

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1773
FOR ANSWER ON 10.02.2026

UPSKILLING OF WORKERS IN STEEL INDUSTRY

1773. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the initiatives undertaken towards skill-based training and upskilling of workers to increase the labour productivity in the steel industry;
- (b) the details regarding the extent of automation achieved in the steel industry and ongoing and proposed projects towards increased automation for improved capacity utilisation and efficiency and to address cost competitiveness vis-à-vis global steel producers; and
- (c) the details regarding the incentives given under the 'PLI Scheme for Specialty Steel', the number of beneficiaries along with the incentives availed during the last five years, year-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (SHRI BHUPATHIRAJU SRINIVASA VARMA)
MINISTRY OF STEEL

(a) The steel industry is improving labour productivity by focusing on skill development and workers training. This includes in-house technical and multi-skill training, as well as learning in advanced maintenance and automation. Companies are also working with technology partners and academic institutions to build expertise. Digital learning, skill recognition for contract workers, and leadership training help in increasing productivity and efficiency.

(b) The steel industry is using automation and digital technologies across select shop floors through the adoption of artificial intelligence and machine learning models. Tools like digital twins, and predictive maintenance are helping factories run more efficiently and reduce equipment breakdowns. Digital solutions are making supply chain and office work faster and easier. Efforts are focussed on using AI-based decision tools, and better connectivity to improve performance and cost competitiveness.

(c) Incentive amounts of ₹48 crore and ₹187.73 crore have been disbursed to the participating companies under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme during Financial Year 2024–25 and Financial Year 2025–26, respectively. There are 44 projects from 19 companies under first round of PLI and 42 projects from 25 companies under second round of PLI.
