

# Final call soon for states, UTs to avail of MSME scheme benefits

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The government is planning to issue a final call to four states and seven Union Territories (UTs) that are yet to submit their strategic investment plan (SIP) required to avail of funds to revitalise the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), a senior government official said.

In her 2022 Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme as part of the government's effort to revive the MSME sector after the pandemic shock.

So far, 24 states and one UT, Chandigarh, have submitted their SIPs. "The MSME ministry is planning to issue a final call to four states, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh, and seven Union Territories, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Delhi (NCT), Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry, that have not yet submitted their project plans to benefit

from the RAMP scheme," the official said. The scheme, launched in collaboration with the World Bank in 2022, aims at strengthening institutions and governance at the Centre and State, improving Centre-state linkages and partnerships and improving access of MSMEs to market and credit, technology upgradation and addressing issues of delayed payments and greening of MSMEs.

An email query sent to the ministry did not elicit any response by the press deadline.

Of the total outlay of ₹6,062.45 crore of the scheme, the World Bank is contributing ₹3,750 crore while the remaining ₹2,312.45 crore will be funded by the Indian government. The official said that the government has approved 283 projects amounting to ₹2,500 crore with ₹1,100 crore already disbursed.

The SIP includes an outreach plan for the identification and mobilisation of MSMEs under RAMP, identifying key constraints and gaps, setting milestones, and projecting the required budgets for interventions in priority sectors.

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