



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2024-25)**

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2024-25)**

FOURTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December, 2024/ Pausha, 1946 (Saka)

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(2024-25)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 18.12.2024

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 18.12.2024



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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL
JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2024-25*)**

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 PradhanValmiki
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. Smt. P. T. Usha
30. Shri Abdul Wahab
- #31. Shri Niranjana Bishi

***Constituted w.e.f. 26.09.2024 vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part – II para no. 847 dated 26.09.2024.**

Nominated w.e.f 21.11.2024

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Krishendra Kumar - Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Satyakaam Yadav - Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2024-25) having been authorized by the Committee do present on their behalf this Fourth Report on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25' pertaining to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

2. The Committee considered the 'Demands for Grants (2024-25)' of the Ministry of Minority Affairs which were laid on the Table of the House on 31st July, 2024. After obtaining the Budget Documents, Explanatory Notes, etc., the Committee took evidence of the Ministry of Minority Affairs on 6th November, 2024. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at the sitting held on 16.12.2024.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Minority 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 (2024-25)'.

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

New Delhi
18 December, 2024
27 Pausha, 1946 (Saka)

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

REPORT

CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTORY

The Ministry of Minority Affairs was carved out of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in January, 2006 to ensure a more focused approach towards issues relating to the six notified minority communities namely, Jains, Parsis, Buddhists, Sikhs, Christians and Muslims which constitute around 20% of India's population. The mandate of the Ministry includes formulation of overall policy and planning, coordination, evaluation and review of the regulatory and development programmes for the benefit of the minority communities.

1.2 The vision of the Ministry is to create an enabling environment for strengthening the multi-facial, multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi-religious character of the nation. The mission of the Ministry is to improve the socio-economic condition of the Minority communities through an affirmative action and inclusive development so that every citizen has equal opportunity and to participate accordingly in building a dynamic nation, to facilitate equitable share for Minority communities in education, employment, economic activities and to ensure their upliftment.

1.3 Subjects allocated to this Ministry as per Second Schedule to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 are:

- i. Overall policy, planning, coordination, evaluation and review of the regulatory and developmental programmes of the minority communities.
- ii. All matters relating to minority communities except matters relating to law and order.
- iii. Policy initiatives for protection of minorities and their security in consultation with other Central Government Ministries and State Governments.
- iv. Matters relating to linguistic minorities and of the office of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.
- v. Matters relating to the National Commission for Minorities Act.
- vi. Work relating to the evacuee Waqf properties under the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 (31 of 1950) (since repealed).
- vii. Representation of the Anglo-Indian Community.
- viii. Protection and preservation of non-Muslim shrines in Pakistan and Muslim shrines in India in terms of the Pant-Mirza Agreement of 1955, in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.

- ix. Questions relating to the minority communities in neighbouring countries, in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.
- x. Charities and charitable institutions, charitable and religious endowments pertaining to subjects dealt with in the Department.
- xi. Matters pertaining to the socio-economic, cultural and educational status of minorities; minority organisations, including the Maulana Azad Education Foundation.
- xii. The Waqf Act, 1995 (43 of 1995) and Central Waqf Council.
- xiii. The Durgah Khawaja Saheb Act, 1955 (36 of 1955).
- xiv. Funding of programmes and projects for the welfare of minorities, including the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation.
- xv. Employment opportunities for minorities in the Central and State public sector undertakings, as also in the private sector.
- xvi. Formulation of measures relating to the protection of minorities and their security in consultation with other concerned Central Ministries and State Governments.
- xvii. National Commission for Socially and Economically Backward Sections among Religious and Linguistic Minorities.
- xviii. All matters relating to the Justice Sachar Committee.
- xix. Prime Minister's new 15-Point Programme for Minorities.
- xx. Management of Haj Pilgrimage, including administration of the Haj Committee Act, 1959 (51 of 1959) and the rules made thereunder.
- xxi. Any other issue pertaining to the minority communities.

1.4 Constitutional and Statutory Bodies

- Central Waqf Council (CWC)
 - National Commission for Minorities (NCM)
 - Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities (CLM)
 - Haj Committee of India (HCoI)
- ii. PSU and Joint Venture
 - National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC)
 - iii. Organizations under the aegis of Ministry
 - Durgah Khwaja Saheb Ajmer
 - National Waqf Development Corporation Ltd. (NAWADCO)

1.5 The Ministry have been implementing the following Schemes for the welfare of Minority Communities:

- i. **Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)**, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry provides for development of infrastructure projects in

Education, Health, Skill Development Sectors and Women-centric projects, for improving the socio-economic conditions of people in the identified areas.

- ii. The Ministry has designed **Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)**, an umbrella scheme by converging five of the existing schemes of the Ministry namely –Seekho Aur Kamao, Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts / Crafts for Development (USTTAD), Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil.
- iii. The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements three scholarship schemes namely Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for the educational empowerment of notified minority communities. The schemes intend to lower the financial burden of financially weaker sections of religious minority communities. As part of an overall exercise to harmonize all the scholarship schemes of various Ministries/ Departments, the schemes will be brought under the ambit of an umbrella scheme namely, **Pradhan Mantri Educational Empowerment Scheme (PMEES)** for the remaining period of 15th Finance Commission Cycle.
- iv. **Jiyo Parsi** is a Central Sector Scheme concerning the decline of Parsi population in India. The scheme has three components, Medical Assistance, Advocacy and Health of Community. Since inception, the scheme has enabled birth of more than 400 Parsi children till 31.03.2024.
- v. The **National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC)** was incorporated on 30.09.1994 as a ‘Not for Profit’ company under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (now Section 8 of Companies Act, 2013). NMDFC provides concessional credit *viz.*, Term Loan, Education Loan, Micro Finance & Virasat implemented through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) for self-employment and income generating activities for the socio-economic development of the ‘backward sections’ amongst the notified Minorities.

1.6 The Ministry of Minority Affairs had proposed for the Budgetary Allocation of ₹3390.60 crore for the year 2024-25 for different Schemes. The Ministry of Finance has, however, allocated ₹3,183.24 crore. The Scheme-wise proposal made by the Ministry and the allocations made by the Ministry of Finance for the year 2024-25 is as follows:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No	Scheme	Budget Proposal by the Ministry 2024-25	Allocations made by the Ministry of Finance 2024-25
Central Sector Schemes			
1	Free coaching and allied scheme for candidates belonging to Minority Communities.	15.30	10.00
2	Research/studies, monitoring and evaluation of Development schemes including publicity	20.00	20.00
3	Grant-in-aid to State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) of NMDFC	3.00	3.00
4	Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students	45.08	45.08
5.	Qaumi Wakf Boards Taraqquti Scheme and Sahari Waqf Sampati Vikas Yojana.	22.00	16.00
6	Interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies	30.00	15.30
7	Scheme for containing population decline of small minority community.	10.00	6.00
8	Merit-cum-means based scholarship.	33.80	33.80
9	Pre-matric scholarship	326.16	326.16
10	Post-matric scholarship	1145.38	1145.38
11	PM VIKAS	564.10	500.00
Centrally Sponsored Schemes			
12	Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK)	1000.00	910.90
13	Education Scheme for Madrasas and Minorities	2.00	2.00
Others			
14	Secretariat	40.00	35.62
15	National Commission for Minorities	9.99	15.00
16	Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities	4.00	3.00
17	Haj, CGI Jeddah and Haj Secretariat	119.79	97.00
Grand Total		3390.60	3183.24

1.7 The details with regard to the implementation of various Schemes by the Ministry of Minority Affairs has been dealt with in the succeeding chapters.

CHAPTER II

BUDGETARY PROVISIONS AND UTILIZATION

The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the year 2024-25 are given under Demand No.33. The detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry were laid in Parliament on 31st July, 2024. As per the Demands for Grants, the Ministry of Minority Affairs have been provided ₹3,183.24 crore for the implementation of various Schemes of the Ministry. The scheme-wise details of plan outlays and expenditure during 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-2024 and Budgetary Estimates for 2024-25:-

(₹. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/Project/Programme	2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			BE 2024-25
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp)	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	
1	Contribution to equity of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	153.00	100.00	100.00	159.00	159.00	159.00	61.00	61.00	61.00	0.00
2.	Grants-in-aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation.	90.00	76.00	76.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Research /studies, monitoring & evaluation of development schemes for Minorities including publicity	41.00	41.00	15.18	41.00	25.00	4.83	20.00	20.00	15.00	20.00
4	Merit cum means Scholarship	325.00	325.00	345.77	365.00	358.02	34.90	44.00	25.00	152.74	33.80

5	Free Coaching & Allied Scheme for minorities	79.00	79.00	37.15	79.00	29.97	25.00	30.00	14.00	11.70	10.00
6	Grants in aid to state Channelizing Agencies (SCA) engaged for implementation in NMDFC programme.	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
7	Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram(Earlier MsDP)	1390.00	1199.55	1266.87	1650.00	500.00	222.66	500.00	550.00	189.23	910.00
8	Pre-matric scholarship	1378.00	1378.00	1350.99	1425.00	556.82	44.04	433.00	400.00	95.84	326.16
9	Post matric scholarship	468.00	468.00	411.87	515.00	515.00	29.00	1065.00	1000.00	85.02	1145.38
10	Secretariat	28.00	26.90	25.60	30.61	30.61	25.08	35.00	35.00	29.59	35.62
11	Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students	99.00	99.00	74.00	99.00	99.00	98.85	96.00	54.00	83.45	45.08
12	Qaumi Wakf Boards taraqquti Scheme.	14.00	10.00	6.72	10.00	10.00	5.12	10.00	5.00	0.10	10.00
13	Sahari Waqf Sampati Vikas Yojana(Earlier GIA to Waqf)	2.00	2.00	1.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	7.00	3.00	0.00	6.00
14	Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women.	8.00	2.50	2.99	2.50	2.00	0.62	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0

15	Interest subsidy on educational loan for overseas studies for students belonging to minority communities.	24.00	24.00	22.15	24.00	24.00	24.00	21.00	7.00	0.00	15.30
16	Scheme for containing population decline of small minority community.	3.00	3.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	2.70	6.00	3.00	1.00	3.00
17	Skill Development Initiative	276.00	250.00	268.48	235.41	100.00	65.28	0.10	0.00	0.00	Nil. Scheme converge into PM VIKAS
18	Support for students clearing Prelims conducted by UPSC, SSC, State Public Services Commissions etc.	8.00	8.00	7.97	8.00	1.68	1.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
19	Upgrading Skill and Training in Traditional Arts /Crafts for Development (USTTAD)	60.00	60.00	76.68	47.00	47.00	10.61	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0
20	Hamari Dharohar	2.00	2.00	1.66	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0
21	Nai Manzil	87.00	47.00	48.86	46.00	20.00	7.62	0.10	0.00	0.00	Nil. Scheme converge into PM VIKAS
22	National Commission for Minorities	12.00	9.92	7.61	12.70	12.70	11.24	15.00	13.50	12.18	14.00

23.	Special officer for Linguistic Minorities	2.77	2.19	2.06	2.85	2.85	1.98	4.00	2.88	1.59	3.00
24	Haj Management	98.00	12.04	7.10	89.42	75.00	61.56	97.00	86.69	83.51	97.00
25	Education Scheme for Madrasas and Minorities(Transferred from Deptt. of Education and school Literacy)	174.00	174.00	161.53	160.00	30.00	0.08	10.00	5.00	0.01	2.00
26.	Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	540.00	325.86	209.42	500
	Total	4810.77	4346.45	4325.24	5020.50	2612.66	610.92	3097.60	2608.93	1032.65	3183.24

2.2 On being enquired about the reasons due to which the Ministry was able to spend only 39% of the Revised Estimate during the year 2023-24 and the initiatives taken to spend the funds allocated for the 2024-25, the Ministry submitted in their written reply that:-

“At the time of Revised Estimate during the year 2023-24, it was anticipated that the expenditure will be incurred majorly in Scholarship schemes, PM VIKAS and PMJVK. However, the reasons for less expenditure during the year 2023-24 under three major schemes of this Ministry are as under:-

Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK):

The PFMS and SNA Guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance made some conditions mandatory to be complied with by the respective State Government / Union Territory Administration / CGOs to make them eligible to received new trench of funds. These conditions include credit of the amount of Interest accrued to them on the Government of India Funds, Transfer of all funds of PMJVK Scheme available in the State Treasury to its SNA Account, Submission and approval of PFMS Legacy Data, clearance of pending State Share and its credit to the SNA, requirement of Utilization of expenditure of 75% of the funds released etc. In addition, the guidelines

provide that funds to any beneficiary State/UT less than the double of the funds available in its SNA, cannot be released to it. This is to submit that the PMJVK Scheme is continuing from the year 2008-09 when it was started with the name as Multi-sectoral Development Program (MsDP).

In addition, at the time of introduction of the SNA Guidelines almost all the States and UTs were having considerable amount of unspent balance with them in their treasuries. In addition, they were not compliant to the above guidelines and thus less amount of funds could be disbursed during the year 2023-24.

During the year 2022-23 and 2023-24 all efforts were put by the Ministry of Minority Affairs to make the states compliant to the SNA Guidelines. Ministry also made efforts to reduce the unspent balances available in the States/UTs treasuries and completion of old approved projects. Regular Regional Review Meetings are being done to pursue the states for speedy completion of the approved project units.

Presently, the unspent balance available with the States/UTs has been considerably reduced. Most of the States and UTs are now compliant to the above SNA and PFMS Guidelines. Speed of utilization of funds, completion of old approved projects has been accelerated due to rigorous follow-ups with the States/UTs and CGOs. More and more States are lined up for requirements of funds. In addition more projects are being approved under the Scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS):

Considering the recommendations received from third-party evaluation agencies and NITI Aayog, the key skill development/ skill development/ leadership/ education support schemes of this Ministry namely Seekho Aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni were merged into an integrated scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS).

Only the past liabilities were being cleared under the converging schemes. In this context, under the PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head, for the year 2023-24, the Revised Estimate was Rs. 215.98 crores of which actual expenditure was Rs. 209.42 crores which is 96.96 percent. Under Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, and Nai Manzil scheme, Revised Estimate was Nil for the year 2023-24.

Under PM VIKAS scheme head, for the year 2023-24, the Revised Estimate was Rs.109.88 against which no expenditure could be made as the scheme did not initiate. Going forward, the Ministry proposes to implement PM VIKAS scheme. The scheme is approved for the 15th Finance Commission cycle i.e. till the year 2025-2026.

Scholarship Schemes:

The Scholarship Schemes were approved by the Competent Authority for implementation till 2021-22. For further continuation of the scheme, the approval of the Competent Authority could not be received. In the absence of approval of the scheme, scholarship could not be disbursed for the year 2022-23.

Meanwhile, the Ministry conducted Monitoring and Impact Evaluation Study and Physical verification of the institutions/ beneficiaries through NCAER, New Delhi. Based on the Report of NCAER, this Ministry conducted Aadhaar Based Bio-metric authentication of all the Fresh and Renewal applicants and the verifying authorities.

Subsequently, in the month of December, 2023, the Ministry got the concurrence of Department of Expenditure to incur expenditure of funds for the year 2022-23 during 2023-24 against the committed liabilities under the Renewal Category of the applicants for 2022-23. Thus, this Ministry could not spend complete allocation as per the Revised Estimates during the year 2023-24.

In anticipation of approval of Scholarship Schemes from 2022-23 onwards, the budgetary allocation for the year 2024-25 have been obtained and the Ministry is hopeful of receiving the approval of Competent Authority and spend the budgetary allocation for the year 2024-25.

Additionally, Central Waqf Council (CWC) is the Implementing Agency of the Quami Waqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme (QWBTS) and Shahari Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana (SWSVY). With regard to Shahari Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana (SWSVY), due to non-receipt of viable proposals from any of the State Waqf Boards/Waqf Institutions, no demand has been furnished by CWC. For Quami Waqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme (QWBTS), CWC had not furnished any demand under the scheme as they are having unutilized funds.

With all these efforts, it is submitted that the Ministry would be able to utilize all the funds requested for it.”

2.3 During the year 2023-24 an amount of ₹2,064.95 crore out of the Budgetary Allocation of ₹3,097.60 crore was surrendered by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The Scheme-wise details of the amount surrendered to Ministry of Finance during the year with reference to Budgetary Estimates alongwith reasons are as follows:-

(₹ in crore)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount surrendered	Reasons
1.	Post-matric scholarship scheme	815.25	Delay in re-validation of application by the States.
2.	Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK)	410.77	Less/non-receipt of proposals from union territories without legislature/other organisations, hiring of less professional and conduction of online trainings. Requirements of less funds towards administrative expenses, publicity, operational charges, Grants-in-aid to Union Territories without legislature and Central Organizations.
3.	Research/Studies, Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Schemes including Publicity	6.73	Release of less advertisement and publicity. Non receipt of viable proposals and eligible proposals from PIAs. Non receipt of bills from vendors.
4.	Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students	42.01	The scheme has already been discontinued. However, the less committed liabilities raised by bank.
5.	Grant-in-aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation	0.10	Under closure.
6.	Free Coaching and Allied scheme	18.30	Non-disbursal of stipend to beneficiaries, non-hiring of professionals and receipt of less proposals from programme implementing agencies.
7.	Secretariat	5.41	Non-filling up of vacant posts ,procurement of less computer and peripherals receipt of less proposals conduction of less meeting/seminar, less foreign tour undertaken and less advertisement and publications and economy measures etc.
8.	NCM	2.82	Non-filling up of vacant posts, less tours undertaken, less procurement of Office Equipment, peripherals, less publications and studies.
9.	CLM	2.41	Non-filling up of vacant posts and economy measures etc.
10.	Leadership development of minority women	0.10	Scheme has been discontinued and merged in PM VIKAS.
11.	Quami Waqf Boards Tarquitti	9.90	Non receipt of adequate and viable

	Scheme		proposals, utilization certificates from SWBs and non-deployment of manpower by SWBs due to which Central Waqf Council demand less funds.
12.	Shahri Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana (SWSVY)	7.00	No Grants-in-Aids was released to Central Waqf Council (CWC)
13.	Nai Manzil	0.10	Scheme has been discontinued and merged in PM VIKAS.
14.	Haj Management	13.49	Restricted haj quota of pilgrim f.y. 2022-23 with Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Less publicity, hiring of less space etc.
15.	Hamari Dharohar	0.10	Scheme has been discontinued and merged in PM VIKAS.
16.	Education Scheme for Madarsas and Minorities	9.99	Less demand from State Governments
17.	Skill Development Initiative	0.10	Scheme has been discontinued and merged in PM VIKAS.
18.	Pre-Matric scholarship	337.43	Delay in re-validation of application by the States.
19.	Merit-cum-Means scholarship	26.26	Delay in re-validation of application by the States.
20.	Scheme for containing population decline of small minority community	5.00	Due to scheme being under review.
21.	Support for student clearing prelims conducted by UPSC,SSC, State Public service commission	0.10	Discontinuation of scheme and requirement of less funds towards committed liabilities.
22.	USTTAD	0.10	Scheme has been discontinued and merged in PM VIKAS.
23.	PM VIKAS	330.58	Only committed liabilities were paid. New scheme was not roll out.
	Total	2064.95	

2.4 With regard to low utilisation of funds, the representative of the Ministry stated during the deliberations of the Committee that:-

“Sir, you have already highlighted the lower utilisation of budget. There are three or four reasons for low expenditure. The first reason is the introduction of SNA and CNA guidelines and revision of PFMS. So, that

took some time for the States and various agencies to accept that programme.”

2.5 The representatives of the Ministry further stated that:-

“This is the budget allocation for expenditure. We have actually utilised the amount allocated in RE stage except these two years, 2022-23 and 2023-24, because of the obvious reasons which I have mentioned earlier. These are the issues which Madam has mentioned. These are the instructions that we have received from the Ministry of Expenditure. We have implemented it in all the States across the schemes. In respect of transfer of unspent balance, they have to first open an SNA account and then, transfer all the unspent balance to this SNA account. And also remitting all the interests accrued for many years ago, has taken a lot of time.

Then, comes the entry of legacy, financial data, and PFMS, etc. Until and unless they spend the 75 per cent of the release fund, no fund will be released. So, these are the impediments which come into the expenditure for these two years.”

2.6 With reference to difference in achievements of physical and financial targets fixed during the last three years, the Ministry submitted a statement mentioned in a written reply hereunder:

Sl. No.	Scheme/Program me	Year	Physical Targets	Physical Achievements	Remarks
1.	Grant-in-aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation	2021-22	Target was not fixed for grants NGOs and 2,00,000 scholarships to girl students, Skill Training from last year's target under GNSDT	Grants to no NGOs and 2,50,424 scholarships awarded	
		2022-23	Target was not fixed for grants NGOs and 2,00,000 scholarships to girl students, Skill Training from last year's target under GNSDT	-	
		2023-24			
2.	Equity contribution to NMDFC	2021-22			
		2022-23			
		2023-24			

3.	Free Coaching and allied scheme	2021-22		5300 students covered	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			
4.	Research/studies, Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Schemes including Publicity	2021-22	Not quantifiable		
		2022-23	Not quantifiable		
		2023-24			
5.	Merit-cum means based scholarship scheme	2021-22	750 Fresh + Renewal Scholarships	1.32 lakh Scholarships. Awarded	-
		2022-23			-
		2023-24			*
6	Grants-in-aid to State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) engaged implementation NMDFC schemes	2021-22	Not quantifiable	Not quantifiable	
		2022-23	Not quantifiable	Not quantifiable	
		2023-24	Not quantifiable	Not quantifiable	
7.	Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (Erstwhile Multi-sectoral Development Programme for Minority Concentration Districts.)	2021-22	To approve proposals of States/ UTs/ Central Government Organizations and release of funds for ongoing projects	Project amounting to Rs.1821.28 crore with Central share of Rs1342.51 crore.	
		2022-23	To approve proposals of States/ UTs/ Central Government Organizations and release of funds for ongoing projects	Project amounting to Rs.2009.41 crore with Central share of Rs.1411.64 crore.	
		2023-24			
8	Post-matric scholarship	2021-22	6.50 lakh Fresh + Renewal scholarships	7.20 lakh	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			*
9	Pre -matric scholarship	2021-22	5.60 lakh Fresh + Renewal scholarships	57.10 lakh.	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			*
10	Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students	2021-22	Scheme to be discontinued from 2022-23	1074 fresh fellowships and renewals	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			-
11	PadhoPadesh"-Scheme of Interest Subsidy Educational Loans	2021-22	Scheme to be discontinued from 2022-23	4622 (including renewals)	
		2022-23			

	for overseas studies				
		2023-24			-
12	Scheme for containing population decline of small minority community.	2021-22		312 babies born (cumulative)	
		2022-23		365 babies born (cumulative)	
		2023-24		414 babies born (Cumulative)	
13	Support for students clearing Prelims conducted by UPSC, SSC, State Public Service Commission etc.	2021-22	2000	832	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			
14	Quami Waqf Boards Tarraquitti Scheme	2021-22	GIS mapping of 1.10 lakh waqf properties	GIS mapping of 87,866 waqf properties have been done.	
		2022-23	GIS mapping of 1.80 lakh waqf properties	GIS Mapping of 1,04,437 waqf properties have been done	
		2023-24	GIS mapping of 1.50 lakh waqf properties	GIS Mapping of 4452 waqf properties have been done	
15	Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women.	2021-22			
		2022-23			
		2023-24			
16	Secretariat	2021-22	Not quantifiable		
		2022-23	Not quantifiable		
		2023-24	Not quantifiable		
17	Sahari Sampati vikas Yojana (Earlier Grants-in-Aid to Waqf)	2021-22		Rs.1.0crore released to CWC has been utilised and UC has also been furnished to Ministry	
		2022-23		No GIA released to CWC	
		2023-24		No GIA released to CWC	
18	Nai Manzil	2021-22	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities were being cleared off.	Cumulatively, 98,712 beneficiaries trained and 53,644 reported placed under the scheme since inception.	
		2022-23	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities were being cleared off under PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head.		
		2023-24			
19.	Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/ Crafts for	2021-22	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities	Cumulatively, 98,712 beneficiaries trained and 53,644 reported placed under the scheme since	

	Development(USTTAD)		were being cleared off.	inception.	
		2022-23	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities were being cleared off under PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head.		
		2023-24			
20	Skill Development Initiative	2021-22	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated, and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities were being cleared off.	Cumulatively, 4.68 lakh beneficiaries have been trained under the scheme since inception.	
		2022-23	Scheme converged as a component into an integrated scheme called PM VIKAS. No new targets were allocated and no training was ongoing. Only past liabilities were being cleared off through PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head.	No new targets were allocated in the scheme since 2020-21. The scheme performance was also affected by less receipt of proposals submitted by PIAs and operational challenges due to outbreak of COVID.	
		2023-24		During 2021-22, the scheme was undergoing approvals from EFC and the Cabinet for extension for the period of 15th Finance Commission.	
21	Hamari Dharohar	2021-22		Non receipt of adequate and viable proposals	
		2022-23			
		2023-24			
22.	Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)	2021-22	-	The scheme is yet to be rolled out. Releases for past/ committed liabilities of erstwhile schemes were being made under PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head.	
		2022-23	-		
		2023-24	-		

2.7 When asked about the allocation of ₹3,183.24 crore by the Ministry of Finance for the year 2024-25 against the projection of ₹3,390.00 crore, which is slightly lower than the projection, is sufficient to implement the schemes of the Ministry, the Ministry submitted in their written reply that:-

“As for PMJVK, the Scheme was allocated with an amount of Rs. 910.90 Crore. However, in view of the increasing committed liabilities and more and more requests for release of funds, PMJVK under RE 2024-25, has requested allocation of Rs. 1200 Crore. PMJVK would be able to spend all of its allocations during the year 2024-25.

Budget provision has been kept for the Pradhan Mantri Educational Empowerment scheme for the financial year 2024-25. The EFC of PMEES approved by Expenditure Finance Committee on 18.01.2023 and approval of CCEA of the Pradhan Mantri Educational Empowerment scheme was not obtained so far. In anticipation of approval of Scholarship Schemes from 2022-23 onwards, the budgetary allocation for the year 2024-25 have been obtained and the Ministry is hopeful of receiving the approval of Competent Authority and spend the budgetary allocation for the year 2024-25.”

2.8 The Committee note that the delay in adoption of procedural changes introduced by the Ministry of Finance such as SNA system, PFMS by the State/UT Governments resulted in under-utilisation of Budgetary/ Revised Estimates in 2023-24 and 2023-24. The Committee firmly believe that with these procedural changes the financial resources of the Government of India will not get stuck up in the State treasury and can be fruitfully utilised by the Ministry of Minority Affairs on other welfare measures. Since the State/UT Governments have streamlined the system by adopting the procedural changes, the Committee expect that the Ministry of Minority Affairs would be able to spend their budgetary allocation for 2024-25 on the various schemes for the welfare of minority communities. The Committee are, however, apprehensive as they feel that the actual expenditure in 2024-25 may again be less than the Budgetary Estimates as the approval of several Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs is at various stages. The Committee, therefore desire that the approval of the Schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs should be expedited so that Schemes such as Scholarship Schemes and PM-VIKAS are implemented without any delay, thus avoiding under-utilisation of Budgetary Estimates. In view of the above, the Committee, recommend that the necessary mechanism may be evolved so that the Schemes requiring approval is timely obtained so that the benefit of the Schemes reaches the deprived sections of the Minority Communities

2.9 The Committee note that ₹2,064.95 crore were surrendered by the Ministry of Minority Affairs out of Budgetary Allocation of ₹3,094.60 crore in 2023-24. The Committee find that the major reasons for surrendering of funds are revalidation of applications under Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit cum means Scholarship Schemes, discontinuation of some Schemes, less / non-receipt of proposals from State/ UT Governments . The Committee feel that the responsibility of implementation of the Schemes since lies with the States/ UT Governments, they should timely complete all the procedural formalities on their part so that the Ministry of Minority Affairs is able to release funds. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry of Minority Affairs should develop a mechanism to guide the various implementing agencies so that a delay by State/UT Governments is avoided and may also examine incorporating a penal provision against the State/ UT Governments in case the response from the State/ UT Governments is not received in a stipulated time period.

2.10 The Committee note that the Schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs are now broadly classified into three categories *viz.* (i) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram, (ii) Educational Empowerment initiatives; and (iii) Skilling and livelihood initiatives. The Committee believe that these Schemes are ray of hope for the poor people of Minority Communities and their welfare can be carried out with the sincere and effective implementation of the Schemes falling under each of the component. The Committee find that in many of the Schemes no physical targets were fixed.

Since the welfare measures are meant for poor people of the minority communities, it becomes necessary that the physical targets are fixed annually to assess the success of the Scheme and also to find the percentage of population of minority community benefitted from these Schemes. Further, this would also help in appropriate allocation of funds under each Scheme at the beginning of the financial year. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Minority Affairs may examine the viability of fixing targets under each Scheme and develop a suitable system to annually fix the physical targets under various Schemes that have a quantifiable outcome.

CHAPTER III

EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT

The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements three scholarship schemes namely Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for the educational empowerment of the six centrally notified minority communities viz. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh. The schemes intend to lower the financial burden of financially weaker sections of religious minority communities. As part of an overall exercise to harmonize all the scholarship schemes of various Ministries/ Departments, the schemes will be brought under the ambit of an umbrella scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Educational Empowerment Scheme (PMEES) for the remaining period of 15th Finance Commission Cycle.

Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme

3.2 The Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for students belonging to the minority communities was approved in January 2008 as a Central Sector Scheme. As part of the scheme, the students studying in India in a Government/ recognised private school in classes IX and X, securing at least 50 per cent marks in the previous final year examination and whose parents' or guardians' annual income does not exceed ₹1.00 lakh are eligible for award of the Pre-Matric scholarship.

Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme

3.3 The Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme was launched in November 2007 as a Central Sector Scheme. Post Matric Scholarship is awarded to minority community students of Government/ recognised private higher secondary schools/ colleges/ Universities including residential higher secondary schools/ colleges of India. The Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme covers class XI to Ph.D. Students securing at least 50% marks in the previous year's final examination and whose parents'/ guardians' annual income does not exceed Rs. 2.00 lakh are eligible for a scholarship under the scheme.

Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme

3.4 The Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme, launched in 2007. Scholarships are awarded for pursuing professional and technical courses at under-graduate and post-graduate levels, in institutions recognized by the appropriate authority. The students, who have secured admission in any technical or

professional institution, recognized by an appropriate authority are eligible under this scheme. In case of students admitted without a competitive examination, students should have secured at least 50% marks in the final of qualifying exam at higher secondary/graduation level in case of fresh scholarship. The parents'/guardians' annual income from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh. Eligible students admitted in any of the 85 reputed premier institutes for professional and technical courses listed under the scheme are reimbursed the full course fee.

Scholarship Schemes

3.5 The pre-Matric,. Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes are implemented through a revamped version of the National Scholarship Portal (NSP-2.0). The scholarship amount is transferred to the bank accounts of students through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

Maulana Azad National Fellowship Scheme

3.6 The Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) scheme for minority students was launched in 2009-10 as a Central Sector Scheme. The scheme has been discontinued from 2022-23 due to its apparent overlapping with similar schemes of other Ministries. The fellowship to existing beneficiaries would continue till the completion of their studies as per extant guidelines.

Padhopardesh - Interest Subsidy Scheme

3.7 The Scheme aims to award interest subsidy on educational loan to minority students for studying abroad to pursue approved courses of study at Masters, M.Phil. and Ph.D. levels. The scheme has been discontinued from FY 2022-23 as education loan is available at cheaper rates through various other Government interventions. The scheme continues to provide the benefits to the existing beneficiaries till the completion of their term.

3.8 The Budgetary Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for the last three years along with the Budgetary Estimate for 2024-25 is as follows:-

(₹ in crore)

Name of the Scheme/Project/Programme	2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			BE 2024-25
	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	
Merit cum means Scholarship	325.00	325.00	345.77	365.00	358.02	34.90	44.00	25.00	152.74	33.80
Pre-matric scholarship	1378.00	1378.00	1350.99	1425.00	556.82	44.04	433.00	400.00	95.84	326.16
Post matric scholarship	468.00	468.00	411.87	515.00	515.00	29.00	1065.00	1000.00	85.02	1145.38
Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students	99.00	99.00	74.00	99.00	99.00	98.85	96.00	54.00	83.45	45.08

3.9 On being enquired about the reasons due to which allocation on Pre-Matric Scheme came down drastically from ₹1,378 crore in 2021-22 to ₹326 crore in 2024-25, the Ministry submitted in their written reply that:

“As of now, the Scholarship Schemes are yet to be approved for implementation beyond the year 2021-22. Thus, the Scheme-wise tentative allocations for 2024-25 were sought in anticipation of scheme approval by CCEA as the EFC had already been appraised.

It is stated that the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme was implemented for Class I-X for the year 2021-22. In order to bring harmonization under this scheme with the schemes of other Ministries/ Departments and the fact that Class I-VIII are already covered under the RTE Act, which enables the provision of free and compulsory education for Class I-VIII, the Government has decided to discontinue the scholarships for them from 2022-23 onwards. Accordingly, the Scheme shall be restricted for Class IX-X only. Hence, the tentative allocation for 2024-25 has been reduced to ₹326.16 crore under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme and seems sufficient to meet the expenditure for the year.”

3.10 As regards to the low expenditure in the Post-Matric Scholarship scheme during the previous years, the Committee were informed *vide* written reply that:

“In anticipation of approval of three Scholarship Schemes from 2022-23 onwards, the budgetary allocation for the year 2023-24 and 2024-25 were

obtained and the Ministry is hopeful of receiving the approval of Competent Authority and spend the budgetary allocation for the year 2024-25.”

3.11 As regards to the achievement of physical target, the Ministry have submitted the following information in a table as below:

(₹ in crore)

Name of the Scheme/ Project/ Programme	Division	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25 Targets
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements	
Merit-Cum Means based Scholarship Scheme.	SS	60,000	59495	The scheme is yet to be approved by Competent Authority beyond 2021-22			The scheme was not approved by the competent Authority beyond 2021-22	
Pre-matric scholarship	SS	30,00,004	28,96131	The scheme is yet to be approved by the Competent Authority beyond 2021-22			The scheme was not approved by the Competent Authority beyond 2021-22	
Post-matric scholarship	SS	4,99,999	491762					
Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students.	SS	1000 fresh + renewal	608	1000 fresh + renewal	1074	Scheme to be discontinued from 2022-23	Scheme to be discontinued from 2022-23	

3.12 With reference to achievement in the Scholarship Schemes, the Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs deposed before the Committee:-

“During the last two years, there have been some issues in scholarship schemes and we have taken several steps to fix those issues. We have

received some complaints about the embezzlement of the amount in scholarship schemes. For that purpose, in 2020, we have already registered a preliminary inquiry with the CBI and thereafter, we have taken a massive verification drive. First, we have requested C&AG to conduct an All-India Performance Audit Report. They have conducted and given their findings. Thereafter, we have also conducted an evaluation study through the National Council of Applied Economic Research. They have also given their verification report to us. On the basis of these verification reports, we have conducted a massive drive to biometric authentication of all these 26 lakh beneficiaries. And that process has taken a considerable time. Now, we have also completed that process also. Basically, under the scholarship scheme, the Ministry is doing harmonisation with OBC scholarship of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. So, we are doing that harmonisation process. Harmonisation process is under consideration. And once it is done, then the scheme will be approved for 2024-25 onwards. These are our achievements with regard to pre-matric, post-matric and merit-cum-means scholarship schemes. An important issue which I would like to bring to your kind notice is the participation of girls. We have kept 30 per cent scholarships for the girls. But actually, they are availing more than 50 per cent.”

3.13 On being asked about the action taken on the suggestions/ recommendations of the evaluation study conducted by IIT Delhi, the Ministry *inter-alia* submitted as under:

- (i) The annual family income limits has been proposed to be enhanced from ₹1 lakh to ₹2.50 lakh for Pre Matric, ₹ 2 to 2.50 lakh for Post Matric and ₹ 2.50 to 8.00 lakh for MCM.
- (ii) It is observed that the rates of scholarships under these three schemes have not been revised since inception. As such, this suggestion has been received from beneficiaries with whom IIT, Delhi interacted. However, there is a need to rationalize the scholarship rates of all 3 Scholarship Scheme and harmonize them with similar schemes of other Ministries/Departments. Hence, this recommendation is accepted.
- (iii) All States/UTs have also been suggested by MoMA to facilitate the application filing of 3 Scholarship Schemes through camps at local levels.

3.14 On being enquired about the number of students benefitted from these Schemes since their inception and the percentage of population educationally empowered with these Schemes, the ministry submitted *vide* written reply that:

“Total number of Scholarships sanctioned under the three Scholarship Scheme, since inception, is 8,12,46,949. This includes fresh as well as renewal applicants. This is 34.75% of total minority population of 23,37,92857 (as per census 2011).”

3.15 As regards to the Monitoring mechanism adopted by them, the Ministry of Minority Affairs stated that:

“The Ministry has already boarded its all three scholarship schemes on a dedicated scholarship portal i.e. National Scholarship Portal (NSP) 2.0 under URL: www.scholarships.gov.in. for applying online scholarship i.e. Pre-matric, Post Matric and Merit-cum-Means based scholarship schemes for students belonging to minority communities. A link to the same is also available in the website of this Ministry i.e. www.minorityaffairs.gov.in .The Ministry of Minority Affairs conducts Workshops at national as well as regional levels to ensure timely and effective implementation of 3 Scholarship Schemes for minorities through the National Scholarship Portal. Besides above, SMS messages were also sent to all stakeholders, including applicants, Institutes Nodal Officers, State/District Nodal Officers, District Magistrates/Collectors, Sarpanches at the Panchayat level, etc. to ensure that they take necessary action due on their parts in time to avoid any delay in implementation of these schemes. The Principal Secretary/Secretary of the States/UTs also monitor the implementation of these schemes regularly with their respective district formations and Institutes of their State/UT.”

3.16 The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs implements Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Merit cum means based scholarship, Maulana Azad National Fellowship and Padho Pradesh Scheme for the educational empowerment of minority communities. The Committee, however, find that the Maulana Azad National Fellowship and Padho Pradesh Scheme have been discontinued with effect from 2022-23 and the remaining educational empowerment Schemes *viz.* Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme are pending for approval since 2021-22. The Committee are of the view that education of the students belonging to minority communities should not be made to suffer for the administrative delays and necessary measures should be taken to ensure that there is no interruption in implementation of the Schemes. Since, the process of harmonisation of Scholarship Schemes of all the Ministries/ Departments is in progress, the Committee desire this exercise should be expedited. The Committee are aware that several other educational empowerment Schemes such as National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship, Free Coaching, Residential education, etc. are being implemented for the educational empowerment of various marginalised sections of the society by various Ministries/Departments. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry of Minority Affairs to examine the need of implementing other educational empowering schemes for the poor students of minority communities so that they may also avail the best of education and contribute in the growth of the nation. The Committee would also like to recommend that the Scholarship Schemes pending for approval should be approved without further delay.

CHAPTER-IV

PRADHAN MANTRI JAN VIKAS KARYAKRAM (PMJVK)

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK), erstwhile Multi Sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) being implemented from financial year 2017-18 with the objective to develop community infrastructure and basic amenities in the identified areas for improving the quality of life of the people in these areas. The scheme has been revised with the approval of the Cabinet in the year 2022 for continuation over the 15th Finance Commission Cycle i.e. upto 2025-26. The Scheme will now be implemented in all Districts of the Country including all the Aspirational Districts.

4.2 The proposals under PMJVK are recommended by the State Level Committee (SLC) headed by the Chief Secretary of the respective States/Union Territories (UTs) based on demand for infrastructure development in the identified areas. The proposals recommended by the SLC are considered by the Screening Committee (SC) chaired by JS(PMJVK) and then considered and approved by Empowered Committee (EC) chaired by Secretary MoMA) in the Ministry after due consultation with the concerned Central Ministries, projects under PMJVK are implemented and managed by concerned State/UT Government/CGOs. As per CGOs, the projects are directly recommended by Central Line Ministries.

4.3 The projects are implemented on a fund sharing arrangement between the Centre and the State Government/UT Administration in the ratio of 90:10 for North East States, Hilly States (J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand)/ UTs without Legislation, 100% for UTs without Legislature and 60:40 for all other States/ UTs. Proposals received from Central Government Organisations are supported 100. Education, health, skill development and women-oriented projects are the priority sector under PMJVK. The type of works undertaken under PMJVK include construction of schools, additional classrooms, hostels, computer labs/digital classrooms, science laboratories in schools, drinking water facilities and toilets in schools, colleges, dispensaries, hospitals, Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Polytechnics, working women hostels, sports facilities, public/community toilets etc.

4.4 The Budgetary Estimate, Revised Estimate, Actual Expenditure for 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 along with the Budgetary Estimate for the year 2024-25 is as follows:-

(₹. In crore)

2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			BE 2024-25
BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp)	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	
1390.00	1199.55	1266.87	1650.00	500.00	222.66	600.00	550.00	189.23	910.00

4.5 On being asked about the objective of the Scheme and the criteria on which projects are approved, the Committee were *inter-alia* informed *vide* written reply that:-

“ Objective of the Scheme are:

- a) To improve socio-economic condition of the communities living in the areas through community infrastructure development support.
- b) Provide basic amenities for improving quality of life of the people.
- c) Reducing imbalances and development deficit in the identified Minority concentration areas.

PMJVK is being implemented in all the Districts of the Country including all the Aspirational Districts as per the following criteria:

- a) The projects under PMJVK will be proposed in any area where the concentration of minority population is more than 25% in the catchment area (15 KM radius).
- b) The State Level Committee/ Central Government Organisation will have to certify that the area identified for implementation of the project has more than 25% minority population in the catchment area (15 km radius).

The Department of the respective State/UT responsible for the welfare of the Minority Communities is the nodal agency in the States/UTs for the PMJVK.

Projects under the Scheme in the Ministry for consideration and approval are received from these nodal departments only. All the funds are released to this Department only through PFMS for execution of the approved project units under the Scheme.”

4.6 On being enquired about the reasons due to which allocation of the Scheme has gone down in recent years, the Ministry stated in a written reply that:

“The PFMS and SNA Guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance made some conditions mandatory to be complied with by the respective State Government / Union Territory Administration / CGOs to make them eligible to receive new trench of funds. These conditions include remittance of the amount of Interest accrued to them on Government of India Funds to the Consolidated Funds of India, Transfer of all funds of PMJVK Scheme available in the State Treasury to its SNA Account, Submission and approval of PFMS Legacy Data, clearance of pending State Share and its credit to the SNA, requirement of Utilization of expenditure of 75% of the funds released etc. In addition, the guidelines provide that funds to any beneficiary State/UT less than the double of the funds available in its SNA, cannot be released to it. This is to submit that the PMJVK Scheme is continuing from the year 2008-09 when it was started with the name as Multi-sectoral Development Program (MsDP).

In addition, at the time of introduction of the PFMS and SNA Guidelines almost all the States and UTs were having considerable amount of unspent balance with them in their treasuries. In addition, they were not compliant to the above guidelines and thus less amount of funds could be disbursed during the year 2023-24. During the year 2022-23 and 2023-24 all efforts were put by the Ministry of Minority Affairs to make the states compliant to the PFMS and SNA Guidelines, reduction in the unspent balances available in the States/UTs treasuries and completion of old approved projects. Regular Regional Review Meetings are being done to pursue the states for speedy completion of the approved project units. Presently, the unspent balance available with the States/UTs has been considerably reduced. Most of the States and UTs are now compliant to the above SNA and PFMS Guidelines. Speed of utilization of funds, completion of old approved projects has been accelerated due to rigorous follow-ups with the States/UTs and CGOs. More and more States are lined up for requirements of funds. In addition more projects are being approved under the Scheme.”

4.7 With regard to the physical targets and achievements, the Ministry submitted the following statement:

Name of the Scheme/ Project/ Programme	Division	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements
Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (Erstwhile Multi-sectoral Development Programme)	PP	To approve proposals of States/ UTs/ Central Government Organisations and release of funds for ongoing projects	Project amounting to ₹2009.41 crore with Central share of ₹1411,64 crore approved and an amount of ₹1266.87 crore released.	To approve proposals of States/UTs/Central Government organisations and release of funds for ongoing projects.	An amount of ₹.222.67 crore released	To approve proposals of State/UTs/ Central Government organisations and release of funds for ongoing projects.	Project amounting to ₹991.89 crore with central share of ₹847.48 crore approved and an amount of Rs.188.91 crore released

4.8 On being asked about the percentage of proposals received from State/UTs were approved along with the achievements, the Ministry submitted *vide* written reply that:-

“The Ministry has noted the observation of the Committee regarding percentage of proposals approved vis-à-vis to the number of project proposal received from the State. The Ministry would be keeping this data in future. Presently the Ministry maintain all data about the project proposals approved under the Scheme. The data is given below:

States/UTs/CGOs	Number of Units Sanctioned	Number of Units Completed	Number of Units Dropped	Number of Units Under Execution
Aligarh Muslim University	4		0	2
Andaman & Nicobar	107	89	14	2
Andhra Pradesh	8359	8042	0	316
Arunachal Pradesh	11050	10702	0	338
Assam	140017	106150	5858	14820
Bihar	72751	47609	17089	7456
Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM)	3			
Chhattisgarh	1003	726	0	21

CIBS, Ladakh	3			
CIHCS, Arunachal Pradesh	1			
Delhi	141		0	88
Gujarat	151	61	0	40
Haryana	3353	2636	0	436
Himachal Pradesh	79		0	1
Jammu & Kashmir	19	3	4	12
Jharkhand	14347	11982	5	1562
Karnataka	16734	16629	13	64
Kendriya Vidyalay Sangathan	2587		0	2587
Kerala	2179	288	24	21
Kerala Central Univesity	2	2	0	0
Ladakh	351	346	0	3
Madhya Pradesh	1541	1115	414	7
Maharashtra	42739	28510	600	13469
Manipur	17810	17613	11	186
Meghalaya	11191	8539	2645	6
Mizoram	3469	3031	12	413
Mumbai University	1			
Nagaland	15	5	0	5
Navodaya Vidayala Samiti	1202	1173	0	8
NEHU, Tura, Meghalaya	5			
NIT Jalandhar	3			
Odisha	13546	5987	0	7557
Punjab	674	301	0	372
Rajasthan	12813	10764	200	1811
Secundrabad Cantonment Board	1		0	1
Sikkim	1704	1622	4	53
Tamilnadu	123	22	0	33
Telangana	6310	5398	23	861
Tripura	28424	28270	0	50
Uttar Pradesh	312040	199380	108124	3409
Uttarakhand	2337	1449	813	62
West Bengal	375959	290852	10128	59739
Grand Total	1105148	809296	145981	115811

As regards the number of project units which could not be started/completed due to certain reason such as unavailability of matching share from State etc, the details is also available in the table above. However, this is to submit that the none of the

project units under dropped category was due to non receipt / available of funds from the State / UT Government. The units were dropped due to the land issues required for the project and inordinate delay on part of the respective States / UTs.”

4.9 On being enquired, whether the budgetary estimate for 2024-25 would be sufficient to meet the expenditure and the roadmap laid down for the Scheme, the Committee were informed *vide* written reply that:

“PMJVK Scheme was allocated with an amount of ₹910.90 Crore As these funds were not sufficient, Ministry under RE 2024-25 has requested for allocation of Rs. 1200 Crore For the Scheme. The Ministry would be able to spend all of these allocations under the Scheme.

As for roadmap for revised scheme, this is to reiterate that the scheme guidelines were recently revised in the FY 2022-23 to make the scheme implementable across the country irrespective of the declared Minority Concentrated Areas, keeping in view the interest and welfare of Minority Communities. The Ministry would be taking all possible steps including modification in the PMJVK guidelines whenever required keeping the welfare of Minority Communities at the top priority.”

4.10 With regard to the scheme, the representative of the Ministry stated during the course of evidence that:-

“what we have done is that we have provided a provision that a project, where the concentration of minority population is more than 25 per cent and the catchment area of 50-kilometre radius, can be taken under the programme irrespective of the village, or town, or block, or district. So, this is the major change that we have carried out.

Then, comes the increase in the scope of the schemes. Other sectors like sports, sanitation, solar energy, etc., are also included. We have also increased the interval of the annual meetings. Now, annual meeting has to be done for better planning, implementation and monitoring. We have spent a total of ₹24,525 crore on this scheme. We have created around 11 lakh units and out of which, 5,93,000 units are infrastructure units and 5,07,731 units are non-infrastructure units. For better monitoring and accountability, we have also geo-tagged these infra units. For that purpose, we have already entered into an agreement with ISRO in NRSC, and they have developed a BHUVAN App, through which we are facilitating this geo-tagging. We are also linking these assets with the Prime Minister Gati Shakti so that maximum 33 Utilization of these units can be taken up. These are our progress regarding geo-tagging. These are some of the pictures of the projects we have taken under Prime Minister Jan Vikas Karyakram. This is

the Sabha Mandap which was approved in Managan, North Sikkim district. This is the Unani Medical College with a cost of ₹129 lakh. This is the outdoor stadium which has been approved for Tura, Meghalaya in 2019-20. Now, this is operational. This is a residential school at Kadur, Chikmangalur, which was started in 2018-19. It is now operational.”

4.11. With regard to the monitoring mechanism adopted by the Ministry, they stated that:-

“There exists a robust mechanism for monitoring of projects under the PMJVK. Besides the normal channel of monitoring through the Block Level Committee, District Level Committee and State Level Committee, the Ministry of Minority Affairs continuously reviews the progress of construction and commissioning of the projects. Such reviews are conducted during the Empowered Committee meetings with the State authorities, through written communications to the State Governments/ UT Administrations, through Conferences/ Meetings/ Discussions with the States/ UT Administrations, visits by officers from the Ministry etc. The monitoring mechanism has further been strengthened by inclusion of Online Monitoring Module and Geo-tagging of PMJVK assets through BHUVAN Application of NRSC-ISRO, PMJVK Portal and constitution of Screening Committee at the Ministry level.”

4.12. On being enquired about the steps taken by improvement in implementation of the Scheme, the Committee were informed vide written reply that:

“The projects under PMJVK are infrastructure projects and the States initiate land acquisition process after approval of the project by the Ministry. During initial years emphasis was on individual beneficiary oriented projects such as IAY (about 3.48 lakh units), drinking water (about 60 thousand units). No individual beneficiary projects are being sanctioned since 20017-18. Emphasis is now on bigger projects having wider impact on the identified areas.

As per the revised guidelines for implementation of PMJVK w.e.f. 2022-23 to 2025-26, it is envisaged to digitise the entire process of proposal submission by the States. The Online PMJVK Portal is being upgraded as per the revised guidelines and from 2022-23, consolidated annual plan proposals of the States/ UTs under PMJVK will be received only through the online web portal. It is also envisaged to convene the meeting of the Empowered Committee at the start of the Financial Year itself, for consideration and approval of the proposals from the States/ UTs.

A mobile app PMJVK Bhuvan has been developed in collaboration with NRSC, ISRO for Geo-tagging of all the PMJVK assets and capturing the project specific attributes including photographs of different stages of construction/ completion of the projects. This would also help in better implementation and monitoring of the projects. The Mobile app for Geo-tagging of PMJVK assets have been rolled out in all States in July, 2022. The States/ UTs have also been requested to complete geo-tagging of

PMJVK assets in mission mode. Till 15.01.2023, more than 35,000 units of works under PMJVK have been geo-tagged.

A separate portal for complete digitisation of PMJVK process is also being developed which includes proposal submission by the States/ UTs, physical and financial progress reports, utilisation certificates, etc. It is envisaged that fresh proposals from the States will be submitted through the PMJVK Portal and monitoring will also be done through the portal.

A detailed review of projects already sanctioned in the States/ UTs under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) has been undertaken in the Ministry. Around 58,000 units of works approved in the States/ UTs from 2008-2009 to 2018-19, which have not started and become unviable have been cancelled/ dropped by the Ministry. The States have been advised to utilise Rs. 1085 crore of Central Share released for such unviable projects/ units for other ongoing projects under PMJVK. The States have also been advised to utilise the unspent balance available in the SNA account for completion of ongoing projects before asking for fresh funds and reconcile the account with the Central Government. Detailed guidelines for utilisation of funds from SNA account have been issued to the States/ UTs.

The States/ UTs have been engaged actively in the review of projects sanctioned, transfer of funds (Central + State share) to the bank account of State Nodal Agency (SNA) and geo-tagging of assets created under PMJVK. The States have been asked to reconcile amount of Central share released till FY 2021-22 and its utilisation, and to transfer the shortfall in the matching State share to the SNA account.

It is being ensured that funds are released under the Scheme for newly approved projects only after completion of due tendering process and award of works.

Approvals of the projects is undertaken only after receipt of undertaking from the beneficiary State/UT/CGOs about the availability of land, free of any kind encumbrances in the ownership and also in possession of the Government.

Approval of new projects only after review of performance regarding execution of earlier approved projects to the concerned State/UTs/CGOs.

Emphasis is being laid on timely completion of projects.

4.13 The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry of Minority Affairs by developing community infrastructure and basic amenities in the identified areas for improving the quality of life of the minority community under Multi-Sectoral Development Scheme. The Committee believe that the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) introduced in 2017-18 to replace Multi-Sectoral Development Scheme has great potential to further improve the quality of life as it would cover the entire country including aspirational districts. The Committee note that the allocation to the Ministry of Minority Affairs under this head has considerably gone down in comparison to the allocation made in 2021-22 and 2022-23. The Committee feel that since all the districts in the Country are covered under the Scheme, the allocation should have been enhanced. There is no doubt that the State/UT Government plays an important role as they have been entrusted the responsibility of implementing the Scheme, however, the Ministry of Minority Affairs cannot absolve themselves from the responsibility to successfully implement the Scheme hence State/UT Governments should have been regularly pursued to follow the PFMS and SNA guidelines. The Committee are happy to find that the PFMS and SNA guidelines have now been adopted by most of the States and UTs but would like the Ministry to ensure that the remaining States/UTs also comply to the PFMS and SNA guidelines without any delay. In order to stop recurrence of such issues the Ministry of Minority Affairs may review them on regular basis.

4.14 The Committee note that 809296 Projects have been completed and 115811 Projects are in progress under Pradhan mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK). The Committee find that 145981 projects have been dropped due to various reasons but not due to non-receipt/ availability of funds from State/UT Governments. The most prevalent reasons for dropping the Projects is due to the non-availability of land for the Project and inordinate delay on part of the respective States/UTs. The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs would ensure that the funds are released for newly Projects only after completion of due tendering process and award of works and have also advised the State/UT Governments to utilize the unspent balance in SNA Account for completion of ongoing Projects before asking for fresh funds and reconcile the account with the Central Government. The Committee also find that new Projects would be approved only after review of performance regarding execution of earlier approved Projects to the concerned State/UTs/CGO. The Committee hope that the steps taken by the Ministry would yield the desired results and the Ministry, in future, may not face any difficulty in execution of the Projects approved by them . Since large number of Projects sanctioned to States/CGOs are under execution, the Committee would like the Ministry to lay down the time limit for completion of these Projects so that they are not inordinately delayed as delay increases the cost and also causes the inconvenience to the beneficiaries. Further, the Committee are sure that a mobile app PMJVK Bhuvan developed by the Ministry would help in keeping check on the

progress of the Projects under execution, however, Committee desire that the Ministry will ensure that all the State/UT Governments will take necessary steps to geo-tag all such Projects in a time bound manner and the Ministry may caution the State/UT Governments in case of any irregularity or delay observed. The Committee strongly believe that the infrastructure and basic amenities created under the scheme are crucial for improving the quality of life of the people belonging to Minority communities and the Projects dropped must have been a great service for them. The Committee desire that these dropped projects may be revisited with a view to revive them and the necessary steps may be taken by the Ministry of Minority Affairs to address the hindrances in execution of such Projects. The Committee would like to be apprised in this regard.

CHAPTER-V

PRADHAN MANTRI VIRASAT KA SAMVARDHAN (PM VIKAS)

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is an umbrella scheme converging five erstwhile Schemes of the Ministry namely - Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil. It has been planned to be implemented across the following components namely:

- i. Component 1 – Modern Skilling (earlier Seekho aur Kamao scheme)
- ii. Component 2 – Traditional Training (earlier USTTAD scheme)
- iii. Component 3 – Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship (earlier Nai Roshni scheme)
- iv. Component 4 – Education Support (through NIOS) (earlier Nai Manzil scheme)

5.2 PM VIKAS Scheme shall also integrate credit linkages through NMDFC as part of its benefits. To implement this scheme, the Ministry has undertaken multiple consultative meetings with representatives from other Ministries like Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (M/o MSME), and other stakeholders including the Knowledge Partners (NID, NIFT, and EPCH) of the Ministry. The Cabinet approval of the PM VIKAS Scheme enables clearance of the committed liabilities of the earlier Skilling and Education Schemes of the Ministry, which is being processed presently. Currently, no trainings are undergoing in these schemes and only the past liabilities are being cleared.

5.3 The Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure related to the Schemes under PM-VIKAS during the last three years alongwith Budgetary Estimates for 2024-25 is as follows:

(₹ in crore)

Name of the Scheme/Project/Programme	2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			BE 2024-25
	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp)	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	
Skill Development Initiative (Seekho Aur Kamao)	276.00	250.00	268.48	235.41	100.00	65.28	0.10	0.00	0.00	Nil. Scheme converge into PM VIKAS
Upgrading Skill and Training in Traditional Arts /Crafts for Development (USTTAD)	60.00	60.00	76.68	47.00	47.00	10.61	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0
Nai Manzil	87.00	47.00	48.86	46.00	20.00	7.62	0.10	0.00	0.00	Nil. Scheme converge into PM VIKAS
Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women. (Nai Roshni)	8.00	2.50	2.99	2.50	2.00	0.62	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0
Hamari Dharohar	2.00	2.00	1.66	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.0
Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)	--	--	--	--	--	--	540.00	325.86	209.42	500

5.4 On being enquired about the physical and financial performance of the converging schemes, the Ministry of Minority Affairs submitted in their written reply that:

Name of the Scheme/ Project/ Programme	Division	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25 Targets
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements	
Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women.	SS	40,000 Women	13,675 Women	No new allocation	--	40,000 Women		
Skill Development Initiative	Skill	1,75,000	No new targets were allocated. Cumulatively, 4.68 lakh beneficiaries trained under the scheme.	-	No new targets were allocated. Cumulatively, 4.68 lakh beneficiaries trained under the scheme.	-	No new targets were allocated. Cumulatively, 4.68 lakh beneficiaries trained under the scheme.	The scheme has been converged as a component into an integrate scheme called PM VIKAS. Only past liabilities are being cleared off.
USTTAD	Skill		No new targets were allocated. Cumulatively, 21,611 beneficiaries trained under the scheme. 11 Hunar Haats conducted during 2021-22.	-	Cumulatively, 21,611 beneficiaries trained under the scheme and 41 Hunar Haats conducted since inception till date.	-	Cumulatively, 21,611 beneficiaries trained under the scheme and 41 Hunar Haats conducted since inception till date.	- The scheme has been converged as a component into an integrate scheme called PM VIKAS. Only past liabilities are being cleared off.

Nai Manzil	Skill	No new enrolment, 99,980 (cumulative)	No new targets were allocated. Scheme concluded on 30.06.2021. Cumulatively, 98,712 beneficiaries trained and 53,644 reported placed.	No new enrolment 99,980 (cumulative)	No new targets were allocated. Scheme concluded on 30.06.2021. Cumulatively, 98,712 beneficiaries trained and 53,644 reported placed.	No new enrolment 99,980 (cumulative)	No new targets were allocated. Scheme concluded on 30.06.2021. Cumulatively, 98,712 beneficiaries trained and 53,644 reported placed.	. - The scheme has been converged as a component into an integrate scheme called PM VIKAS. Only past liabilities are being cleared off.
Hamari Dharohar	A&P	Physical targets not quantified	--	2 exhibitions	---	No new targets were allocated. Cumulatively, 4.68 lakh beneficiaries trained under the scheme.	The scheme has been converged as a component into an integrate scheme called PM VIKAS.No new targets were allocated and no training is ongoing.	The scheme has been converged as a component into an integrate scheme called PM VIKAS that is yet to be rolled out.

5.5 On being enquired about the performance of each of the Schemes converged into PM-VIKAS during each of the last five years and the step taken to ensure that these Schemes would not suffer after their convergence to PM-VIKAS, the Ministry stated in a written reply that:

“The physical performance under the converging schemes of PM VIKAS from 2018-2019 to 2022-2023 is as below:

SN	Scheme Name	Total Beneficiaries Trained during 2018-19 to 2022-23
1	Seekho aur Kamao	2,04,419
2	Nai Manzil	0
3	USTTAD	7,393
4	Nai Roshni	90,900

The aforementioned converging schemes have been included as different components under the integrated scheme of PM VIKAS. Currently, no trainings are undergoing in these schemes. Only the past liabilities are being cleared.

5 of the skill development/ leadership/ education support schemes of this Ministry namely Seekho Aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni were merged into an integrated scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS). Considering the recommendations received from third-party evaluation agencies and NITI Aayog, it was suggested to merge these schemes into one umbrella scheme, so as to avoid any overlapping of activities and ensure better synergy across various components of different schemes.

PM VIKAS scheme was recommended by the EFC vide EFC meeting dated 23.09.2021 and received approval from the Cabinet vide order dated 28.01.2022.”

5.6 With regard to the performance of PM-VIKAS, the Committee were *inter-alia* in a written reply that:-

“Considering the recommendations received from third-party evaluation agencies and NITI Aayog, the key skill development/ skill development/ leadership/ education support schemes of this Ministry namely Seekho Aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni were merged into an integrated scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS).

Only the past liabilities were being cleared under the converging schemes. In this context, under the PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head, for the year 2023-24, the Revised Estimate was ₹215.98 crore of which actual expenditure was ₹209.42 crore which is 96.96 per cent. Under Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, and Nai Manzil scheme, Revised Estimate was Nil for the year 2023-24.

Under PM VIKAS scheme head, for the year 2023-24, the Revised Estimate was ₹109.88 crore against which no expenditure could be made as the scheme did not initiate. Going forward, the Ministry proposes to implement PM VIKAS scheme. The scheme is approved for the 15th Finance Commission cycle *i.e.* till the year 2025-2026.”

5.7 With regard to the monitoring mechanism of the PM-VIKAS, the Ministry submitted in a written reply that:-

“The monitoring mechanism has been in-built in the guidelines of Seekho aur Kamao, Nai Roshni, and USTTAD for ensuring that objectives of the schemes are achieved.

To strengthen the online monitoring, online portals of Seekho aur Kamao and USTTAD schemes were strengthened. Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) have been mandated to upload project related information on the scheme MIS portals.

For greater objectivity and to safeguard government funds, the Ministry has onboarded a 3rd party agency to verify the placement / outcome data reported by PIAs.

The Ministry conducts regular VCs with PIAs to monitor and track the progress of uploading data and resolve their queries.”

5.8 Keeping the importance of skill development for the financial independence and growth of the poor people in the country, the Committee strongly feel that the erstwhile Schemes of skill development of the Ministry of Minority Affairs viz., Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil may have served the purpose for poor people in the Minority Communities. The Committee note that large number of people from the Minority Communities benefitted from these Schemes during 2018-19 to 2022-23. However, these Schemes are not in operation since 2023-24. The Committee are of the view that any move of the Government to dilute them would adversely affect the economic empowerment of the Minority

Communities . The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs have spent ₹ 209.42 crore on the committed liability after merger of all these Schemes into a single scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS). The Committee hope that the Ministry of Minority Affairs will continue funding the committed liability for the required period so that beneficiaries undergoing training continue to get training. The Committee would like to be informed of the number of persons currently undergoing training under the erstwhile Schemes and the time by which their training would be completed.

5.9 The Committee note that the Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme created by merging various Schemes i.e., Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil was allocated ₹540.00 crore in 2023-24. The Committee also note that under PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head, Actual Expenditure was ₹ 209.42 crore out of Revised Estimates of ₹ 215.98 crore in 2023-24 . The Committee further note that under PM VIKAS Scheme head, for the year 2023-24 the Revised Expenditure was ₹109.88 crore and no expenditure could be made as the scheme did not initiate. Since the Scheme is approved till 2025-26, the Committee believe that the Ministry of Minority affairs will make efforts to ensure that the benefits reaped from the erstwhile Schemes by the poor section of the minority communities would continue. The Committee recommend that the Department should take steps to remove all the hurdles

in implementation of the Scheme so that BE for the year 2024-25 would be utilized fully. The committee would like to be informed in this regard.

New Delhi

18 December, 2024

27 Pausha, 1946 (Saka)

SHRI P.C. MOHAN

Chairperson

**Standing Committee on Social Justice and
Empowerment**

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2024-25) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER, 2024

The Committee met from 1320 hrs. to 1430 hrs. in Committee Room No. '1', Parliament House Annexe- Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI P.C. MOHAN - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar
3. Km. Priyanka Satish Jarkiholi
4. Shri Murari Lal Meena
5. Smt. Bag Mitali
6. Shri Matheswaran V.S
7. Adv. Priya Saroj
8. Shri Anoop Pradhan Valmiki
9. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava

Rajya Sabha

10. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
11. Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha
12. Shri Narayan Koragappa
13. Smt. Phulo Devi Netam
14. Shri Rameswar Teli
15. Smt. Mamata Thakur
16. Smt. P.T. Usha
17. Shri Abdul Wahab

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Mamta Kemwal | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Dr. Vatsala Joshi | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Krishendra Kumar | - | Deputy Secretary |

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

1.	Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar	Secretary
2.	Shri K.R. Meena	Additional Secretary
3.	Ms. Nirupama Kotru	JS&FA
4.	Shri C.P.S Bakshi	Joint Secretary (PM VIKAS & Haj)
5.	Shri Ram Singh	Joint Secretary(PMJVK & Scholarship)
6.	Shri Shersha C. Shaik Mohiddin	Joint Secretary (Waqf)
7.	Shri Pawan Kumar	Director(Budget & IFD)
8.	Shri S.P.S. Teotia	Director(Waqf)

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee and Secretary including representatives of the Ministry of Minority Affairs to the sitting of the Committee convened to discuss on Demands for Grants of Minority Affairs for 2024-25.

3. The Chairperson in his opening remarks *inter-alia* drew the attention of the representatives of the Ministry with regard to the low utilization of Budgetary allocation during the last two financial years in various Scholarship Schemes, Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram Scheme etc. implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The Chairperson also highlighted the reduced allocation under Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme from 2022-23 to 2024-25. The Chairperson enquired the objective of merging schemes like Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni into an integrated Scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS).

4. Thereafter, referring to the "Directions by the Speaker" the Chairperson informed the Representatives of the Department to keep the proceedings of the Committee 'Confidential' till a Report on the subject is presented to the House.

5. Then, Chairperson asked the Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs to introduce his team and give an overview on the subject matter. The Secretary, briefed the Committee on the overall performance of the Ministry through Power Point presentation. The following issues were *inter-alia* discussed during the meeting:

- (i) Initiatives taken for utilization of funds allocated under various schemes during the year 2024-25.
- (ii) Physical and Financial performance of the flagship Schemes of the Ministry during the last three years.
- (iii) Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Schemes including the income eligibility criteria fixed to avail the Schemes;
- (iv) Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram; and
- (v) Progress made under PM VIKAS Scheme

6. The Secretary responded to the queries raised by the Members to the extent possible on the above mentioned issues. Before concluding the meeting, the Chairperson directed the Secretary to furnish written replies by 11.11.2024 on the issues that could not be replied 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 SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2024-25) HELD ON MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 2024.

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1530 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. Smt. Bag Mitali
9. Shri Bhojraj Nag
10. Shri Godam Nagesh
11. Shri Matheswaran V.S
12. Adv. Priya Saroj

Rajya Sabha

13. Smt. Sumitra Balmik
14. Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha
15. Shri Narayan Koragappa
16. Shri Rameswar Teli
17. Smt. P.T. Usha
18. Shri Abdul Wahab

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Mamta Kemwal | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | 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

(ii) XX XX XX

(iii) XX XX XX

(iv) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2024-25) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

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

4. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Report and to present the same to both the Houses on 18.12.2024.

The Committee then adjourned.

XX Does not pertain to this Report

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl.No	Para No.	Observations/ Recommendations
1.	2.8	<p>The Committee note that the delay in adoption of procedural changes introduced by the Ministry of Finance such as SNA system, PFMS by the State/UT Governments resulted in under-utilisation of Budgetary/ Revised Estimates in 2023-24 and 2023-24. The Committee firmly believe that with these procedural changes the financial resources of the Government of India will not get stuck up in the State treasury and can be fruitfully utilised by the Ministry of Minority Affairs on other welfare measures. Since the State/UT Governments have streamlined the system by adopting the procedural changes, the Committee expect that the Ministry of Minority Affairs would be able to spend their budgetary allocation for 2024-25 on the various schemes for the welfare of minority communities. The Committee are, however, apprehensive as they feel that the actual expenditure in 2024-25 may again be less than the Budgetary Estimates as the approval of several Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs is at various stages. The Committee, therefore desire that the approval of the Schemes of the Ministry of</p>

		<p>Minority Affairs should be expedited so that Schemes such as Scholarship Schemes and PM-VIKAS are implemented without any delay, thus avoiding under-utilisation of Budgetary Estimates. In view of the above, the Committee, recommend that the necessary mechanism may be evolved so that the Schemes requiring approval is timely obtained so that the benefit of the Schemes reaches the deprived sections of the Minority Communities</p>
2.	2.9	<p>The Committee note that ₹2,064.95 crore were surrendered by the Ministry of Minority Affairs out of Budgetary Allocation of ₹3,094.60 crore in 2023-24. The Committee find that the major reasons for surrendering of funds are revalidation of applications under Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit cum means Scholarship Schemes, discontinuation of some Schemes, less / non-receipt of proposals from State/ UT Governments . The Committee feel that the responsibility of implementation of the Schemes since lies with the States/ UT Governments, they should timely complete all the procedural formalities on their part so that the Ministry of Minority Affairs is able to release funds. The Committee are of the view that the</p>

		<p>Ministry of Minority Affairs should develop a mechanism to guide the various implementing agencies so that a delay by State/UT Governments is avoided and may also examine incorporating a penal provision against the State/ UT Governments in case the response from the State/ UT Governments is not received in a stipulated time period.</p>
3.	2.10	<p>The Committee note that the Schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs are now broadly classified into three categories viz. (i) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram, (ii) Educational Empowerment initiatives; and (iii) Skilling and livelihood initiatives. The Committee believe that these Schemes are ray of hope for the poor people of Minority Communities and their welfare can be carried out with the sincere and effective implementation of the Schemes falling under each of the component. The Committee find that in many of the Schemes no physical targets were fixed. Since the welfare measures are meant for poor people of the minority communities, it becomes necessary that the physical targets are fixed annually to assess the success of the Scheme and also to find the</p>

		<p>percentage of population of minority community benefitted from these Schemes. Further, this would also help in appropriate allocation of funds under each Scheme at the beginning of the financial year. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Minority Affairs may examine the viability of fixing targets under each Scheme and develop a suitable system to annually fix the physical targets under various Schemes that have a quantifiable outcome.</p>
4.	3.16	<p>The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs implements Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Merit cum means based scholarship, Maulana Azad National Fellowship and Padho Pradesh Scheme for the educational empowerment of minority communities. The Committee, however, find that the Maulana Azad National Fellowship and Padho Pardesh Scheme have been discontinued with effect from 2022-23 and the remaining educational empowerment Schemes viz. Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme are pending for approval since 2021-22. The Committee are of the view that education of the students belonging to minority communities should not be made to suffer for the administrative delays and necessary</p>

		<p>measures should be taken to ensure that there is no interruption in implementation of the Schemes. Since, the process of harmonisation of Scholarship Schemes of all the Ministries/ Departments is in progress, the Committee desire this exercise should be expedited. The Committee are aware that several other educational empowerment Schemes such as National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship, Free Coaching, Residential education, etc. are being implemented for the educational empowerment of various marginalised sections of the society by various Minisries/Departments. The Committee would, therefore, like the Ministry of Minority Affairs to examine the need of implementing other educational empowering schemes for the poor students of minority communities so that they may also avail the best of education and contribute in the growth of the nation. The Committee would also like to recommend that the Scholarship Schemes pending for approval should be approved without further delay.</p>
5.	4.13	<p>The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry of Minority Affairs by developing community infrastructure and basic amenities in the identified areas for improving the quality of life of the minority community under Multi-Sectoral Development Scheme. The Committee believe that the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas</p>

		<p>Karyakram (PMJVK) introduced in 2017-18 to replace Multi-Sectoral Development Scheme has great potential to further improve the quality of life as it would cover the entire country including aspirational districts. The Committee note that the allocation to the Ministry of Minority Affairs under this head has considerably gone down in comparison to the allocation made in 2021-22 and 2022-23. The Committee feel that since all the districts in the Country are covered under the Scheme, the allocation should have been enhanced. There is no doubt that the State/UT Government plays an important role as they have been entrusted the responsibility of implementing the Scheme, however, the Ministry of Minority Affairs cannot absolve themselves from the responsibility to successfully implement the Scheme hence State/UT Governments should have been regularly pursued to follow the PFMS and SNA guidelines. The Committee are happy to find that the PFMS and SNA guidelines have now been adopted by most of the States and UTs but would like the Ministry to ensure that the remaining States/UTs also comply to the PFMS and SNA guidelines without any delay. In order to stop recurrence of such issues the Ministry of</p>
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		Minority Affairs may review them on regular basis.
6.	4.14	The Committee note that 809296 Projects have been completed and 115811 Projects are in progress under Pradhan mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK). The Committee find that 145981 projects have been dropped due to various reasons but not due to non-receipt/availability of funds from State/UT Governments. The most prevalent reasons for dropping the Projects is due to the non-availability of land for the Project and inordinate delay on part of the respective States/UTs. The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs would ensure that the funds are released for newly Projects only after completion of due tendering process and award of works and have also advised the State/UT Governments to utilize the unspent balance in SNA Account for completion of ongoing Projects before asking for fresh funds and reconcile the account with the Central Government. The Committee also find that new Projects would be approved only after review of performance regarding execution of earlier approved Projects to the concerned State/UTs/CGO. The Committee hope that the steps taken

		<p>by the Ministry would yield the desired results and the Ministry, in future, may not face any difficulty in execution of the Projects approved by them . Since large number of Projects sanctioned to States/CGOs are under execution, the Committee would like the Ministry to lay down the time limit for completion of these Projects so that they are not inordinately delayed as delay increases the cost and also causes the inconvenience to the beneficiaries. Further, the Committee are sure that a mobile app PMJVK Bhuvan developed by the Ministry would help in keeping check on the progress of the Projects under execution, however, Committee desire that the Ministry will ensure that all the State/UT Governments will take necessary steps to geo-tag all such Projects in a time bound manner and the Ministry may caution the State/UT Governments in case of any irregularity or delay observed. The Committee strongly believe that the infrastructure and basic amenities created under the scheme are crucial for improving the quality of life of the people belonging to Minority communities and the Projects dropped must have been a great service for them. The Committee desire that these dropped projects may be revisited with a view to revive them and the necessary steps may be taken by the</p>
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		<p>Ministry of Minority Affairs to address the hindrances in execution of such Projects. The Committee would like to be apprised in this regard.</p>
7.	5.8	<p>Keeping the importance of skill development for the financial independence and growth of the poor people in the country, the Committee strongly feel that the erstwhile Schemes of skill development of the Ministry of Minority Affairs viz., Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil may have served the purpose for poor people in the Minority Communities. The Committee note that large number of people from the Minority Communities benefitted from these Schemes during 2018-19 to 2022-23. However, these Schemes are not in operation since 2023-24. The Committee are of the view that any move of the Government to dilute them would adversely affect the economic empowerment of the Minority Communities . The Committee find that the Ministry of Minority Affairs have spent ₹ 209.42 crore on the committed liability after merger of all these Schemes into a single scheme called Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS). The Committee hope that the</p>

		<p>Ministry of Minority Affairs will continue funding the committed liability for the required period so that beneficiaries undergoing training continue to get training. The Committee would like to be informed of the number of persons currently undergoing training under the erstwhile Schemes and the time by which their training would be completed.</p>
8.	5.9	<p>The Committee note that the Pradhan Mantri Virasat ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme created by merging various Schemes i.e., Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil was allocated ₹ 540.00 crore in 2023-24. The Committee also note that under PM VIKAS Committed Liabilities head, Actual Expenditure was ₹ 209.42 crore out of Revised Estimates of ₹ 215.98 crore in 2023-24 . The Committee further note that under PM VIKAS Scheme head, for the year 2023-24 the Revised Expenditure was ₹109.88 crore and no expenditure could be made as the scheme did not initiate. Since the Scheme is approved till 2025-26, the Committee believe that the Ministry of Minority affairs will make efforts to ensure that the benefits reaped from the</p>

		<p>erstwhile Schemes by the poor section of the minority communities would continue. The Committee recommend that the Department should take steps to remove all the hurdles in implementation of the Scheme so that BE for the year 2024-25 would be utilized fully. The committee would like to be informed in this regard.</p>
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