Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) on PAN-India basis to cover the prospective youths. PMKVY enables large number of prospective youths for taking short term fresh training and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) through accredited and affiliated training partner/Training Centers. PMKVY 2016-20, launched on 2nd October, 2016, aims to train 1 crore youth for the period of 4 years with a total outlay of ₹ 12,000 crores. Under PMKVY, RE 1250 crore and BE 1300 crore have been allocated in FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18, respectively.

Under PMKK, NSDC aims to promote through their Training Partners Model Skill Centre in every district for imparting skill training to aspirational youths through PMKVY. As of 7th February, 2017, PMKKs in 443 districts have been allocated and 78 PMKKs had been set up, out of which 65 have been inaugurated by the Hon'ble MPs.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through National Skill Development and Corporation (NSDC) is supporting UGC for three schemes namely Community College, Bachelor of Vocational Course (BVOC) and DDU Kaushal Kendras which are being introduced in different colleges and universities. Currently there are 429 Colleges/universities under these schemes. NSDC also has collaborated with Public and Private Universities to skill the students of the colleges who are undergoing UG and or PG program only. Approximately 1 lakh students are covered under 165 BVOC colleges, 223 Community Colleges and 64 DDU Kaushal Kendra Colleges.

Vocational Training Providers in Tamil Nadu

1714. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has found any applicant for Vocational Training Providers (VTPs) in Tamil Nadu as not suitable for imparting training, after carrying out physical inspection regarding training infrastructure and amenities *viz.* space, power norms, tools and equipments;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to give another opportunity to applicants of VTPs after finding them unsuitable during inspection; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) The Skill Development Initiative (SDI) Scheme has been closed during 2016-17. Consequent upon its closure, registration of new Vocational Training Providers (VTPs) had been

stopped including in the State of Tamil Nadu. Hence, the question of giving another opportunity to applicants of VTPs after finding them unsuitable during inspection in the past does not arise.

Loan for Skill Development

1715. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to simplify the process of getting loan for skill development;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether soft loan is proposed to be disbursed through a digital voucher directly to bank accounts of qualified students; and
 - (d) if so, the criteria for getting the benefits of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Under the Skill Loan Scheme loans are provided, through the banks, to eligible students who wish to go through skill training programmes in the country. The revised Scheme was launched in July 2015. There is no proposal to further simplify the process for getting loans under the Scheme.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to disburse loans through a digital voucher directly to bank accounts of eligible students, under the Skill Loan Scheme.

Skill Development of SCs/STs and OBCs

†1716. MAHANT SHAMBHUPRASADJI TUNDIYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan for skill development of unemployed youth of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs); and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Skill Development Programme for Scheduled Castes, Safai Karamcharies and Backward Classes is being implemented by the three Finance and Development Corporations under the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment *viz.* (i) National Scheduled Castes Finance and

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.