

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1789**  
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024

**Education and Skill Development in Cuttack, Odisha**

1789 SHRI DEBASHISH SAMANTARAY:

Will the Minister of *Education* be please to state:

- (a) whether Government is focusing on improving the quality of education and skill development programs in Cuttack, Odisha to meet the demands of a growing economy;
- (b) the details of Government initiatives to establish new universities, colleges, or skill development centres in Cuttack, Odisha; and
- (c) the manner in which local industries, educational institutions, and Government collaborating to enhance employability through vocational training and skill-building programs in Cuttack, Odisha?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c): The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was launched by the Government of India with an aim to transform and improve the quality of education in the country. NEP 2020 aims to provide a standard of education that is inclusive, equitable, and of high quality, empowering learners for the future and contributing to national development. To support this vision, the Ministry of Education has launched various initiatives to enhance learners' skills nationwide.

Striving to fulfill the objective of improving employability and forming robust industry-academia linkage, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed Guidelines for Higher Education institutions to offer Apprenticeship/Internship Embedded Degree Programmes.

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued Model Curriculum in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Space Technology, Electronic Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology), Robotics and Artificial Intelligence etc. AICTE has also signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with leading industries and organizations to facilitate internship, skilling and upskilling of students and faculty members.

AICTE facilitates working professionals to enhance their qualification at Diploma/Degree/PG Levels in order to improve their employability. Four institutions are offering such AICTE approved programs for Working Professionals in Cuttack, Odisha.

Also, for on-the-job training and skilling of Indian youth, the Ministry of Education is implementing National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS). The scheme is implemented through four regional Boards of Apprenticeship Training/Practical Training (BoATs/BoPT). In Cuttack over 30 industries and 12 institutions are registered in NATS portal. For the financial year 2024-25, in Cuttack District, a total of 1,431 aspiring students have enrolled on the NATS portal.

The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has informed that under the Govt. of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), MSDE delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ institutes under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Sikhshan 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 including the State of Odisha. The number of candidates trained under various sectors of the schemes of MSDE in the State of Odisha is as under:

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Trained /Oriented</b>
PMKVY (2015-16 to 31.10.2024)	5,96,273
JSS (2018-19 to 10.11.2024)	2,40,444
NAPS (2018-19 to 31.10.2024)	27,801
CTS (ITI)	2,75,944

As informed by the Government of Odisha, a new, credit-based Undergraduate (UG) curriculum has been introduced in Odisha incorporating skill-based multidisciplinary courses and internship programmes having multiple entry and exit options, enabling students to gain practical exposure and industry experience to meet the demands of a growing economy. The Government ITI in Cuttack under the guidance of Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA), collaborates with industry leaders to provide specialized training in fields such as electrical systems, automation, and solar energy. The State Government has also established Skill Development Centres at Kuanrpur, Kantapada Tehsil and at ITT, Choudwar in the District of Cuttack for skill enhancement of youth. Further, in collaboration with Skill Development & Technical Education Department, students of 8 colleges in Cuttack district have been provided with skill Training Programme in collaboration with Industry Partners. To Provide training in new-age technologies and various emerging trades, the Government of Odisha has also introduced NUA-Odisha Programme.

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