	5795	7087	20	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	12	10	3	7	5	2	3	240	208	100	220	290	2	0
3	Assam	17	14	1	13	0	7	7	0	480	480	480	Not Reported	1	0
4	Bihar	3	3		3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	75	74	73	1	25	11	38	6780	7961	11519	15581	19123	52	4
6	Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	120	179	238	1	0
7	Gujarat	48	42	35	6	23	5	14	10172	10156	10974	10973	10985	34	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	4	0	1	0	3	210	312	422	552	673	4	0
9	Jammu & Kashmir	6	6	6	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	294	0	0
10	Jharkhand	92	88	7	81	21	41	26	2829	3558	3084	3051	3201	2	0
11	Karnataka	12	12	12	0	12	0	0	2879	3053	3638	4027	4185	0	12
12	Kerala	4	4	4	0	2	0	2	600	535	520	560	697	0	2
13	Ladakh	3	3	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	72	70	63	7	32	30	8	10270	12946	20657	23393	24281	61	2
15	Maharashtra	39	37	37	0	13	11	13	4103	5067	6272	7062	8048	25	0
16	Manipur	22	21	3	18	3	9	9	1170	1440	1439	1431	1440	3	0
17	Meghalaya	40	27	0	27	1	1	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Mizoram	17	17	6	11	6	5	6	400	396	856	1061	1250	6	0
19	Nagaland	22	22	3	19	3	19	0	583	619	640	671	681	0	3

20	Odisha	119	104	32	72	28	44	32	5340	5821	6711	7317	8495	19	0
21	Rajasthan	31	31	30	1	24	7	0	5350	4947	5938	7224	8222	16	2
22	Sikkim	4	4	4	0	4	0	0	915	979	987	1008	1131	2	1
23	Tamil Nadu	8	8	8	0	3	4	1	1553	2186	2506	2867	2488	0	8
24	Telangana	23	23	23	0	13	9	1	4160	3960	5815	6795	7113	23	0
25	Tripura	21	21	6	15	4	13	4	1680	1740	1824	1899	1984	4	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	4	4	2	2	3	1	0	630	473	495	480	617	1	1
27	Uttarakhand	4	4	3	1	2	1	1	279	393	514	765	752	1	1
28	West Bengal	9	8	7	1	7	1	0	2662	2737	400	2072	Not Reported	0	7
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>65605</b>	<b>73391</b>	<b>90520</b>	<b>105463</b>	<b>113275</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>43</b>



10.8 On being enquired with regard to the measures taken so that all the Schools are constructed within the stipulated period in the States/ UTs having tribal population including Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee during the deliberation that:-

“हम लोगों ने इसके लिए 15 एकड़ जमीन का प्रावधान रखा हुआ है लेकिन कहीं-कहीं पर या तो जंगल की वजह से या पहाड़ी क्षेत्र होने से अथवा जमीन बहुत ज्यादा कीमती होने की वजह से 12 एकड़, 14 एकड़, साढ़े दस एकड़ जमीन पर भी हम सैंक्शन कर रहे हैं, लेकिन हम चाहते कि कम से कम 10 एकड़ जमीन हो, क्योंकि हॉस्टल में 480 लड़के-लड़कियां रहेंगे। 240 लड़के और 240 लड़कियों के लिए एक प्ले ग्राउंड, छात्रावास, मेस होना जरूरी है। अतः 10 से 15 एकड़ की जमीन हम ले रहे हैं। जो समतल जमीन होती है, वहां पर निर्माण में करीब 38 करोड़ का खर्च आता है, जब कि जो पहाड़ी इलाके होते हैं, वहां करीब 45 से 48 करोड़ तक का खर्च आ सकता है। यह हमारा एस्टीमेट है। इस साल 14 स्कूल्स बन भी गए हैं। वे दो सालों में ही बने हैं और बाकी स्कूल्स भी बनने शुरू हो गए हैं।

निर्माण में हमने करीब ढाई साल समय लगने का एस्टीमेट रखा है। 6 महीने जमीन का नक्शा आदि बनाने में और 2 साल कन्स्ट्रक्शन करने में लगेंगे। अतः जो फाइनेंशियल ईयर का साइकल है, उस हिसाब से हमारा अनुमान है कि मार्च , 2026 तक सारे स्कूल्स कम्प्लीट हो जाएंगे।”

10.9. On being asked to clarify on the announcement of the Government in the Annual Budget 2023-24 to recruit 38800 teachers and support staff for 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools for Tribal Students across the Country, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, deposed before the Committee during their oral evidence that:-

“आपके द्वारा और इस समिति के द्वारा कई बार इस विषय को उठाया गया था कि आप लोग स्कूल्स तो बना रहे हैं, लेकिन उनमें शिक्षक नहीं हैं और अच्छी तरह से पढ़ाई नहीं हो पा रही है। हमने इस बात को बहुत गंभीरता से लिया और वित्त मंत्रालय से बात करके तथा सुझाव भेज कर मंत्री महोदय के निर्देशन में हमने सभी नए और पुराने 740 स्कूलों के लिए 52 लोगों को रखना सुनिश्चित किया है। इनमें 26 अध्यापक और 26 सपोर्ट स्टाफ रहेंगे। ऐसा करने के लिए हम लोगों ने वित्त मंत्रालय से अप्रूवल लिया। उसके अलावा सपोर्टिंग स्टाफ का भी प्रॉविजन करके करीब 38 हजार स्टाफ हम रिक्रूट करेंगे। अगले तीन सालों में हर साल करीब-करीब 8 से 10 हजार लोग रिक्रूट होंगे। आवश्यकता के अनुसार हम करते रहेंगे। “

10.10. On being enquired about the procedure adopted for admission of students from primitive tribal communities in EMRS, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee during the course of oral evidence that:-

“अभी हम लोगों ने अपनी गाइडलाइन में एकलव्य विद्यालय में 5 प्रतिशत सीट आदिम जनजाति के बच्चों के लिए सुरक्षित रखे हुए हैं। अगर टेस्ट में उनके कम नंबर भी

आएँगे तो भी उनका दाखिला हो जाएगा, क्योंकि 5 प्रतिशत सीट्स उनके लिए सुरक्षित हैं।”

10.11 In this regard the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs further informed the Committee during the deliberation that:-

“एक कक्षा में 30 बच्चे होते हैं, लेकिन यह संख्या 40 तक जा सकती है और बाकी कुछ सीट पी.वी.टी.जी. के लिए या जो लेफ्ट विंग एक्सट्रिमिज्म से प्रभावित माता-पिता हैं, उनके बच्चों के लिए रिज़र्व हैं। उसके अलावा कई जगह, मैं बताना चाहूँगा कि मध्य प्रदेश में एक स्कूल इंदौर में है, जो सिर्फ पी.वी.टी.जी. के लिए ही बना हुआ है। उत्तराखंड में ऊधमसिंह नगर में जो ई.एम.आर.एस. है, उसमें अधिकांश बच्चे पी.वी.टी.जी. के हैं, जो बुक्सा कम्युनिटी है, उसके बच्चे हैं। कुछ विद्यालय मध्य प्रदेश में शुरू किए थे, वे सिर्फ पी.वी.टी.जी. के लिए ही शुरू किए थे। उनमें पी.वी.टी.जी. बच्चे दाखिला ले रहे हैं, लेकिन अब पूरी की पूरी संख्या उनके लिए रिज़र्व करने पर ऐसा हो रहा है कि उतने बच्चे मिल नहीं पा रहे हैं तो इसलिए बाकी समुदाय, एस.टी. बच्चों को भी वहाँ पर ले रहे हैं।”

**10.12 While the target of establishing 740 EMRS has been set to be achieved by 2025-26, so far only 401 schools have been made functional as on 28.2.2023. This would mean making 339 EMRS functional in the remaining financial years. The Committee are little apprehensive about the achievement of the target as the Ministry of Tribal Affairs could only spend ₹1,465.27 crore till 31.01.2023 out of the Budgetary Estimates of ₹2,000 crore under EMRS in 2022-23. The Ministry have informed that around 2.5 years are required for one EMRS to complete hence the Committee expect all remaining EMRS construction to start now if the target is to complete those by 2025-26. The Committee, in their 34<sup>th</sup> Report presented in April, 2022, have already examined EMRS to the last details and expect the Ministry to positively implement their recommendations. However, they would like to underline, once again, first, the implementation of the proposal to appoint all proposed 38,800 teachers & staff for the EMRSs well in time, second, to address the difficulties of first time learners/children hitherto devoid of any formal**

**education from Tribal population in clearing entrance exams for EMRS (which start from class VI) and third, to ensure that inspiring life-stories of tribal leaders, freedom fighters, academicians, environmentalists, entrepreneurs, market leaders etc. are adequately included in the school curriculum of EMRS. The Committee would also like to be informed of the expenditure incurred from the Budgetary Estimates of 2023-24 on the EMRS in their Action Taken Notes.**

**New Delhi  
13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023  
22 Phalgun, 1944 (Saka)**

**SMT. RAMA DEVI  
Chairperson  
Standing Committee on Social  
Justice and Empowerment**

**MINUTES OF THE NINTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23) ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24) OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS HELD ON FRIDAY, THE 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

The Committee met from 1310 hours to 1410 hours in Committee Room No.2, Parliament House Annexe- Extension Building, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SMT. RAMA DEVI - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Chhatar Singh Darbar
3. Smt. Ranjeeta Koli
4. Smt. Geeta Kora
5. Shri Akshaibar Lal

**Rajya Sabha**

6. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
7. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
8. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
9. Smt. Geeta *alias* Chandraprabha
10. Shri Narayan Koragappa
11. Shri Ramji
12. Shri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                           |   |                      |
|----|---------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Anita Bhatt Panda    | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Ved Prakash Nauriyal | - | Joint Secretary      |
| 3. | Smt. Mamta Kemwal         | - | Director             |
| 4. | Shri Krishendra Kumar     | - | Deputy Secretary     |

## WITNESSES AND

### REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

1.	Shri Anil Kumar Jha	Secretary
2.	Ms. R. Jaya	Additional Secretary
3.	Smt. Gitanjali Gupta	Managing Director, TRIFED
4.	Shri T. Roumuan Paite	Chairman-cum-Managing Director
5.	Shri Asit Gopal	Commissioner, NESTS
6.	Shri Naval Jit Kapoor	Joint Secretary
7.	Ms. Yatinder Prasad	Joint Secretary
8.	Shri Brij Nandan Prasad	Joint Secretary
9.	Shri Biswajit Das	DDG, Tribal Affairs

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Secretary and other officers representing the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the sitting of the Committee for discussion on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' in respect of their Ministry. The Chairperson in her address, drew attention of the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs towards non-utilisation of funds in the last three fiscals viz. 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 inspite of having enhanced allocation at Revised Estimate stage. The Chairperson also focused upon the enhancement in allocation of funds to the tune of Rs. 4009.56 crore at the stage of Budgetary Estimate with regard to 2023-24 compared to the last financial year and enquired to know about the roadmap and the schemes on which the funds supposed to be utilised. The Chairperson drew attention of the Ministry about launching of the 'Prime Minister Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Vikas Mission' and enquired to know about the performance of the ongoing scheme 'Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups' of the Ministry. Other issues highlighted were proposed recruitment of 38800 teaching and non-teaching staff in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Preservation and protection of Tribal cultures through Tribal Research Institutes and initiation of Ministry of Tribal Affairs to organize 'Aadi Mahotsav' to promote welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

3. The Chairperson then drew attention of the representatives of the Ministry to Direction 55 (1) of the 'Directions by the Speaker of Lok Sabha' about maintaining confidentiality of the proceedings of the Committee until the report is presented to both Houses of the Parliament.

4. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs introduced his team of officers and thereafter, briefed the Committee, through a power point presentation, highlighting the performance of the Ministry during the financial year 2022-23 and proposals for financial year 2023-24.

5. The Committee, thereafter, *inter alia* deliberated on the following issues:

- (i) Budgetary allocation, expenditure and shortfall in expenditure etc. for the financial year 2022-23 and budgetary estimation regarding financial year 2023-24.
- (ii) Construction of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) and provision of reservation for admission of students from PVTGs in EMRS;
- (iii) Provision of land rights for landless forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes;
- (iv) Issue of Siddi Tribal Community of African origin who are good at certain sport activities;
- (v) Setting up of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (vi) Recognition of Freedom Fighters and great personalities of Scheduled Tribe Communities in School curriculum;
- (vii) Non-issuance of Scheduled Tribe Certificate to Scheduled Tribes especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and
- (viii) Objectives of Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsha Gram Yojana (PMAAGY).

6. The Chairperson, then thanked the Secretary and other representatives of the Ministry for providing valuable information on the subject and also asked the Secretary to furnish written replies within a week on the issues that remained unanswered during the sitting.

A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting has been kept on record.

***The witnesses then withdrew.***

***(The Committee then adjourned at 1410 hours)***

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2022-23) HELD ON MONDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

The Committee met from 1030 hrs. to 1100 hrs. in Chairpersons Chamber, Room No. 113, PHA Extension Building, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SMT. RAMA DEVI - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

1. Smt. Sangeeta Azad
2. Shri Bholanath (B.P. Saroj)
3. Shri Chhatar Singh Darbar
4. Smt. Geeta Kora
5. Smt. Supriya Sadanand Sule
6. Shri Tokheho Yephthomi

**RAJYA SABHA**

7. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
8. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
9. Smt. Geeta *alias* Chandraprabha
10. Shri Narayana Koragappa
11. Shri Ramji

**SECRETARIAT**

- |                              |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Smt. Anita Bhatt Panda    | Additional Secretary |
| 2. Shri Ved Prakash Nauriyal | Joint Secretary      |
| 3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal         | Director             |
| 4. Shri Krishendra Kumar     | Deputy Secretary     |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee.
3. The Committee then took up for consideration the draft Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
  
4. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions, if any, on the draft Report. The Report was adopted by the Committee without any modifications. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Report in the light of consequential changes that might arise out of factual verification of the draft Report and to present the same to both the Houses.

***(The Committee then adjourned)***



## ANNEXURE

### STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl.No	Para No.	Observations/ Recommendations
1.	2.10	<p><b>India has one of the largest tribal populations in the world, which has rich traditions, cultures and heritage with unique lifestyles and customs. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of various programmes /schemes for welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes. Before analyzing last years' budgetary trends in this Ministry, the Committee appreciate the fact that the Budgetary allocation for 2023-24 has been enhanced to a substantial amount of ₹12,386.00 crore from ₹8,406.92 crore in 2022-23, with an increased allocation and focus on facilitating construction of additional EMRS schools in the next two years. This is to complete the target of 740 EMRS by 2025-26. It would, though, remain for the Committee to see if the enhancement in the Budgetary allocation for 2023-24 stays put as it has been the trend in the Ministry so far to get reduced funds from BE to RE stage. Nonetheless, as the Budgetary Estimates for 2023-24 has been substantially enhanced, the Committee would expect that the funds are fully utilized for the purpose and are not subsequently revised for one or the other reason. They would also like to reiterate that identification of all ST beneficiaries through ST Certificates is a must before the benefits accruing from the increased allocation of funds to the Ministry is to reach them all.</b></p>

2.	2.11	<p>Coming to the budgetary analysis of the last three years, the Committee note that in the year 2020-21, the budgetary estimate of the Ministry was revised from ₹7,205.74 to ₹5,472.50 crore and in 2021-22 the budgetary estimate of 7484.07 crore was revised to ₹6,126.46 crore. Similarly, in 2022-23, the BE of ₹8,406.92 crore was also reduced to ₹7,246.30 crore at RE stage. The contention of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs that the implementation of the schemes slowed down during 2020-21 and 2021-22 as the Governmental and Non-Governmental implementing agencies were not able to carry out the field level activities in the wake of Covid-19 Pandemic is not convincing at least for 2022-23 as by 2022 the impact of the Pandemic had weakened considerably. An oft-repeated submission is that the budget could not be released to States/UTs as implementing agencies could not submit Utilisation Certificates and second installment could only be released on submission of Utilisation Certificates after 75% of first installment is utilized as per the procedure revised by the Ministry of Finance. Adding another revised procedure this year, which the MoTA explained during their oral evidence, the Ministry of Finance has reportedly asked States/UTs receiving Central share under CS Schemes, to set up a Single Nodal Agency having a single Nodal Account (SNA) in which States/UTs will transfer amount received from Centre as well as their own corresponding share and release of funds will be through SNA only which will be tracked by PFMS. This procedure is particularly for</p>
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		<p><b>scholarship schemes. After overall analysis of all the reasons given by the Ministry, the Committee have found that absence of advance planning, change in procedures and failure of States/UTs to implement Schemes with the requisite enthusiasm and procedural discipline, are the major reasons, due to which actual expenditure during these years was less in comparison to Budgetary Estimates. The Committee desire that the Ministry should make an exhaustive exercise to keep all stakeholders informed about adherence to procedural requirements in implementation of various Schemes as well as collect proper data of beneficiaries and take corrective measures to ensure maximum public awareness on welfare schemes for STs so that the entire funds allocated at BE stage are utilized. The Committee would also like that the State/UT Governments should be involved in the process by conducting more interactions online before any procedural/policy change is made as they are playing an important role for implementing various Schemes.</b></p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>3.9</b></p>	<p><b>The Committee are happy to note that under Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have identified 36428 villages having at least 50% tribal population and 500 STs for integrated development to bridge the gap existing in various sectors of development including health, education, livelihood, housing, road connectivity, etc. in a phased manner between 2021-22 to 2025-26. The Committee find that 16554 villages were taken up for integrated development during 2021-22 and 2022-23 and an amount of ₹2,047</b></p>

		<p>crore has been released to the States/UTS under Village Development Plan in support of 6264 villages. It has also been found that no funds were released to Andhra Pradesh, Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli and Daman &amp; Diu, Goa, Jammu &amp; Kashmir, Ladakh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal during 2021-22 for 1251 villages approved in the States/UTs. Similarly, funds were also not released to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh for 231 villages approved for 2022-23. The Committee are constrained to observe that the objective of the Scheme may witness a setback as the funds have been released for less than 40% of the total number of villages approved for integrated development. Hence, they would like to be apprised of the reasons for not releasing funds to several villages in 2021-22 and 2022-23. The Committee further note that no time limit has been fixed for the integrated development of each village. The timeline taken for completing the identified works in a village need to be planned, therefore they recommend that stage wise time limit, along with provision of monitoring at the level of Ministry, should be worked out for the integrated development of villages. The Committee like the Ministry to lay down guidelines/SOPs with regard to the integrated development of tribal villages alongwith time limit. The Committee would not like the Ministry to hold State/UTs responsible for the slow pace of progress of different activities under the Scheme hence it is the</p>
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		<p>utmost requirement that the possible causes for delay should be identified at the present stage itself. The Committee also recommend that the criteria for selection of villages would need to be reviewed at later stage so that the villages having less than 50% ST population are also covered, once the works in villages identified as per the prevailing criteria, are completed so that all tribal villages progress in a similar fashion.</p>
4.	4.10	<p>The Committee are rather apprehensive on the enhanced budgetary allocation for PVTGs and its utilization by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as data on population of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in several States/UTs is still not available with them. During oral evidence, the representatives of the Ministry had informed that for PVTGs, annual expenditure to the tune of ₹5,000 crore has been planned. The Committee have also been informed that the Ministry had requested States/UTs to carry out baseline surveys and now they are in the process of verification of the population data received in consultation with States/UTs. The Committee feel that this should have been done earlier because they strongly believe that in the absence of correct details of the population of PVTGs, the financial allocation for the Scheme may not bear the desired results. An evaluation study has also brought out the fact that PVTG data is absent in many States/UTs, including A&amp;N islands visited recently by the Committee, where 6 out of 7 ST groups fall under PVTGs. The Committee hope that now the details of the population of PVTGs in different States/UTs would be</p>

		<p>collected seriously and verified at the earliest so that the budgetary allocation for them is utilized correctly and socio-economic development of PVTGs could be done in a comprehensive manner. The Committee, at the same time, appreciate that at least some initiatives for the socio-economic development of PVTGs have been taken for the 17,02,589 persons from PVTGs, as revealed by the office of Registrar General of India. As only a very meagre amount of ₹6.48 crore could be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 out of the Budgetary Estimates of ₹252 crore for the year 2022-23 and the budgetary estimates had to be substantially reduced at RE stage in 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 awaiting the utilization certificates and demand/proposals from State Governments/UT Administrations, the Committee expect the Ministry to focus on the welfare of PVTGs under a well-conceived Action Plan. Since the latest introduction of Single Nodal Agency model under PFMS (SNA) has also reportedly resulted in non-release of funds to States/UTs, the Committee would like the Ministry to take suitable necessary action for enabling States/UTs to do timely nomination of Single Nodal Agency so that the problem of lower expenditure due to the pendency of utilization certificates is resolved and the grant due is released to the States/UTs. The Committee would also like the Ministry to guide the State/UT Governments on how to submit the Conservation-cum- Development plan for the socio-economic development of the PVTGs, and release funds accordingly. The Committee feel that the new initiative of</p>
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		<p><b>the Government i.e. Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Development Mission, if implemented with the requisite push, will rejuvenate the crumbling Scheme as it is expected to overcome the flaws of the Scheme. Hence, the Committee would like the Ministry to expeditiously frame the modalities/SOPs/guidelines of the said Mission. The Committee would like to be informed of the necessary steps taken in this regard by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>5.12</b>	<p><b>The Committee note that Proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India provides for release of Grants to 26 States having ST population. Under this Programme, 100 per cent funding is made by Government of India towards various sectors such as education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy, skill development and other income generating Schemes to enable the States in promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee have, however, found that the Budgetary Estimates were substantially reduced at RE stage as several States/UTs did not comply to the provision of submission of Utilisation Certificates and PPRs as per provisions of GFR and also due to nature of the Projects sanctioned which require creation of Capital Assets thus taking substantial time for completion. The Committee are happy to note that majority of the States/UTs have submitted Utilisation Certificates now in respect of the funds released. However, some States such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Andhra Pradesh have not been able to take full share of allocation</b></p>

		<p>due to outstanding Utilization Certificates over the years. The Committee also found that the overall expenditure on various sectors has gone considerably down during 2020-21 and 2021-22 in comparison to 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 and hence would like to know reasons therefor. The Committee have further observed that no evaluation study has been conducted to assess the performance of the Scheme. Hence, they urge the Ministry to conduct periodic evaluation of the progress under this Constitutional Provision so that the lacunae in the implementation of the Scheme are timely identified and plugged suitably.</p>
6.	6.8	<p>For educational empowerment of STs, the Pre-matric and Post-Matric scholarship Schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implemented by the State Governments and UT Administrations to support the education of the Scheduled Tribe students. The Committee are surprised to find that the Budgetary Estimates under Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes have almost remained same as ₹1,970.77 crore have been estimated for 2023-24 whereas ₹1,965 crore was estimated for 2022-23 under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. Similarly, ₹411.63 crore have been estimated for 2023-24 against ₹419 crore estimated for 2022-23 under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme. The Committee also find that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have not been able to fully spend the Budgetary allocation for 2022-23 under both the schemes as ₹1920.52 crore have been spent out of the Budgetary Estimate of ₹1,965 crore under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme and ₹314.98 crore</p>



		<p>could be spent out of ₹419 crore under Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme upto 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. It was seen that from certain States, the proposals are not received for scholarships. The Committee believe that the recent procedural requirement of Single Nodal Agency is also likely to hamper the disbursement of scholarships, being a new addition, unless the State Governments and UT Administrations are directed to implement this system in a time bound manner. The Committee have also found that the Ministry is yet to take action on some of the pertinent recommendations made under the Evaluation study by Indian Institute of Public Administration, such as facility of Book Bank in schools, making funds available in advance, social audit etc. Hence, the Committee feel that this should be seriously considered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs so that suitable action is taken urgently in the interest of the socially and educationally backward tribal students. Further, the Committee strongly believe that the current income eligibility criteria fixed for these Scholarships needs to be urgently reviewed and revised as it deprives many needy students from availing the scholarships benefits. A Group of Ministers is considering this matter. Hence, the Committee would await for a positive outcome and urge that the income ceiling needs to be appropriately revised for expansion of coverage of ST students. The Committee believe that the Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarships are playing a pivotal role in providing education to Tribal students who have no financial resources for the same. To contain the school</p>
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		drop out rate among the tribals, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should direct all the States/UTs to publicize the Schemes vigorously particularly in tribal dominated areas.
7.	7.11	<p>The Committee find the performance of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs commendable with regard to the actual expenditure <i>vis-à-vis</i> revised estimate in the Scheme of "Grant in aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes" as they were able to spend ₹59.50 crore out of ₹60 crore in 2020-2021, ₹89.25 crore out of ₹90 crore in 2021-2022 and ₹88.92 crore out of ₹110 crore upto 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 in 2022-2023. Further, the Ministry has got a substantially increased budgetary provision by ₹30 crore for 2023-2024 to ₹140 crore in comparison to ₹110 crore budgeted for 2022-2023. However, the Committee are perplexed to note that the Ministry had approved only 166 projects out of 404 recommended by States/UTs between 2017-2018 to 2020-21 and that no new projects were sanctioned in 2021-22 as the NGO portal was not opened. The Committee do not find any reason attributed by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for non-approval of the Projects recommended by the State Committee for support of voluntary efforts and thus feel that making the scheme suffer for want of an open NGO portal only is not desirable. Non-approval of the Projects discourages Voluntary Organisations particularly when the Scheme is demand driven. The Committee do not find any logic in fixing targets on the basis of allocation of funds for the particular year and physical achievements of previous</p>

		<p>year when the percentage approval of the project is very less. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry to ensure that all viable Projects are approved with a view to achieve the objectives of the Scheme. The Committee would also appreciate if the Budgetary Estimates are not reduced at RE stage as happened in previous years and due efforts are made to make the scheme effective in the interest of tribal population of the Country. The Committee feel that to contain dubious NGOs and encourage genuine NGOs, regular evaluation of the Scheme should be held by an agency. The recommendations contained in such evaluation study should be examined and suitably implemented to remove flaws in the Scheme. The Committee also observe that <i>inter-alia</i> remarks of the Ministry, as submitted by them on the recommendations of Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation pertaining to revision in Ministry's share of the budget, prioritization of the projects, enhancement in salary and financial support to set up digital learning facilities in schools are not convincing. The Committee desire that these recommendations should be reviewed and if found appropriate, these may be implemented. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.</p>
8.	8.8	<p>The Committee find that 27 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been established in the country from the 1950s till 2020. The first TRI at Jharkhand (erstwhile undivided Bihar) was established as early as 1953 and TRI at Goa was established in 2020. The Ministry of Tribal</p>

		<p><b>Affairs extends support to strengthen TRIs in their infrastructural needs, research and documentation activities and training and capacity building programs, exchange points by tribals, etc. so that the tribal cultural practices, languages and rituals are preserved and disseminated. The Committee had an opportunity to visit TRIs in Gujarat and A&amp;N Islands and appreciated their efforts, however, they are yet to find any Institute that has performed extraordinarily with a ground breaking discovery of tribal history, hence they are of the firm opinion that these Institutes need to work more and in-depth to gain on tribal research. The Committee are also not happy to note that budgeted estimates for 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-23 were reduced almost to half at RE stage. The actual expenditure of ₹6.96 crore against RE of ₹58.50 crore by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023 in 2022-23 does not seem to be a healthy implementation of the TRI Scheme. The Committee are not convinced with the routine reply of the Ministry for slow progress of the scheme in 2022-23. They feel that mere allocation of funds does not assure the success of any Scheme. It is a known fact that the traditional culture of the various communities is disappearing fast and in the case of tribal communities, the situation cannot be more true. The Committee are highly concerned about the preservation and dissemination of tribal history, practices, languages and rituals. The Committee believe that any change in procedure should not prove be detrimental for the scheme rather it should help in better management and</b></p>
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		<p>monitoring of funds. The Committee therefore recommend that appropriate expertise is developed and disseminated so that viable proposals from TRIs are received from States. The Committee also desire that research activities of all the Tribal Research Institutes should be increased. In this connection, the Committee, during their recent visit to Ahmedabad, had called attention towards the Siddi tribe in Gujarat and Karnataka, which are originally negroid, having come originally from the African Continent eons ago, but are now completely amalgamated in the Indian ethos, as this particular group had largely remained on the margins so far. Bearing an athletic build, this tribe can show real promise in sports activities too, once provided proper support from the Government. The Committee would like to be informed of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.</p>
9.	9.11	<p>The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) was launched in 2021-22 by merging two earlier schemes i.e., 'Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) &amp; Development of Value Chain for MFP' and 'Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce' for promotion of Tribal livelihood with a budgetary provision of ₹1612.27 crore for 2021-22 to 2025-26. The Committee, however, find that out of the budgetary estimate of ₹499.60 crore for 2022-23, the Ministry was able to spend only ₹135.27 crore by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The Committee also find that no target was fixed in 2021-22 against the budgetary allocation of</p>

	<p><b>₹219.90 crore for the stipulated activities under the Mission. They are quite surprised to note that the procurement of MFPs by State Governments has also gone down in 2021-22 and 2022-23 in comparison to 2020-21. The Committee further note that 1018 VDKs have been made operational in various States out of 3225 sanctioned VDKs. As regard to the prime objective of promotion of Tribal livelihood, the Committee are constrained to observe that the number of beneficiaries have also gone down in 2021-22 in comparison to 2019-20 and 2020- 21 as the number of beneficiaries was 302271 in 2021-22 whereas it was 331799 in 2019-20 and 329888 in 2020-21. Similarly, under Institutional Support Scheme, the procurement of Tribal products by TRIFED has also gone down to ₹25.73 crore in 2021-22 in comparison to 2019-20 where the procurement was of ₹50.95 crore. In a nutshell, from the figures mentioned above on the various activities under the scheme, the Committee do not find the performance of the Mission very encouraging in initial phase in all parametres. The Committee are of the firm belief that mere distribution of the budgetary provision between 2021-22 to 2025-26 and fixing of target on the stipulated activities to make the Mission successful is not sufficient. The Ministry needs to develop a fool-proof and constant monitoring mechanism and adopt stringent measures to achieve the laid down targets in the given time frame well within the budgetary provision. Hence, here the initiatives/revisited procedures under PFMS must play a definite role. The Committee feel that concerted</b></p>
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		<p>efforts are required to be taken to achieve the objectives of the Mission so that through this Mission, financial support is provided to maximum number of tribal people who are engaged to collect forest produce for their livelihood. The Committee desire that establishment of Van Dhan Kendras should be accelerated and infrastructure of all the existing Kendras should be strengthened so that coverage of beneficiaries can be maximum under the Mission. The Committee desire to be apprised of target fixed and achievement under all parameters in this Mission beyond 31.1.23 at the action taken stage.</p>
10.	10.12	<p>While the target of establishing 740 EMRS has been set to be achieved by 2025-26, so far only 401 schools have been made functional as on 28.2.2023. This would mean making 339 EMRS functional in the remaining financial years. The Committee are little apprehensive about the achievement of the target as the Ministry of Tribal Affairs could only spend ₹1,465.27 crore till 31.01.2023 out of the Budgetary Estimates of ₹2,000 crore under EMRS in 2022-23. The Ministry have informed that around 2.5 years are required for one EMRS to complete hence the Committee expect all remaining EMRS construction to start now if the target is to complete those by 2025-26. The Committee, in their 34<sup>th</sup> Report presented in April, 2022, have already examined EMRS to the last details and expect the Ministry to positively implement their recommendations. However, they would like to underline, once again, first, the implementation of</p>

		<p><b>the proposal to appoint all proposed 38,800 teachers &amp; staff for the EMRSs well in time, second, to address the difficulties of first time learners/children hitherto devoid of any formal education from Tribal population in clearing entrance exams for EMRS (which start from class VI) and third, to ensure that inspiring life-stories of tribal leaders, freedom fighters, academicians, environmentalists, entrepreneurs, market leaders etc. are adequately included in the school curriculum of EMRS. The Committee would also like to be informed of the expenditure incurred from the Budgetary Estimates of 2023-24 on the EMRS in their Action Taken Notes.</b></p>
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