

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1670
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

BENEFICIARIES UNDER ASPIRE SCHEME

1670. SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
SMT. SUPRIYA SULE:
PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:
SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:
SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE:
SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the key objectives of 'A Scheme for Promotion and Innovation, Rural Industries and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE)';
- (b) the number of rural entrepreneurs and enterprises supported under the ASPIRE scheme since its inception;
- (c) the manner in which the ASPIRE scheme contribute to the Government's goal of job creation, particularly in rural and under-developed regions;
- (d) the number of targeted beneficiaries under the ASPIRE scheme for the current financial year in Maharashtra;
- (e) the steps that are being taken to ensure that women and marginalized communities are specifically targeted under the ASPIRE scheme;
- (f) the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that are in place to track the progress and success of the ASPIRE scheme, and the manner in which its outcomes are measured;
- (g) the steps that are being taken to increase awareness about the ASPIRE scheme among rural youth, women, and first-generation entrepreneurs; and
- (h) the total financial outlay for the ASPIRE Scheme along with the details on types of financial assistance available under the Scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a): The key objective of 'A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industry, and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE)' is to create employment opportunities in the agro-rural sector by establishing a network of Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs) to impart various skill development and incubation programs to the rural youth, women, and unemployed. The programmes offered by the LBIs aims to enable beneficiaries to set up their own enterprises or secure suitable employment in nearby industries.

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(b) to (e) & (g): The scheme aims to promote entrepreneurship and job creation in rural and underdeveloped regions by fostering skill development and supporting micro-enterprise creation through its Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs).

Since inception, 1,07,460 beneficiaries have been trained under ASPIRE out of which 31,521 beneficiaries have been gainfully employed. Additionally, 662 micro-enterprises have been supported. There are no State-specific targets under ASPIRE however, as on date, 9,384 beneficiaries have been trained in Maharashtra.

The operational expenses under the Scheme enables LBIs to conduct awareness drives, training programs and capacity-building initiatives focusing on rural youth, women and marginalized communities. The LBIs provides comprehensive training and incubation programs, along with hand holding via various support services, for prospective first generation entrepreneurs.

(f): As part of monitoring and evaluation mechanism and to track the outcome, online monthly data is collected through a dedicated portal w.r.t number of beneficiaries trained, beneficiaries which became wage employed and number of micro enterprises supported/established.

(h): ASPIRE is approved for continuation during FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26, with a total financial outlay of Rs. 194.87 crore. Financial assistance of upto Rs one crore is granted for procurement of plant & machinery (private Institutions to contribute 25% own contribution) and upto Rs. one crore for meeting operational expenses.
