GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 282

ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024

IMPACT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

282. Dr. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has evaluated the impact of various skill development initiatives, and what concrete outcomes have been achieved in improving employability for youth, particularly in rural and marginalized regions;
- (b) the manner in which Government address concerns that partnerships with international corporations may overshadow domestic skill-building capabilities and local industry engagement;
- (c) what specific measures have been implemented to ensure that these skilling initiatives genuinely benefit economically disadvantaged youth, rather than functioning as symbolic or promotional undertakings; and
- (d) the reason why significant gaps in high-quality and sustainable job opportunities persist for rural and marginalized youth despite substantial investments in skill development programs?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) Under the Government 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/ institutes under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Sikhshan Shanshan (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 rural and marginalized regions. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready and equipped with industry relevant skills.

The government evaluates skill initiatives through periodic impact assessments and outcome tracking. The number of Candidates trained under above schemes of MSDE is as under:

Scheme	No. of Candidates Trained (All India)
PMKVY (Since inception to October, 2024)	1,57,55,371
JSS (FY 2018-19 to November 2024)	27,35,435
NAPS engaged (FY 2018-19 to October 2024)	33,65,404
CTS (2019-2020 to 2023-24)	65,01,712

MSDE's flagship scheme PMKVY was evaluated by NITI Aayog in October 2020 under jobs and skills sector. As per the study, about 94 percent of the employers surveyed reported they would hire more candidates trained under PMKVY. Further, 52 percent of the candidates placed in full time/part time employment and the candidates oriented under the RPL component received higher salary or felt that they will get higher salary compared to their un-certified peers. As per the third-party impact evaluation of PMKVY by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), 70.5% surveyed candidates received placement in their desired skill sector. The Tracer Study of ITI Graduates published in 2018 shows that 63.5% of total ITI passouts have got employment.

- (b) For enhancing the skill development capabilities, a balanced approach is taken by fostering partnerships with international corporations as well as the domestic enterprises. These collaborations introduce global best practices while strengthening local ecosystems. The skill development programs mandate domestic participation in training delivery, curriculum design, and on-the-job training. Sector Skill Councils and District Skill Committees engage local industries to address regional skill gaps.
- (c) To ensure that the skill initiatives benefit the economic disadvantages, the SC/ST, women, and rural candidates are prioritized. The specific provisions have been made for special areas and disadvantage groups including women, in the Common Cost Norms to be followed by the skill development schemes/programs of various Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The Apprenticeship Rules, 1992 provides that the training places for the SC/ST and OBC in 'designated trades' to be reserved by the employer according to the prescribed norms followed in the respective State/UT. Special Projects under PMKVY focus on geographically and socially marginalized groups. Skill training is linked to employment through special initiatives like Rojgar Melas.
- (d) The significant gaps in high-quality and sustainable job opportunities persist due to limited regional industry penetration and infrastructure challenges of the special areas like hilly states. The government addresses these gaps through aligning skill training and promoting entrepreneurial/livelihood opportunities in the local economic activities as well as the emerging sectors. The special focus on aspirational districts underlines the importance of social and physical infrastructure development for promoting employment/livelihood. The Digital Public Infrastructure like Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) and National Career Service (NCS) enables access to job listings nationwide, bridging the rural-urban divide in employment opportunities.
