

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 74
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

Findings of the India Skill Report, 2021

74. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the findings of The India Skills Report 2021 which indicates that nearly half of India's graduates are unemployable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to address the issue of unemployability among graduates;
- (d) whether there are any specific initiatives being taken to bridge the skill gap identified in the report, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of any collaboration with industry partners to enhance the employability of graduates; and
- (f) the measures taken/being taken to align higher education curriculum with industry requirements to improve employability?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) As per the information received from Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), the Skill India Mission (SIM) of the Government of India aims at Skilling, Re-skilling and Up-Skilling to ensure all young Indians are prepared for the large number of opportunities coming up, as the economy expands. This is done through a comprehensive 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) with the aim to address the employability gaps and further enhance labour productivity.

MSDE has further informed that the skill gap studies are conducted through reputed organizations which provide information on the skills needed and the skill gaps in various sectors. Further, District Skill Committees (DSCs) are mandated with formulating District Skill Development Plan (DSDPs) to promote decentralized planning and implementation at the grassroots. The DSDPs identify sectors in which employment opportunities and demand for skilling exist in the district. Skill Development Programmes of the Government are designed and implemented to bridge identified skill gaps across sectors.

Aligning with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Ministry of Education in collaboration with IIT Madras and eminent Industry Partners have launched SWAYAM Plus platform on 27th February 2024, expanding its offerings to identify and include courses aligned with industry needs and to enhance learners' employability. The platform provides high-quality learning and certification programs from the best industry and academia at free or at affordable costs to the students/ learners which can help them in reskilling and upskilling and making them employment ready. Ministry of Education and IIT Madras has signed 37 MoUs with the eminent Industry Partners namely Bajaj Finserv, L&T, TCS, META, Microsoft, Salesforce, The Job Plus, Wadhvani Foundation etc. There are 187 Courses are available on the platform as on 12.07.2024.

The Initiative of integrating Professor of Practice into academic institutions has been taken to bridge the skill gap between theory and practical application.

For alignment of Higher Education curriculum with industry different steps have been taken by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). These steps include formulation of model curriculum, signing of MoUs, embedding of summer internships, etc.

Further as per information received from Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) 36 Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), led by industry leaders in the respective sectors, have been set up by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to bridge the gap between demands of the industry and skilling requirements as well as to determine skills/competency standards and qualifications and get them notified as per the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). Courses under skill development programmes are updated on periodic intervals with inputs from SSCs who act as representatives of the industry.

MSDE has also informed that with a view to meeting skilling requirements for future workforce, improving quality of skilling and aligning training programmes with changes in the economy various steps has been taken. The steps include new Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), upgradation and modernization of ITIs, introduction of new age courses, alignment of courses as per NSQF, training of trainers, launch of National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS).
