

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5894
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015
PROMOTION AND CONSERVATION OF TRADITIONAL SKILLS
Rajoria Dr. Manoj

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether desired results have been achieved by efforts made by the Government for promotion and conservation of traditional skills of minorities under skill development scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the traditional skills of minorities identified by the Government so far; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for improvement and promotion of these skills?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (d): Recently during 2014-15, Ministry of Minority Affairs has finalized a new scheme "USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/ Crafts for Development)" to preserve rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts including dying crafts of minorities. The scheme aims at identification of traditional skills; capacity building and updating the traditional skills of master craftsmen/artisans; setting standards for traditional skills; training of the minority youths in various specific traditional arts/crafts; establish their market linkages; design development and documentation.

In addition to above, the Ministry also implements a scheme "Seekho aur Kamao (Learn & Earn)" for Skill Development of Minorities since 2013-14 through selected Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) which has focus on skill training in modern Modular Employable Skills (MES) recognized by Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGE&T). The scheme assures employment to minimum 75% trainees and out of that minimum 50% in organized sector. This scheme also has a minor component for training of minorities in various traditional skills recognized by DGE&T. During 2013-14, an amount of Rs. 52.80 lakh was sanctioned for training of 180 trainees in traditional skills of Chikankari, Zardosi, Embroidery and Applique works in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Orissa. During the subsequent year 2014-15, an amount of Rs. 2.53 crore was sanctioned for 1420 trainees in traditional skills of Tilla work, Mukshi work, Sozni work, Aari work, Needle Shawl work, Chikankari, Zardosi, Embroidery, Phulkari, Applique works and Tie & Dye in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan. PIAs form the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of the trainees, open bank accounts of SHGs, develop a Business plan for them with credit linkages and support them for a period of one year.