

- (iii) Common Norms for all skill development programmes across Central Ministries/Departments.
- (iv) National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) to organize qualifications according to series of level of knowledge, skills and aptitude.
- (v) Strategic partnerships have also been undertaken between MSDE and other Ministries/Departments in the Central Government, to collaborate on scaling up skill training activities in specific sectors and leveraging existing infrastructure.
- (vi) MSDE has also signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with Germany, United Kingdom (UK), China and Australia, to scale up apprenticeships support, training of trainees, curriculum development, ensure benchmarking of standards and create Centres of Excellence in skill training across the country.

Further, Government had constituted a Working Group to explore the feasibility for setting up of National Skills Universities across the Country which can function as reputed national institutes responsible for aggregating skill development effort through implementation of a credible, aspirational and nationally acceptance skill training system. The Working Group submitted its report along with the draft Bill. The draft Bill is under inter-Ministerial consultation.

Further, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to introduce a course on entrepreneurship for the senior school classes in the affiliated schools of the Board.

Vocationally trained people

575. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of vocationally trained people in India is only 5.3 per cent; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to increase this percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) It is fact that majority of the workforce in the Country has undertaken informal skilling, up-skilling and re-skilling. Formal skill training has been taken by not more than 5 per cent of the total workforce of the Country. To evolve appropriate skill development framework and removal of disconnect between the demand for and supply of skilled manpower through vocational and technical training, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has been constituted by the Government on 9th November, 2014.

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has been set up as a Public Private Partnership entity to promote private training providers to set up skill development centres across the Country. The skill development centres run by these private training providers provide the training programme in various sectors like Agriculture, Automobile, Building and Construction, Capital Goods, Gems and Jewellery, IT & ITES, etc.

Besides, to enable and mobilize a large number of youth to take up outcome based skill training and earn their livelihood, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) has been launched by the Government on 15th July, 2015 which has the target to benefit 24 lakh persons across the Country with training of 14 lakh fresh entrants and certification of 10 lakh persons under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) within one year. It is a skill certification and reward scheme wherein trainees after their successful assessment and certification, get monetary reward through direct bank transfer to their account. NSDC is the implementing agency for PMKVY. As on 26th April, 2016, 19.71 lakh candidates have been enrolled for vocational training and 19.38 lakh candidates completed training under different sectors across the Country.

In addition, there are 13,105 Industrial Training Institutes (Government 2293 and Private 10812) are affiliated to National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) in the Country. Duration of trades in ITIs varies from 6 months to 2 years. As per information available on National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) web portal, 9,37,809 new trainees in year 2014 and 10,73,265 new trainees in the year 2015 got admission for skill training.

Synergy between skills and careers

576. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Union Government's top leadership met corporate heads and big business CEOs to lay the strategy on how to build the perfect synergy between skills and careers, if so, what is the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): A "National Industry Conclave on Skills" was organized by the Government on 12th January, 2016 at Mumbai with the objective to secure greater industry participation in skill development. The conclave brought together industry leaders and professionals and Government onto one platform to deliberate on important issues related to skill development in India. The challenges and opportunities of skill development in India were discussed elaborately in the conclave. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for skill