

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1236**  
ANSWERED ON – 13/12/2023

**SKILL DEVELOPMENT DURING PANDEMIC**

1236. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that training centres were closed during the 2020 and 2021 lockdown, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is planning to provide any relief/assistance to such centres, and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government is planning to compensate students enrolled in PMKVY courses disrupted by the lockdown, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

a) Under the Govt. of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/colleges/institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready & industry ready skills.

Due to the pandemic induced lock down and restrictions thereof, directions were issued to training centres (TCs) on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 to pause/temporarily suspend the training. TCs were permitted to resume the training from 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 (subject to state specific directives).

(b) to (e) In February 2021, Common Norms Committee (CNC) for skill development schemes had decided that 1.5% of the average training cost per trainee for 3 months, or 1.5% of the hourly base cost rate(as applicable as per category of trade undergoing the training) may be allowed as COVID Allowance. The COVID Allowance was to be funded out of the grants already made available for training.

Further, on resumption of training by the training centres, sufficient time was given so that students enrolled in the courses could complete the training.

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