

**19**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT (2025-26)**

**(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2026-27)**

**NINETEENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**March, 2026/ Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)**

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**MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS**

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(2026-27)**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 11.3.2026**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 11.3.2026**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**March, 2026/ Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL  
JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2025-26)**

**SHRI P.C. MOHAN - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer
3. Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare
4. Smt. Vijaylakshmi Devi
5. Shri Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar
6. Km.Priyanka Satish Jarkiholi
7. Shri Ramesh Chandappa Jigajinagi
8. Shri Chintamani Maharaj
9. Shri Murari Lal Meena
10. Smt. Bag Mitali
11. Shri Bhojraj Nag
12. Shri Godam Nagesh
13. Shri Gajendra Singh Patel
14. Shri Rajkumar Roat
15. Shri Matheswaran V. S.
16. Adv. Priya Saroj
17. Shri Sasikanth Senthil
18. Shri Anoop Pradhan Valmiki
19. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
20. Dr. Lata Wankhede
21. Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav

**Rajya Sabha**

22. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
23. Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha
24. Shri Narayana Koragappa
25. Smt. Phulo Devi Netam
26. Shri Ramji
27. Shri Rameswar Teli
28. Smt. Mamata Thakur
29. Shri Ilaiyaraaja
30. Dr. Meenakshi Jain
31. Shri V. Vijayendra Prasad

## LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Juby Amar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Krishendra Kumar - Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Aritra Das - Committee Officer

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2025-26) having been authorized by the Committee do present on their behalf this Nineteenth Report on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2026-27' pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Committee considered the 'Demands for Grants (2026-27)' of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which were laid on the Table of the House on 12 February, 2026. After obtaining the Budget Documents, Explanatory Notes, etc., the Committee took evidence of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 25 February, 2026. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at the sitting held on 10.03.2026.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for tendering oral evidence and placing before them the detailed written notes and post evidence information as desired by the Committee in connection with the examination of the 'Demands for Grants (2026-27)'.

4. For ease of reference observations/ recommendations/ comments of the Committee have been printed in bold in the body of the Report.

New Delhi  
**10 March, 2026**  
19 Phalgun, 1947 (Saka)

**SHRI P.C MOHAN**  
Chairperson  
Standing Committee on Social Justice  
and Empowerment

**REPORT**  
**CHAPTER-I**  
**INTRODUCTORY**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes besides a Special Area Programme, *viz.* Grants-in-Aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution to contribute to the overall efforts for development of tribal people in the country. The list of schemes implemented by the Ministry is as under.

**A. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)**

1. Pre-Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribes
2. Post-Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribes
3. Support to Tribal Research Institutes
4. Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Naya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) (MPC)
5. Dharti Aabaq Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAGJUA)
6. Administrative Cost to States / UTs.

**B. Central Sector Schemes (CS)**

1. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
2. National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students
3. National Overseas Scholarship Scheme.
4. Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes
5. Pradhan Mantri Janjati Vikas Mission (PMJVM)
6. Tribal Research Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)
7. Monitoring, Evaluation, Survey and Social Audit (MESSA)
8. Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes

1.2 The Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for the years 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26 and Budget Estimate of 2026-27 are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Group	Name of Scheme	BE	RE	EXP.	BE	RE	EXP.	BE	RE	EXP. (as on 19.01.2026)	BE
			2023-24			2024-25			2025-26			2026-27
		<b>(A) Schemes</b>										
		<b>Central Sector Schemes</b>										
1	EMRS	Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)	5943.00	2471.81	2447.06	6399.00	4748.92	4716.29	7088.60	4900.00	4011.25	7150.01
2	National Tribal Welfare Programme	Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the Scheduled Tribes	140.00	150.00	149.95	160.00	160.00	175.00	175.00	153.93	78.27	200.00
		Venture Capital Fund for STs	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	17.00	0.00	30.00
		Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)	288.49	143.00	137.10	152.32	152.32	112.58	380.40	190.89	190.89	289.00
		Tribal Festivals, Research Information & Mass Education [Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication & Events (TRI-ECE)]	25.00	45.00	32.04	32.00	32.00	28.33	27.00	32.00	15.73	32.00
		Monitoring and Evaluation (MESSA)	23.00	15.00	8.80	20.00	20.00	17.52	25.00	23.00	9.09	28.00
		National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students	145.00	230.00	230.00	165.00	240.00	240.00	0.02	220.00	144.36	340.00
		Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad	4.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.01	8.00	2.01	20.00
		PM- JANMAN (VDVK)	0.00	10.00	9.97	25.00	10.00	0.15	12.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
		<b>Total-National Tribal Welfare Programme</b>	<b>655.49</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>574.86</b>	<b>590.32</b>	<b>620.32</b>	<b>579.58</b>	<b>649.43</b>	<b>650.82</b>	<b>446.35</b>	<b>939.00</b>
3	M&L	Marketing and Logistics Development for Promoting Tribal Products from North-Eastern Region	20.00	0.00	0.00	107.52	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		<b>Total-CS Schemes</b>	<b>6618.49</b>	<b>3071.81</b>	<b>3021.92</b>	<b>7096.84</b>	<b>5371.24</b>	<b>5295.87</b>	<b>7738.03</b>	<b>5550.82</b>	<b>4457.60</b>	<b>8089.01</b>
4	Programme for Development of Scheduled Tribes (PMVB KY)	Pre-Matric Scholarship	411.63	411.63	308.59	440.36	200.00	163.69	313.79	175.00	170.63	339.05
		Post-Matric Scholarship	1970.77	2371.01	2668.83	2432.68	2462.68	2598.34	2462.68	2864.34	2822.67	3126.49
		Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	118.64	50.00	43.54	111.00	90.00	90.00	111.00	90.00	21.66	121.01
		Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTGs)	256.14	0.00	0.00	20.00	74.55	73.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		SCA to TSP (Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna-PMAAGY)	1485.00	300.00	149.93	1000.00	127.51	126.19	335.97	170.00	23.80	0.00
		Administrative Cost to States/ UTs.	53.22	53.22	8.41	55.96	25.00	16.10	59.01	39.01	5.07	0.00
		PM-JANMAN (MPC)	0.00	100.00	99.99	240.00	150.00	99.68	300.00	184.99	113.70	100.00
		Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyaan					500.00	477.68	2000.00	500.00	250.25	2013.46
		<b>Total-CSS Schemes</b>	<b>4295.40</b>	<b>3285.86</b>	<b>3279.29</b>	<b>4300.00</b>	<b>3629.74</b>	<b>3644.77</b>	<b>5582.45</b>	<b>4023.34</b>	<b>3407.78</b>	<b>5700.01</b>
5	Other Grants/Transfer	Grants under Article 275 (1)	1472.10	1172.10	1172.10	1541.47	1170.57	1170.57	1541.47	1171.00	327.29	1542.00
		Grants to ASSAM Govt. under clause (a) of the Second proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
		Total-Other Grants/Transfer	<b>1472.11</b>	<b>1172.10</b>	<b>1172.10</b>	<b>1541.48</b>	<b>1170.57</b>	<b>1170.57</b>	<b>1541.48</b>	<b>1171.00</b>	<b>327.29</b>	<b>1542.01</b>
		<b>Total-Scheme (A)</b>	<b>12386.00</b>	<b>7529.77</b>	<b>7473.31</b>	<b>12938.32</b>	<b>10171.55</b>	<b>10111.21</b>	<b>14861.96</b>	<b>10745.16</b>	<b>8192.67</b>	<b>15331.03</b>
		<b>(B) Non- Schemes</b>										
6	Establishment Expenditure of the Centre	Secretariat	39.25	41.58	41.12	41.91	45.49	44.50	44.17	43.99	38.10	47.58
		National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)	21.63	18.65	15.79	19.77	20.29	17.50	19.68	32.17	14.83	43.36
		Support to NSTFDC	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		<b>Sub- Total (Non- Schemes)</b>	<b>75.88</b>	<b>75.23</b>	<b>71.92</b>	<b>61.68</b>	<b>65.78</b>	<b>62.00</b>	<b>63.85</b>	<b>76.16</b>	<b>52.93</b>	<b>90.94</b>
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12461.88</b>	<b>7605.00</b>	<b>7545.23</b>	<b>13000.00</b>	<b>10237.33</b>	<b>10173.21</b>	<b>14925.81</b>	<b>10821.32</b>	<b>8245.60</b>	<b>15421.97</b>

1.3 During the examination of Demands for Grants for the year 2025-26, following Schemes were scrutinized and incorporated in the Report presented to the Parliament in 2025.

- (i) Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)
- (ii) Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)
- (iii) Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)
- (v) National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Studies and National Overseas Scholarship for ST students
- (vi) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights Act) 2006

1.4. The Committee have examined the following issues while examining the Demands for Grants (2026-27) for incorporating in the Report to be presented in the Parliament during the Budget Session, 2026.

- (i) Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)
- (ii) Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)
- (iii) Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)
- (v) Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA)
- (vi) National Overseas Scholarship Scheme
- (vii) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.

1.5 An overview in respect of some of the important schemes, institutions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and relevant Acts is as under:-

1.6 The Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs), as a Central Sector Scheme, was started in the year 2018-19 to provide quality education to the tribal children (from class VI to XII) in their own environment. Earlier EMRS was a component under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. However, under the

new scheme, Government have decided to establish one EMRS in every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20000 tribal persons. Accordingly, the Ministry have set-up the target to set-up 728 EMRSs.

1.7 Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) was launched on November, 15, 2023 with financial outlay of around ₹24,000 crores with the aim for socio-economic development of 75 PVTG communities residing in 18 States and one UT by 9 line-Ministries and Departments.

1.8 Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan envisions saturation of critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood, through 25 interventions implemented by 17-line ministries of Govt of India by convergence and outreach to ensures holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities.

1.9 The Centrally sponsored 'Support to TRI' is meant to preserve and promote tribal culture and dissemination of information including research and documentation, maintenance, and preservation of art and artifacts, setting up of tribal museum, exchange visits for the tribals to other parts of the State, organizing tribal festivals etc. The Ministry also supports construction of tribal museums within the premises of the TRIs to preserve the tribal art, craft and culture. The National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI), a national-level institute, was inaugurated on 7th June 2022 with a broad objective for addressing tribal concerns, issues and better co-ordination and management of TRIs. In addition to activities/project sanctioned under the 'Support to TRI Scheme', there are dedicated portals 'National Tribal Research Portal', 'Adi Prashikshan Portal', 'Adi Parsaran' and 'Tribal Repository' which are repositories of the work done by the TRIs in the past few years.

1.10 Under proviso to Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments with notified STs, based upon proposals received from them and duly recommended by Executive Committee of the State (headed by Chief Secretary).

## CHAPTER-II

### **BUDGETARY ALLOCATION & EXPENDITURE**

The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2025-26 are given under Demand No.100. The detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs were laid on the table of the House on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.

2.2 The Ministry of Finance allocated ₹15,421.97 crore against the proposed demand of Ministry of Tribal Affairs of ₹17,223.47 crore. A statement showing the Budget Estimates (BEs), Revised Estimates (REs) & Actual Expenditures (AEs) for the last three years (2023-24, 2024-2025 & 2025-2026) and also the Budget Estimate (BE) of 2026-2027 is given below:

(₹. in crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	12461.88	7605.00	7545.23
2024-25	13000.00	10237.33	10173.21
2025-26	14,925.81	10824.18	8757.04 as on 23.02.2026
2026-27	15421.97	-----	-----

2.3. On being enquired about the reasons for higher allocation during 2026-27 in comparison to the years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2026-27, the Ministry *vide* their written reply stated that:

“the higher Budget during 2026-27 is mainly due to increased allocation for the scheme, Ekalvya Model Residential Schools, which is around 7150 Cr. and the enhancement is to facilitate construction and up-gradation of these schools”

2.4 On being asked about the factors considered before formalizing budgetary proposals, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply submitted that:

“ the requirement of funds is projected after assessing the expenditure trend, pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) form States after having discussions within the Ministry and with the States to arrive at the requirements”.

2.5. As regards to the changes introduced in the procedure to maximize the utilization of allocated fund, the Ministry *vide* their written replies pointed out that:

“Quarterly Expenditure Plan (QEP) for financial year 2026-27 has been made in ratio of 15:25:30:30 and the expenditure will follow QEP. In this regard, the Ministry have also put forth that since on-boarding of Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry on SNA-Sparsh has been completed, it is expected that the expenditure target would be achieved and the Ministry has decided to undertake a 3 days Manthan Shivir to bring all the key stakeholders across the country including Principal Secretary of States/UTs, GoI Officials for discussion on policy making, review of various welfare schemes and strengthen Centre-State partnerships in April 2026.”

2.6 With regard to the under-utilization of funds, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs clarified, during the course of evidence that:

*“जब सितंबर महीने में आरई और सप्लीमेंट्री बजट की बैठक एक्सपेंडिचर मंत्रालय में होती है, तो वह देखते हैं कि इस मंत्रालय ने इन 6 महीनों में या 7 महीनों में कितना खर्च किया है? अगर उस समय पर हमारा खर्च 50 प्रतिशत से ऊपर न हो, तो वे बजट काट देते हैं और उसी तरह संशोधित बजट का टारगेट बना देते हैं। इसका सॉल्यूशन यह है कि आने वाले वित्तीय वर्ष में हमें पहले 6 महीने में अपना एक्सपेंडिचर अच्छा रखना पड़ेगा, ताकि हमारा फाइनैस घटाया न जाए।”*

2.7 As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the physical targets and achievements for the last three years and the target fixed for the year 2026-27 under various Schemes is as follows:-

Sl. No	Name of the scheme/ project/ programme	Division	2023-24			2024-25			2025-26			% of achievements for the last three yrs.	2026-27 Target
			Target	Achievement/ percent achieved	Shortfall if any indicating reasons in brief	Target	Achievement/ percent achieved	Shortfall if any indicating reasons in brief	Target	Achievement/ percent achieved	Shortfall indicating reasons in brief		
1	Grants-in-aid to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of scheduled tribes including grants released for Girls in Low Literacy Districts	NGO-TA 1. Residential School/Non-Residential School/Hostels/ others	65,000 Beneficiaries	49,430 Beneficiaries	Scheme is demand-driven., Grant-in-aid was released based upon the projects recommended by State Governments, non-compliance of PFMS TSA Hybrid module 1 was an issue.	65,000 Beneficiaries	48,064 Beneficiaries	Scheme is demand-driven., Grant-in-aid was released based upon the projects recommended by State Governments, non-compliance of PFMS TSA Hybrid module 1 was an issue.	65,000 Beneficiaries	3,385 Beneficiaries		(2023-24) 76.004% (2024-25) 73.94% (2025-26) 05.20%	65,000 Beneficiaries
		2. 10-Bedded Hospitals/Mobile Dispensaries	08.50 lakh Beneficiaries	10.45 lakh Beneficiaries	Scheme is demand-driven., Grant-in-aid was released based upon the projects recommended by State Governments, non-compliance of PFMS TSA hybrid module 1 was an issue.	08.50 lakh Beneficiaries	09.42 lakh Beneficiaries	Scheme is demand-driven., Grant-in-aid was released based upon the projects recommended by State Governments, non-compliance of PFMS TSA hybrid module 1 was an issue.	08.50 lakh Beneficiaries	2.08 lakh Beneficiaries		(2023-24) 122.94% (2024-25) 110.82% (2025-26) 24.47%	08.50 lakh Beneficiaries
2	Pre-Matric Scholarships Scheme	Scholarship Division	<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	929767 Beneficiaries	No shortfall	<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	910043 Beneficiaries	No shortfall	<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	671589 Beneficiaries	Payment is under process	2023-24 - 100 % 2024-25 - 100 % 2025-26 - 100 %	Open ended
3	Post-Matric Scholarships scheme		<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	2064437 Beneficiaries	No shortfall	<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	1816293 Beneficiaries	No shortfall	<b>Target not amenable (open ended)</b>	1913245 Beneficiaries	Payment is under process	2023-24 - 100 % 2024-25 - 100 % 2025-26 - 100 %	Open ended
4	National Fellowship Scheme		750	750	No shortfall	750	750	No shortfall	750	750	No shortfall	(2023-24)-100 % (2024-25)-100 % (2025-26)-100 %	750

												26)-100 %	
5	National Scholarship Scheme		Target not amenable (open ended)	5429	No shortfall	Target not amenable (open ended)	7013	No shortfall	Target not amenable (open ended)	8508	No shortfall	(2023-24)-100 % (2024-25)-100 % (2025-26)-100 %	Target not amenable (open ended)
6	National Overseas Scholarship		20	20	No shortfall	20	20	No shortfall	20	20	No shortfall	(2023-24)-100 % (2024-25)-100 % (2025-26)-100 %	20
7	EMRS	EMRS	CBSE affiliation of 40 EMRSs	Affiliation of 45 EMRSs done during the FY 2023-24	Nil	CBSE affiliation of at least 35 EMRSs	Achieved	Nil	CBSE affiliation of atleast 20 EMRSs	Achieved	Nil	100%	CBSE affiliation of atleast 20 EMRSs

**2.8. The Committee note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been allocated ₹15,421.97 crore by the Ministry of Finance against the proposed demand of ₹ 17,223.47 crore for the financial year 2026-27. The Committee are content with the fact that this allocation of ₹15,421.97 crore exceeds by 18.63% and 3.32% than the funds allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26, respectively. The Committee are of the view that this allocation is a clear reflection of Government's firm resolve for tribal development throughout the country. The Committee would like to underscore that with an enhanced allocation of resources, the responsibility now squarely lies on the Ministry to ensure that allotment of funds made at BE stage may not get reduced at RE stage as were done rather routinely in preceding years. The Committee express their discontent with the submission of the Ministry that not only RE for 2025-26 was reduced by ₹4,101.63 Cr, but ₹8,757.04 Cr. out of the total Revised Estimate of ₹10,824.18 Cr. for 2025-26 could only be utilized by the Ministry till 23.02.2026. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should take concrete steps to utilize the unspent portion of RE for 2025-26 within the remaining period left of the present financial year and ensure that the target fixed under each of the schemes are achieved. The Committee also**

**expect that the Ministry will address troubling issues once and for all to clear the deck for better usage of budgetary allocation in future. The Committee also hope that the Ministry would make a concerted effort to ensure that at least 50% of the allocated fund for 2026-27 are put to use by the month of September, 2026, so that the Budget allocation for 2026-27 is not reduced at RE stage by the Ministry of Finance.**

## **CHAPTER-III**

### **TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES (TRIs)**

Ministry extend support to State and UT Governments through the sponsored scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes'. There are 29 Tribal Research Institutes across Country which are supported and administered by State Governments. The TRIs are primarily institutions under the State Governments/UT Administrations engaged in the work of conducting research and evaluation studies, collection of data, identification of challenges in the field of socio-economic developments in tribals and understanding, promoting and preserving their culture through various studies and other kind of interventions. 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 organization of "exchange visits by tribal's", so that the tribal cultural practices, languages and rituals are preserved and disseminated. As part of the research activities of the TRIs, the Ministry also support construction of tribal museums within the premises of TRIs to preserve the tribal art, craft and culture. Also, The National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI), Delhi, is a national-level institute with a broad objective for addressing tribal concerns, issues and better co-ordination and management of TRIs.

3.2 The state-wise details of the Tribal Research Institutes established in the country along with 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, Vishakhapatnam	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, Ranchi	1953
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, Pune	1962
15.	Odisha	SC/ST Research & Training Institute	1952
16.	Rajasthan	Tribal Research & Training Institute	1964
17.	Tamil Nadu	Tribal Research Centre, Ooty	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
28.	Ladakh	Tribal Research Institute, Kargil	2021
29.	Bihar	Tribal Research Institute Patna	2024

3.3 A statement showing details of Budget Estimates (BEs), Revised Estimates (Res) and Actual Expenditures (AEs) for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 and BE for 2026-27 regarding TRIs are as follows:-

<i>(₹. in crore)</i>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	118.64	50.00	43.54
2024-25	111.00	90.00	90.00
2025-26	111.00	90.00	26.94 as on 19.02.2026
2026-27	121.01	-	-

3.4. On being enquired about the steps being taken by the Ministry to ensure that the RE for 2025-26 is optimally utilized, the response of the Ministry has been the following:-

“To ensure optimum utilization of the RE for 2025-26, the Ministry has been monitoring sanctioned projects at regular intervals through mechanisms such as Review Meetings, Apex Committee Meetings, UCs received, Physical progress reports, and official visits etc. The Ministry consistently pushes for the timely completion of sanctioned projects by the TRIs and for proper utilization of the released funds. Further, with the introduction of SNA Sparsh Model *w.e.f.* 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2025, the fund releasing procedure has been simplified to a considerable extent, and the states/UTs are expected to pick up momentum in the utilization of released funds and subsequent submission of UCs for enabling further release of funds to them. As on date, onboarding of States/UTs has been completed, and accordingly, mother sanction has been issued to all TRIs. Therefore, release of funds and its utilization by the TRIs is expected to pick up momentum in the coming days and the RE of ₹90 Crore for the scheme Support to TRIs would be fully utilized. Further re-allocation exercises are carried out based on the utility/Expenditure incurred by the State so as to ensure RE amount is completely utilized. So far mother sanctions have been released to around 87 crore approximately”

3.5 With regard to hindrances being faced in the implementation of scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply submitted that:-

“While supporting the TRIs, it has come to the notice of the Ministry that scheme funds released by the Ministry to the States/ UTs Tribal Research Institutes (TRIS) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to TRIs" have not been further transferred to the mapped account of the TRI by the State treasury on time. In this regard, the Ministry has been instructing States/UTs to ensure the timely release of scheme funds into the linked account of the respective state/UT TRIs. However, despite the clear instructions issued, procedural delay in states treasury persists in many States/ UTs. The delay in transferring of scheme funds to the designated account not only halted/affected the successful implementation and execution of the sanctioned projects by the TRIs, but the projects/activities also lost their relevance and significance with the passage of time. Further, owing to cost escalation, the sanctioned projects could not be implemented as planned and estimated by the TRIs.

3.6 On being asked about the assessment study conducted on the functioning of TRIs in the country, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply stated that the NITI Aayog on the basis of an evaluation study conducted in 2025 submitted the following recommendations/observations:

- (i) Greater emphasis should be on redesigning the objective of TRIs as think-tanks, ensuring greater convergence with other tribal schemes as well as NGOs, eminent institutions and line departments.
- (ii) It is also important to ensure good quality research as well as greater community participation.
- (iii) The scheme OOMF needs to be annually tracked and monitored by the Ministry.
- (iv) The scheme should introduce the following modifications for its rationalization and higher impact –
  - Higher emphasis on quality of the research activities as well as greater involvement of research experts.

- Overall improvement of fund flow systems in terms of fund availability and utilization timelines by addressing human resource availability.
- Strengthening institutional structure at state TRIs and investing in their capacity building.
- Improving the monitoring and results framework by undertaking periodic monitoring and evaluation of scheme interventions and their effect on end beneficiaries.
- More interaction of researchers with Government.

(v) Strengthen institutional capacity of TRIs through targeted resource allocation and standardization of research guidelines across states.

(vi) Fill vacant research and administrative positions; develop a national-level repository for tribal research outputs that are accessible to government and academia.

(vii) Institute annual work plans linked with a “fund release–monitoring–utilization” framework to enhance accountability and timely project completion.

(viii) Encourage collaborations with universities and international development agencies for co-funded research; introduce revenue-generating cultural documentation projects.

(ix) Develop mechanisms for translating TRI studies into actionable inputs for tribal policy formulation and monitoring.

(x) Introduce targeted research fellowships for tribal youth and women researchers.

(xi) Map national and state-level research overlaps; establish convergence mechanisms through MoTA’s Knowledge Management Division.

3.7 With regard to construction of Tribal Freedom Fighters’ Museum, the Committee have been, *inter-alia*, informed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply that the Ministry has sanctioned following 11 Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums across 10 States to honour the contributions and sacrifices of tribal freedom fighters in India’s independence struggle and the current status of all the Museums is mentioned under.

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Name of the Museum</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Civil and Curation Status</b>	<b>Date of Completion</b>
1	Jharkhand	Bhagwan Birsa Munda Memorial Park cum Freedom Fighter Museum, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Ranchi	Inaugurated	Inaugurated on 15.11.2021
2	Madhya Pradesh	Shri Badal Bhoi State Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum	Chhindwara	Inaugurated	Inaugurated on 15.11.2024
		Raja Shankar Shah & Kunwar Raghunath	Jabalpur	Inaugurated	

		Shah Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum			
3.	Chhattisgarh	Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Memorial and Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum	Nava Raipur	Inaugurated	Inaugurated on 01.11.2025
4.	Mizoram	Ropuiliani Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum	Kelsih, Aizawl	Civil - 98% Curation - 96	Proposed to be inaugurated by 2026
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum	Lambasingi, ASR	Civil - 85% Curation - 40%	
6.	Telangana	Ramji Gond Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum	Hyderabad	Civil - 75% Curation - 45%	
7.	Kerala	Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum	Suganthgiri, Wayanad	Zone 3 Civil - 85% Curation - Preliminary work started	Proposed to be inaugurated by early next year
8.	Gujarat	Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum	Rajpipla, Narmada	a) Phase 1 - 100% complete b) Phase 2 Civil - 95% & Phase 3 - Curation - 15%	
9.	Goa	Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum	Ponda	Work order has been issued to the agency.	
10.	Manipur	Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum	Luangkao, Tamenglong	At DPR stage	

3.8 As regards the completion of constructions of Museums, during the course of evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, *inter-alia*, informed the Committee that:-

*"By now, out of 11 museums, 4 have been completed and inaugurated instead of 3. Earlier it was 3; now it is 4. Another one in Mizoram will be completed by April. In another two months, we will have 5 completed. All the museums, except the one in Gujarat, which is the National Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum, have picked up speed. That will be completed by the end of 2027. All the other museums will be completed by March 2027"*

**3.9 The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)' provide financial assistance to 29 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) for execution and implementation of the sanctioned projects and activities. The Committee, however, find that budget estimates for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 were revised downward at RE stage from ₹118.64 crore to ₹50.00 crore, ₹111.00 crore to ₹90.00 crore and again ₹111.00 crore to ₹90.00 respectively. The revised estimate could also not be spent fully during 2023-24 and for the financial year 2025-26, only a meager 29.93% of RE the Ministry has been able to spend till 19.02.26. The Committee, therefore, believe that mere allocations of funds would not ensure effective implementation of TRI Scheme. The Committee note with concern the inability of State treasuries in transferring funds allocated by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, timely submission of Annual Action Plans and Utilization Certificates (UCs), clearance of SNA balances, submission of progress report/DPR etc by the State Authorities etc. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry that they should endeavor to devise a specific mechanism, sound in technical knowhow and procedural matters, in consultation with States/UTs, to remove technical and procedural bottlenecks, administrative delays, capacity building issues etc. The Committee would also like the Ministry to consider the suggestions received from NITI Aayog for effective implementation of the scheme. The Committee would like to be informed of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.**

**3.10 The Committee note that out of 11 Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum sanctioned by the Ministry, only 4 Museums have been inaugurated till date and rest of the Museums are either under the different stages of construction or curation development. Since very little progress has been achieved in last one year, the Committee once again convey their discontent at the delayed progress of work on this front. The Committee, therefore, desire to underscore the fact that the construction**

**and inauguration delays of such museums defeats the objective for which Museum are being established. The Ministry, while accepting the onus for the delays, conveyed that necessary measures have been taken to expedite the construction of Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums in the country. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry must take concrete measures and take an holistic approach to include in its ambit all factors that have long been hindering the progress of the scheme. The Committee urge the Ministry to upscale their ongoing endeavors so that all sanctioned Museums are completed by March, 2027 as informed to the Committee.**

## CHAPTER-IV

### **TRIBAL RESEARCH, INFORMATION, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS (TRI-ECE)**

Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE) is a Central Sector Scheme under which reputed organizations, research institutes, universities where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out pioneering research in their respective field are provided financial support for research and other projects. Under the scheme, Ministry invites guests for Republic Day celebration, organizes festivals, exhibitions & competitions at the state and/or national level. The funds are also provided for publicity & Advertisement including mass awareness and media. The Budget Estimates (BEs), Revised Estimates (REs) & Actual Expenditures (AEs) for 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26 and Budgetary Estimate for 2026-27 are as follows:-

	<b>(₹. in crore)</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	25	45	32.04
2024-25	32	32	28.33
2025-26	27	32	24.86
			as on 22.02.2026
2026-27	32	-	-

4.2. On being enquired about factors due to which the budget for 2023-24 and 2025-26 were increased at RE stage, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, *inter-alia*, *vide* their written reply submitted that:

“the contributory factor that led to the increase in BE for 2023-24 at RE stage is attributed to the Nationwide awareness campaign which was run from 25.12.2023 to 02.01.204 for the PM-JANMAN Scheme. Increase in BE for 2025-26 at RE stage is attributable to the projected expenses relating to advertisements for celebration of Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas and Jan Jatiya Gaurav Varsh, events of the Ministry such as Tribal Business Conclave,

National Tribal Literary Fest, Adi Chitra National Tribal Painting Exhibition, Adi Vaani App Beta Version Launch, Republic Day Celebration etc. and expenses relating to Centre of Excellence projects”.

4.3. As regards to the utilization of the remaining funds in 2025-26. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs clarified in their written reply that:-

“It may be seen that the RE for the scheme ‘TRIECE’ for the year 2025-26 is ₹32 Crore. Out of the total RE, an expenditure of ₹24.86 Crore has already been made as on date, while files are already under submission for expenditure of ₹7.14 Crore. It may also be seen that, apart from this, there is a committed liability of ₹8.7 Crore (approx.) in view of a considerable increase in the number of events/ activities of the Ministry during the financial year, fund released to CoEs. To meet these committed expenses under the scheme ‘TRIECE’, a re-appropriation file seeking additional funds of ₹5 Crore for the scheme is also under submission. Therefore, the allocated RE along with the additional funds of ₹5 Crore would be fully utilized/spent in the current financial year”

4.4 On being enquired about the roadmap for the next five years under the scheme, the Committee have been, *inter-alia*, informed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* written reply that:

“(i) Over the next five years, the Ministry will continue to organize and scale up major national platforms such as Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh (JJGV), Republic Day participation, and the Adi Karmayogi Conclave, including others.

(ii) Under the Media component of the scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs will undertake integrated awareness, IEC and thematic communication campaigns for flagship programmes such as PM-JANMAN, DAJGUA and Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan.

iii) The Ministry has prepared revised guidelines for the Centres of Excellence to address key gaps in the existing framework and to align CoEs with emerging tribal development priorities”

**4.5 The Committee are happy to note that Budget allocation of ₹25 Cr for the scheme for 2023-24 was augmented to ₹45 Cr at the RE stage and the Ministry could spend ₹32.04 Cr during the financial year, which far exceeded the initial Budget allocation. The Committee would have been ever happier, had the Ministry been able to utilize the entire Revised Allocation of ₹45 Cr. The Committee are rather disappointed to find that the Ministry could utilize only ₹28.33 Cr. for 2024-25, thereby indicating a reduction of ₹3.71 Cr in actual expenditure in 2024-25 *vis-à-vis* 2023-24. This under-utilization also underlines year-on-year fluctuation in performance of the TRI-ECE scheme. The Committee have been informed that for the year 2025-26, the Ministry have forwarded a re-appropriation file of ₹5 Cr. for seeking additional allocation from the Ministry of Finance to meet up committed expenses under the scheme. Therefore, the Committee expect that the additional allocation will be provided to the Ministry and fruitfully utilized till the end of financial year 2025-26. The Committee are hopeful that budget allocation of ₹32 Cr. for 2026-27 will not be downsized at the RE stage and the Ministry will be able to spend the entire corpus across the desired areas, including, organization of National and State-level events, Integrated Media activities, Outreach and Branding, strengthening of Centers of Excellences etc. In respect of planning of expenditure, the Committee would strongly recommend the Ministry to include more State-level Institutes and Research Institutes/ Organizations and State-Universities under the provision of grants, thereby broadening and expanding the horizon and scope of the scheme. The Committee would like to be informed of steps taken in this regard.**

## **CHAPTER-V**

### **EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL (EMRS)**

Ministry is implementing the Central Sector Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) to provide quality education to the tribal children (from class VI to XII) in their own environment from the year 2018-19 in remote areas to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population. Earlier EMRS was a component under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. Under the new scheme, Government decided to establish one EMRS in every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons (as per census 2011). Accordingly, Ministry has set the target to set up 728 EMRSs benefitting around 3.5 lakh ST students across the country.

5.2 As on date, a total number of 723 EMRSs have been sanctioned across the country, out of which 499 schools are reported to be functional. Additionally, to encourage tribal students in sports and provide them with a platform to enhance their capabilities, Ministry has decided to set up 15 Centre of Excellence for Sports (CoE for Sports) in EMRSs.

5.3 National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), an autonomous organization, has been created to manage and implement the scheme of EMRS. Ministry releases funds to NESTS and NESTS further releases funds to States/ UTs/ PSUs/ Construction Agencies/ State Societies as per their requirements for construction of EMRSs and recurring cost for running of the schools. Construction of an EMRS requires provision of 15 acres land and has a capacity to accommodate 480 students including equal number of boys and girls studying in class VI to XII. The recurring cost is ₹1.46 lakhs per student per annum and the capital cost for construction of an EMRS is ₹37.80 cr in plain areas and ₹48 cr in North East/ hilly/ LWE affected areas.

5.4 A statement showing the Budget Estimates (BEs), Revised Estimates (REs) & Actual Expenditures (AEs) for the last three years 2023-24, 2024-25 & 2025-2026) and also the Budget Estimate (BE) of 2026-2027 is given below:

**(₹. in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	5943.00	2471.81	2447.61
2024-25	6399.00	4748.00	4716.29
2025-26	7088.60	4900.00	4011.25 as on 19.01.2026
2026-27	7150.01	-	-

5.5 A summary of EMRS schools provided to the Committee *vide* presentation, during oral evidence, is as under:-

<b>As on 31.01.2026</b>					
<b>Approved</b>	<b>Sanctioned</b>	<b>Old School</b>	<b>New School (New Scheme)</b>	<b>Functional</b>	<b>Total Enrolment</b>
728	723	288	435	499	1,55,846

5.6 In this regard, during the examination of Demands for Grants (2025-26), the Committee had recommended the following:-

“(i) A comprehensive action plan should be chalked out to make EMRS schools functional from their own buildings and the construction work of each EMRs is completed in a stipulated period of 2-3 years”

(ii) “The Ministry of Tribal Affairs should examine and calculate average expenditure for each student in EMRS by excluding salary head expenditure as the average recurring expenditure would be adversely affected as the salary expenditure would keep on increasing annually due to increase in dearness allowance and annual increment”

(iii) “ NESTS had submitted a proposal for the sanction of 126 additional posts for the NESTS headquarters and 261 new posts for the proposed 9 Regional offices. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs should vigorously pursue with

Department of Expenditure to get the proposal of NESTS expedited/approved”.

(iv) “EMRS set-up under old scheme needs to be revamped in a stipulated time period and sufficient funds are sanctioned to them in tune with the funds being sanctioned for each new EMRS. Schools should be managed by the Schools themselves and the management should be suitably decentralized so that day-to-day issues are not brought to them and NESTS be able to concentrate on larger responsibilities”

5.7 With reference to the above recommendations, the Committee were informed by the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the deliberation:-

*“The scheme was introduced in 2018–19, wherein blocks were identified for the setting up of EMRS, and it was formally launched in September 2019. The latest status is as follows: Out of a total of 728 schools, 288 are erstwhile schools — what we refer to as the old EMRS — 435 have already been sanctioned, and five more are in the process of sanctioning, as we are awaiting land from the State Governments. We are positive that this will be received by March 2026. As on 31<sup>st</sup> January, we have 1.56 lakh students enrolled. That is the brief summary. Sir, the National Education Society was constituted in 2018–19 for the management of EMRS, covering both the old and new institutions. The first phase of recruitment had been completed when we last appeared before this Committee. The Committee had recommended expediting further recruitment. I am happy to inform the hon. Committee that the second phase is at an advanced stage, and by the end of July we expect to recruit the remaining staff and fill all vacancies. We have also factored in requirements for the coming year, so that as new schools become operational, we already have panels ready and staff can be posted immediately. The Committee had recommended expediting construction so that completion is achieved within the next two to three years. I am pleased to inform the Committee that 42 schools were inaugurated by the hon. Prime Minister in November, and we are confident that by March this year, we will complete 80 schools, including those 42. In total, 93 EMRSs have been inaugurated so far”*

5.8 While deliberating on EMRS schools during oral evidence, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs further informed that:-

*“Now, I shall address specific recommendations of the hon. Committee. The Committee had recommended capacity building of teachers. At one stage, we faced difficulty in identifying suitable venues, as over 9,000 teachers had been posted, of whom about 8,000 had joined. Training was being conducted in a*

*phased manner. Recently, with the support of the Ministry, we secured a suitable venue. We are now training 300 teachers per week, with eminent faculty from Delhi University, NCERT, and other institutions. By June this year, all existing teachers will have undergone training, and new recruits will be trained immediately upon joining”*

5.9 With regard to Regional offices, the Committee were informed that: -

*“The Committee also recommended strengthening the NESTS headquarters and regional offices. I am pleased to inform the Committee that sanction for this is at an advanced stage, and we expect approval shortly for both headquarters strengthening and establishment of regional offices”*

5.10 The representatives of Ministry of Tribal Affairs also submitted that:

*“The Committee recommended decentralization of funds directly to principals and schools to avoid delays at the State Society level. Our Secretary Madam has taken a decision that funds should be transferred directly to schools. This was implemented in January, and it has already begun yielding positive results. The State Society will only be given a fraction of the amount total due to them for their own maintenance and operations. Regarding food and other student services, the entire student-related expenditure is now directly available to the school authorities, ensuring better management at the local level. Also maintenance needs in older buildings: we have conducted a gap analysis through NABARD and, based on its findings, made substantial financial provision in the next EFC proposal. We are hopeful of approval from the Department of Expenditure, after which this issue will be comprehensively addressed.”*

5.11 In respect of the recruitment of the teachers from their own States, the Committee were informed that:

*“We have taken steps to address this. In fact, teachers from North India posted in Karnataka have been encouraged and required to learn the local language. Additionally, in the latest recruitment process, we have introduced flexibility: earlier, passing Hindi was mandatory for evaluation. We have now allowed combined qualifying in Hindi and English, thereby enabling greater participation of local candidates. We expect increased local representation as a result. Out of 52 sanctioned posts, we have identified 13 posts — such as cook, electrician, and guard — for local recruitment only, so as to ensure local employment and better communication within the community”*

**5.12 723 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) have been sanctioned out of 728 targeted to be set up in the country to provide quality education to the tribal children from class VI to XII in their own environment from the year 2018-19 to enable them to get access to the best opportunities in education. An allocation of ₹7150.01 crore has been made for the year 2026-27 for EMRS Scheme which is 46.67 percent of the total budget of the Ministry. The Committee note that under the Scheme, out of budgetary allocation of ₹6,399.00 crore and ₹7,088.60 crore in the years 2024-25 and 2025-26, ₹4,716.29 crore and ₹4,011.25 crore (till 19.01.2025) were utilized respectively. The Committee find that despite concerted efforts made by the Ministry to overcome the hurdles in implementation of scheme, the Ministry have been able to achieve a very limited success as BE of ₹7,088.60 Cr. for 2025-26 was reduced to ₹4,900.00 Cr at RE stage and the Ministry have been able to utilize only ₹4,011.25 Cr till 19.01.2026. Since the Ministry have not been able to address the problems and the problems still persist, the Committee urge the Ministry to persuade the implementing agencies to comply with the norms so that the hurdles are taken care of and the EMRS are established within the given timeline.**

**5.13 The Committee have noted from the replies of the Ministry that out of 499 functional schools as on date, 377 schools are functioning from the permanent buildings, 111 from other Government Buildings and 11 from rented premises. The Committee in previous years highlighted the need that all the EMRS should be made functional from their own buildings and should not run from rented or other Government buildings as these buildings may be lacking required infrastructure for a school. Considering the fact that there is no scarcity of resources at the disposal of the Ministry, the Committee still consider this as an essential prerequisite for the comprehensive development of EMRS infrastructure with a keen eye on the wholesome growth of tribal students. The Committee also believe that rented premises may not cater to the needs of present day**

**educational needs like technological and AI labs, smart-classrooms, sporting arenas etc. Therefore, the Committee desire that a comprehensive action plan should be chalked out to make all the remaining EMRS schools functional from their own buildings and the construction work of each EMRS is completed in a stipulated period of 2-3 years. The Committee would like to be informed of steps taken in this regard.**

**5.14 The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have made several proposals to the EFC for approvals such as increase in the annual expenditure for students, recruitment of teachers, zonal offices for NESTS etc for the functioning of EMRS. The Committee expect that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would get approval at the earliest and they would be able to implement them from next academic year. The Committee would like to be informed about the further developments made in this regard.**

## CHAPTER-VI

### **PRADHAN MANTRI JANJATI ADIVASI NAYA MAHA ABHIYAN (PM-JANMAN) [ERSTWHILE DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS]**

Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) was launched on 15 November, 2023 for socio-economic development of 75 PVTG communities residing in 18 States and one UT. The mission aims to provide basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, electrification of un-electrified households and sustainable livelihood opportunities in 3 years with budgetary allocation of ₹24,000 Cr. The Budget Estimates (BEs), Revised Estimates (REs) & Actual Expenditures (AEs) for 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26 and Budgetary Estimate for 2026-27 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	0.00	100.00	90.99
2024-25	240	150.00	90.68
2025-26	300	184.99	113.70 as on 19.01.26
2026-27	100	-	-

6.2 On being enquired about the status of work undertaken activity-wise, the Committee *vide* their written reply informed as under :-

<b>Name of Ministry</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Mission Target (2023-2026)</b>	<b>Sanction details</b>	<b>Physical Achievements</b>
M/o Rural Development	Provision of pucca houses	4.90 lakh houses	477199 houses	264075 houses completed
	Connecting roads	8000 km road	7317 km road	1883 Km road completed
M/o Health and Family Welfare	Mobile Medical Units	1000 MMU (750 MMUs sufficient to cover all)	750 MMUs	750 MMUs operationalized
M/o Jal Shakti	Piped Water Supply	19375 Villages	18712 Villages	8391 Villages 100% Saturated
M/o Women and Child Development	Construction and running of Anganwadi Centres	2500	2500 AWCs	2390 AWCs made operational.
M/o Education	Construction and running of hostels	500	500 Hostels	10 completed & work started in 296
M/o Power	Energization of un-electrified HHs	145083 HHs	138602 HHs	136049 HHs Electrified
M/o New and Renewable Energy	Households sanctioned under New Solar Power Scheme	As per identification of beneficiaries eligible for off-grid	8823 HHs	7007 HHs Electrified
M/o Communications	Installation of mobile towers	Coverage of 4543 habitations	4247 habitations planned for Coverage	3073 Habitations covered
M/o Tribal Affairs	Multipurpose Centers	1000	1000 MPCs	486 completed
	Setting up of VDVks	500	539 VDVks	491 VDVks Business Started

6.3 In this regard, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee that in view the progress of the works under the Abhiyan, Ministry of Tribal Affairs have, *inter-alia*, forwarded a proposal to EFC to extend the timeline for 1 year for PM-JANMAN for completion of balance works (road component under PMGSY will be till March 2028 as approved originally).

6.4 As regards to the utilization of budgetary allocation of ₹24,000 Cr. (including the State share of ₹8,700 Cr.) made under the scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated as under: -

(in ₹. Cr)

S. No.	Ministry/Department	Actuals 2023-24	Actuals 2024-25	RE 2025-26	BE 2026-27
1	Department of Telecommunications	53.85	0.00	100.00	50.00
2	Department of School Education and Literacy	57.60	7.77	494.22	495.25
3	Department of Health and Family Welfare	10.08	174.92	188.49	200.99
4	Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation	105.95	344.35	341.70	0.01
5	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	0.00	13.82	30.72	0.01
6	Ministry of Power	49.30	75.80	72.89	0.00
7 (i)	Department of Rural Development (Awas)	677.03*	1867.86	1838.00	1500.01
7 (ii)	Department of Rural Development (Road)	232.76	339.94	620.00	1215.00
8	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	109.97	99.83	190.99	100.00
9	Ministry of Women and Child Development	117.72	36.36	120.00	12.01
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1414.26</b>	<b>2960.65</b>	<b>3997.01</b>	<b>3573.28</b>

\*as per information from MoRD

6.5 On being enquired about the reasons for low utilization of funds in all these years, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply submitted that :-

“The release of funds under PM-JANMAN is subject to compliance of Ministry of Finance’s instructions regarding release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and monitoring utilization of funds released. As per the erstwhile SNA instructions, the maximum funds which could be considered for release is 50% of amount earmarked for a State during the particular financial year (earmarking of funds among States can be maximum to the limit of BE under the scheme for the particular FY) and funds can be released on utilization of at least 75% of the funds released earlier. Hence, in case a State has not utilized funds to the extent of 75% of earlier releases, no funds can be released during the FY. Further, during 2025-26, MoF has covered PM JANMAN (MPCs) scheme under SNA SPARSH procedure under which ‘mother sanctions’ are issued to State Governments which define State wise drawing limits and actual release funds are subject to claims made by State Government on PFMS for release of Central Share”

6.6 On being asked about the constraints faced by the line-Ministries with respect to the works pending, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated in their written reply that:

- (i) On boarding on SNA SPARSH impacting the pace of fund flow especially in respect of PMAY-G houses.
- (ii) Issues such as forest clearances in respect about 750 km of road length sanctioned under the PMGSY
- (iii) Land identification and acquisition (especially for infrastructure projects like Anganwadi, hostels, mobile towers) being undertaken by the State is also a time-consuming process
- (iv) Pending survey for mobile towers in LWE affected areas
- (v) Re-tendering has also slowed the pace of construction of few projects, as PVTG habitations are located in remote, hard-to-reach and often inaccessible areas
- (vi) Pending Cabinet approval for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

6.7. On being enquired about the reasons for reduction of allocated funds from ₹300 Cr. to ₹100 Cr. for FY 2026-27 and whether these funds are sufficient to achieve the targets, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee that:-

“REs have been rationalized based on the utilization patterns of the States keeping in view the extant instructions and as regards allocation for FY 2026-27, supplementary grants will be demanded based on the requirements from State Governments during next financial year”

**6.8 The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Naya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) is an ambitious scheme of Govt. of India for the holistic development of Tribal Communities of the Country with a view to saturate 29000 tribal dominated villages by 2025-26 with an total dedicated corpus of ₹24,000 Cr. The Scheme is spread across 9-line Ministries/Departments over 11 interventions across health, education, nutrition, road and connectivity, construction of Multi-purpose Centers and Anganwadis, installation of solar panels, electrification and sanitation etc. The Committee also note that RE for 2025-26 was reduced to**

**₹184.99 Cr. from ₹300 Cr. allocated at BE stage and the Ministry could utilize only ₹113.70 Cr. till 19.01.26. The Committee find that there is slow and tardy progress in execution of works by the several Ministries as the work done by the Ministries like, M/o Rural Development, M/o Education and M/o Jal Shakti, is lagging far behind the target. The Committee, therefore, again emphasize that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as the nodal Ministry, must dovetail a well thought out mechanism and system of timely execution with PM-JANMAN in order to complete the pending work of the line-Ministries within the extended period, *i.e.*, one year beyond its initial date of completion on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2026.**

## CHAPTER-VII

### **DHARTI AABA JANJATIYA GRAM UTKARSH ABHIYAN (DAJGUA)**

Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024 to saturate critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood etc. through 25 interventions implemented by 17-line Ministries of Govt. of India by convergence and outreach to ensure holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities. The Abhiyan will cover 63, 843 villages benefitting more than 5 Cr. people in 549 districts and 2911 blocks spread across all tribal majority villages and aspirational block in 30 States/UTS during FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29. Total budget approved for the Abhiyan is ₹79,156 Cr. (Centre share ₹56,333 Cr. and State share ₹22,823 Cr.)

7.2 Each Ministry/Department is responsible for implementation of scheme in a time bound manner through funds allocated to them under Development Action Plan for STs (DPST). Apart from being the Nodal Ministry, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is required to enhance the scope of SCA to Tribal Development/PMAAGY by including other intervention like Multi-purpose Centers, infrastructure of Ashram Schools, Hostels, Centre for Competence for Sickle Cell Diseases etc and have been allotted ₹9,013 Cr out of the total Budget of ₹79,156 Cr.

7.3 The Budgetary Estimates, Revised Estimate and Actual Expenditure for 2024-25, 2025-26 and Budgetary Estimate for 2026-27 are as follows:

**(₹. in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2024-25	-	500.00	477.68
2025-26	2000.00	500.00	250.02 as on 19.01.2026
2026-27	2013.46	-	-

7.4 As regards the targets and achievements, as on 01.02.2026, in respect of concerned Ministries/Departments, the Ministry *vide* their written reply have intimated the Committee as under: -

Physical Targets and achievements-DAJGUA (as on 01.02.2026)						
S. No.	Ministry	Activity	Mission Target (2024-2028)	Target till March 2026	Sanction	Progress
1	Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)	PMAY-G - Housing	20 Lakhs	6 Lakhs	House Sanctioned: 12,76,886	House Completed: 7,32,134
		PMGSY - Roads	25,000 Km Road	7,500 Villages	2411.25 km of roads sanctioned	Work yet to Start
2	Ministry of Jal Shakti	Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	All villages to be saturated	1,500 villages	Sanctioned Villages: 63,035	Saturated Villages: 28,303
3	Ministry of Power	Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme – RDSS	2.35 lakh Households	70,000 HHs to be electrified	Sanctioned: 2,87,761(Households and Public Institutions)	Electrified: 59, 812 (Households and Public Institutions)
4	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	New Solar Power Scheme- PM Surya Ghar Yojana	Provision of Solar Roof top at 2000 institutions and 100 model Solar Tribal Village	-	Sanctioned: 4,099 HHs (100 in Manipur and 3099 Arunachal Pradesh)	Installation yet to start
5	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Mobile Medical units under National Health Mission	1,000 MMUs	100 MMUs	154 MMU	154 MMU operationalized
6	Ministry of Women and Child Development	Anganwadi Centre-Poshan 2.0 (ICDS)	2,000 New Anganwadis	400 New	875 AWCs sanctioned	Operationalized 626 AWCs
7	DoSE&L, Ministry of Education	Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	1,000 hostels	300 hostels	692 Hostels sanctioned	Foundation stone laid for 311 hostels
8	Department of Telecommunication	Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)	5,252 villages	1500 Villages	Sanctioned Villages: 5,252	Covered Villages: 3,666
9	Ministry of Tourism	Responsible tourism (Swadesh Darshan)	1000 Home stays	100 Home stays	Proposal from 17 states has been received and currently under consideration for approval	Projects worth 17.7 Cr. Sanctioned in AP, UK, UT of Ladakh, MP, Mizoram on 24.11.2025
10	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY)	Agriculture support to FRA patta holders (~ 2 lakh)	60000 beneficiaries	-	1,73,000 beneficiaries identified by MoA&FW

**Physical Targets and achievements-DAJGUA (as on 01.02.2026)**

S. No.	Ministry	Activity	Mission Target (2024-2028)	Target till March 2026	Sanction	Progress
11	<b>D/o Fisheries</b>	Pradhan Mantri MatsyaSampada Yojana (PMMSY)	Support to tribal fishermen: 10,000 IFR and 1000 CFR	3000 beneficiaries	5700 projects have been sanctioned	700 projects have been completed
	<b>D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying</b>	National Livestock Mission	Livestock management support to 8500 IFR holders	2550 beneficiaries	Projects sanctioned for Gujarat, MP, Assam and JK	Rs. 8 Cr has been released by the department to 6 states in 2025-26 (J&K, GJ, TR, AS, MP and CG)
12	<b>Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship</b>	Jan ShikshanSansthan (JSS) Scheme	(i) 30 Skilling Centres in tribal districts	9 skilling Centres& training for 300 VDVks	30 Tribal Skilling Center has been sanctioned in 30 districts	30 Skilling Centres have been inaugurated across the country with 21713 beneficiaries enrolled. 1078 batches have been formed.
			(ii) Training of 1000 VDVks and tribal groups		Training on 250 VDVK Sanctioned	Identification of State Implementing Agencies have been identified for 264 VDVks
13	<b>Ministry of AYUSH</b>	PoshanVatikas - National AYUSH Mission		700 PoshanVatikas	243 PoshanVatika Sanctioned in EMRS	111 PoshanVatikas planned in EMRS in AP, Ar.P, Bihar and Chattisgarh
14	<b>Ministry of Panchayati Raj</b>	Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)	FRA awareness programs at all Gram Sabhas, Sub-division and districts dealing with FRA		Total ST participant targeted to be trained – 46,19,662	Total ST participant trained – 7,81,661
15	<b>Ministry of Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas</b>	LPG - Ujjwala Yojana	25 Lakhs LPG connections	7.5 Lakhs HHs	-	65,184 Tribal Households given SVs
16	<b>Ministry of Electronics &amp; Information Technology</b>	Digital Initiatives	Digital India initiatives	Tribal villages, as applicable	-	Progress not reported

7.5 On being asked about the reasons due to which the budgetary allocation of FY 2025-26 was reduced to one-fourth of BE at RE stage along with the reasons due to which that only 12.5% of BE could be utilized till 19.01.2026, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* their written reply submitted that:-

“The primary reason for the reduction in Budgetary allocation at the Revised Estimates (RE) stage is attributable to the transition in the fund disbursement mechanism under the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) from the Single Nodal Agency (SNA) framework to the SNA-SPARSH system. During the relevant period, States/UTs were in the process of opening SNA accounts for implementation of DAJGUA in compliance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance. However, before the operationalisation of these accounts could be fully stabilized, the SNA-SPARSH system was introduced. Consequently, States/UTs encountered practical and procedural challenges in on-boarding and migrating their functional accounts from the existing SNA framework to SNA-SPARSH. This transition necessitated additional approvals, technical validations, and system-level configurations, which resulted in delays in the seamless flow and utilisation of funds. Further, the transition of financial control and operational responsibility from the State/UT Finance Departments to the designated implementing Departments also required time for alignment of workflows, and familiarisation with the revised PFMS processes. These transitional issues cumulatively impacted the pace of fund utilization during the financial year, leading to lower expenditure at the RE stage. It is, however, pertinent to mention that the transition process has since largely stabilized. States/UTs have now been on-boarded on the SNA-SPARSH platform, and the fund flow mechanism under PFMS is in the process of smooth and efficient utilisation. With the system now streamlined, improved expenditure performance is expected in the subsequent period”

7.6 As regards the focus areas conceived by the Ministry for utilization of funds in FY 2026-27 and the steps being taken to ensure that the funds for FY 2026-27 could be utilized in full across the areas of utilization, the Ministry have replied as under:-

“Regular review meetings with in-line Ministries, States/ UTs under DAJGUA has been started to ensure that the funds are fully utilized during the Financial Year 2026-27. Also, States/UTs have now been on-boarded on the SNA-SPARSH platform, and the fund flow mechanism under PFMS is in the process of smooth and efficient utilization. With the system now streamlined, improved expenditure performance is expected in the subsequent period. Now, all States/UTs are being supported and made

aware of the funding provisions through SNA. Further all States/UTs have been advised to submit project proposals for the remaining allocation in line with the scheme guidelines in April 2026 itself. Periodic meetings are being held to resolve the practical difficulties faced by the States/UTs and to facilitate the smooth implementation of approved projects at various levels, as required”

7.7 On being enquired about the constraints faced by the line Ministries in executing, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted *vide* their written reply that:

“the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan adopts a convergence-based, "whole-of government" approach, bringing together multiple ministries to working close collaboration to ensure impactful, cost-effective, and sustainable outcomes for tribal communities. Periodic meetings are held by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs-being the nodal Ministry to address the constraints faced by the Line Ministries, if any. These issues are resolved through a dialogue based approach in collaboration with the State Governments, ensuring smooth implementation and strengthened inter ministerial co-ordination. However, delays in uploading utilization details and physical progress on the various channels have affected timely review, corrective action, and subsequent releases, thereby impacting pending works”

7.8 As regards to the role of State Governments in the execution of work, the Ministry submitted *vide* their written replies as under:-

“The State Governments are the implementing agencies to execute interventions under the Abhiyan efficiently on the ground through robust state, district, and block-level mechanisms. At the state level, the Chief Secretaries of the respective states leads the mission, with the Principal Secretary of Tribal Welfare serving as the convener. Senior officers from sectoral departments act as Nodal Officers, responsible for supervising, ensuring convergence, and monitoring the implementation of the mission. At the district level, District Collectors are designated as Nodal Officers,

tasked with overseeing, coordinating, and monitoring mission execution. At the block level, the Block Development Officer, or a similarly designated official (such as ITDP/ MADA), assumes the role of Nodal Officer, ensuring the effective implementation of the mission's objectives within specific blocks or regions. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established within the Department of Tribal Welfare of the State Government to facilitate coordination and monitoring between Government of India (GOI) departments, state level departments, and across various ministries and states. The multiple and decentralized levels do help in tackling the hurdles being faced by the Line Ministries from State/UT and timely execution of the targeted works. State/UT Governments are responsible for identifying and verifying eligible beneficiaries and villages, preparing and submitting DPRs/proposals and utilisation certificates across interventions, ensuring land readiness and facilitating statutory clearances (forest, environment, security) for civil works and digital connectivity AND coordinating among State line departments and Tribal Welfare Departments for convergence. These roles are embedded in the DAJGUA Guidelines under the implementation plan and the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework, which emphasize state-led execution with central coordination”

**7.9 The Committee note that Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024 to saturate critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood etc. through 25 interventions implemented by 17-line Ministries of Govt. of India by convergence and outreach to ensure holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities. The Abhiyan will cover 63, 843 villages in 549 districts and 2911 blocks spread across all tribal majority villages and aspirational block in 30 States/UTS during FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29. Since multiple Ministries are involved and the Abhyan is stipulated to be completed by 2028-29, the Committee feel that in the prevailing circumstances the role of Ministry of Tribal Affairs becomes extraordinarily important as they have to effectively coordinate and**

monitor the pace of work so that the objectives of the Scheme are achieved in the given time period. The Committee, however, find that during the financial year 2025-26, BE of ₹2,000 Cr. was reduced to ₹500 Cr at RE stage and only ₹250.02 Cr. has so far been utilized by the Ministry till 19.01.26. The Committee are made to understand that the initial hurdles such as transition of financial control and operation responsibility from the State/UT Departments, familiarization with PFMS system have largely been now streamlined, hence the improved expenditure performance is expected in the subsequent period. The Committee have no doubt with regard to the expenditure performance as the hurdles have been taken care of but the concern of the Committee is with regard to the performance of the line Ministries as it does not appear to be at the required pace because the progress of the work is very tardy and far behind the target fixed upto March, 2026. The Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are yet to start work and several Ministries are yet to complete task assigned for completion by March, 2026. This directly points to the deep mismanagement in the execution of the scheme, the Committee are, therefore, of the view that the Ministry should take capacity building measures and provide technical support to implementing agencies, including local bodies and field-level officials so that the momentum picks up. The Committee would appreciate if the Ministry conducts comprehensive implementation audit across all participating states and implementing agencies so that the bottlenecks are identified and the necessary action is taken to plug them. The Committee also recommend the establishment of a dedicated monitoring and coordination mechanism at both the Central and State levels and creation of a digital dashboard with real-time progress indicators to track physical and financial performance, enabling early detection of delays and deviations. The Committee would like to be apprised of the measures taken by the Ministry in this regard.

## CHAPTER-VIII

### NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

National Overseas Scholarship Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs under which scholarships are given to the meritorious Schedule Tribe (ST) students for pursuing higher education in top 1000 ranked (as per latest QS world ranking) Institutes/Universities abroad. The Scheme is implemented through the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, Ministry of External Affairs. Twenty awards are given every year. ST students with annual family income not exceeding ₹6.0 lakhs are eligible to apply for the Scholarship under the Scheme.

8.2 The Budgetary Estimate, Revised Estimate & Actual Expenditure for the year 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 and BE of 2026-27 of National Overseas Scholarship Scheme are as follows:-

(₹. in crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	4.00	7.00	7.00
2024-25	6.00	6.00	6.00
2025-26	0.01	8.00	2.01 as on 19.01.26
2026-27	20.00	-	-

8.3 With regard to the reasons due to which the allocation for FY 2025-26 was only ₹0.01 Cr., the Ministry submitted *vide* written reply that:

“ the allocation of ₹0.01 crore at BE stage during FY 2025-26 was only an indicative provision, as the earlier five-year EFC cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26) had an approved outlay of ₹20.00 crore, against which ₹21.95 crore had already been utilized during the preceding four years.

Subsequently, a fresh proposal for continuation of the scheme for one year was approved by the EFC with an outlay of ₹9.95 crore. Accordingly, ₹8.00 crore was provided at RE stage in 2025-26.”

8.4 The actual expenditure and number of students enrolled during the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 are as follows:

(i) Annual Expenditure under National Overseas Scholarship scheme (NOS):

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Expenditure (In Cr.)</b>
2021-22	4.95
2022-23	4.00
2023-24	7.00
2024-25	6.00
2025-26	7.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.3</b>

(ii) No. of Students enrolled year wise under NOS scheme:

<b>Selection Year</b>	<b>No. of Students enrolled</b>
2021-22	17
2022-23	18
2023-24	18
2024-25	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

8.5 On being asked about by what basis the BE has been increased to ₹20.00 Cr. for FY 2026-27 and about the plan for utilization of the allocated fund, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs stated *vide* their written reply that:

“the BE for FY 2026-27 has been increased to ₹20.00 crore based on the Ministry’s proposal in the forthcoming EFC cycle, wherein the enhanced allocation is intended to accommodate the increased number of beneficiaries and revised financial norms under the scheme, ensuring adequate support to Scheduled Tribe students pursuing higher education abroad with the following:-

(i) The number of annual slots proposed to be enhanced from 20 to 50.

(ii) The Annual Maintenance Allowance proposed to be increased from USD 15,400 to USD 19,250”

8.6 On being enquired with regard to annual income ceiling under National Overseas Scholarship for SCs, the representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed the Committee during the deliberation that:

*“हम सोशल जस्टिस से भी एक बार बात कर लेंगे।जितना वहां पर है हम उसको उसकी पैरिटी में कर देंगे”*

**8.7 The Committee appreciate that overseas scholarship scheme, namely, the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, under which scholarships are given to the meritorious Schedule Tribe (ST) students for pursuing higher education in top 1000 ranked Institutes/Universities abroad. The Scheme is implemented through the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, Ministry of External Affairs. The Committee have also been informed that ST students with annual family income not exceeding ₹6.0 lakhs are eligible to apply for the Scholarship under the Scheme. The Committee are content to note that from the forthcoming EFC cycle the number of annual slots have been proposed to be enhanced from 20 to 50 and the Annual Maintenance Allowance from USD 15,400 to USD 19,250. The Committee consider both the changes to be a positive step towards ensuring the welfare of meritorious ST students pursuing their academic dreams abroad. However, the Committee cannot but underscore a long-pending desire from ST communities to increase the eligibility criterion with regard to annual family income not exceeding ₹6.0 lakhs applicable in scholarship under the scheme. The Committee genuinely feel that the annual income ceiling of ₹6.00 lakhs ought to be augmented and brought in parity to the need of the time. The Committee are happy that during the deliberation, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as well, recognized this need and assured the Committee to take necessary steps to raise annual family income ceiling of ₹6.00 lakh under National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for ST students to bring it at least to the level of**

**Gross annual family income ceiling followed under National Overseas Scholarship for SCs. The Committee would like to be informed about the steps taken by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in this regard.**

## **CHAPTER-IX**

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

Under proviso to Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments with notified STs based upon proposals received from them, duly recommended by Executive Committee of the State (headed by Chief Secretary) and after appraisal and approval thereof by a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) constituted in this Ministry for this purpose. Funding under this programme is provided to enable the States to meet the cost of such schemes of development for activities related to education, health, sanitation, water supply, livelihood, skill development, minor infrastructure etc.as may be undertaken by the State for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in that State.

9.2 The Budgetary Estimate, Revised Estimate & Actual Expenditure for the year 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 and BE of 2026-27 of this Scheme are as follows: -

<i>(₹. in crore)</i>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>AE</b>
2023-24	1472.10	1172.10	1172.10
2024-25	1541.47	1170.57	1170.57
2025-26	1541.47	1171.00	327.29 as on 19.01.26
2026-27	1542.00	-	-

9.3 The following proposals have been approved during the last 5 years:

**PAC Approved amount during last five Financial Year (Amount in Lakh)**

Sl. No.	State	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
1	Andhra Pradesh	2327.55	2671.20	2351.60	0.00	9924.50
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5030.00	9830.00	7265.30	6740.00	10030.00
3	Assam	4592.37	2570.00	2300.00	3294.12	6929.15
4	Bihar	0	1575.77	1371.96	871.24	524
5	Chhattisgarh	9192.43	11604.02	13853.43	16195.69	17290.23
6	Goa	0.00	691.53	750.00	150.00	570.17
7	Gujarat	6348.04	8793.79	11601.99	4584.77	8869.87
8	Himachal Pradesh	1297.00	1500.00	1655.00	2132.46	3201.18
9	Jharkhand	10550.00	12265.11	6748.00	17013.43	8674.66
10	Karnataka	3305.68	3210.00	4529.70	4070.00	6568.13
11	Kerala	792.67	707.5	817.67	2005.22	1315.38
12	Madhya Pradesh	18353.40	5319.10	16109.97	16215.28	16253.70
13	Maharashtra	10427.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	2735.00
14	Manipur	1746.66	1673.79	2140.00	3529.00	3587.65
15	Meghalaya	3162.51	1909.96	3582.72	3152.41	2513.64
16	Mizoram	1909.71	2971.54	1767.31	2897.97	3223.80
17	Nagaland	2396	3478.92	5863.47	5190	2610
18	Odisha	12027	13431	12066	6870.56	10107.95
19	Rajasthan	9011.00	10935.86	12501.13	11106.10	12674.29
20	Sikkim	836	2045	0	1884.29	5284.93
21	Tamil Nadu	886.25	728.00	1146.26	734.80	2019.67
22	Telangana	2789.00	2050.00	5566.25	2669.00	13797.00
23	Tripura	1186.22	1136.74	1724.20	4226.39	4639.19
24	Uttar Pradesh	927.43	882.71	1273.93	1491.74	1924.06
25	Uttarakhand	815.25	594.64	800.00	1258.02	805.59
26	West Bengal	4445.50	0.00	4186.50	4744.40	4703.72
<b>Total</b>		<b>114355.38</b>	<b>102576.18</b>	<b>121972.39</b>	<b>123026.89</b>	<b>160777.46</b>

9.4 On being asked about the measures being taken for the implementation approval of the proposals received from the State/UT Governments, the Ministry *vide* their written replies have stated that:

“ Every month, Ministry request States to send project proposals within their allocated budget to this Ministry for consideration of the same by the Ministry. As soon as proposals are received from States, Ministry conducts Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) Meeting for discussion and approval. PAC members include senior officer of MoTA and Principal Secretary/ Secretary/ Commissioner and other officers from the concerned State Tribal Welfare Dept”

9.5 On being asked about the proposals approved during the last 5 years, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted following information :-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>PAC Approved Amount in Lakh as on 19.02.2026</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	3365.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6362.50
3	Assam	5620.00
4	Bihar	1230.57
5	Chhattisgarh	17311.68
6	Goa	583.54
7	Gujarat	7514.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	837.19
9	Jharkhand	15574.44
10	Karnataka	-
11	Kerala	800
12	Madhya Pradesh	28504.24
13	Maharashtra	-
14	Manipur	-
15	Meghalaya	4030.72
16	Mizoram	3984.97
17	Nagaland	2925
18	Odisha	17846.59

19	Rajasthan	8201.00
20	Sikkim	1056.35
21	Tamil Nadu	895.03
22	Telangana	3295.00
23	Tripura	1644.22
24	Uttar Pradesh	-
25	Uttarakhand	610.00
26	West Bengal	2849.11
<b>Total</b>		<b>135041.15</b>

9.6 As regard to the monitoring mechanism of the funds disbursed under the scheme, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs submitted vide written reply that:-

“As per scheme guidelines for the program of Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution, an Executive Committee (EC) is chaired by Chief Secretary to State Government with Secretary of the Nodal Department as Member-Secretary in each State. This EC is responsible for appraisal and approval of perspective document, Monitoring and Evaluation. Provision of similar committee at District Level under Chairpersonship of District Collector has been made at District Level also. In addition to above, State furnishes Utilization certificate and physical progress report of the projects with approval of competent authority of concerned States. The proposals are submitted by the States on the basis of Perspective Plan Document to the Ministry for consideration under Article 275(1) by PAC constituted for the purpose. The funds are then disbursed for approved projects after thorough analysis of the progress of earlier approved projects. The PAC, thus, also acts as oversight committee to monitor the funds utilization”

**9.7 The Committee note that under proviso to Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments with notified STs based upon proposals received from them. The Committee note that a significant percentage of Budgetary allocation is earmarked for the grants. However, the Committee have**

**found that for the financial year 2025-26 ₹1,541.47 Cr. was allocated at BE stage which was reduced to ₹1,171.00 Cr. at the RE stage and the Ministry have been able to utilize only ₹327.29 Cr. till 19.01.26 of the financial year. In this regard, the Committee firmly believe that grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India represent a vital constitutional commitment to tribal welfare and strengthening the disbursement of funds, institutional capacity and oversight functions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs vis-à-vis the grants are of utmost importance for meaningful and measurable improvements in the socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to take suitable measures to improve coordination with States, creation of standardized project frameworks and outcome-based monitoring mechanism for better utilization of grants. The Committee would like the Ministry to apprise the Committee of the initiatives taken in this regard.**

**New Delhi  
10 March, 2026  
19 Phalgun, 1947 (Saka)**

**SHRI P.C MOHAN  
Chairperson  
Standing Committee on Social Justice and  
Empowerment**

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2025-26) OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY, 2026**

The Committee met from 1020 hrs. to 1220 hrs. in Committee Room No. '1', Parliament House Annexe- Extension Building, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SHRI P.C. MOHAN - CHAIRPERSON**  
**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

1. Shri E.T.Mohammed Basheer
2. Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare
3. Smt.Vijaylakshmi Devi
4. Shri Murari Lal Meena
5. Shri Bhojraj Nag
6. Shri Rajkumar Roat
7. Shri Anoop Pradhan Valmiki

**Rajya Sabha**

8. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
9. Smt Geeta *alias* Chandraprabha
10. Shri Narayan Koragappa
11. Shri Ramji
12. Shri Rameswar Teli

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                          |   |                  |
|----|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Juby Amar           | - | Joint Secretary  |
| 2. | Shri Vinay Pradeep Barwa | - | Director         |
| 3. | Shri Krishendra Kumar    | - | Deputy Secretary |

## REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

- |    |                             |                      |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Ms. Ranjana Chopra          | Secretary            |
| 2. | Shri Manish Thakur          | Additional Secretary |
| 3. | Shri Brij Nandan Prasad     | Joint Secretary      |
| 4. | Shri Anant Prakash Pandey   | Joint Secretary      |
| 5. | Shri Bhaskar Choradia       | Joint Secretary      |
| 6. | Shri Naval Kishor           | Joint Secretary      |
| 7. | Shri T.Roumuan Paite        | CMD, NSTFDC          |
| 8. | Shri Ajeet Kumar Srivastava | Commissioner, NESTS  |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Secretary and other officials representing Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the Committee meeting convened to discuss the 'Demands for Grants (2026-27)'. In his opening remarks, the Chairperson, *inter-alia*, drew the attention of Ministry officials and Members present towards the downsizing of funds at RE stage from the funds allocated at BE stage in succeeding financial years in the past and desired to be apprised about the steps taken by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to overcome the hurdles in utilization of funds. Hon'ble Chairperson also articulated his concerns about the slow implementation of various schemes of the Ministry, particularly, PM -JANMAN and DAJGUA and sought to know about the impediments faced by the Ministry to expedite the completion of the projects under these schemes.

3. Thereupon, the Chairperson drew the attention of the representatives of the Ministry to the 'Directions by the speaker of Lok Sabha' regarding maintaining confidentiality of Committee proceedings till the report is presented to the House. Before initiating the discussion on the Demand for Grants, the Chairperson asked the representatives of the Ministry to introduce them. Thereafter, the Officials introduced themselves.

4. The Secretary and the Joint Secretaries of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs gave a power point presentation. The following topics were *inter-alia* taken up for discussion at the sitting of the Ministry:

- (i) Budgetary allocations;
- (ii) Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs);
- (iii) Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS);
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN);

- (v) Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA);
- (vi) National overseas scholarship for ST students;
- (vii) Support to Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE); and
- (viii) Pradhan Manti Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJAVM)

5. Before concluding the meeting, the Chairperson directed the Secretary to furnish written replies at the earliest on the issues that could not be replies in the meeting for early finalization of Report. The Secretary assured to comply.

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

***The witnesses then withdrew.***

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

**MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2025-26) HELD ON TUESDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026.**

The Committee met from 1030 hrs. to 1100 hrs. in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 113, E-PHA, Block 'B', Extension Building, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SHRI P.C. MOHAN - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer
3. Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare
4. Smt. Vijaylakshmi Devi
5. Shri Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar
6. Shri Chintamani Maharaj
7. Shri Murari Lal Meena
8. Shri Godam Nagesh
9. Shri Gajendra Singh Patel
10. Shri Rajkumar Roat
11. Adv. Priya Saroj
12. Shri Sasikanth Senthil
13. Shri Anoop Pradhan Valmiki

**Rajya Sabha**

14. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
15. Shri Ramji
16. Smt. Mamata Thakur
17. Dr. Meenakshi Jain
18. Shri V. Vijayendra Prasad

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Juby Amar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Vinay Pradeep Barwa - Director
3. Shri Krishendra Kumar - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened to consider and adopt the following draft Reports:

(i) XX XX XX XX

(ii) XX XX XX XX

(iii) Draft Report on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2026-27' pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

(iv) XX XX XX XX

3. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions, if any, on the draft Reports. The Reports were adopted by the Committee without any modifications.

4. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Reports and to present the same to both the Houses during the ensuing session.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

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**XX Does not pertain to this Report**

**ANNEXURE**  
**STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Sl.No	Para No.	Observations/ Recommendations
1.	2.8	<p>The Committee note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been allocated ₹15,421.97 crore by the Ministry of Finance against the proposed demand of ₹17,223.47 crore for the financial year 2026-27. The Committee are content with the fact that this allocation of ₹15,421.97 crore exceeds by 18.63% and 3.32% than the funds allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26, respectively. The Committee are of the view that this allocation is a clear reflection of Government's firm resolve for tribal development throughout the country. The Committee would like to underscore that with an enhanced allocation of resources, the responsibility now squarely lies on the Ministry to ensure that allotment of funds made at BE stage may not get reduced at RE stage as were done rather routinely in preceding years. The Committee express their discontent with the submission of the Ministry that not only RE for 2025-26 was reduced by ₹4,101.63 Cr, but ₹8,757.04 Cr. out of the total Revised Estimate of ₹10,824.18 Cr. for 2025-26 could only be utilized by the Ministry till 23.02.2026. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should take concrete steps to utilize the unspent portion of RE for 2025-26 within the remaining period left of the present financial year and ensure that the target fixed under</p>

		<p>each of the schemes are achieved. The Committee also expect that the Ministry will address troubling issues once and for all to clear the deck for better usage of budgetary allocation in future. The Committee also hope that the Ministry would make a concerted effort to ensure that at least 50% of the allocated fund for 2026-27 are put to use by the month of September, 2026, so that the Budget allocation for 2026-27 is not reduced at RE stage by the Ministry of Finance.</p>
2.	3.9	<p>The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)' provide financial assistance to 29 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) for execution and implementation of the sanctioned projects and activities. The Committee, however, find that budget estimates for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 were revised downward at RE stage from ₹118.64 crore to ₹50.00 crore, ₹111.00 crore to ₹90.00 crore and again ₹111.00 crore to ₹90.00 respectively. The revised estimate could also not be spent fully during 2023-24 and for the financial year 2025-26, only a meager 29.93% of RE the Ministry has been able to spend till 19.02.26. The Committee, therefore, believe that mere allocations of funds would not ensure effective implementation of TRI Scheme. The Committee note with concern the inability of State treasuries in transferring funds allocated by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, timely submission of Annual Action Plans and Utilization Certificates (UCs), clearance of SNA balances, submission of</p>

		<p><b>progress report/DPR etc by the State Authorities etc. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry that they should endeavor to devise a specific mechanism, sound in technical knowhow and procedural matters, in consultation with States/UTs, to remove technical and procedural bottlenecks, administrative delays, capacity building issues etc. The Committee would also like the Ministry to consider the suggestions received from NITI Aayog for effective implementation of the scheme. The Committee would like to be informed of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.</b></p>
3.	3.10	<p><b>The Committee note that out of 11 Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum sanctioned by the Ministry, only 4 Museums have been inaugurated till date and rest of the Museums are either under the different stages of construction or curation development. Since very little progress has been achieved in last one year, the Committee once again convey their discontent at the delayed progress of work on this front. The Committee, therefore, desire to underscore the fact that the construction and inauguration delays of such museums defeats the objective for which Museum are being established. The Ministry, while accepting the onus for the delays, conveyed that necessary measures have been taken to expedite the construction of Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums in the country. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry must take concrete measures and take an holistic approach to include in its ambit all factors that have long been hindering the progress of the scheme. The Committee urge the Ministry to upscale</b></p>

		<p>their ongoing endeavors so that all sanctioned Museums are completed by March, 2027 as informed to the Committee.</p>
4.	4.5	<p>The Committee are happy to note that Budget allocation of ₹25 Cr for the scheme for 2023-24 was augmented to ₹45 Cr at the RE stage and the Ministry could spend ₹32.04 Cr during the financial year, which far exceeded the initial Budget allocation. The Committee would have been ever happier, had the Ministry been able to utilize the entire Revised Allocation of ₹45 Cr. The Committee are rather disappointed to find that the Ministry could utilize only ₹28.33 Cr. for 2024-25, thereby indicating a reduction of ₹3.71 Cr in actual expenditure in 2024-25 <i>vis-à-vis</i> 2023-24. This under-utilization also underlines year-on-year fluctuation in performance of the TRI-ECE scheme. The Committee have been informed that for the year 2025-26, the Ministry have forwarded a re-appropriation file of ₹5 Cr. for seeking additional allocation from the Ministry of Finance to meet up committed expenses under the scheme. Therefore, the Committee expect that the additional allocation will be provided to the Ministry and fruitfully utilized till the end of financial year 2025-26. The Committee are hopeful that budget allocation of ₹32 Cr. for 2026-27 will not be downsized at the RE stage and the Ministry will be able to spend the entire corpus across the desired areas, including, organization of National and State-level events, Integrated Media activities, Outreach and Branding, strengthening of Centers of Excellences etc. In</p>

		<p>respect of planning of expenditure, the Committee would strongly recommend the Ministry to include more State-level Institutes and Research Institutes/ Organizations and State-Universities under the provision of grants, thereby broadening and expanding the horizon and scope of the scheme. The Committee would like to be informed of steps taken in this regard.</p>
5.	5.12	<p>723 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) have been sanctioned out of 728 targeted to be set up in the country to provide quality education to the tribal children from class VI to XII in their own environment from the year 2018-19 to enable them to get access to the best opportunities in education. An allocation of ₹7150.01 crore has been made for the year 2026-27 for EMRS Scheme which is 46.67 percent of the total budget of the Ministry. The Committee note that under the Scheme, out of budgetary allocation of ₹6,399.00 crore and ₹7,088.60 crore in the years 2024-25 and 2025-26, ₹4,716.29 crore and ₹4,011.25 crore (till 19.01.2025) were utilized respectively. The Committee find that despite concerted efforts made by the Ministry to overcome the hurdles in implementation of scheme, the Ministry have been able to achieve a very limited success as BE of ₹7,088.60 Cr. for 2025-26 was reduced to ₹4,900.00 Cr at RE stage and the Ministry have been able to utilize only ₹4,011.25 Cr till 19.01.2026. Since the Ministry have not been able to address the problems and the problems still persist, the Committee urge the Ministry to persuade the implementing agencies to comply with</p>

		<b>the norms so that the hurdles are taken care of and the EMRS are established within the given timeline.</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>The Committee have noted from the replies of the Ministry that out of 499 functional schools as on date, 377 schools are functioning from the permanent buildings, 111 from other Government Buildings and 11 from rented premises. The Committee in previous years highlighted the need that all the EMRS should be made functional from their own buildings and should not run from rented or other Government buildings as these buildings may be lacking required infrastructure for a school. Considering the fact that there is no scarcity of resources at the disposal of the Ministry, the Committee still consider this as an essential prerequisite for the comprehensive development of EMRS infrastructure with a keen eye on the wholesome growth of tribal students. The Committee also believe that rented premises may not cater to the needs of present day educational needs like technological and AI labs, smart-classrooms, sporting arenas etc. Therefore, the Committee desire that a comprehensive action plan should be chalked out to make all the remaining EMRS schools functional from their own buildings and the construction work of each EMRS is completed in a stipulated period of 2-3 years. The Committee would like to be informed of steps taken in this regard.</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have made several proposals to the EFC for approvals such as increase in the annua</b>

		<p>expenditure for students, recruitment of teachers zonal offices for NESTS etc for the functioning of EMRS. The Committee expect that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would get approval at the earliest and they would be able to implement them from next academic year. The Committee would like to be informed about the further developments made in this regard.</p>
8.	6.8	<p>The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Naya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) is an ambitious scheme of Govt. of India for the holistic development of Tribal Communities of the Country with a view to saturate 29000 tribal dominated villages by 2025-26 with an total dedicated corpus of ₹24,000 Cr. The Scheme is spread across 9-line Ministries/Departments over 11 interventions across health, education, nutrition, road and connectivity, construction of Multi-purpose Centers and Anganwadis, installation of solar panels, electrification and sanitation etc. The Committee also note that RE for 2025-26 was reduced to ₹184.99 Cr. from ₹300 Cr. allocated at BE stage and the Ministry could utilize only ₹113.70 Cr. till 19.01.26. The Committee find that there is slow and tardy progress in execution of works by the several Ministries as the work done by the Ministries like, M/o Rural Development, M/o Education and M/o Jal Shakti, is lagging far behind the target. The Committee, therefore, again emphasize that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as the nodal Ministry, must dovetail a well thought out mechanism and system of timely execution with PM-JANMAN in</p>

		order to complete the pending work of the line-Ministries within the extended period, <i>i.e.</i> , one year beyond its initial date of completion on 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026.
9.	7.9	<p>The Committee note that Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024 to saturate critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood etc. through 25 interventions implemented by 17-line Ministries of Govt. of India by convergence and outreach to ensure holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities. The Abhiyan will cover 63, 843 villages in 549 districts and 2911 blocks spread across all tribal majority villages and aspirational block in 30 States/UTS during FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29. Since multiple Ministries are involved and the Abhiyan is stipulated to be completed by 2028-29, the Committee feel that in the prevailing circumstances the role of Ministry of Tribal Affairs becomes extraordinarily important as they have to effectively coordinate and monitor the pace of work so that the objectives of the Scheme are achieved in the given time period. The Committee, however, find that during the financial year 2025-26, BE of ₹2,000 Cr. was reduced to ₹500 Cr at RE stage and only ₹250.02 Cr. has so far been utilized by the Ministry till 19.01.26. The Committee are made to understand that the initial hurdles such as transition of financial control and operation responsibility from the State/UT Departments, familiarization with PFMS system have largely been now streamlined, hence the</p>

improved expenditure performance is expected in the subsequent period. The Committee have no doubt with regard to the expenditure performance as the hurdles have been taken care of but the concern of the Committee is with regard to the performance of the line Ministries as it does not appear to be at the required pace because the progress of the work is very tardy and far behind the target fixed upto March, 2026. The Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are yet to start work and several Ministries are yet to complete task assigned for completion by March, 2026. This directly points to the deep mismanagement in the execution of the scheme, the Committee are, therefore of the view that the Ministry should take capacity building measures and provide technical support to implementing agencies, including local bodies and field-level officials so that the momentum picks up. The Committee would appreciate if the Ministry conducts comprehensive implementation audit across all participating states and implementing agencies so that the bottlenecks are identified and the necessary action is taken to plug them. The Committee also recommend the establishment of a dedicated monitoring and coordination mechanism at both the Central and State levels and creation of a digital dashboard with real-time progress indicators to track physical and financial performance, enabling early detection of delays and deviations. The Committee would like to be apprised of the measures taken by the Ministry in this regard.

10.	8.7	<p>The Committee appreciate that overseas scholarship scheme, namely, the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, under which scholarships are given to the meritorious Schedule Tribe (ST) students for pursuing higher education in top 1000 ranked Institutes/Universities abroad. The Scheme is implemented through the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, Ministry of External Affairs. The Committee have also been informed that ST students with annual family income not exceeding ₹6.0 lakhs are eligible to apply for the Scholarship under the Scheme. The Committee are content to note that from the forthcoming EFC cycle the number of annual slots have been proposed to be enhanced from 20 to 50 and the Annual Maintenance Allowance from USD 15,400 to USD 19,250. The Committee consider both the changes to be a positive step towards ensuring the welfare of meritorious ST students pursuing their academic dreams abroad. However, the Committee cannot but underscore a long-pending desire from ST communities to increase the eligibility criterion with regard to annual family income not exceeding ₹6.0 lakhs applicable in scholarship under the scheme. The Committee genuinely feel that the annual income ceiling of ₹6.00 lakhs ought to be augmented and brought in parity to the need of the time. The Committee are happy that during the deliberation, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as well, recognized this need and assured the Committee to take necessary steps to raise annual family income</p>
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		<p>ceiling of ₹6.00 lakh under National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for ST students to bring it at least to the level of Gross annual family income ceiling followed under National Overseas Scholarship for SCs. The Committee would like to be informed about the steps taken by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in this regard.</p>
11.	9.7	<p>The Committee note that under proviso to Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments with notified STs based upon proposals received from them. The Committee note that a significant percentage of Budgetary allocation is earmarked for the grants. However, the Committee have found that for the financial year 2025-26 ₹1,541.47 Cr. was allocated at BE stage which was reduced to ₹1,171.00 Cr. at the RE stage and the Ministry have been able to utilize only ₹327.29 Cr. till 19.01.26 of the financial year. In this regard, the Committee firmly believe that grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India represent a vital constitutional commitment to tribal welfare and strengthening the disbursal of funds, institutional capacity and oversight functions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs vis-à-vis the grants are of utmost importance for meaningful and measurable improvements in the socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to take suitable measures to improve co-ordination with States, creation of standardized project frameworks and outcome-based monitoring mechanism for better</p>

		<b>utilization of grants. The Committee would like the Ministry to apprise the Committee of the initiatives taken in this regard.</b>
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