

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2168
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

INTEGRATION OF AI ASSISTANT AND CENTRES OF EXCELLANCE

†2168. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:
SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA: SMT. SHOBHANABEN MAHENDRASINH BARAIYA:
SMT. KAMLESH JANGDE: SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB:
SMT. SMITA UDAY WAGH: SHRI RAVINDRA SHUKLA ALIAS RAVI KISHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to ensure the successful implementation and integration of the AI Assistant and Centres of Excellence for enhancing skill development across the country including Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Tripura and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps being taken to assess the effectiveness of the AI Assistant in improving user engagement and learning outcomes on the Skill India Digital Portal;
- (c) the benefits that have been observed or are anticipated from these AI-driven initiatives across the country including Uttar Pradesh and Jalgaon's skill development landscape;
- (d) whether these efforts align with the broader goals of Skill India in transforming the skill ecosystem in Maharashtra and specifically, the Jalgaon Lok Sabha region and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the specific strategies implemented by the Government to ensure effective integration of skill-based curriculum in undergraduate programme through a partnership with the UGC; and
- (f) the steps taken to make emerging/futuristic technology courses such as AI and data analytics accessible to students across various sectors and institutions?

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 etc. 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), to all the sections of the society across the country. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.

Under PMKVY scheme, 9 job roles related to AI have been included as part of the scheme. In the state of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Tripura more than 900, 200 and 50 candidates respectively have undergone training on AI related job roles. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) along with the state Governments and National

Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) have set up Centre of Excellence in the state of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Haryana for supporting IoT & AI ecosystem. Also, as part of the Future Skills Prime initiative of MeitY, GoI and NASSCOM, various skilling courses are being offered on emerging technologies in the state of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Tripura; and more than 16000, 600 and 550 candidates respectively have completed courses.

(b) to (d): MSDE has launched Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH), a mobile-first digital platform, in September, 2023 to synergize India's skill development, education, employment, and entrepreneurship landscape. Its primary objective is to provide a comprehensive and accessible platform for skill enhancement, offering industry-relevant skill courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support. SIDH is at the intersection of two of the most important components of the Government- Skill India & Digital India. Built on Mobile-First approach, SIDH caters diverse needs of a citizen for skill development such as discovery of courses, schemes, apprenticeships, and job opportunities based on preferences and aspirations, Learning Management System for digital skilling, Portable Verified Credentials, etc. SIDH platform is designed to cater to the users of all locations including Maharashtra. The recommendation feature on Skill courses, apprenticeship and job opportunities is already developed at Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) platform. The benefits and transformative impact of AI driven initiatives are anticipated to accrue to candidates across the country including Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, and include the following:

- Personalized learning for users
- Improved user engagement
- Provide targeted recommendations for courses, apprenticeships and job opportunities.

(e) In tune with NEP-2020, the UGC has developed Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes". Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D machining, big data analysis, machine learning, drone technologies, and Deep learning with important applications to health, environment, and sustainable living are part of digital and technological solutions under the value-added courses of undergraduate programmes. UGC has also developed Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) named "Cyber Security" which is available on SWAYAM Platform. Further UGC, on the occasion of Cyber Jaagrookta Diwas, launched a syllabus on Cybersecurity Course for Undergraduate and Post Graduate.

UGC has facilitated Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country to offer skill-based programmes under National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF). The main objective of the skill programmes under NSQF is to integrate relevant skills into the higher education system in order to make higher education relevant to the learner and the community. The HEIs can offer skill programmes at the Certificate, Diploma, B.Voc (UG) and M.Voc (PG) levels. UGC NSQF Guidelines provide for multiple entry and exit options which enable the working population to join the formal education system at any point of time. The skill programmes promote active linkages between the academia and the industry as the relevant industry partners help the institutions in framing the course curriculum, evaluating the skill component of the syllabus and offering internships to students. UGC's skill development programme has attempted to benefit all sections of the society across the country.

(f) As on June, 2024, SIDH has 752 online courses, leading to 7.37 lakh minutes of digital content readily available and accessible for learners. Approximately 7.63 Lakh candidates have been enrolled for online courses on SIDH platform. The platform offers courses and apprenticeships opportunities to the learners also. Further, Bharat skills portal supports digital skill development, provides access to a range of educational materials, including e-books, question banks, and eLearning videos, available in 12 regional languages. Presently, the portal hosts approximately 553 e-books, 337 question banks, 190 study material videos, and 6201 e-learning videos, available in 12 regional languages, ensuring broad and inclusive access to skill training.