

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 441
ANSWERED ON 22/07/2026

SKILL GAP ASSESSMENT STUDIES IN PURVANCHAL REGION

441. SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of localized skill gap assessment studies conducted for the Purvanchal region including Kushinagar district;
- (b) the strategic initiatives launched to train rural youth for specific employment roles within the regional tourism sector;
- (c) the integration of entrepreneurship development modules within the standard technical curriculums of State skill centres;
- (d) the institutional funding provided to establish modern district skill hubs functioning as centralized training ecosystems; and
- (e) the steps taken to recognize and certify the informal skills of traditional rural artisans under formal frameworks?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): The Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), led by industry experts, regularly conduct skill gap studies to assess sector-wise skill needs and set competency standards, which guide government interventions to align the workforce with industry requirements. Further, in order to support decentralized, grassroots-level skill planning, District Skill Committees (DSCs) are established across all States/UTs to formulate District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) after identifying local employment opportunities, skilling demand, and available training infrastructure. DSDPs are further collated by the State Governments to draw their State Skill Development Plans. The SANKALP (Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion) scheme also supported a National Skill Gap Study by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), that provided a standardized, data-driven framework to assess skill gaps across seven high-growth sectors. The skill gap studies help the Government to align the skilling initiatives with industry demand and future workforce needs across the country including for the Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) to (d): Government is promoting skill development for employment opportunities in the tourism and hospitality sector through PMKVY 4.0. Training is imparted in a range of tourism-related job roles aligned

with local economic activities and employment opportunities, including Heritage Tour Guide, Walk Tour Facilitator, Travel Consultant, Tour Vehicle Driver, Boat Jetty In-charge, Multi Cuisine Cook and Street Food Vendor, among others. As per Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) reports, a total of 88,651 candidates have been trained/oriented in the Tourism & Hospitality sector under PMKVY in Uttar Pradesh up to 30.06.2026. District plans also emphasize industry linkages, apprenticeship opportunities, placement drives, career counselling and entrepreneurship promotion to enhance employment prospects of rural youth in tourism and hospitality sectors. The 'Paryatan Mitra & Paryatan Didi' tourism initiative of Ministry of Tourism provides training to women and youth to enable them to leverage these skills to obtain gainful employment as homestay owners, food & cuisine experience providers, cultural guides, natural guides, adventure guides and other roles, based on the potential of the destination.

Entrepreneurship promotion is an integral component of the Skill India ecosystem. PMKVY trainings across States also provide entrepreneurship awareness through programmes covering business development training, financial literacy, mentorship, market linkage facilitation and convergence. In addition, entrepreneurship modules are incorporated in various skill training programmes to encourage trainees to pursue self-employment and enterprise development.

PMKVY 4.0 is a demand driven scheme, wherein training centres are accredited/ affiliated based on the proposals submitted by the Project Implement Agencies, after taking the skill gap into account. Skill Hub was an initiative by MSDE where available infrastructure of educational institutions is leveraged for providing skill training under PMKVY, and only the cost of training and certification is borne under the scheme.

Under the Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme of MSDE, skill training is imparted in the tourism and hospitality sector through six NSQF-aligned courses, namely Front Office Assistant, Food Delivery Associate, Laghu Udyami (Fast Food Stall), Housekeeping Assistant, Kitchen Trainee, and Food & Beverage Service Assistant. These courses are designed to equip learners with industry-relevant skills for wage and self-employment opportunities in the tourism and hospitality ecosystem, while enhancing the availability of trained manpower to support the sector's growth.

(e): MSDE in collaboration with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and the Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Ministry of Finance (MoF) launched the **PM-Vishwakarma Scheme** to provide "Sammaan, Saamarthya and Samriddhi" to traditional artisans and craft persons working with their hands and tools.

Under the PM-Vishwakarma Scheme, as also in PMKVY, the government recognizes and certifies the informal skills of traditional rural artisans through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) component. This process assesses and certifies individuals who have acquired their expertise through informal means or on-the-job experience, aligning their skills with National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) standards to improve employability even without requiring formal education. This framework also provides demand-driven, specialized skill upgradation consisting of 5 days of Basic Skill Training and 15 days of Advanced Skill Training across 18 notified traditional trades. The comprehensive curriculum includes orientation, bridge courses, third-party assessments, digital and financial literacy, and market linkages, ensuring formal recognition and long-term livelihood support for traditional craftsmen.
