

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?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Karnataka has informed that the following works have been taken up:

Development of Tourist facilities like railings, sitting benches, walkway and sheet roofing have been taken up at Anjanadri hills/Pampa Sarovar at an estimate of ₹ 2.00 crore.

Improvements of approach road to Pampa Sarovar has been completed at an estimated cost of ₹ 80.00 lakh.

Financial assistance to the entrepreneurs

*179. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is providing financial assistance to the entrepreneurs opening and using new technology in the country;
- (b) if so, what is the maximum amount available per project;
- (c) what is the criteria to avail the incentive scheme;
- (d) for how many years, the scheme has been in force; and
- (e) how many entrepreneurs have benefited from the scheme and its total amount paid to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is providing financial assistance for setting up of new micro enterprises and to use new technology through the following programmes/schemes:

- (i) **Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP):** This is a major credit-linked subsidy programme aimed at generating self-employment opportunities through establishment of micro-enterprises in the non-farm sector by helping traditional artisans and unemployed youth.
- (ii) **Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS):** This is credit linked subsidy scheme for Technology Upgradation of Micro and Small Enterprises.