

**No.: SCA-11014/3/2022-SCA to SCSP**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment  
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated: .10.2025

To,

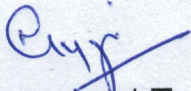
The Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries in charge of Social Welfare/ Scheduled Castes Welfare Department in the State/ UT of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Odisha and Tamil Nadu

**Subject: Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (PACC) for 2025-26 held on 07.10.2025 for the 'Grants-in-aid' component of the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) - reg.**

Sir/Madam

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the approved Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (PACC) in FY 2025-26 held on 07.10.2025 at 4:30 PM under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for the 'Grants-in-aid' component of the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) for information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

  
(Manaswani Tyagi)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
Email Id: manaswani.tyagi@gov.in

Copy to:

- i. Sr. PPS to Secretary, DoSJ&E
- ii. PPS to AS (CKD), DoSJ&E
- iii. PPS to JS & FA, DoSJ&E
- iv. Deputy Secretary(NS), DoSJ&E

### **Copy for information to :**

1. The Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, C Wing 4th Floor, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. The Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Chief Executing Officer, NITI Aayog, Sansad Marg, New Delhi

### **MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPRAISAL CUM CONVERGENCE COMMITTEE (PACC) FOR THE YEAR 2025-26 HELD ON 07.10.2025 UNDER THE 'GRANTS-IN-AID' COMPONENT OF THE SCHEME OF PRADHAN MANTRI ANUSUCHIT JAATI ABHYUDAY YOJANA (PM-AJAY)**

The 1st meeting of the Project Appraisal cum Convergence Committee (PACC) for the year 2025-26, constituted under the Scheme of *Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)* to appraise projects under the *Grants-in-Aid (GIA)* component for District/State-level projects aimed at the socio-economic betterment of Scheduled Castes (erstwhile *Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan – SCA to SCSP*), was held on 07.10.2025 at 4:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Social Justice & Empowerment).

Additional Secretary (CKD) , JS & FA , Deputy Secretary, Under Secretary 1 & 2 and Section Officers of PM AJAY Division also

attended the meeting. The list of participants from States/Union Territories and PACC members who attended is enclosed.

## 2. Background

As per the PM-AJAY guidelines, States/Union Territories are required to upload their Perspective Plans (PPs) for 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 on the dedicated PM-AJAY Portal. The Perspective Plan of Chhattisgarh (2025-26) and the Revised Perspective Plans of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu (2025-26) were placed before the Committee for consideration.

## 3. Proceedings

Following the introduction of participants, Secretary (SJ&E) welcomed all members and representatives. With the permission of the Chair, the respective State Governments/UTs were invited to present their proposals before the Committee.

### State-wise Discussions and Decisions

#### (A) Andhra Pradesh :

The Government of Andhra Pradesh presented the Revised Perspective Plan (2025-26) under the GIA component, comprising 2 projects with a total estimated cost of Rs. 501.28 lakh (including administrative expenses), covering approximately 25,471 SC beneficiaries.

The proposals fall under the Infrastructure Development intervention. The State sought revision of the earlier approved infrastructure proposal of Rs. 14 crore (2023-24 PACC) — reallocating funds initially meant for road works toward installation of RO Plants in 220 SC Hostels. The projects have been scheduled for completion within three months.

Details of Revised projects under Perspective Plan submitted by the State for 2025-26 are given in the table below:

**Rs. in lakh)**

S.N.	Intervention	2025-26	Total
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		Amount	No. of beneficiaries	project cost
1	<b>Income Generation Activity</b>	0	0	0.00
2	<b>Skill Development</b>	0	0	0.00
3	<b>Infrastructure Development</b>	482.00	25,471	482.00
4	<b>Special Tutoring</b>	-	-	0
5	<b>Funds for Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation of scheme (4% of the proposed project cost)</b>	19.2800	-	19.2800
6	<b>Total</b>	501.2800	25,471	501.2800

The PACC accorded in-principle approval for the project proposed for 2025-26.

### **(B) Chhattisgarh :**

Chhattisgarh submitted the Perspective Plan for the first time for the period 2025-26 to 2027-28, comprising 311 projects with a total estimated cost of Rs. 8,637.55 lakh (including administrative expenses), benefiting approximately 19,029 Scheduled Caste beneficiaries. Of this, projects worth Rs. 8,568.69 lakh pertaining to the year 2025-26 for 18,777 Scheduled Caste beneficiaries placed before the Committee for consideration.

Proposals were made under Income Generation, Skill Development, and Infrastructure Development interventions. The Committee observed that the infrastructure development projects (construction of training halls, sheds, feeder tanks, etc.) were not viable at this stage and suggested that such activities may be replaced with *Skill Development* activities. It was advised that all works be executed through a single implementing agency to ensure timely execution

Details of projects under Perspective Plan submitted by the State for 2025-26 are given in the table below:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.N.	Intervention	Total No. of Intervention	2025-26		Total project cost
			Amount	No. of beneficiaries	Amount
1	Income Generation Activity	91	5573.56	12939	5573.56
2	Skill Development	119	1248.86	5838	1248.86
3	Infrastructure Development	101	1416.70	-	1416.70
4	Special Tutoring	0	0	0	0
5	Funds for Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation of scheme (4% of the proposed project cost)	-	329.56	-	329.56
6	<b>Total</b>	311	8568.69	18777	8568.69

The PACC accordingly accorded in-principle approval for projects of the year 2025-26, excluding projects of Rs. 4.51 crore proposed for infrastructure works. The details of the excluding projects are given as below:

SN	District/Agency	Project Name/Type	Total Amount	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bemetara	Khadya Prasanskara Ikai Mini Rice Mill/Dal Mill/ Oil Mill/ Flour Mill (12 units)	0.96	800
2	Mahasamund	Construction of training hall and workplace for Electricians (4 villages)	0.60	420
		Construction of		

3	Mahasamund	training shed and mashine purchase for Agarbatti Making (3 villages)	0.45	315
4	Mahasamund	Construction of training hall and workplace for Sewing Machine Operation (3 villages)	0.45	315
5	Gaurella Pendra Marwahi	Construction of shed, feeder tank etc for Poultry Farming in Matidand Village	0.40	10
6	Korea	Construction of training hall and tools distribution in Kerabahara Village	0.40	30
7	Gaurella Pendra Marwahi	Construction of pond and collection center for Psciculture in Tikathi Village	0.35	60
8	Rajnandgaon	Construction of shed and workplace for Automobile Repair in Hardanda Village	0.30	30
9	Rajnandgaon	Construction of shed and workplace for Bamboo Handicraft Making (2 villages)	0.30	30
10	Rajnandgaon	Construction of shed for mason training (4 villages)	0.30	30
		Total :-	4.51 Cr.	2040

### (C) Kerala :

Kerala presented its Revised Perspective Plan (2025-26) containing 9 projects with a total cost of Rs. 657.64 lakh (including administrative expenses) for 640 SC beneficiaries.

All projects are under the Skill Development intervention. The State informed that implementing agencies have already been identified, and the projects are expected to be completed within six months.

Details of Revised projects under Perspective Plan submitted by the State for 2025-26 are given in the table below:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.N.	Intervention	2025-26		Total project cost
		Amount	No. of beneficiaries	
1	Income Generation Activity	0	0	0.00
2	Skill Development	632.35	640	632.35
3	Infrastructure Development	0	0	0.00
4	Special Tutoring	-	-	0
5	Funds for Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation of scheme (4% of the proposed project cost)	25.2940	-	25.2940
6	Total	657.6440	640	657.6440

The PACC accorded in-principle approval for the project proposed for 2025-26.

#### **(D) Odisha :**

Odisha submitted the Revised Perspective Plan (2025-26) consisting of 988 projects with a total cost of Rs. 2,841.01 lakh (including administrative expenses) targeting 7,121 SC beneficiaries.

Projects were proposed under Infrastructure Development, Skill Development, and Income Generation components. The Skill Development projects will be implemented through the Skill Center and 12 Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs), while under Income Generation, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) will be supported for livelihood enhancement and economic empowerment.

Details of Revised projects under Perspective Plan submitted by the State for 2025-26 are given in the table below:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.N.	Intervention	2025-26		Total project cost
		Amount	No. of beneficiaries	
1	<b>Income Generation Activity</b>	631.99	1371	631.99
2	<b>Skill Development</b>	1519.04	5750	1519.04
3	<b>Infrastructure Development</b>	580.68	-	580.68
4	<b>Special Tutoring</b>	-	-	-
5	<b>Funds for Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation of scheme (4% of the proposed project cost)</b>	109.25	-	109.25
6	<b>Total</b>	2840.96	7,121	2840.96

The State Government assured that the projects would be completed within the current financial year (2025–26). The Committee accordingly accorded *in-principle approval* to the proposals.

Further, the State Government of Odisha raised the issue that, since funds are released in instalments, it faces difficulty in assuring the executing agencies regarding uninterrupted availability of funds. In this regard, the State suggested that a "*letter of comfort*" from the Central Government indicating that the full sanctioned amount would be released (albeit in instalments) would provide necessary assurance to the executing agencies. It was clarified that such a letter may be considered, based on the request of the State.

**(E) Tamil Nadu :**

Tamil Nadu presented its Revised Perspective Plan (2025-26) comprising 114 projects with a total cost of Rs. 1,990.30 lakh (including administrative expenses) for 6,301 SC beneficiaries under the Infrastructure Development intervention.

2. Details of Revised Perspective Plan as approved for 2025-26 by PACC are given in the table below:

(Rs. in lakh)

S.N.	Intervention	2025-26		Total project cost
		Amount	No. of beneficiaries	
1	Income Generation Activity	0	0	0.00
2	Skill Development	0	0	0.00
3	Infrastructure Development	1913.75	6,301	1913.75
4	Special Tutoring	-	-	0
5	Funds for Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation of scheme (4% of the proposed project cost)	76.55	-	76.55
6	Total	1990.30	6,301	1,990.30

The PACC mentioned that the projects are expected to be completed within this FY 2025-26. The Committee discussed and accorded in-principle approval for all the proposed projects for 2025-26.

Further, the States were advised to ensure timely and effective utilization of funds, drawing and raising Bills on the SNA SPARSH, as the mother sanction has already been or will be issued to them. States were urged to expedite mapping of all Implementing Agencies

onto the PFMS SNA SPARSH ( down to the last vendor/ implementing level) and orienting all stakeholders on how to operate on SNA SPARSH for drawing of funds. They were further requested to expedite submission of pending Utilization Certificates (UCs) to facilitate the release of additional funds during the current financial year. Since this is the terminal year of the scheme, the Chair emphasized the importance of close monitoring and regular review of project implementation to ensure that the benefits reach the targeted Scheduled Caste communities in a timely manner. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair for his guidance and concluding remarks

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