GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2748

ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

NEW AI AND DIGITAL LEARNING INSTITUTES

2748. SHRI E T MOHAMMED BASHEER:

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

- (a) the details of the roadmap for setting up of new Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital learning institutes; and
- (b) whether the Government has made any study on the ethical values and artificial intelligence, if so, the finding of the same, if not whether the Government will take steps in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): Recognising the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital learning, the Government of India has taken initiatives for setting up of AI Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Healthcare, Agriculture, and Sustainable Cities. The Budget 2025-26 further announced a new CoE for AI in education. Also, National Programme on Artificial Intelligence (NPAI) Skilling Framework was prepared by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in September 2023. The framework outlines a comprehensive roadmap aimed at enhancing AI skilling across India.

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 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 including digital technology and artificial intelligence.

To facilitate the integrated use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital learning programs in SIM, MSDE has taken the following steps:

(i) New training programs have been introduced under PMKVY 4.0 to enhance digital and technical skills among youth. PMKVY 4.0 has focus on new age skills like AI/ML, Web 3.0, etc.

- (ii) Under NAPS, there are approx. 60 private establishments which are currently providing apprenticeship in Al-related courses.
- (iii) Directorate General of Training (DGT) under MSDE has introduced one course 'Artificial Intelligence Programming Assistant (AIPA)' to impart Al-based skill training through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs).
- (iv) A micro-credential course "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)" of 7.5-hour has been developed for all CTS trainees in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), in collaboration with industry and academic experts.
- (v) MSDE has launched Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) platform, a comprehensive and accessible platform for skill enhancement, offering industry-relevant skill courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support to youth of the country. SIDH offers an extensive array of AI/ML and Digital Tech courses to cater to varying levels of expertise and application, enabling participants to stay at the forefront of AI/ML technology.
- (vi) DGT has collaborated with Microsoft India to implement capacity-building training programs for the students of NSTIs & ITIs in the future skills ensuring better preparedness for upcoming jobs.
- (b): Government has conducted a study on need of ethical Al practices based on global research & best practices. As 'Trust' and 'Algorithm soundness' are going to be two major factors in increased usage of Al, the skilling framework created for National Policy of Al by MSDE ensures that 'Ethical Al' is part of every Al course. The Al skilling framework highlights the critical importance of creating a model of Responsible & Ethical Al, which includes transparency, fairness, and privacy. It also puts emphasis on responsible innovation, human oversight and mitigating biases in Al systems. Additionally, the framework suggests development of governance mechanisms and legal frameworks to ensure responsible and explainable Al innovation for future.
