

MoU with South Asian countries on skilled manpower

*177. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any training module/course content under the 'Skill India Programme' which can cater to the needs of the foreign countries particularly South Asian countries where manpower from India is in big demand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with any of the South Asian countries under the 'Skill India Programme' to recognize and accept the trainees/apprentices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government of India is keen to bridge the global shortage of labour force in the coming years by reaping the demographic dividend of young Indian workmen. To meet this objective, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship under the "Skill India" Mission is setting up India international Skill Centres (IISC) through NSDC to provide skill trainings and certification benchmarked to International Standards.

The training in IISCs is based on reputed international standards such as those of UK. IISCs are, therefore, focused on preparing students for international job opportunities in various countries including South Asian countries.

(c) and (d) We have not entered into a specific MoU with South Asian countries under Skill India Programme as yet.

Development of important historical places in Karnataka

*178. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of two important historical places in Karnataka which are Pampa Sarovar (Ramayana period) and Anjanadri Parvatha (birth place of Lord Hanuman); and
- (b) what steps have been taken by the State and Central Governments for development of those places for tourists' convenience, the details and status thereof?