

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 2997
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

CLOSURE OF ITIs

2997: SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN

Will the MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) have been shut down during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for such closure;
- (c) whether ITIs have been facing lack of students and funding leading to closures, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is taking steps to ensure that the courses offered by ITIs are attracting students and are producing quality skilled professionals; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Sir, the Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) implements the Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) through a country wide network of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) for the youth of the country.

The ITIs have since long, been providing a steady flow of skilled manpower in different trades for the domestic industry. In ITIs, Craftsmen training is provided in 168 National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) aligned trades. Each trade has a dedicated course curriculum. The duration of training ranges from six months to two years. The courses have been designed to impart basic skills and knowledge in the trades so as to prepare the trainees for employment as a semi-skilled worker. At present, there are 14,612 ITIs established in the country, out of which, 3,316 are Government and 11,296 are Private ITIs.

Establishment and day to day administration of ITIs comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government, while the policies such as setting the criterion for affiliation, conducting the examination along with certification and designing curriculum are the responsibilities of the Central Government. Whenever a proposal is received from the States/UTs for the setting up of new ITIs, it is examined and decided as per the affiliation standards and norms.

To uphold the quality of training, DGT de-affiliates ITIs that fail to comply with the prescribed affiliation norms, based on the recommendations of the concerned State/UT Directorate. This ensures that only ITIs maintaining the necessary standards in infrastructure, faculty qualifications, curriculum implementation, and training delivery continue to operate.

In the last 5 years (2021-2025), 814 ITIs have been de-affiliated by DGT.

(c) Sir, every year, around 12–14 lakh trainees take admission in ITIs across the country, out of around 26 lakh available seats. The admission of trainees depends on the demand for various courses, which varies according to region. Some courses have higher demand, leading to better enrolment rates, while others may have fewer applicants, resulting in vacant seats.

To improve effectiveness and ensure better utilization of resources, DGT de-affiliates units that have remained vacant for two consecutive years. However, considering the impact of COVID-19, the two-year vacancy criterion was relaxed. Consequently, in January 2025, 21,069 units, comprising 4.49 lakh seats in ITIs across the country, which had remained vacant for the past six academic sessions (2018-19 to 2023-24), were de-affiliated. Under this exercise, all the concerned ITIs were given a prior intimation with an opportunity to submit their representation before the final decision was made.

This measure along with de-affiliation of ITIs which are not complying with the prescribed norms will positively impact the quality of training provided in the ITIs.

Regarding funding of the ITI, it is submitted that the administration and financial control of Government ITIs lies with the respective State/UT Government. However, the Central Government runs schemes from time to time to provide financial assistance to the State/UT Governments for upgradation of ITIs. Till recently, DGT has implemented following schemes:

- i. Under the 'STRIVE' Scheme, 500 ITIs (which include 467 Government and 33 Private ITIs) were selected for upgradation of workshops, labs and capacity building of ITIs. The scheme ended on 31st May 2024, and a total financial assistance of Rs. 581.56 crore was released to the States/UTs for upgradation of workshops, labs and capacity building of ITIs.
- ii. The 'Model ITI' scheme envisaged the upgradation of 35 selected government ITIs into Model ITIs with financial assistance of up to Rs. 10 crore per ITI for equipment upgradation and civil works. The scheme ended on 31st March 2024, and a total financial assistance of Rs.193.10 crore was provided to States/UTs under this scheme.
- iii. The ESDI scheme offered support to ITIs in the North Eastern states. It envisaged the upgradation of 22 existing ITIs (@ Rs. 2 crore per ITI) by establishing 3 new trades in each ITI; supplementing deficient infrastructure in 28 ITIs (@ Rs. 2 crore per ITI) by constructing new hostels, new boundary walls, and supplementing old and obsolete tools and equipment for 3 existing trades in each ITI; and establishing 34 new ITIs (@ Rs. 9.5 crore per ITI). The scheme ended on 31st March 2024, and a total financial assistance of Rs. 308.84 crore was provided to North-Eastern states under this scheme.
- iv. The LWE scheme, inter alia, supported the establishment of 48 ITIs in 48 districts affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) at Rs. 7.34 crore per ITI. The scheme ended on 31st March 2024, and a total financial assistance of Rs. 308.35 crore was provided to the States/UTs under this scheme.

(d) & (e) Sir, the curriculum of courses under CTS is regularly updated in consultation with the industries to incorporate the latest technological advancements and industry requirements. This ensures that the skills imparted to trainees remain relevant, enabling them to adapt to the evolving needs of the job market.

In addition, a compulsory subject on Employability Skills has been included in every course offered under CTS in ITIs. This module focuses on essential skills such as behaviour, communication, IT proficiency, work ethics, and other attributes that enhance a trainee's ability to work effectively within a team and succeed in a professional environment.
