

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
STARRED Q. NO. 304
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

SKILL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE SCHEME

304. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE.

Will the Minister of *Minority Affairs* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Skill Development Initiative Scheme (Seekho Aur Kamao) initiative in the State of Assam;
- (b) the number and names of Project Implementing Agencies engaged with the aforesaid scheme in Assam, district-wise; and
- (c) the details of the number of youths trained so far under the scheme; and
- (d) whether there is any mechanism to know the number of trained youth who have been absorbed in employment or entrepreneurial venture and if so, the details thereof especially in Barpeta and Bongaigaon districts?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 304 asked by Shri Abdul Khaleque regarding Skill Development Initiative Scheme

(a) 'Seekho Aur Kamao' scheme (Learn and Earn) is a placement-linked skill development scheme for minorities which aims to upgrade the skills of minority youth (in the age group of 14-45 years) in various modern/ traditional skills depending upon their qualification, present economic trends, and market potential, that can earn them suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to take up self-employment.

The scheme aims to integrate the trained minority beneficiaries, socially and economically in the national mainstream. Minorities covered in the scheme include the six notified minority communities under the National Commission for minorities Act, 1992 viz, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains. 33% of the total targets in the scheme are earmarked for female beneficiaries. The Ministry invites applications from Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) from all over India for imparting skill training to the targeted beneficiaries.

In the state of Assam, 19,727 beneficiaries have been trained under Seekho Aur Kamao scheme since inception till FY 2021-22 (of which 9820 are females).

Additionally, the Ministry implements '**Nai Manzil' scheme** that aims to benefit the minority youth (both men and women) belonging to the six notified minority communities in the age group of 17-35 years, who do not have formal school leaving certificate i.e. those in the category of school dropouts or those educated in community education institutions like Madararasas. 30% of the beneficiary seats under the scheme are earmarked female candidates and 5% for persons with disability belonging to the minority community. The scheme provides a combination of formal education (class VIII or X) and skills, to enable beneficiaries to seek better employment opportunities and livelihood. The scheme is implemented through selected PIAs which are empanelled through an open, transparent process by inviting Expression of Interest (Eols) for organizations.

Under the Nai Manzil scheme, since inception a total of 93,485 beneficiaries (of which 39,635 are females) have been skill trained. In the state of Assam, 4,587 beneficiaries have been skill trained in the scheme.

Maulana Azad Education Foundation (**MAEF**) has launched Gharib Nawaz Skill Development Training for minorities from the year 2017-18 which has been renamed as **Gharib Nawaz Employment Scheme** from the year 2019-20. Under this scheme various short-term job oriented skill development courses are provided to minorities youth in order to enable them for skill based

employment. This scheme is being implemented as per common norms of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSD&E) through the empanelled Program Implementing Agencies (PIAs).

Under this Scheme, since inception a total 67,986 beneficiaries (out of which 39,297 females) have been skill trained .

Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTTAD) scheme was launched on 14th May, 2015 to preserve the rich heritage of traditional arts/crafts of minorities. The scheme aims at capacity building and updating the traditional skills of master craftsmen/artisans, documentation of identified traditional arts/crafts of minorities, set standards for traditional skills, training of minority youths in various identified traditional arts/crafts through master craftsmen, and develop national and international market linkages. The scheme is implemented through NGOs and other Organisations, known as, Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs).

A total of 23,130 trainees (out of which 20620 females) have been trained under the USTTAD Scheme so far.

- (b) The list of PIAs working in Assam under the Seekho Aur Kamao scheme and Nai Manzil scheme is as per the table below.

PIAs in Assam state under Seekho Aur Kamao Scheme	
Sn	PIA Name
1	Adarsha Samaj Kalyan Samittee
2	Ahsus Foundation
3	Ajmal Foundation
4*	Basix Academy for Building Lifelong Employability
5	Bright Future.Com
6	Don Bosco Tech Society
7	Down Town Charity Trust
8	Gurukulgyan Learnings Private Limited
9	Indian Institute Of Skill Development
10	Infovalley Educational and Research Private Limited
11*	Orion Edutech
12	The Social Foundation
13	Uddipan
14	Ultimate Energy Resource Private Limited
15 **	Valeur Fabtex Private Limited

* PIAs under Barpeta District

** PIA under Bongaigaon District

PIAs in Assam state under Nai Manzil Scheme	
Sn	PIA Name
1	AJMAL Foundation
2	CPIT Edutech Pvt. Ltd.
3	The Awareness
4	Education Research & Development Foundation
5	Down Town Charity Trust
6	All India Society of Education
7	Nai Disha
8	Ajmal Foundation
9	Karuna
10	Lichhwi
11	Satyabhama Dantabya Chikitsa Kendra
12	Vivekanand Paryavaran Evam Arogya Mission (VPAM)

- (c) So far, more than 6.44 lakh beneficiaries out of which 3.64 lakh are female have received skill development training under above mentioned skill oriented schemes of the Ministry.

Hunar Haat is also being implemented since 2016-17 as a component of USTTAD scheme and is an effective platform wherein opportunity is given to artisans/craftsmen and culinary experts from across the country to showcase and market their handicrafts and indigenous products. So far, more than 8 lakh artisans, craftsmen and people associated with them have benefitted through various Hunar Haats organized by the Ministry throughout the country.

- (d) A mechanism is in place to monitor the number of youths absorbed in employment/entrepreneurship under the scheme. Random checks are also made to authenticate the veracity of claims made by the PIAs. 1.72 lakh beneficiaries have been reported as placed all over India under the Seekho Aur Kamao scheme. Total number of trained beneficiaries in the State of Assam is 19727, out of which 8,476 beneficiaries have been reported as placed as per the Seekho Aur Kamao portal. 4991 beneficiaries have been trained in Barpeta of which 2534 beneficiaries have been reported as placed. 154 beneficiaries have been trained in Bongaigaon of which 42 beneficiaries have been reported as placed under the scheme.

Under Nai Manzil scheme, a total of 34,340 beneficiaries have been reported placed all over India including 4587 beneficiaries in Assam State.
