

PRADHAN MANTRI - ANUSUCHIT JAATI ABHYUDAY YOJANA (PM-AJAY)

Centrally Sponsored Scheme

GUIDELINES



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
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Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana

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Chapter- 01

INTRODUCTION

1. Background:

- a. Scheduled Castes (SCs), who constitute 16.6% of our population as per 2011 Census, have historically suffered social and educational disabilities and economic deprivation arising therefrom. Accordingly, special provisions have been enshrined in the Constitution for advancement of their interests. These provisions range from measures to remove any kind of social disabilities imposed on them to ensure equality of opportunity in every sphere, to measures of positive discrimination to bring them at par with rest of the population.
- b. Securing "to all its citizens, JUSTICE, Social, Economic and Political" is the first goal mentioned in the Preamble to the Constitution of India. Article 46 of Part-IV ("Directive Principles of State Policy") of the Constitution enjoins upon the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Article 38 (2) in the same Part also enjoins upon the State to minimize inequities in income, and to endeavor to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst individuals but also amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations.
- c. The Government including State Governments had taken a number of initiatives for development of SCs, which have yielded positive outcomes, and have also resulted in narrowing the gaps between Scheduled Castes and the rest of the population. These initiatives were for the social integration of the vulnerable groups and to provide them the necessary ecosystem for Educational and Economic upliftment. One of the important initiatives is that of earmarking budget for welfare of SCs both at the Central level and at the State level as a part of the Allocation for Welfare of SCs (AWSC) and Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) respectively. In line with this, and to supplement the efforts made by the Central as well as State Governments in bridging the deficit in socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes with the other communities, the Government of India, in 1980, started a Centrally Sponsored scheme "Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) as an additive to the State's Scheduled Castes Sub Plan.
- d. Prior to this, in order to enable and encourage students belonging to the Scheduled Castes (SCs) to attain quality education, Scheme for Construction of Hostels for SC Girls started implementation from Third Five Year Plan (1961-66), and Scheme for SC boys, was started with effect from the year 1989-90. Such hostels have proved immense benefits to the SC students hailing from rural and remote areas of the country.
- e. However, most of the SC welfare schemes were centered around the individual beneficiaries rather than on the integrated development of SC pockets. This had resulted in development deficit in SC dominated pockets, particularly in villages.

Accordingly, the Government of India in 2009-10 started implementation of new Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) to enable an area based developmental approach for integrated development of SC dominated villages i.e., villages having SC population more than 50%. The Scheme was further expanded in 2014-15 and since 2018-19, it is being implemented as a continuous scheme.

- f. As the objectives as well as interventions of these existing schemes of SCA to SCSP, BJRCY and PMAGY were similar in nature and in view of the facts that these schemes were being implemented by a common implementing agency for the most part, these three schemes have been merged into one scheme, namely Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY), from 2021-22 for better convergence of public money and optimal utilization of resources.

2. Objectives of the Scheme:

The objectives of the Scheme are to:

- a. Reduce poverty of the SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities through skill development, income generating schemes and other initiatives.
- b. Improve socio-economic developmental indicators by ensuring adequate infrastructure and requisite services in the SC dominated villages.
- c. Increase literacy and encourage enrolment of SCs in schools and higher educational institutions by providing adequate residential facilities in quality institutions, as well as residential schools where required, especially in the aspirational districts/ SC dominated blocks and elsewhere in India.

3. Scheme Components:

Broadly, the Scheme has following three components:

- a. Development of SC dominated villages into an “Adarsh Gram”. (Chapter-2).
- b. ‘Grants-in-aid’ for District/State-level Projects for socio-economic betterment of SCs that may include creation of infrastructure in SC dominated villages including those selected under Adarsh Gram component, construction of Hostels/Residential schools, Comprehensive Livelihood Projects which may include components such as Skill development, related infrastructure development, financial assistance towards loans taken by beneficiaries for acquisition/creation of assets required for livelihood generation etc., (Chapter -3).
- c. Construction of Hostels in higher educational institutions which are top-ranked as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Government of India and are funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments either fully or partially. Similarly, construction of hostels in schools which are either fully or partially funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments and recommended by the Ministry of Education. . (Chapter -4).
- d. Financial support for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Scheme implementation through the Administrative Head of the Scheme: The funds provided under the “administrative expenses” Head of the Scheme will be utilized for the following purposes:

- i. Development of a suitable Centralized MIS software for the scheme including costs towards setting up of Technical Support Group (TSG) for this purpose;
- ii. Costs towards hiring of Institutions for Technical Resource Support, manpower and other expenses for running the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at Central/States/District level;
- iii. Provision of Office equipment for the TSG and PIU including computer/IT facilities with internet connectivity, IEC activities, need assessment, and other expenses related to implementation of the scheme where absolutely necessary;
- iv. Undertaking projects related to evaluation of the scheme implementation;
- v. Social Audit of the scheme implementation.

4. Component wise fund allocation:

While giving priority to provide funds to the villages selected under the 'Adarsh Gram' component as per actual requirement in a particular year, the funds under the Scheme of PMAJAY will be broadly distributed amongst its components as under:

- a. **Adarsh Gram:** Up to 50% of the total allocated funds under the scheme to the States/UTs under Gap-filling activities for selected villages.
- b. **Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation:** Up to 5% of the total allocated funds under the scheme for setting up and operation of the TSG and PIU at the Central level as well as Project Implementation Units (PIU) at the State and District level.
- c. **Construction/Repair of Hostels (not covered by the States):** Up to 2% of the total allocated funds to be utilized for this purpose and released directly to the implementing agencies by the Ministry.
- d. **Grants-in-aids for the Projects at District/State:** The balance available funds under the scheme will be provisionally allocated to the States/UTs in proportion to their SC Population (50% weightage) and on the basis of the ratio of Special Component Plan (now known as State SCSP) to the Annual Plan as compared to the SC population in the States/UTs (50% weightage).

Under the component (b) above, 1% of the funds shall be utilized at Central level and remaining 4% of the funds proportionate to the applicable Central Assistance to be released under respective components of the Scheme would be released to the State/UT Government.

In case of savings made under any component except (b) above, mentioned above, such funds shall be redistributed amongst other components/other States against viable proposals subject to other conditions laid down in the scheme guidelines are fulfilled.

5. Funding Pattern:

- a. The scheme is 100% funded by the Central Government. However, the States/UTs are free to provide additional funds from their own resources if they so desire.
- b. Further, the States/UTs/Implementing Agencies are also expected to maximize

- convergence of other schemes of the Centre/States/UTs for the benefit of the SCs.
- c. The norms for funding under each of the component have been laid down in the respective chapters.
 - d. Post completion of the infrastructure projects under the scheme, their upkeep and operations shall be taken care of by the State Governments and its implementing agencies. Sufficient provisions shall be kept in the States SCSP allocation for taking up the maintenance, upkeep or operations of all such projects.
 - e. Out of the 5%, under 'Administrative and other charges', up to 1% shall be utilized at Central Level for carrying out various activities such as expenditure related to development of MIS Portal, setting up of TSG and PMU, awards to best performing Districts, procurement of infrastructure, field visits, meetings, IEC activities, evaluation studies, social audit, publications, etc.
 - f. The remaining 4% will be released to the State Governments subject to submission of Annual Action Plan. The State can utilize these funds for carrying out the following activities:
 - i. Meeting all kind of expenses related to PIU at State/Districts including infrastructure, salary/wages etc.
 - ii. Need assessment
 - iii. Capacity building and Training
 - iv. IEC Activities
 - v. Expenses of Meetings, Seminars, Visits, special events, Camps etc.
 - vi. Social Audit
 - vii. Evaluation of the Scheme Implementation
 - g. In order to assist the State Scheduled Caste Corporation for various Administrative expenses, the States/UTs may incur up to 1% of the total CA released to the States/UTs as part of the permissible expenditure against man days spared/used for the scheme implementation by these corporations.

6. Annual Action Plans (AAPs)

- a. Before the beginning of each financial year, the State Governments/UTs Administrations will submit an 'Annual Action Plan', prepared in the manner laid down in the concerned chapters of this scheme, having separate proposals under the Adarsh Gram component, Grants-in-Aid component and also the plan for utilizing the administrative expenses for consideration of the Ministry.
- b. The Annual Action Plan under the Grants-in-aid component should be prepared keeping in view the local requirements and the progress of projects sanctioned earlier, and uploaded in online portal for PM-AJAY, namely <https://pmajay.dosje.gov.in>. The Annual Action Plan under the Adarsh Gram component and Administrative Expense components should also be prepared and uploaded in PM-AJAY portal.
- c. Action Plan under Adarsh Gram Component: The Action Plan shall reflect the broader Plan of action to be carried out during the year for effective implementation of this component of the scheme by the State/UT Governments. The Action Plan would

consist of following:

- i. Clear timelines for completing each activity in all the selected villages, starting from constitution of Village Level Convergence Committee (VLCC) to preparation, finalization and approval of VDPs by the DL-PACC;
 - ii. Projected requirement of Funds for the year indicating the no. of Village Development Plans (VDPs) likely to be finalized and approved by the Gram Sabha and DL-PACC.
 - iii. No. of works, identified to be carried out from 'Gap-filling' funds, to be started and No. of works to be completed;
 - iv. Number and schedule/timelines for villages to be declared as 'Adarsh Grams' during the year;
 - v. Status of unspent funds and plan for its utilization with clear timelines;
 - vi. Submission of due UCs with regards to the funds released earlier.
- d. Action Plan under the Grants-in-Aid component: The Action Plan shall consist of District level projects as well as State level projects with graded priority. The district level projects would be prepared as per the local requirements indicating various income generating, skill development and infrastructure development programs which would be carried out in convergence with the State SCSP. Only those activities, which cannot be funded from any other scheme under the umbrella of State SCSP should form a part of the Districts/State level project in order to avoid duplication. The format for submitting the Annual Action Plan under the Grant in Aid component is provisioned in the online portal of the Scheme. While preparing the AAP the following should be kept under consideration:
- i. For project formulation, de-centralized planning may be preferred. The proposed projects shall be totally flexible and tailor-made to the local conditions/resources, having greatest potential for improving the socio-economic conditions of the SCs.
 - ii. Only impactful and innovative projects, that create an eco-system for providing direct benefits to the beneficiaries and which cannot be covered under any other Scheme of the State/Central Government shall be taken up. An indicative list of the types of projects that may be taken up under the Scheme is attached as Annexure-I for guidance of the implementing agencies.
 - iii. While preference shall be given to district level projects, State level projects aimed at direct benefit of SCs shall also be taken up.
 - iv. Projects prepared by the District Administration shall be appraised and approved by the District Level Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (DL-PACC) which shall recommend the same in the order of priority to the State Level Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (SL-PACC). The SL-PACC, which shall be headed by the Principal Secretary of the SC Welfare Department, shall appraise and prioritize the project proposals submitted by the districts, as well as those prepared at the State level, for inclusion in the AAP.
 - v. Funds projection under the AAP should be 1.5 to 2 times of the Notional Allocation of the State/UT in order to avoid approval falling short of the

notional allocation in case some of the projects are rejected by PAC. Higher projection of funds in AAPs will also facilitate allocation of additional funds to the performing States/UTs in case any States/UTs fails to take their quota of funds on account of defaults on submission of requisite UCs or AAP or prescribed reports in time.

- vi. The projects included in AAPs should be prioritized by the SL-PACC to enable the PAC to evaluate the projects as per their importance to the State/UT and fund releases can be aligned with the fund requirement projection.
- e. Action Plan under the Administrative head: Funds under the head of 'Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation' shall also be demanded in the form of Projects.

7. Process of Appraisal and Approval of State AAPs:

The AAPs shall be appraised by a Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (PACC) constituted in the Ministry for this purpose.

8. Release of Funds to the States:

Release of the funds under the Scheme would be governed as per the following criteria:

- a. Before the beginning of the financial year, this Ministry will intimate the selection of new villages under the Adarsh Gram component. The admissible expenses for the component will be released after confirmation of eligibility of selected villages.
- b. The Notional Allocation of funds under the 'Grant in Aid' component to the States/UT Governments will also be communicated before the beginning of the Financial Year.
- c. The funds under the administrative head, after deducting admissible funds for the PMAGY Villages and projected requirement of DOSJE at Central level, would also be distributed in accordance to the fund allocation criteria defined for 'Grant-in-Aid component' at chapter 3.
- d. The Government of India will release the first installment of grants at the beginning of the financial year under all components as per the conditions and quantum laid down in the respective chapter as well as after compliance of the conditions prescribed by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, Government of India.
- e. The second installment under the components would be released to the State Government/UT Administration-as per the conditions laid down in the respective chapter.
- f. The States/UTs need to update the progress of implementation of the scheme in the Central web-portal and submit the details of unspent balance available alongwith the funds required during the financial year for taking up the activities in the already selected villages and approved projects. State is also required to submit the status of implementation, BE, RE and Expenditure under each component separately for the last three years and current year. States/UTs are also required to furnish the AWSC/SCSP data of the States/UTs and due utilization certificates in prescribed formats.

9. Timelines for preparation, appraisal and approval of projects:

The following timeline shall be followed for preparation, submission, appraisal and approval of projects under the Scheme.:-

S. No.	Proposed activities/actions under the Scheme	Prescribed Timelines
1.	Notional Allocation of funds under the 'Grant in Aid' component and selection of villages under the PMAGY component communicated to the States/UT Governments.	During 1 st week of February
2.	Initiation of uploading the project proposals, including hostels, at the District/State level on the portal	By 15 th January
3.	Appraisal and approval by the District Level Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (DL-PACC) and uploading on the web portal	By 31 st January
4.	Appraisal, approval and prioritization of uploaded projects by the State Level Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee-(SL-PACC)	By 15 th February
4.	Uploading of complete Annual Action Plan by the States/UTs on the portal	By 25 th February
5.	Appraisal by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Department of Social Justice & Emp. shall be held.	28 th February - 07 th March
6.	The Minutes of meeting of PAC will be uploaded on the web portal of PM-AJAY	By 15 th March
7.	Release of the first installment of Grants by Government of India	During 1 st week of April
8.	Release of second installment under the grants-in-aid components	In accordance with the details in concerned chapter.

10. Release of funds by the States:

- a. Under the Scheme funds to the districts and other implementing agencies at State/District level will be released in the manner as laid down in the respective chapter for the component, Chapter 6 and as finalized by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, at time to time.
- b. Before releasing the funds Districts and other implementing agencies needs to update the progress in the Central web-portal and submit the details of unspent balance available, fund required during the financial year for taking up the approved projects.
- c. Under the Adarsh Gram component the State will release the 1st installment at the beginning of the financial year so that the need assessment and VDP preparation activities can be initiated by the districts/villages. On approval of the VDPs by the

DL-PACC the entire gap-filling funds may be released to the implementing agencies, preferably in one go, so as to avoid delays in execution of works and better utilization of available resources.

11. Process for Approval and release of funds for Hostels in Central Institutions

The Central Institutions shall be required to send their detailed proposal for construction/repairs of hostels through the concerned Central Ministry as per the format prescribed in Chapter 4. Funds will be released directly to the institution concerned as laid down in the chapter.

Chapter 02

Development of SC dominated villages into “Adarsh Gram”

1. Vision of an ‘Adarsh Gram’:

An ‘Adarsh Gram’ is one wherein people have access to various basic services so that the minimum needs of all the sections of the society are fully met and disparities are reduced to a minimum. These villages would have all such infrastructure facilities and its residents will have access to all such basic services that are necessary for a dignified living, creating thereby an environment in which everyone is enabled to utilize his/her potential to the fullest.

2. Developmental Indicators:

- a. The developmental indicators under this component have been selected with a view to ensure integrated development of SC dominated villages by way of having:
 - i. **Adequate Infrastructure:** All requisite infrastructures necessary for the socio-economic development are provided.
 - ii. **Improvement in socio-economic indicators:** The identified socio-economic indicators, known as Monitorable Indicators, are saturated leading to eradicate disparity between SCs and non-SCs population.
- b. The selected villages are to be saturated with the identified Socio-Economic developmental indicators selected under various domains with a view to ensure the homogenous development of SC dominated villages. At present, there are 50 socio-economic developmental monitorable indicators identified/selected under 10 domains. These 10 domains are as under:
 - i. Drinking water and Sanitation
 - ii. Education
 - iii. Health and Nutrition
 - iv. Social Security
 - v. Rural Roads and Housing
 - vi. Electricity and Clean Fuel
 - vii. Agricultural Practices etc.
 - viii. Financial Inclusion
 - ix. Digitization
 - x. Livelihood and Skill Development
- c. The details of 50 Socio-Economic Developmental Monitorable Indicators, their benchmark and scoring pattern are as under:

Sl.	Domain/ Particulars of Monitorable indicators	Benchmark	Scoring System
1.	Drinking Water and Sanitation		
1.1	Whether adequate sustainable drinking water sources to cover the village are available? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0

1.2	% of households provided with clean drinking water	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
1.3	% of households having Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs)	Yes No	2 0
1.4	Have toilets been provided in all schools and Anganwadis in the village? (Yes/No)	Yes=100% No=0%	2 0
1.5	Whether people are still defecating in the open in the village? (Yes/No)	Yes No	0 2
1.6	% of drains available along all internal roads	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
1.7	% of existing drains functioning	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
1.8	% of solid and liquid waste being disposed of effectively	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
2.	Education		
2.1	% of children (6-10years), both boys and girls, attending primary schools	100% <100%	2 0
2.2	% of children (11-13 years), both boys and girls, attending middle school	100% <100%	2 0
2.3	% of children (14-15 years), both boys and girls, attending secondary school	100% <100%	2 0
2.4	% of children (16-17 years), both boys and girls, attending higher secondary school	100% <100%	2 0
2.5	% of children (18-23 years), both boys and girls, attending post higher secondary education	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
2.6	% of SC children (out of those attending school & eligible) receiving pre-matric scholarship	100% <100%	2 0
2.7	% of SC children (out of those pursuing post matric education and eligible) receiving post-matric scholarship	100% <100%	2 0
3.	Health and Nutrition		
3.1	% of eligible households covered under any Health Protection Scheme	100% <100%	2 0
3.2	Is an emergency Ambulance facility available on call? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
3.3	% of pregnant women who are severely anemic	0% >0%	2 0
3.4	% of institutional deliveries in the village during the last one year	100% <100%	2 0
3.5	% of low-birth-weight children born during the last one year	0% >0%	2 0
3.6	% of full immunization of children (< 1 year)	100% <100%	2 0

3.7	% of underweight children (0-5 years) in the village	0% >0%	2 0
3.8	How many pregnant women died during the last one year?	Nil >0	2 0
3.9	How many children (< 1 year) died during the last one year?	Nil >0	2 0
3.10	% of persons with communicable diseases getting treatment as per protocol	100% <100%	2 0
3.11	Whether all Anganwadis are constructed? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
4.	Social Security		
4.1	% of eligible women provided with Widow Pension	100% 0%	2 0
4.2	% of eligible persons provided with Old Age Pension	100% 0%	2 0
4.3	% of eligible persons provided with Disability Pension	100% 0%	2 0
5.	Rural Roads and Housing		
5.1	Is the village connected by all-weather roads? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
5.2	% of internal roads that are CC/brick top/ Pakka/Tiled	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
5.3	% of households living in Kachcha/unsafe houses	100% 0%	2 0
6.	Electricity and clean fuel		
6.1	Whether the village has been electrified? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
6.2	% of households having electricity connection	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
6.3	% of households using at least one LED bulb	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
6.4	% of households having gas connection	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
6.5	% of internal roads having street lights	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
7.	Agricultural Practices etc.		
7.1	% of eligible farmers provided with Soil Health Card	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
7.2	Extent (in %) of organic farming practices adopted	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
7.3	Extent (in %) of watershed management practices adopted	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
8.	Financial Inclusion		

8.1	% of village population (>5 years) having Aadhaar Identification	>98% 0-98%	2 0
8.2	% of households having accounts in Banks/Post Office	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
8.3	% of eligible persons covered under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
8.4	% of eligible persons covered under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
9.	Digitization		
9.1	Does the village have access to Internet connectivity? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
9.2	Does the village have a Common Service Centre or Cyber Café? (Yes/No)	Yes No	2 0
9.3	% of eligible persons who are digitally literate	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
10.	Livelihood and Skill Development		
10.1	% of eligible youth undergoing skill development	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
10.2	% of eligible youth who have been able to avail bank linked loans	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
10.3	% of households which have at least one member as a member of any SHGs	>75% 50-75% <50%	2 1 0
Maximum Score			100

- d. These Monitorable Indicators will be taken into account while collecting the baseline data, monitoring the progress and declaring the selected villages as 'Adarsh Gram'. Each of these Monitorable Indicators is expected to be above the benchmark in order to obtain a Score of 2. A village can, thus achieve a maximum Score of 100.

Benchmark score for declaring a village as Adarsh Gram: Efforts shall be made by the VLCC and DL-PACC to fulfilled all the gaps identified in the Village Development Plans(VDPs) of the respective villages. For saturating the individual and family needs, camps shall be organized and for fulfillment of the critical infrastructure gaps in the villages, the Gap-filling fund provided under the scheme shall be used judiciously and most of such requirements must be prioritized for execution in convergence mode with other relevant schemes. While the action for saturation of the gaps would be continued till all the needs are fulfilled, the DL-PACC shall submit the proposal for declaration of selected villages as 'Adarsh Gram' to the State Government once these villages are declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF) and having score of 70 or above, The State Government in turn after assessing the

claims of the District authority would be declared that village as 'Adarsh Gram'. Once the same is 'published' by the State Government in the portal the same would be visible in the public domain of the main portal.

3. Approach and Strategy:

- a. Integrated development of selected villages would be achieved primarily through implementation of the existing schemes of the Central as well as State/UT Governments in a convergent manner, thereby ensuring access to quality services as well as infrastructure development. The Gap-filling funding will be provided for carrying out infrastructure developmental requirements, which cannot be carried out through convergence. It is expected that in selected villages, convergence of at least three to four times of 'Gap-filling' funds from existing Central/State Schemes or with matching grants from State Governments is ensured.
- b. Usually, a certain number of SC dominated Villages will be taken up for integrated development every year depending upon various factors e.g., willingness of State/UT Govts. to implement the Scheme, availability of funds, status of UCs, unspent balances etc. The funds released under the "Gap-filling" component in these selected villages, will be utilized within a period of **Two (02)** years from the date of release. However, the monitoring of convergence implementation would be done for another **Three (03)** years to continue efforts for improving the socio-economic indicators. Thus, while funds released under PMAGY are to be utilized within **Two (02) years** period from the date of release, the Monitorable Indicators, however, will be reviewed for a total period of **Five (05)** years.
- c. Even while villages selected in a particular year achieve a certain level of development after implementation of the Scheme, they may aspire to improve further and hence these villages can again be included under the Scheme in coming years for receiving multiple rounds of funding for different sets of goal, provided that the VDP is successfully implemented and five years (2+3) have passed.
- d. As convergence is crucial to integrated development, the Committees set up at the Village, District and State level under the scheme would ensure this takes place in the selected villages.

4. Elements of Adarsh Gram: This component has the following two parts:

- a. Convergence of Schemes: The twin objectives of providing adequate infrastructure and improving socio-economic indicators will be sought to be achieved by convergence of Schemes. The development deficit of the selected village arising out of the baseline data vis-à-vis the Monitorable Indicators will form the basis of convergence between the various existing Central as well as State Government Schemes.
- b. 'Gap-filling': The identified infrastructure developmental requirements of the selected villages following the need assessment, which cannot be met under any of the existing Central as well as State/UT Governments schemes, would be undertaken from 'Gap-filling' funds. Activities only of non-recurring nature and for

use of community purpose, would be funded through the 'Gap-filling' component.

5. Selection of States and Villages:

- a. Villages having >40% SC population and a total population \geq 500, as per the latest available Census data will be eligible for selection in descending order of their SC population..
- b. Once these villages are covered, such villages having less than or equal to 40% SC population, but overall a high number of persons belonging to SCs, shall also be taken up. The Ministry shall fix the selection criteria for such villages at the appropriate time.

6. Preparation of Village Development Plan (VDP):

- a. The purpose of the VDP is to prepare a comprehensive, realistic and practical blueprint for development of the selected Village into an 'Adarsh Gram' in a time-frame of about five years. The starting point for preparation of the VDP will be to carry out Needs Assessment of the important developmental needs for the village as a whole and for all the families/individuals and for whom household survey will have to be carried out. For the purpose, the entire process has been end-to-end digitized in the web-portal <https://pmagy.gov.in> and all necessary formats are available on this portal.
- b. The Needs Assessment will get reflected in Format I, II, III-A and III-B. While Format-I captures the Village level Data and Format-II captures the Village level Infrastructural needs, Format III-A captures the Family/Individual needs. Format III-B is a consolidation of Format III-A and thus captures the Family/Individual needs at the village level. As such Format-II and Format-III together capture information for each of the Monitorable Indicators listed in para-2(c). Format-II and Format-III-B also together capture the Action Plan proposed for fulfilling the Infrastructure and Family/Individual needs (gaps) for each of the Monitorable Indicators.
- c. The Village Development Plan (VDP) is to be prepared as per Format-IV, V and VI. Format-IV and V are a consolidation of the Action Plans already captured in Format II and III-B and hence reflect the VDP for Infrastructure and Family/Individual needs respectively. Format-IV and V also serve to monitor monthly progress of fulfilling the needs.
- d. While planning for infrastructure, it is to be noted that funds can be accessed from Central Schemes, State Schemes, other components of PMAJAY and the same have to be specified in Format-IV. Also, in the case of four Monitorable Indicators listed at 3.4, 3.5, 3.8 and 3.9 under para-2(c), only reasons for such gaps can be captured in Format III-A, III-B and V.
- e. Format-VI reflects the status of Monitorable Indicators. If this is based on the initial need's assessment, Format-VI will be a reflection of the baseline position of the Monitorable Indicators. As and when needs are addressed and reported, the socio-

economic indicators will improve and hence Format-VI can be accordingly updated. If needs assessment is carried out every year, Format-VI can then be comprehensively updated but in the meanwhile it can be updated monthly based on progress captured in Format-IV and V.

- f. The whole exercise of the Need Assessment, data collection, gap analysis and preparation of VDP will be done by the Village PMAGY Convergence Committee in online mode. The VDP duly approved by the Gram Sabha of the village will be submitted to the District Level Convergence Committee for further approval. While granting approval, the District Level Convergence Committee would ensure that the VDP is a robust plan with adequate and suitable convergence with other Schemes for saturating the infrastructure needs of the village and would lead to desired improvements in the Monitorable Indicators. Thereafter, to avoid any duplication, the VDP would be made a part of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).

7. Time Frame:

The time limit for utilizing PMAGY funds i.e., 'Gap-filling' funds will be Two (02) years from the date of release of funds for all selected villages; new villages as well as villages selected under additional round of funding. Convergent implementation, however, will continue for another Three (03) years at least in all the selected villages in order to ensure maintenance of the basic 'Adarsh Gram' milestones, and stabilization and improvement in the Monitorable Indicators.

8. Funding:

- a. An amount of Rs. 21.00 lakh per village will be provided for new villages by the Central Government, out of which, Rs.20.00 lakh would be for carrying out activities under the 'Gap-filling' component in selected villages. The balance amount of Rs.1.00 lakh per village would be for administrative and other expenses i.e., technical resource support, training and capacity building, awareness generation, publicity etc. at Central, State, District and Village level, and for development and maintenance of an MIS at Central level, which will be distributed amongst Centre, State, District and Village in a ratio of 1:1:1:2.
- b. The State/UT Governments are expected to converge at least 3 to 4 times of Gap filling fund from other Centrally Sponsored Schemes and State Schemes, or even State Share, so as to saturate the villages with basic infrastructure.
- c. Further, for continuous development of the villages already covered under the earlier phases, there would a component of an additional round of funding of Rs. 10 lakh per village after the end of 5 years provided other conditions are fulfilled. Out of this, Rs.9.50 lakh per village would be utilized for 'Gap-filling' component and Rs.0.50 lakh per village will be distributed amongst the Centre, State, District and Village in a ratio of 1:1:1:2 for Administrative and other expenses.

9. Release of funds:

- a. The funds under this component of the Scheme will be released by the Central Government to the States/UTs in two installments. The first installment of Rs.0.80 lakh or Rs.0.40 lakh per village, as the case may be, will be released immediately on

selection of the villages to enable State/UT Governments to carry out capacity building, awareness generation, need assessment, preparation of Village Development Plans and meeting the expenses related to Project Implementation Units etc.

- b. The balance admissible Central Assistance as 2nd and final installment of Rs.20.00 lakh per village or Rs.9.50 lakh, as the case may be, would be released in respect of villages whose VDPs have been finalized by the Gram Sabha to those States/UTs whose Annual Action Plans for the year have been approved by the Ministry.
- c. The State Government/UT Administration in turn will release the entire admissible funds under 'Administrative Expenses' to the District Administrations for carrying out capacity building, administrative expenses, awareness generation, initiating non cost based activities, etc.. Thereafter the entire admissible funds under the 'Gap-filling' component i.e., Rs.20.00 lakh or Rs.9.50 lakh per village, as the case may be, will be released by the State Government to the District Administration, once the VDP of the selected villages is approved by their District level Committees so that the planned works can be executed without any delay.

10. Committees:

For overall guidance and monitoring of the implementation of the Scheme including the 'Adarsh Gram' component, there will be different Committees at Central, State, District and Village level. Apart from State and District level committee, the Village level Committee would play crucial role in conducting Need Assessment, collecting the baseline data, preparation of the VDP as well as implementation and monitoring of the Scheme in the village. The composition and functions of these Committees are contained in Chapter 05 of this scheme.

11. 'Adarsh Gram' Award:

- a. In order to encourage the States/UTs to implement the Scheme in a holistic manner in their States, up to 03 best performing Districts in the country will be selected on the basis of defined parameters by a designated Selection Committee to be constituted by the Ministry. For this purpose, the selected District will be given an award of Rs. 10 lakh each under National level awards. The funds for these awards will be meted from the funds provided under 'Administrative funds'.
- b. The States/UTs Government may consider constituting a state level award on similar line to encourage the best performing Villages in their State/UT. The best performing 3 village may be selected and provided a cash award of Rs. 02 lakh. The funds for these awards will be meted from the funds provided under 'Administrative funds'. The funds for these awards will be meted from the funds provided under Administrative funds from the State Govt's share.
- c. The award money will be utilized for public purposes especially for livelihood support, asset creation, civic amenities creation & maintenance and bridging the gaps in the funds received from Union/State Government/UT Administration for various projects.
- d. For the purpose, funds available under the administrative heads to Central/State

Governments will be utilized.

Chapter 03

Grants-in-aid for District/State-level Projects for Socio-Economic betterment of SCs

1. Objectives:

The main objectives of this component of the scheme are:

- i) To increase the income of the target population by way of comprehensive livelihood projects having components of income generating schemes, skill development and related infrastructure development thereby reducing the poverty among the target population and bring them above the poverty lines
- ii) Improve socio-economic developmental indicators by ensuring adequate infrastructure in the SC dominated villages.
- iii) Increase literacy and encourage enrolment of SCs in schools and higher educational institutions by providing adequate residential facilities in quality institutions, as well as residential schools where required, especially in the aspirational districts/ SC dominated blocks and elsewhere in India.

2. **Types of projects:** This component provides flexibility to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in design of projects for the economic development of Scheduled Castes as per the local requirements and availability of resources. Following types of projects shall be taken up:

- a. Comprehensive Livelihood Projects: Such projects which create an entire ecosystem for producing sustainable income, or social advancement to the Scheduled Castes only shall be taken up. These may include, inter alia:
 - i) Skill Development: Projects for skill development as per norms prescribed by the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, and related facilities and infrastructure for conducting Skill Development Activities conducted by the Government Skill Development Institutions;
 - ii) Grants for creation/acquisition of assets for beneficiaries/households: There shall be no standalone individual asset distribution under the scheme, which shall be ensured by the PAC also while appraising the projects. However, under Comprehensive Livelihood Projects which, inter alia, have provision for acquisition/creation of assets for beneficiaries/households needed for livelihood generation, financial assistance towards loans taken by the beneficiary for such acquisition/creation of assets, would be upto Rs. 50,000 or 50% of the asset cost, whichever is less, per beneficiary/household.
 - iii) Infrastructure development: Development of infrastructure related to the project.

The projects should preferably be a combination of two or more of the above initiatives so that the beneficiaries could be provided an end-to-end solution for their empowerment. An illustrative list of type of projects which can be undertaken under various developmental sectors is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

- b. Other Infrastructure Development: Projects for infrastructure development for socio-economic development of the target population in SC majority villages; construction of hostels/residential schools.
- c. Tutoring: Special tutoring of the educationally backward children;

3. Eligibility:

- a. Comprehensive livelihood projects for Socio-economic betterment of the SCs: There will be no fixed income limits of the beneficiaries. However, it shall be ensured that while selecting beneficiaries, priority is accorded to the families/persons having annual income not more than Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum. SHGs having SC majority members will also be eligible.
- b. Infrastructure Development projects: The SC dominated villages would be eligible for implementation of projects. In addition, the infrastructure augmentation can also be taken up in the Government Institutions empaneled for imparting the Skill Development Activities under the Scheme.
- c. Projects for construction/expansion of Residential Schools & hostels: SC concentrated Districts will be given preference.
- d. Only those activities/projects would be considered/taken up for funding under the scheme which could not be funded from any other scheme under the umbrella of State SCSP in order to avoid any duplication.

4. Special Provisions for SC Women and Disabled:

- a. Up to 15 % of the total Grants released to the States/UTs will be utilized exclusively on viable income generating economic development schemes/ programmes for SC women.
- b. In order to give necessary impetus for economic development of women, participation of at least 30% women candidates may be ensured in the skill development programmes.
- c. States/UTs may also promote Scheduled Caste Women Cooperatives engaged in production and marketing of consumer goods and services.

5. Special Provisions for North Eastern States: 2% of the total budget allocation for the scheme component will be earmarked for those North Eastern States which implement Scheduled Caste Sub Plan for SCs.

6. Fund Allocation Criteria: This component is being implemented by 28 States/UTs. To start with, the Head Wise Allocation of funds i.e. 'States other than NER Head', 'NER Head', 'Admin Head', 'UT without Legislation Head' etc. are done. Thereafter, funds under the Grant-in-Aid component of the Scheme for each of these heads will be distributed to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations based on 2 criteria as follows:

50% of the available funds under the concerned head will be notionally allocated in proportion of the Scheduled Caste population of the States/UTs w.r.t. the total SC

population of the States covered under that head. For example, under NER Head of Accounts, funds are released under this scheme to the North East States of Assam, Manipur, Sikkim and Tripura. As per the 2011 Census, the total SC population of Assam, Manipur, Sikkim and Tripura is 3011556 and in Assam alone it is 2231321. Therefore, the SC population of Assam in percentage term is 74.09%. So the notional allocation for Assam would be 74.09 % of the total funds allocated under the NER Head.

The balance 50% of the funds available under each of the above-mentioned heads, will be allocated notionally on the basis of percentage weighted SC population of the State, where the weightage is based on the ratio of allocation under the Special Component Plan of the State for SCs to the total allocation under the Annual Plan of the State. For example if:

Allocation under SCSP of the State in rupees = z

Total allocation under Annual Plan of the State in rupees = y

SC population of the State = a

Total population of the State = b

Weightage factor of the State would be : $(z/y)/(a/b) = w$

Weighted SC population of the State = $w \times a = c$

If total of the weighted SC population of all the States under the head = d

Notional Allocation for the State in rupees = Total available funds under the head $\times c/d$

7. Financial and implementation Norms:

A. Comprehensive Livelihood Projects: Projects which create an entire eco-system for producing sustainable incomes or social advancement only would be funded. Preference would be given to projects identified by the district administration through decentralized planning based on local requirements. The focus would be on projects that create economic activity leading to large number of impoverished households coming out of poverty. The components of the project may be:

a. Skill Development Programmes:

- i. At least 10% of the SCA released in a year has to be utilized for skill development programmes undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Skill Development. The quantum of skill development training need to be carried out should be based on a real need assessment of such skilling and only when the entire framework for such skilling in terms of the requirements of implementation agency, selection of beneficiaries, monitoring and financial outlays required to achieve the outputs and outcomes indicated are worked out. The State/UT Government would further ensure that there is no duplication of schemes and only those components or the beneficiaries which are not covered under the Scheme of PM-DAKSH should be considered.

- ii. Classification of Skill Development Programmes: Skill Development can be broadly classified in the following categories:
 - a. Up-skilling/Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): The duration of the training programmes will be 32 to 80 hours and spaced over up to one month, duly keeping in mind the occupational hours of the trainees.
 - b. Short Term Courses (focus on women and self-employment): The duration of the training programmes will be normally 200 hours to 600 hours and up-to 5 months or as stipulated in National Occupational Standards (NOS) and Qualification Packs (QPs).
 - c. Entrepreneurial Development Programmes (EDP): The duration of the training will normally be 80 hours (10 days) or as stipulated in MoRD Guidelines.
 - d. Long Term Courses (for global class skills for those educated up to 10th class or more): The duration of the training programmes will be six months and above and usually up to 1 year, as stipulated by the concerned Board/Regulatory Body of the training centre.
- iii. Skill Development Institutions:
 - a. Training Programmes shall be executed by:
 - i) State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) who are expected to have ground level knowledge of the skill aspirations and employment opportunities in their state as also access to literature on Skill Gap analysis carried out by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
 - ii) Affiliated Training Providers (TPs) of SSDM/SSCs/TIs.
 - iii) National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) over the past five years have identified some credible Training institutes (mostly government or having significant government holding) as also Sector Skill Councils, some foundations/trusts of corporate excellence, who have a good track record of conducting relevant skill training programmes and placing the trained candidates. List of these agencies is available at the web portal of this scheme.
 - iv) Other institutions having a good track record of conducting relevant skill training programmes and placing the trained candidates.
 - b. The institutes shall also be recognized by the concerned entities for carrying out the said training. Proof of valid affiliation and other details in this regard must be checked. Any further outsourcing by the affiliated TPs of Training, is strictly prohibited and occurrence of same, once noted by States/UTs, shall result in corrective measures including but not limited to cancellation of the said training programmes at the risk and cost of the Training Partner.
 - c. Partners for Long Term Training should have experience of having successfully trained at least 1000 candidates under long term training during the last 3 years with track record of providing placement to 70% or more of the trained candidates. These Skill Training Programmes should have been implemented only in Centres owned by the Training Partners and not in Centres of Franchisee/Partners.

- iv. Selection of Course, Course Content, Infrastructure and other requirements:
 - a. The Skill Gap Analysis report of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) shall be factored while proposing the skilling areas/job roles to be implemented in different States/Districts. The same are to be duly endorsed by relevant District Skilling Authority or authorized functionary of State Skill Development Mission, confirming that the proposals are relevant to the District/State, in terms of aspiration of the target group and availability of job market.
 - b. All Training Partners must ensure compliance of National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) for the courses imparted & pursuance of Common Norms issued by MSDE amended from time to time specifically with regard to basic infrastructure of centres, assessment/re-assessment, Certification, Placement, Monitoring, eligibility of Training Partners and Training of Trainers (TOT). The Institutes may also share the training cost if it wish to do so.
 - c. In case of Long Term Training, the curriculum of the training programmes will be as per NSQF, NCVT, AICTE, MSME, and other reputed certification programmes including those run by State Government entities. Availability of requisite infrastructure as per the guidelines of the concerned regulatory body, for conducting long term skill training and Certification provided shall be aligned with the processes of the concerned training programmes.
 - d. All training programmes must necessarily have a component of financial literacy and preparation of basic project proposal to enable linkage with Banks for assistance to start a self-employment venture.
- v. Selection of Beneficiary Trainees:
 - a. Mobilization of the candidates will be done through various means of publicity by the State and/or District Administration.
 - b. Selection Committee Meetings will be held for selection of the candidates which will mandatorily include a functionary of the State govt./District Administration and/or their undertaking, esp. in case of private training partners.
 - c. Identification of beneficiaries should be carried carefully after assessing the interest of the candidates in the skill proposed to be imparted. For ensuring transparency in the process, the State Governments Training Partner/their TP should issue advertisement in print media, social media etc. and thereafter holding of selection meeting.
 - d. Alternatively, the State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) and identified Govt. Training Institutes(TI)/Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) may also identify available artisan clusters taking help of State Channelizing Agencies of National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) / National SafaiKarmcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) and other Government agencies especially for undertaking up-skilling/re-

skilling programmes for such persons at convenient locations & time schedule so that their livelihood is not affected.

- vi. Expected Outcomes:
 - a. The trained candidates should be facilitated for placement in wage/self-employment. Third party assessment and certification of the candidates will be done after successful completion of the training programme.
 - b. The targeted outcome of the Skill Development Programmes will be as under:
 - i) Up-skilling Programmes: Enhancement of earnings of livelihood as self-certified by the beneficiaries.
 - ii) Short Term Training Programmes: The overall placement of the trained persons should be 70% in wage/self-employment.
 - iii) Entrepreneurship Development Programme: After completion of EDP training, at least 70% candidates should be self-employed and/or wage employed to earn their livelihood.
 - iv) Long Term Training Programmes: The overall placement of the trained persons should be 70% in wage/self-employment with at least 70% of those employed being in wage employment.
- vii. Training Costs: The compensation of training cost should be limited to the extent of Common Cost Norms (CCN) or NCVT Guidelines as applicable from time to time. The payment should be done on milestone basis only.

b. Grants for acquisition/creation of assets for beneficiaries/ households: While there shall be no standalone individual asset distribution under the scheme, in case of Comprehensive Livelihood projects for sustainable livelihood to SC families or SC majority SHG/groups, if, for livelihood generation, there is a requirement for acquisition/creation of assets for the beneficiaries/households, financial assistance of up to Rs.50000 or 50% of the asset cost, whichever is less, can also be provided to the beneficiary/household towards the loan taken by the beneficiary for such acquisition/creation of assets.

c. Infrastructure development related to project: Infrastructure support for selected economic development projects for sustainable income generation of the target groups shall also be provided, as required.

B. Other Infrastructure Development:

- i. Up to 30 % of the CA released in a year can be utilized for infrastructural development programs.
- ii. State/Districts would follow the cost and quality norms being followed by the respective States/Districts. The projects approved under this activity may be completed within specified time period. The Government of India will not bear the time and/or cost overruns of any infrastructure projects in any case and any delay in work will be dealt as per the GFR provisions.
- iii. Projects may include.

- Additional support for villages selected under the Adarsh Gram component for essential needs fulfillment of which may be delayed due to lack of funds from other schemes, can be planned;
 - Support for critical infrastructure gaps in other SC majority villages;
 - Infrastructure projects like construction of residential Schools or residential facilities attached to reputed educational institutions;
- iv. For infrastructure development priority should be given to atrocity prone areas and aspirational districts.
- v. For improvement in common socio-economic indicators of the SC dominated villages, requisite infrastructure programs under the following domains can be undertaken in convergence with other Schemes of the Central/State Governments:
- a. Drinking Water and Sanitation
 - b. Education
 - c. Health and Nutrition
 - d. Social Security
 - e. Rural Roads and Housing
 - f. Electricity and Clean Fuel
 - g. Agriculture Practices etc.
 - h. Financial Inclusion
 - i. Digitization
 - j. Livelihood and
 - k. Skill Development
- vi. **Residential Schools:**
- (a) Districts/States/Central Ministry may propose to set up residential Schools through the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Society/Eklavya Model Residential Schools Society and similar Government/autonomous bodies. Projects for expansion of the existing residential schools in SC concentrated Districts will be given the preference to accommodate more SC students in these Schools by expanding the existing infrastructure of JNV, EMRS or the like. The expanded capacity will be utilized to enroll more SC students to the extent of the capacity increase.
- (b) The Central assistance by the Ministry would be limited to capital costs only and no recurring or other expenses would be borne by the Ministry. **The cost norms** for the proposed new or expansion of existing residential schools shall be in line with that applicable to other schools being set up by the concerned organization at that region. The funds would be released to the respective State/Central Ministry, who in turn would release it to the concerned implementing agencies .
- (c) The capital cost shall be released in three installments. First installment of 20% shall be released at the time of sanction of the school, whereas, remaining capital cost of 80% shall be released based on the progress in

two equal installments in subsequent years. The State Governments concerned will have to provide land free of cost for construction of school building, hostel and other facilities. Expenditure on operation and maintenance of the School/Hostel shall be borne by the respective implementing agencies. No fee or charges of any kind will be collected from the SC students admitted in the schools.

(d) The time limit for completion of project shall be 27(Twenty Seven) months (including pre-construction activities). This time includes all activities from concept to completion stages of the project. No cost escalation shall be payable by the Ministry.

vii. **Hostels:** Will be as per the norms detailed in Chapter 4.

C. Special tutoring of the educationally backward children:

- i. Projects for special tutoring of the children of target group studying in class 9th to 12th can be taken under the Scheme. It will help in the improving the results of the students and increase the chances of succeeding the competitive exams for admission to UG and professional courses.
- ii. Selection of the agencies will be done by the States/UTs Government.

8. Conditions and Quantum of release of funds:

- a. While releasing the first installment (50% of the Notional Allocation), the Utilization Certificate of the grants released for the previous to the last Financial Year would be required.
- b. The second installment (balance 50%) would be released subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) Submission of UC by State Govt./UT Administration of at least 50% of grants released to them in previous financial year.
 - (ii) Progress report for funds released in last Financial Year.
 - (iii) Activity-wise annual action plan approved by the PAC.
- c. The Ministry will take up only those activities which could not be funded from any other scheme under the umbrella of State SCS in order to avoid duplication.

Chapter-04

Construction/Repair of Educational Hostels for SC students (Boys and Girls)

1. Introduction:

The construction of hostels is one of the means to enable and encourage students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) to attain quality education. Such hostels are immensely beneficial to the students hailing from rural and remote areas of the country. While the component of construction of hostels for SC girls is in operation from the Third Five Year Plan (1961-66), the same for boys was started with effect from the year 1989-90.

2. Objectives:

The objective of this component is containment and reduction of dropout rate of Scheduled Castes Students, especially for SC girls.

3. Scope of Works:

Under this component, construction of new Hostel Buildings (separately for Boys and Girls Hostels) as well as repair of existing Hostels constructed under this component {including hostels constructed under earlier Scheme of Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)} are envisaged for providing residential facilities to the students of the target groups.

4. Eligibility and Implementing Agencies:

4.1 Eligibility : Higher educational institutions which are top-ranked as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Government of India and fully or partially funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments, shall be eligible for funding under this component. Similarly, schools which are fully or partially funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments and recommended by the Ministry of Education shall also be eligible.

4.2 Implementing Agencies: Districts/ State Governments/Union Territory Administrations as well as Central/State Universities/Institutions would be the Implementing agencies for this component. "": These implementing agencies shall be provided eligible central assistance as per the provisions of this component - for construction of new hostel buildings, expansion of the existing hostel facilities or periodic repair of the hostels constructed under this component including hostels constructed under earlier Scheme of BJRCY.

5. Submission of Proposals

- a. The proposal for construction/expansion/repair of hostels in schools as well as State Universities/Institutions shall be part of the Annual Action Plan required to be

submitted by the respective State Government/UT Administration to the Ministry under the Grants in Aid component of the scheme. To ensure that only good quality institutions are funded under this component, for higher educational institutions only those which are top-ranked as per NIRF shall be considered and for schools, recommendation from Min. of Education would be required.

- b. The proposals of Central Universities/Institutions which are fully or partially funded by the Central Government, shall be submitted to the Ministry through their Administrative Ministries/Departments along with their recommendations for release of grants-in-aid under the Scheme. The proposals will be submitted through online web-portal devised exclusively for this purpose with all the requisite documents.
- c. The proposal shall be based on a thorough need assessment exercise to be carried out by the District/State, or the concerned Central/State Institution, as the case may be.

6. General Conditions:

a. Construction of New Hostel:

- i. While planning for new hostels/expansion of existing hostels, a need based assessment survey of targeted beneficiaries must be undertaken by the implementing agencies before considering any new construction of hostel. Without any such survey, the proposal would not be considered by the Central Government. Further, priority maybe given to areas having concentration of SC population of 15% and more, and without adequate hostel facilities for SC students.
- ii. State Governments, while selecting schools for construction of hostels, will give priority to top performing Government schools/college not having any hostel at present.
- iii. In case of girls' hostel, the hostels will be located in areas having low SC female literacy. The girls' hostels will be constructed in close vicinity of the concerned educational institution.
- iv. The construction of boundary walls, two rooms set quarter for hostel wardens and one room set for Watchmen/Lady Guards would be an integral part of this component.
- v. The implementing agencies will provide suitable land for construction/expansion of hostels free of cost, proof/documents of ownership & occupancy of land mandatorily where the hostel is to be constructed/expanded and to confirm that the same is in their actual possession. They may also certify that the land is free from any encumbrance and encroachment as well as devoid of any dispute.
- vi. The State Governments/Central Institution will be responsible for operationalization of the hostels constructed and monitoring of their activities.
- vii. In case of girls' hostels, the implementing agencies concerned will have to ensure availability of lady wardens and lady guards on 24x7 basis.
- viii. Facilities like in-house coaching, medical care, periodic health camps, IT

education, sports coaching, etc. to the students may also be provided in convergence with schemes of concerned Ministries/Departments of the Centre/State.

- ~~ix.~~ As regards maintenance of the students, the expenditure may be met in convergence with schemes of concerned Ministries/Departments of the Centre/States-
- x. The capacity per hostel should not normally exceed 100 students. In exceptional cases, hostels with larger capacities (maximum up to 250 students) can be considered. Each hostel room should accommodate at least 2-3 students. No single room accommodation would be provided in the hostels constructed under the scheme.
- xi. A few rooms/blocks of the hostels should be constructed barrier free and facilities like ramps etc. be incorporated in the design of construction for convenience of the students with disabilities.
- xii. The proposal for hostel construction/expansion, shall necessarily be accompanied by a detailed list of students belonging to the target group in the existing roll of the concerned institution, and a copy of the stated policy & commitment of the institution regarding its action plan for implementation of the reservation norms. These details will be subject to scrutiny by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

b. Repair of existing Hostel:

- i. The central assistance for repair of hostels will be released after approval of the Competent Authority after receipt of proposal in an online format through web-portal.
- ii. Such proposals should necessarily be accompanied by the detailed cost estimate vetted by PWD/ CPWD/ Central or State Government construction agencies, as the case may be and should be as per SOR of the State Government.
- iii. Detailed list of students staying in the hostel should also accompany the proposal.
- iv. At the time of submission of the proposal, hostel must be operational and having minimum occupancy of 50% total inmates sanctioned with at least 70% of these being SC students.
- v. The hostels for girls must have lady wardens and lady guards in place. The implementing agencies may undertake to ensure their availability on 24x7 basis, while submitting proposal for repair of these hostels.

7. Cost Norms:

- a. The department would provide 100% funding for hostels as per the norms detailed below. Any expenditure on construction or repair of hostels over and above the admissible central assistance will be borne by the implementing agencies concerned from their own budget.
- b. For Construction: The cost norms for construction/expansion of hostels will be as under:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| i. North Eastern Region | : | Rs.3.50 lakh per inmate |
| ii. Northern Himalayan Regions* | : | Rs.3.25 lakh per inmate |
| iii. Rest of the country | : | Rs.3.00 lakh per inmate |
- *Jammu & Kashmir, Laddakh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh

- c. In addition to the admissible central assistance under the component, a one-time grant of Rs.5000/- per student would also be provided for making provisions of a cot, a table and a chair for each student and for common facilities like Television, Computer, Kitchen equipment, etc. This one-time grant shall be released after utilization of central assistance provided by the Government for construction of the hostel as per the approved plan.
- d. Repair of Hostels: Central assistance for repair of the operational hostels will be provided to implementing agencies, once in every five years after operationalization of the hostel. It will be limited to a maximum of Rs.5.00 lakh for one hostel of 50 inmates, Rs.10.00 lakh for 100 inmates, Rs.15.00 lakh for 150 inmates and so on.

8. Time Frame:

The hostels shall be completed within a period of 27 (Twenty Seven) months including pre-construction activities from the date of sanction of the project. While submitting proposals for release of central assistance, the implementing agencies shall give a time frame about the completion of construction which shall be in any case, not more than the maximum prescribed period. The Ministry shall not bear the time and/or cost overruns of any infrastructure projects in any case and any delay in work will be dealt as per the GFR provisions.

9. Special Provisions:

- a. If after release of grant, there is a need for change of location where the new hostel is to be constructed due to any dispute etc., the implementing agency may submit a request along with the land documents of the proposed new location. Amount of central assistance already released should not be utilized by the implementing agencies until approval of the Ministry of SJ&E is obtained for the change of location.
- b. Standard design with costing norms should be developed as benchmark for approving the hostel projects by each State/UT for central assistance under the scheme.
- c. It shall be mandatory for the educational institutions concerned to provide 70% reservation to SC students in the hostels created under the scheme. The intention of the present scheme is not to segregate the students on caste lines, but to have an integrated and inclusive student community system, with a positive leaning towards the Scheduled Castes.
- d. Priority in allotment of hostel accommodation should be given to SC students

- whose parents are either 'Safai Karamcharis' or engaged in unclean occupations.
- e. No fee or charges of any kind will be collected from the SC students for making use of the hostel facilities.
 - f. The implementing agencies shall closely supervise the hostel construction work regularly and submit progress reports through the online portal.
 - g. Implementing agencies will give wide publicity for admission of students in the hostels through newspapers, television, etc. They will also develop a grievance redressal mechanism for hostel inmates under intimation to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
 - h. The implementing agencies, through their concerned State Governments/ Administrative Ministries/ Departments, shall submit reports regarding percentage of occupancy, facilities available in the hostels (including availability of lady wardens and watchmen in girls' hostel), outcomes like academic performance, etc. to the Ministry periodically.

10. Release of Funds:

- a. For Construction/ expansion of hostel building:
 - i. The first installment of central assistance, i.e. 50% of the sanctioned amount will be released to the implementing agencies at the time of sanctioning the project.
 - ii. The second and final installment will be released upon receipt of physical and financial progress reports along with photographs of the site after completion of construction work at least up to roof level, and full utilization of the amount of first installment of grants-in-aid released by the Ministry of SJ&E by the implementing agencies concerned.
 - iii. One- time Grant for cot, table, etc. will be released as indicated in para 7 (c) here- in- above on production of completion certificate of hostels.
- b. For repair of Hostels: The funds under this sub-component will be released in one installment after approval of the Competent Authority.

Chapter 05

Appraisal, Monitoring, Evaluation & Social Audit

1. Advisory Committees at the Central and State level:

- a. For over-all guidance and monitoring of the Scheme, Advisory Committees would be constituted at the Central and State level. The Central Advisory Committee would be headed by the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (SJ&E). The State Advisory Committee may be headed by the State Minister for SJ&E. These Committees may have a suitable number of public representatives, besides representatives of concerned Ministries/Departments and bodies.
- b. The Advisory Committees may meet once in a year and will perform the following functions:
 - i. address broad policy issues and assess the socio-economic impact of the scheme,
 - ii. monitor the implementation of the scheme, and
 - iii. issue supplementary implementation guidelines, if any, from time to time.
- c. The composition of the Central and State Advisory Committees is at Annexure-II. T

2. Project Appraisal-cum-Convergence Committees (PACC) at Central, State and District level:

- a. The Project Appraisal-cum-Convergence Committees (PACC) will play a key role in successful implementation of the Scheme and will be responsible for appraisal of Annual Action Plans, its implementation as well as its monitoring, including convergence at all levels.
- b. The Central level Project Appraisal-cum-Convergence Committee will be headed by the Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and would have Members from other concerned Central Ministries/Departments with which convergence would be required under the Scheme.
- c. Similarly, the State level Project Appraisal-cum-Convergence Committee will be headed by the Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department and would have Members from other concerned departments with which convergence would be required under the Scheme. This Committee would also appraise and prioritise the projects for inclusion under AAP.
- d. The District Level Project Appraisal-cum-Convergence Committee (DLPACC) will be headed by the District Collector and would have Members from the other concerned Departments.

3. **Village Level Convergence Committee (VLCC):** The Village level Convergence Committees will be headed by the Sarpanch/Pradhan of the village and will have all SC members of the Panchayat and concerned line officials viz. AWWs, Asha workers etc. The Committee will be assisted preferably by one of the SC members of Panchayat from

the village, who will also be the Member Secretary of the Committee.

- 4. Composition of PACC and VLCC:** The indicative composition of PACC and VLCC will be as per Annexure-III. However, there is no bar in including or excluding any members if, in the opinion of the Chairperson of the Committees, it is in the interest of the Scheme to do so. While the Central and State level Committee may meet once in six months, the District and Village level Committees need to meet once in a quarter or as per need basis, to ensure smooth execution of the Scheme.

5. Implementation & Monitoring:

- a. The performance of various components under the Scheme will be reviewed by the various Committees at different levels from time to time.
- b. Setting up of Management Information System(MIS):
- i. For effective implementation and monitoring of the scheme, a centralized MIS portal would be in place, to capture the data on real time basis of each of the component of the scheme. This MIS will have facility to capture gap analysis, plan preparation, evaluation, progress monitoring and provide a dashboard on a real time basis. It will have facility to record the physical and financial progress of the selected projects. This MIS would be linked to the various dashboards of Government.
 - ii. The MIS would be ably supported by a Technical Support Group(TSG) consisting of technical manpower. Apart from updating the physical and financial progress in the MIS portal, the State/UTs would also be required to indicate in the portal the details of unspent balance, fund requirement during the financial year for taking up the activities under various projects, BE, RE and Expenditure under each component separately for each year.
 - iii. Necessary training sessions on the MIS system for persons responsible for implementation of scheme at all levels functionaries; State, District and village level will be conducted from time to time.
- c. Project Implementation Unit (PIU):
- i. For effective implementation and monitoring of this scheme, Project Implementation Units (PIU) would be set up at State as well as District level to assist the officials in every stages of implementation of the scheme. The District level PIUs will monitor the progress of need assessment, convergence, VDP preparation and its approval, timely release of funds, progress monitoring, reporting and holding of the Gram Sabha etc. i.e. all steps that are required for execution of the smooth and timely execution of the 'Adarsh Gram' component of the scheme as well as proper implementation of activities as approved under 'Annual Action Plan' at District level under Grant in aid component.
 - ii. The PIUs would be manned by a mix of persons having adequate experience in need assessment, project management, data analysis and software development and management as well as some young professionals having high social consciousness and preferably belong to the Scheduled Castes (SCs) category. The size and composition of the PIU would depend on the

available funds under the administrative head, number of villages covered under PMAGY and size and type of projects being executed under the Scheme. An indicative composition of the PIUs at State and District levels shall be issued separately.

- iii. The proposal for creation of the PIUs shall form a part of the 'Administrative Expenses' under the AAP submitted by the States/UTs to the Ministry.
- iv. The hiring of YPs and other personnel for PIUs would be done through an agency selected through an open and transparent process.
- v. The funds required for the PIU shall be met from the Administrative Expenses provided under the components of the scheme.

6. Evaluation:

- a. Independent evaluations of the Scheme will be undertaken through reputed Institutions working in the area of Rural Development or Social Sciences or Management etc.
- b. NITI Aayog or the other designated agency of the Central or State Government such as NSSO may also undertake the independent survey/evaluation of the scheme implementation.

7. **Social Audit:** The Gram Sabha should undertake social audit of the scheme at least once a year to ensure greater transparency and better utilization, on the same lines as it is required to do under Section-17 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

Chapter 06

Fund flow mechanism

1. The implementation of scheme and release of funds to States will be governed by the provisions of the General Financial Rules, 2017 as amended from time to time.
2. The Utilization Certificates (UCs) in respect of funds released under the scheme should be as per the formats prescribed under GFR, 2017. Further, as per provisions of Rule-230(8) of GFR, 2017, all interest or other earnings against Grants-in-aid or advances released should mandatorily be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India immediately after finalization of accounts.
3. The release of funds are further subject to adherence to the relevant provisions as contained in the guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure vide O.M. No.1(13)PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23.03.2021. As per the provisions of this guidelines, following should be in place at State level:
 - i. Every State Government will designate a Single Nodal Agency (SNA) for implementing each CSS. The SNA will open a Single Nodal Account for each CSS at the State level in a Scheduled Commercial Bank authorized to conduct government business by the State Government.
 - ii. Implementing Agencies (IAs) down the ladder should use the SNA's account with clearly defined drawing limits set for that account. However, depending on operational requirements, zero-balance subsidiary accounts for the scheme may also be opened for the IAs either in the same branch of the selected bank or in different branches.
 - iii. All zero balance subsidiary accounts will have allocated drawing limits to be decided by the SNA concerned from time to time and will draw on real time basis from the Single Nodal Account of the scheme as and when payments are to be made to beneficiaries, vendors etc. The available drawing limit will get reduced by the extent of utilization.
 - iv. For seamless management of funds, the main account and all zero balance subsidiary accounts should preferably be maintained with the same bank. However, State Government may choose different banks for opening Single Nodal Accounts of different CSS.
 - v. Only banks having a robust IT Systems and extensive branch network should be chosen for opening the Single Nodal Account of each CSS. The bank chosen should have the facility to open the required number of subsidiary zero balance accounts and a robust MIS for handling accounting and reconciliation at each level. The bank should also provide a user-friendly dashboard to officers at various levels to monitor utilization of funds by IAs.
 - vi. The bank's software system should be able to monitor the drawing limits of the IAs who should be able to draw funds on real time basis from the SNA's account as and when payments are to be made. The selected bank should ensure proper training

- and capacity building of branch managers and other staff for smooth operation of these accounts.
- vii. The Ministries/Departments will release the central share for each CSS to the State Government's Account held in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for further release to the SNA's Account.
 - viii. Funds will be released to the States strictly on the basis of balance funds of the CSS (Central and State share) available in the State treasury and bank account of the SNA as per PFMS or scheme-specific portals fully integrated with PFMS in consonance with rule 232(Y) of the General Financial Rules, 2017.
 - ix. The SNAs shall ensure that the interest earned from the funds released should be mandatorily remitted to the respective Consolidated Funds on pro-rata basis in terms of Rule 230(8) of GFR, 2017. Interest earned should be clearly and separately depicted in PFMS or scheme-specific portals integrated with PFMS and in MIS provided by the banks.
 - x. States will maintain separate budget lines for Central and State Share (if applicable) under the scheme in their Detailed Demand for Grants (DDG), and make necessary provision of the State share in the State's budget. While releasing funds to SNA, State's Integrated Financial Management Information System(IFMIS) should provide these budget heads and the same should be captured in PFMS through treasury integration.
 - xi. Refund of balance amount by IAs and the amount available in the SNA's account should be taken into account by the Program Division of the Ministry/Department while releasing funds under the scheme. Concerned SNAs shall keep a record of the unspent amount lying in the account of IAs to be deposited in the Single Nodal Account while assigning drawing rights to IAs.
 - xii. The release of funds by the Ministries/ Departments will made strictly as per the actual requirement on the ground, without resulting in any material float with the implementing agencies at any level.
 - xiii. The State Government will transfer the Central share received in its account in the RBI to the concerned SNA's account within a period of 21 days of its receipt. The Central share shall not be diverted to the Personal Deposit (PD) account or any other account by the State Government. Corresponding State share should be released as early as possible and not later than 40 days of release of the Central share. The funds will be maintained by the SNA in the Single Nodal Account of each CSS. State Governments/ SNAs/ IAs shall not transfer scheme-related funds to any other bank account, except for actual payments under the Scheme.
 - xiv. State Governments will register the SNAs and all IAs on PFMS and use the unique PFMSID assigned to the SNA and IAs for all payments to them. Bank accounts of the SNAs, IAs, vendors and other organizations receiving funds will also be mapped in PFMS.
 - xv. Payments will be made from the zero balance subsidiary accounts up to the drawing limit assigned to such accounts from time to time. Transactions in each Subsidiary Account will be settled with the Single Nodal Account daily through the core banking solution (CBS) on the basis of payments made during the day.

- xvi. SNAs and IAs will mandatorily use the EAT module of PFMS or integrate their systems with the PFMS to ensure that information on PFMS is updated by each IA at least once every day.
- xvii. SNAs will keep all the funds received in the Single Nodal Account only and shall not divert the same to Fixed Deposits/Flexi-Account/Multi-Option Deposit Account/Corporate Liquid Term Deposit (CLTD) Account etc.
- xviii. The State TFMIS should be able to capture scheme component-wise expenditure along with PFMS Scheme Code and Unique Code of the Agencies incurring the expenditure. State Governments will ensure daily uploading/sharing of data by the State IFMIS/Treasury applications on PFMS. PFMS will act as a facilitator for payment, tracking and monitoring of fund flow.
- xix. UTs without legislature work directly in PFMS. Therefore, there is no need for them to open a Single Nodal Account. They will ensure that the funds are released to the vendors/beneficiaries 'just in time'. In case funds are to be released to any agency as per scheme guidelines, provision of Rule 230 (vii) of GRF 2017 will be strictly followed to avoid parking of funds, with agencies.

Chapter 07

Miscellaneous

1. Technical Resource Support:

- a. At the National level, the National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad, will provide technical resource support for the Scheme.
- b. Similarly, at the State and District levels, the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)/Extension Training Centers (ETCs) of NIRD&PR or any other Reputed Institutions, as identified and selected by the States/UTs, will provide Technical Resource Support for the implementation of the Scheme.
- c. These institutions will perform, inter alia, the following functions:
 - i. Orientation of State Government officials and key functionaries at District Level.
 - ii. Help in preparation of training modules for key functionaries at different levels.
 - iii. Training of key functionaries involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of the Scheme at all levels.
 - iv. Provisioning of Manpower for the PIUs set up at Central, State and Districts level (newly added).

2. Training and Capacity Building:

- a. The State Governments may carry out necessary training and capacity building of the functionaries at all levels with the help of Institutes providing Technical Resource Support in respect of Scheme.
- b. Further, the training and capacity building programmes would also be conducted at regular interval for the State/District level functionaries by the key officials of the Central and State Governments.

3. Awareness Generation and Publicity:

Awareness generation through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) in the selected villages and in the concerned Blocks/Tehsil/Taluka and Districts should be undertaken by the State Government /UT Administration to give wide publicity of all aspect of the Scheme. Besides, social messages on aspects relating to the various socio-economic indicators of hygiene, health, nutrition etc. can be disseminated.

ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF PROJECTS UNDER VARIOUS DOMAINS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES FAMILIES UNDER THE SCHEME

1. AGRICULTURE & SOIL CONSERVATION	
a)	Training-cum-demonstration to Scheduled Castes farmers.
b)	Distribution of seeds/seedlings/fertilizers/pesticides etc. to Scheduled Castes farmers.
c)	High yielding variety programme in Scheduled Caste cultivators' land.
d)	Commercial crops programme in Scheduled Caste cultivators' land.
e)	Assistance for promoting organic and environment friendly farming.
f)	Assistance to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes for reclamation/development of their lands.
g)	Assistance to Scheduled Caste families who have been distributed surplus land for developing and cultivating the land.
h)	Honey Bee keeping and processing.
i)	Sericulture and related activities.
j)	Plantation of specific species as part of soil conservation measures.
k)	Other measures for soil conservation.
2. HORTICULTURE	
a)	Training to Scheduled Castes farmers in growing, marketing of fruits and vegetables produce.
b)	Taking up fruit and vegetable plantation in Scheduled Castes beneficiary land.
c)	Small nurseries, seed farms etc.
3. MINOR IRRIGATION	
a)	Subsidy/assistance to individual beneficiaries for dug-wells, tube wells, irrigation pump sets, farm ponds, drip irrigation system, etc as a part of irrigation project
b)	Check-dams, diversion channels, water harvesting structures, dug-wells, tube-wells, cooperative lift points for Scheduled Caste groups/communities having 50% or more Scheduled Caste beneficiaries.
4. ANIMAL HUSBANDARY	
a)	Training of Scheduled Castes for promotion of Animal Husbandry.
b)	Assistance for milch cattle and diary farming.
c)	Assistance for poultry.
d)	Assistance for goat/sheep.
e)	Assistance for pigs and duck units.
f)	Assistance to Animal Husbandry related cooperative societies in the areas with substantial Scheduled Caste population.
5. FISHERIES	
a)	Training of Scheduled Castes in fish production, collection etc.
b)	Assistance to Scheduled Caste families for pisciculture.
c)	Subsidy/assistance to Scheduled Caste fishermen to purchase fishing boats, nets etc. as a part of livelihood project for fishermen
d)	Development of Scheduled Caste fishermen cooperatives.
6. FOOD PROCESSING	

a)	Support for food processing activities.
7. FORESTRY, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT	
a)	Development of Social and agro-forestry benefiting Scheduled Caste families.
b)	Programmes for improvement of ecology and environment having a bearing on family-oriented economic development.
8. HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOMS	
a)	Assistance to Scheduled Caste artisans/craftsmen for setting up of businesses and small cottage industries.
b)	Introduction of new craft programmes among Scheduled Caste families.
c)	Assistance for promotion of Handloom and Textiles.
9. INDUSTRY, SERVICE AND BUSINESS (ISB)	
a)	Manufacturing units
b)	Leather units
c)	Carpentry, Furniture making units
d)	Printing units
e)	Brick making units
f)	Rubber units
g)	Paints and coating units
h)	Readymade garments units
i)	Retail shops, Grocery's and Showrooms
j)	Gems & Jewelers related activities
k)	Electronics related activities
l)	Bakery units
m)	Boutiques
n)	Beauty parlor
o)	Plumbing unit
p)	Auto, Automobile repair units
q)	IT/ITeS Services
r)	Media and Entertainment
s)	Healthcare
t)	Banking & Financial Services related.
u)	Other sustainable units - as per local needs and scope
10. COOPERATIVES	
a)	Formation of new cooperatives and strengthening existing Cooperatives with substantial Scheduled Caste members for promoting ventures in various sectors.
b)	Working capital assistance to Scheduled Caste cooperatives engaged in production of consumable items etc.
c)	Strengthening of consumer cooperatives, labour cooperatives and other cooperatives having a substantial number of Scheduled Caste members.
d)	Training to Scheduled Caste members of cooperatives in management and administration of cooperatives.
e)	Processing/marketing cooperatives.

Composition of Central and State Advisory Committees**a. Central Advisory Committee:**

1. Minister(SJ&E) -Chairperson
2. Minister (Rural Development) -Co-Chairperson
3. Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)
4. Member (in charge of SC Development), NITI Aayog
5. Three Members of Parliament: Two from Lok Sabha & one from Rajya Sabha
6. Ministers in the PMAGY States in charge of
 - i) SC Welfare, and
 - ii) Rural Development/Panchayati Raj
7. Secretary (SJ&E)
8. Representatives of the following Ministries/Departments (not below the rank of Jt.Secy):
 - i) Niti Aayog
 - ii) Department of Financial Services
 - iii) Department of Expenditure
 - iv) Department of Rural Development
 - v) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
 - vi) Ministry of Women and Child Development
 - vii) Department of Higher Education
 - viii) Department of School Education and Literacy
 - ix) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
 - x) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - xi) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
 - xii) Ministry of Power
 - xiii) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
 - xiv) Department of Telecommunications
 - xv) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
9. Director General, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad
10. Upto six experts/social workers working in the field of SC welfare and Rural Development, to be nominated by the Chairperson
11. Joint Secretary (in charge-PMAGY), M/o SJ&E -Member-Secretary

b. Composition of State Advisory Committees:

1. Minister of Social Welfare - Chairperson
2. Minister of Rural Development - Co-Chairperson
3. Representative of the following State Departments:
 - i) Planning
 - ii) Panchayati Raj
 - iii) Women and Child Development
 - iv) Education
 - v) Health
 - vi) Drinking Water Supply
 - vii) Home

- viii) Public Works
 - ix) Irrigation/Water Resources
 - x) Energy/Power
 - xi) Information Technology
 - xii) Other concerned Departments, if any
4. Head of the State-level Technical Resource Support Institution
 5. Representative of State SC Commission
 6. Representative from Department of Telecommunication in the State
 7. At least six experts and social workers working in the field of SC welfare
 8. Representative of Lead Bank of the State
 9. A representative each of the Ministries of Rural Development and Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India
 10. Principal Secretary, Social Welfare, of the State Government-MemberSecretary

Composition of Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committees (PACC) and VLCC

a. PACC at Central Level:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment -Chairperson
2. Representatives of the following Departments/organizations (not below the rank of Joint Secretary):
 - i) NITI Aayog
 - ii) Department of Rural Development
 - iii) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation,
 - iv) Ministry of Women and Child Development,
 - v) Department of School Education and Literacy
 - vi) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
 - vii) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - viii) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
3. Head/Nodal officer of the National Technical Resource Support Institution
4. Joint Secretary, DoSJ&E
5. Joint Secretary and FA, DoSJ&E
6. Director , DoSJ&E -Member-Secretary

b. PACC at State Level:

1. Special Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary -Chairperson
2. Representatives of the following State Departments/Organizations:
 - i) Planning
 - ii) Panchayati Raj
 - iii) Rural Development
 - iv) Woman and Child Development
 - v) Education
 - vi) Health
 - vii) Drinking Water Supply
 - viii) Public Works
 - ix) Irrigation/Water Resources
 - x) Energy/Power
 - xi) Information Technology
 - xii) Other concerned Departments, if any
 - xiii) Representative of State SC Commission
3. Representatives from up to 5 PMAGY districts whose villages are being covered
4. Head/Nodal Officer of the State-level Technical Resource Support Institution
5. Director/Commissioner, Social Welfare, State Government -Member-Secretary

c. PACC at District Level:

1. District Magistrate/Commissioner/Collector - Chairperson

2. Representatives of the following Departments/Organizations:
 - i) CDO
 - ii) Zila Panchayat
 - iii) Panchayat Raj
 - iv) Rural Development
 - v) Woman and Child Development
 - vi) Education
 - vii) Health
 - viii) Drinking Water Supply
 - ix) Public Works
 - x) Irrigation/Water Resources
 - xi) Energy/Power
 - xii) Information Technology
 - xiii) Other concerned Departments, if any
3. Representatives from up to 5 PMAGY villages whose villages are being covered
4. Nodal Officer of the State-level Technical Resource Support Institution -Special invitee when necessary.
5. DWO or equivalent level officer of the District - Member Secretary

d. VLCC at Village Level

1. Sarpanch/Pradhan of the Village - Chairperson
2. All SC Members of the Gram Panchayat
3. AWW, ASHA, ANM, etc.
4. Functionaries of Panchayati Raj and PWD
5. Village field workers of NREGA
6. A School Teacher
7. Representatives of other concerned line departments
8. Village Development Officer
9. A Representative of State level Technical Resource Support Institution– Special inviteewhen necessary.
10. One of the SC Members of the Gram Panchayat - Member Secretary
