GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2679
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

AI AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

2679. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

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

(a)   the strategy to train the younger population with skills and resources to navigate the widespread use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in every sphere of work;

(b)   whether skill development initiatives will teach integrated use of AI to students and young people; and

(c)   if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Under the Government 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 Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).

Following steps have been taken to teach the integrated use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to students and young people under SIM:

(i) New training programs have been introduced under PMKVY 4.0 to enhance digital and technical skills among youth. PMKVY 4.0 has focus on new age skills like AI/ML, Web 3.0, etc. The training has been provided in nine (09) AI- related courses under PMKVY 4.0.

(ii) Under NAPS, there are 61 private establishments which are currently providing apprenticeship in seven (07) AI-related courses.

(iii) Directorate General of Training (DGT) under MSDE has introduced one course 'Artificial Intelligence Programming Assistant (AIPA)' to impart AI-based skill training through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs). The AIPA course has been implemented under CTS at selected 19 NSTIs from the Academic Session 2024-25.

(iv) A micro-credential course "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)" of 7.5-hour has been developed for all CTS trainees in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), in collaboration with industry and academic experts.

(v) MSDE has launched Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) platform, a comprehensive and accessible platform for skill enhancement, offering industry-relevant skill courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support to youth of the country. SIDH offers an extensive array of AI and ML courses, ranging from foundational programs like 'Fundamentals of Azure AI Speech' and 'Machine Learning', to specialized offerings such as 'Google Cloud Generative AI' and 'AI Strategy to Create Business Value in Healthcare', to cater to varying levels of expertise and application, enabling participants to stay at the forefront of AI and ML technology.

(vi) Further, DGT has collaborated with Microsoft India to implement capacity-building training programs for the students of NSTIs & ITIs in the future skills ensuring better preparedness for upcoming jobs. The project provides training in digital productivity and advanced IT skilling viz., Artificial Intelligence/ Cloud & Cyber Security skilling, to the students of Government it is and NSTIs to empower learners with the essential skills to become self-reliant with industry relevant skills and enhance their employability while connecting them to relevant job opportunities and the development of talents within the country

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