

Regional Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Tamil Nadu organises workshop on apprenticeship reforms in Coimbatore

- *The workshop focused on creating awareness of the latest reforms under the Apprenticeship Act*
- *200 participants from various establishments, state apprenticeship advisors, assistant apprenticeship advisors, sector skill councils, RDSDEs and third-party aggregators in the southern region attended the workshop*
- *More than 250 such workshops will be held across the country to fasten the implementation of the apprenticeship reforms and promote apprenticeship*

Coimbatore 13th May 2022: In a bid to promote the latest apprenticeship reforms by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), the Regional Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (RDSDE), Tamil Nadu organised a two-day workshop on apprenticeship reforms at the COINDIA Hall, Racecourse Road, Coimbatore.

Inaugurated by **Shri. K. Veera Raghava Rao, Director, Department of Employment and Training, Tamil Nadu**, the workshop aimed at creating awareness of the latest reforms under the Apprenticeship Act and giving stakeholders a platform to hold dialogue on the recent changes. About 200 participants from various establishments, state apprenticeship advisors, assistant apprenticeship advisors, sector skill councils, RDSDEs and third-party aggregators in the southern region attended the workshop. Officers from the MSDE apprenticeship division, staff from National Skill Development and Corporation (NSDC) and guest speakers from the Board of Apprenticeship Training also delivered lectures on scheduled topics.

Going forward, more than 250 such workshops will be held across the country to fasten the implementation of the apprenticeship reforms and promote apprenticeship as one of the most sustainable formats of skill development.

Lauding the initiative, **Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; and Director General, Directorate General of Training** said, "Around 62.5% of India's working-age population is aged between 15 and 59 years which is an attractive proposition to drive India's economic engine. With apprenticeship training, which is considered the best model for skill acquisition, we can train the youth quickly, efficiently, and adequately in their transition from the classroom to the factory floor, providing opportunities for underutilized communities. I am hopeful that, by organising these workshops we will be able to encourage the industries to partner with us and add more apprentices to their workforce."

Launched in 2015, The National Policy of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship recognises apprenticeship to provide gainful employment to a skilled workforce with adequate compensation. To take this mission forward and close the gap in supply and demand for a skilled workforce, MSDE has been undertaking several schemes and initiatives to increase the number of apprentices hired by enterprises in the country.

From FY 2019-20 to FY 2020-21, MSDE increased spending by 128.5% on apprenticeship alone. An increase in the expenditure reflects the increase in uptake of the industry largely resulted due to the financial incentives to the industry to engage apprentices through National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS).



Efforts are now underway to streamline and rationalize MSDE implemented NAPS and Ministry of Education run National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) by data sharing for the ease of registration to industry. Moreover, initiatives like EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organisation) Passbook API and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises' Laghu Udyog Samachar are being rolled out to help in the seamless exchange of data for ease of registration and onboarding of apprentices.

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About Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)

MSDE was formed on 9th November 2014, by the Government of India to focus on enhancing employability of skills. Since its inception, MSDE has undertaken significant initiatives and reforms in terms of formalizing the policy, framework and standards; launching of new programs and schemes; creating new infrastructure and upgrading the existing institutions; partnering with States; engaging with industries and building societal acceptance and aspirations for skills. The Ministry aims to bridge the gap between demand and supply of skilled manpower to build new skills and innovation not only for existing jobs but also for jobs that are to be created. Till date, more than 5.5 crore people have been trained under Skill India.