

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4613
ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

SKILL GAPS, EMPLOYMENT & FUTURE READINESS

4613. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

पत्तन,पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether skill gaps persist in port operations, logistics and inland shipping;
- (b) whether training programmes match industry needs and skilling is regionally balanced, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether automation risks job displacement; and
- (d) if so, the manner in which the sector will generate quality maritime employment?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) to (d) The training programmes in logistics and maritime sector are aligned with industry requirements through sector skill councils, industry partnerships and competency based occupational standards. Further, Indian Maritime University (IMU) a central university under MoPSW, has Syllabus Review Committees where industry practitioners are co-opted to enable preparation of industry relevant curriculum. The skilling initiatives are implemented across multiple states through accredited training centres, Industrial Training Institutes, Maritime Training Institutes, industry-led programs, and 06 campuses (Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Cochin, Chennai, Visakhapatnam and Kolkata) of Indian Maritime University (IMU) ensuring regional outreach. As per Capital Goods & Strategic Skills Council under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, automation is being implemented as a critical enabler for improving production quality and operational efficiency and not as a replacement for human labour.
