

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *123
ANSWERED ON – 09.02.2026

INELIGIBLE CANDIDATES ENROLLED UNDER PMKVY

*123. SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the candidates were enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in violation of the age, education and work experience qualifications prescribed in the guidelines, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number and details of such ineligible enrolments identified since inception of the scheme, year-wise;
- (c) whether any penalties have been imposed by the Government on training partners/agencies for such enrolments, year-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government had conducted any internal audits of the scheme before CAG inspection, if so, the details of such audits, year-wise?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *123 ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026 ASKED BY SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE REGARDING INELIGIBLE CANDIDATES ENROLLED UNDER PMKVY

(a) to (d) The Government consistently undertakes audits and evaluations of its schemes and programmes to strengthen implementation, improve outcomes, and ensure accountability. In this context, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) recently published a Performance Audit Report on the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), covering the first three phases of the scheme up to 2022. The report which is available at https://cag.gov.in/webroot/uploads/download_audit_report/2025/Report-No.-20-of-2025_PA-PMKVY_English-PDF-A-06943abec463479.68516873.pdf, identified certain instances of deviations relating to age, educational, and work-experience eligibility parameters prescribed under PMKVY guidelines, thereby providing valuable inputs for further strengthening programme delivery.

Building on its ongoing efforts to enhance training quality and transparency, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has introduced several system-level safeguards under PMKVY. These include Aadhaar-based e-KYC, face-authentication-enabled AEBAS attendance for candidates and trainers, strengthened system validations, unique beneficiary IDs, and integration with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for improved monitoring of fund utilisation. In addition, the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) has been integrated with the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), enabling generation of candidates' APAAR IDs, which support reliable validation of educational qualifications under PMKVY 4.0.

Further, the Government has undertaken comprehensive measures to reinforce accountability and compliance across the ecosystem. These measures include disciplinary proceedings where warranted, suspension or blacklisting of non-compliant entities, recovery of funds wherever applicable, and strengthening of monitoring mechanisms to prevent recurrence of such issues. Show Cause Notices have been issued to the concerned agencies seeking their responses to the observations made in the CAG Report.

At the same time, periodic independent evaluations continue to reflect the positive impact of the PMKVY programme. An evaluation by NITI Aayog (October 2020) indicated that approximately 94 percent of surveyed employers expressed willingness to hire more candidates trained under PMKVY. The study also noted that 52 percent of candidates placed in employment or oriented under the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) component reported receiving higher salaries or expecting improved earnings compared to uncertified peers. An independent evaluation of PMKVY 2.0 conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) found that about 70.5 percent of surveyed candidates were placed in their desired skill sector. More recently, a third-party evaluation of PMKVY 4.0 conducted by the Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM) in 2025 observed that 77 percent of Short-Term Training (STT) candidates and 78 percent of surveyed RPL candidates reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the training content, reflecting strong acceptance of the curriculum and its delivery across the country.
