

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1311  
ANSWERED ON 03/12/2024

**BOOSTING POTENTIAL OF SMEs**

1311. DR. DHARAMVIRA GANDHI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken to boost Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Punjab, given the region's high potential in manufacturing and textiles;
- (b) whether there is any central support for training youth in Punjab in the latest industry relevant skills; and
- (c) the details and the number of beneficiaries under such schemes and for expanding such support?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The Ministry of MSME implements various schemes and programmes to further boost MSME Sector in the country. These schemes and programmes inter-alia include MSME Champions Scheme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), A Scheme for Promoting Innovation, Rural Industry & Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE), Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTSME), Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP) etc. Benefits under these schemes are available to all eligible MSMEs throughout the country including Punjab.

(b) & (c) The Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) Scheme is a Central Sector continuing scheme of MSME. The objective is to promote new enterprises, build capacity of existing MSMEs and inculcate entrepreneurial culture in the country. In the last financial year, 2023-24, under the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) Scheme of MSME, a total of 7,496 training programmes were conducted across the country, benefiting approximately 3.5 lakh trainees. In Punjab, under the ESDP Scheme, a total 448 training programmes were conducted from which 26282 trainees were benefitted during 2020-21 to 2024-25 (till date). Year-wise Progress of ESDP scheme in Punjab is tabulated below:-

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>No. of Programme Conducted(In Punjab)</b>	<b>Total Number of Beneficiaries(In Punjab)</b>
1.	2020-21	20	1255
2.	2021-22	22	2447
3.	2022-23	126	7269
4.	2023-24	194	10368
5.	2024-25 (Till 28.11.2024)	86	4943
	<b>Total</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>26282</b>

Further, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is implementing its flagship scheme, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) since 2015 for industry relevant skill development of the youth. PMKVY 4.0 under the umbrella scheme of the 'Skill India Programme', is being implemented between FY 2022-2026. PMKVY has two training components, namely, Short Term Training (STT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Under PMKVY-STT, candidates are being trained in short duration courses through empanelled training centres (TCs) across the country, whereas, under PMKVY-RPL component, individuals with prior learning experience or skills are assessed and certified through orientation or bridge courses. Under the PMKVY scheme, since 2015 till 30.6.2024, 1.48 crore candidates have been trained/oriented. Further, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) have been established across the country to run industry-driven courses of high quality with focus on employability and create an aspirational value for skill development training. As on 30.6.2024, 508 PMKK are operational.

In addition, the Powerloom Service Centre, Amritsar and Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) Powerloom Service Centre, Ludhiana also imparted trainings to youth in State of Punjab. Under these training programmes from period 2020-21 to 2023-24 a total number of 240 trainees were imparted training.

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