

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND
SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

(2024-25)

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty- Sixth
Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Implementation of Skill Acquisition
and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Project’
pertaining to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.**

NINTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2025/Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 06.08.2025

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 06.08.2025



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

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August, 2025/Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT (2024-25)

Shri Basavaraj Bommai – Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2	Shri Mani A.
3	Shri G. M. Harish Balayogi
4	Shri Aashtikar Patil Nagesh Bapurao
5	Shri Partha Bhowmick
6	Shri Yogender Chandolia
7	Shri Ram Prasad Chaudhary
8	Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary
9	Shri G. Lakshminarayana
10	Shri Asit Kumar Mal
11	Shri Kali Charan Munda
12	Shri Rudra Narayan Pany
13	Shri Kartick Chandra Paul
14	Shri Tanuj Punia
15	Shri Pradeep Purohit
16	Shri Mukesh Rajput
17	Shri Raja Ram Singh
18	Shri Adhikari Soumendu
19	Shri V. K. Sreekandan
20	Shri Manoj Tigga
21	Shri Chavan Ravindra Vasantryao

RAJYA SABHA

22	Smt. Jaya Amitabh Bachchan
23	Shri Ritabrata Banerjee
24	Shri Naresh Bansal
25	Shri Govindbhai Laljibhai Dholakia
26	Shri Rajendra Gehlot
27	Dr. Syed Naseer Hussain
28	Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba
29	Shri Shibu Soren
30	Vacant
31	Vacant

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri Lalkithang	-	Joint Secretary
2.	Ms K. Muanniang Tunlut	-	Director
3.	Shri S. Lalengzau Ngaihte	-	Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development (2024-25) having been authorized by the Committee, present on their behalf this Ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Implementation of Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Project' pertaining to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

2. The Fifty-Sixth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 7th February, 2024. The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship furnished their replies on 15th October, 2024 indicating Action Taken on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Sixth Report. The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report at their sitting held on 31st July, 2025.

3. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) is given at Appendix-II.

4. For ease of reference, the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold type in the body of the Report.

New Delhi;
31st July, 2025
09 Sharavna, 1947 (Saka)

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
CHAIRPERSON
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR,
TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER- I

REPORT

This Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty-Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on “Implementation of Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Project” relating to the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

2. The Fifty-Sixth Report was presented to Lok Sabha/ laid in Rajya Sabha on 7th February, 2024. It contained 13 Observations/Recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the Recommendations have been received and are categorized as under:-

(i)	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government – Rec. Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12 and 13	Chapter II Total:10 Percentage:76.92
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government’s reply – Rec. Para No. 10	Chapter III Total:01 Percentage:7.69
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration – Rec. Para No. 7	Chapter IV Total:01 Percentage: 7.69
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature - Rec. Para No. 9	Chapter V Total:01 Percentage: 7.69

3. The Committee desire that Action Taken Notes in respect of Observations/ Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken reply in respect of the Recommendation contained in Chapter V of this Report, for which interim reply has been given by the Government, be furnished to them at the earliest.

4. The Committee will now deal with some of their earlier Observations/ Recommendations which either require reiteration or merit further comments.

I. Financial Allocation, Utilization and Physical Progress under SANKALP

Recommendation (Para Nos. 2 and 3)

5. The Committee had noted that the current agreement with the World Bank and the Government of India for SANKALP is for USD 250 million (i.e. Rs. 1,650 crore). This is equally divided amongst National and State components. With the inclusion of State leverage of Rs. 330 crore, the present allocation for SANKALP is Rs. 1,980 crore, out of which Rs. 1,219.76 crore has been committed expenditure leaving balance amount to the tune of Rs. 760.24 crore. Under National component, out of Rs. 825 crore allocated, Rs. 718.55 crore has been committed with a balance amount of Rs. 106.45 crore. Under State component, out of allocated amount of Rs. 1,155 crore (which includes State leverage of Rs. 330 crore), Rs. 501.21 crore is committed leaving a balance of Rs. 653.79 crore. The Committee had been informed in the evidence that World Bank has so far released Rs. 1,596.14 crore, out of which committed projects worth Rs. 1,137.02 crore have been approved for their implementation. Considering that only Rs.797.10 crore had so far been utilized, it is evident that the index of financial progress under the scheme had been largely unsatisfactory. The component-wise analysis in the subsequent paragraphs would further corroborate the Committee's findings.

6. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“While acknowledging the Committee's concerns, it is submitted that the project was initially scheduled for completion by March 2023, with a planned duration of five-and-a-half years. However, the COVID-19 pandemic severely disrupted progress from 2020 to 2022. In 2022, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) requested a 24- month extension from the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) via a letter dated 25th April 2022. This request was supported by the World Bank, but the DEA granted a 12-month extension until 31st March 2024. Additionally, DEA informed MSDE that any further extension would depend on a joint review by the World Bank and DEA in January 2024.

Subsequently, in a memorandum dated 4th December 2023, the DEA indicated that no further extension would be necessary for SANKALP from a disbursement perspective for the remaining eligible World Bank loan. However, an

extension might be needed to incur the approved expenditure, which the Department of Expenditure (DoE) could consider. At this stage, the World Bank did not support an extension since the project's development objectives had already been achieved. On 15th December 2023, the DoE conveyed their no objection to the extension of SANKALP scheme for the financial year 2024-25 with a budget estimate of Rs 380 crores, provided that the total expenditure remains within the approved outlay/expenditure under the scheme (Rs 1,650 crores) and that no committed liabilities extend beyond March 2025.

The Ministry, by empowering the States/UTs to re-appropriate activities, conducting periodic reviews, and instituting a mechanism for the submission of quarterly monitoring reports on the physical and financial progress of the scheme, has taken substantial steps to enhance fund utilization under the scheme. Through an Office Memorandum dated 29th March 2022, the Ministry empowered States/UTs to adjust their activities and proposals under the State Incentive Grants (SIG), allowing for the removal of unviable activities and the inclusion of new initiatives based on each state's specific requirements. Consequently, 27 states have re-appropriated funds, adding 67 new activities and deleting 116 activities under the State Component of the SANKALP project. This initiative has significantly improved fund utilization.

Furthermore, DO letters from the Secretary, MSDE, were issued to the Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs on 30th January 2023, and 17th May 2024, apprising them of the status of fund utilization in their respective States and providing necessary guidance to enhance the physical and financial progress of activities under SANKALP. Additionally, six progress review meetings have been organised at regular time intervals by MSDE, involving representatives from State Skill Development Missions, to address issues related to physical and financial progress under SANKALP. During these meetings, the challenges faced by the States/UTs were addressed, and States/UTs were urged to expedite fund utilization.

As of 31st July 2024, the committed expenditure under SANKALP has increased significantly, reflecting positive progress in fund utilization. The committed cost has risen from Rs. 1,219.76 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 1,520.44 crore in July 2024. Under the National Component, the entire allocation of Rs. 825 crore has been fully committed, with Rs. 674.12 crore already utilized by 31st July 2024. Similarly, under the State Component, the committed expenditure increased from Rs. 501.21 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 548.20 crore by July 2024. Overall, there has been substantial improvement in fund utilization, with total utilization increasing from Rs. 797.10 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 980.29 crore by July 2024, thus, over a period of 9 months an increase of 23% in utilization has been achieved.

Additionally, the World Bank completed its Implementation Completion Mission in March 2024 and submitted an Implementation Status and Results Report, in which they rated the project's performance as 'Satisfactory'.

7. The Committee had noted that under National Component, out of Rs.718.56 crore committed, only Rs.360.68 crore has so far been utilised by implementing agencies. Out of 65 projects, only 19 have been completed and 46 are yet to be completed. The Ministry have attributed delays to factors like impact and restrictions imposed during Covid-19 pandemic, changes in implementation strategy of the projects, administrative changes, procurement related delays and situational issues. The Committee had recognised the covid related issues slowing down the projects for a limited period but other factors cited for the delay were not completely out of control and could have been anticipated and prudently factored into project implementation. Under State Component, out of Rs.501.29 crore committed, only Rs.215.55 crore has been spent by the States. Glaringly, two states, namely, Bihar and West Bengal could spend only 5% (Rs.4 crore) of total available funds of Rs.78 crore. What is further disquieting to note is that an amount of Rs.760.24 crore both under Central and State Components are yet to be planned for utilisation under the scheme. The Ministry have admitted that low expenditure under the scheme has been an area of concern. The Committee had recommended that the Ministry should reinvigorate the monitoring mechanism and continuously engage with the implementing agencies to fast track the execution process so that approved funds are utilised within the extended period of the scheme. In addition, States should be empowered to re-appropriate their activities/proposals under state incentive grants with deletion of unviable activities and addition of new initiatives based on the requirements of the respective state. The Administrative Ministry should take up at higher levels the issue of poor utilisation of funds by State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal. It is also all the more necessary to prepare an action plan for utilisation of balance funds under National Component. The Committee had also emphasized that the Ministry should ensure seamless allocation of funds for projects which are expected to extend beyond 31 March, 2024. The Committee had also recommended that the Ministry of Finance should favourably consider the request of MSDE to make available funds so far disbursed by the World Bank but remained unutilised through budget allocation beyond March, 2024.

8. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“The recommendations of the learned Committee are noted. As stated in the response to Recommendation No. 2 above, proactive steps have been taken to expedite the implementation and completion of approved projects. In 2022, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) requested a 24-

month extension from the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) via a letter dated 25 April 2022. This request was supported by the World Bank, but the DEA granted a 12-month extension until 31st March 2024. The DEA informed MSDE that any further extension would depend on a joint review by the World Bank and DEA in January 2024.

Subsequently, in a memorandum dated 4th December 2023, the DEA indicated that no further extension would be necessary from a disbursement perspective for the remaining eligible World Bank loan. However, an extension might be needed to incur the approved expenditure, which the Department of Expenditure (DoE) could consider. At this stage, the World Bank did not support an extension since the project's development objectives had already been achieved. On 15th December 2023, the DoE conveyed their no objection to extending the SANKALP scheme for the financial year 2024-25 with a budget estimate of Rs 380 crores, provided that the total expenditure remains within the overall approved outlay/expenditure (Rs 1,650 crores) and that no committed liabilities extend beyond March 2025.

Regarding the Committee's recommendation to empower States to re-appropriate their activities, it is stated that necessary directions have been provided to the States for re-appropriating their activities/proposals under the State Incentive Grants (SIG). This allows for the deletion of unviable activities and the addition of new initiatives based on the requirements of each state, as communicated through an O.M. dated 29th March 2022. Consequently, 27 states have undertaken the re-appropriation of funds, wherein, 67 new activities have been added and 116 activities have been deleted under the State Component of the SANKALP project.

With respect to the poor utilization of funds by the State Governments of Bihar & West Bengal, it is submitted that the issue has been raised with the Chief Secretary of the respective states via DO letters from the Secretary, MSDE, dated 30th January 2023, and 17th May 2024. Additionally, this issue has been continuously raised with the respective State Skill Missions during review meetings. Furthermore, MSDE has identified 18 states including Bihar and West Bengal, where fund utilization has been relatively low. The Ministry has reinvigorated the monitoring mechanism and has been continuously engaging with these states to fast-track the execution process, ensuring that approved funds are utilized within the extended period of the scheme. The resulting improvement in the status of fund utilization is presented in the table below:

Table 1

S.	Name of	Status as on	Status as on	Utilisatio
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No.	the State	31.08.2023		31.07.2024		n Increased (Rs Cr.)
		Fund Released (Rs Cr.)	UC Submitted (Rs Cr.)	Fund Released (Rs Cr.)	UC Submitted (Rs Cr.)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6 (5-3)
1	Andhra Pradesh	13.44	5.47	13.44	5.47	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3.15	-	3.15	0.79	0.79
3	Bihar	43.45	0.07	43.45	13.10	13.03
4	Chhattisgarh	15.07	7.73	15.07	7.73	-
5	Gujarat	25.07	4.51	25.07	4.51	-
6	Haryana	11.22	1.13	11.22	2.59	1.46
7	Himachal Pradesh	2.22	0.29	2.22	2.16	1.87
8	Jharkhand	12.53	6.87	12.53	9.42	2.55
9	Kerala	10.32	2.50	10.32	3.45	0.96
10	Madhya Pradesh	25.37	3.59	25.37	3.59	-
11	Maharashtra	37.41	14.53	37.41	21.72	7.19
12	Manipur	1.95	1.21	1.95	1.21	-
13	Punjab	12.09	2.28	12.09	5.02	2.74
14	Tamil Nadu	20.64	4.97	20.64	15.35	10.38
15	Telangana	14.29	1.87	14.29	1.87	-
16	Uttar Pradesh	75.81	12.45	75.81	29.57	17.12
17	Uttarakhand	4.00	3.05	4.00	3.05	-

18	West Bengal	34.51	0.36	34.51	4.04	3.68
	Total	362.53	72.88	362.53	134.64	61.76

The Table 1 demonstrates improvement in fund utilization by 84.7%, with majority of the states showing notable progress. The total increase in fund utilization by Rs 61.76 crore reflects the success of proactive measures and the reinvigorated monitoring mechanisms implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). However, some states continue to lag in fund utilization. For these states, MSDE is maintaining ongoing engagement and support to ensure that the remaining funds are effectively utilized within the extended period of the scheme.

9. The World Bank loan assisted and Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotions (SANKALP) launched in January 2018 with an implementation period upto March 2023 was extended by one year upto March 2024. The implementation period of the Scheme has further been extended for the financial year 2024-25 conditional upon the expenditure remaining within the overall approved outlay/expenditure of Rs 1650 crores and no committed liability extends beyond March, 2025. In their earlier Report, the Committee had found the physical and financial progress under the Scheme unsatisfactory and recommended for fast-track execution of projects and utilization of the approved funds within the extended period of the Scheme. The Action Taken Note furnished by the Ministry indicated some improvement in fund utilisation, however, some States continue to lag behind in this regard. Observing that the Scheme has come to an end in March 2025, the Committee trust that funds under both National component and State component of the Scheme have effectively been utilized and all the projects completed with no

committed liabilities extending beyond March, 2025. A detailed report regarding implementation of the Scheme alongwith the State-wise progress may be furnished to the Committee within three months.

II. Formation of DSCs and onboarding on DiSPAK Portal

Recommendation (Para No. 5)

10. The Committee had observed that District Skill Committee (DSC) is an important initiative towards decentralization of planning and monitoring of skill development programmes at the district level. The DSCs are headed by the District Magistrates/District Collectors. The District Skill Planning and Aid Kit (DiSPAK) and Skills Book have also been developed to assist the DSCs. The District Skill Committees have been institutionalized in 748 districts across the Country. Out of 748 districts, 711 districts have been onboarded on DiSPAK portal and 60 districts are yet to be onboarded from various states. The DSC plan and monitor the implementation of skill development programmes at the district level. The DSCs are mandated to prepare the District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) to align skill development programmes at the district level with local requirements of skilled manpower and aspirations of the youth. The Committee, had therefore, impressed upon the Ministry to accord top priority for on-boarding of the remaining 60 districts on DiSPAK within a fix time frame. The Committee had noted that in the newly created Districts, DSCs have not been formed. The Committee had recommended that forming DSCs in those newly created districts should be taken up on priority with the concerned State Governments within a given time period and the same be onboarded on the DiSPAK Portal soon after the DCSs are constituted.

11. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“The concerns of the learned Committee are noted, and it is informed that at present District Skill Committees have been formed in 769 out of 783 districts of India. The remaining 14 districts in which DSCs are yet to be formed are spread across 5 States, namely, Assam (1 district), Chhattisgarh (5 districts), Karnataka (1 district), Madhya Pradesh (3 districts) and Nagaland (4 districts). To ensure the coverage of all districts under the decentralized skilling process, a DO letter dated 27th September 2024 has been sent to the Principal Secretary/Secretary in charge of skill development in the five states mentioned above, requesting them to ensure the notification of District Skill Committees in the specified districts by 15th October 2024. Post notification of DSCs, online sessions will be conducted for the district officials from these 14 districts for their capacity development towards onboarding

on the DiSPAK portal and subsequent development of the DSDPs by 15th November 2024.

With respect to the onboarding of the remaining 60 districts on the DiSPAK portal as mentioned by the learned Committee, it is informed that 42 districts have been onboarded on the portal and regular follow ups are being undertaken with the concerned State Skill Development Missions to ensure the onboarding of the remaining districts on the portal”.

12. The Committee had impressed upon the Ministry to accord top priority for on-boarding of the remaining 60 districts on DiSPAK Portal within a fix time frame and had recommended formation of District Skill Committees (DSCs) in those newly created districts within a given time period as well as onboarding of the said DSCs on the DiSPAK Portal soon after constitution. The reply of the Ministry indicated that DSCs are yet to be formed in 14 districts in the States of Assam, Chhatisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Nagaland. The Principal Secretary/Secretary in charge of skill development in the five States have been requested to ensure the notification of DSCs in the specified districts by 15th October 2024. With respect to onboarding of the remaining 60 districts on the DiSPAK portal, the Ministry had intimated that 42 districts have been onboarded on the portal and regular follow ups are being undertaken with the State Skill Development Missions concerned to ensure the onboarding of the remaining districts. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in constituting DSCs in the remaining 14 districts since 27 September, 2024 and the efficacy of such DSCs towards decentralization of planning and monitoring of skill development programmes at the district level. The status of onboarding of DSCs of all the districts across the country on the DiSPAK Portal and the details of

assistance/capacity development provided by the Ministry in this regard, may also be intimated to the Committee.

III. District Skill Development Plans

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

13. The Committee had also noted that the DSDP seeks to create innovative district plan of action for encouraging access to skill training, bridging the demand and supply for skilled human resources and for the inclusion of women and other marginalized groups. The Committee had appreciated that out of 766 districts, 691 districts have submitted their DSDPs for the financial year 2022-23 as on 31st October, 2023 on SANKALP portal, and 75 districts have not yet submitted. Further, out of 112 Aspirational Districts, 15 Aspirational Districts of 9 states have not submitted their DSDPs. The Committee had noted that no time line has been given for submission of District Skill Development Plan. The Committee had impressed upon the Ministry to fix time line and intensify its follow up with those States/UTs for submission of the District Skill Development Plans. The Committee had liked to be apprised of action taken in this regard.

14. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“In line with the recommendations of the learned Committee, the Ministry has issued a letter dated 21st May 2024 to Mission Director’s of all States/UTs, informing them of the requirement to develop and submit their District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) for the financial year 2024-25 by 30th July 2024. Subsequently, meetings were held with officials from the State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) from 27th to 29th May 2024 to brief the States on the DSDP submission process.

To streamline the DSDP development process and facilitate data aggregation, it was made mandatory for the States/UTs to submit their DSDPs on the DiSPAK portal of SANKALP by 30th July 2024. Additionally, an online training session was conducted on 6th June 2024 to orient State officials on DSDP development on the DiSPAK portal. Further, a series of online orientation sessions were conducted in June 2024 with district officials to ensure their understanding and preparedness for development of DSDP for the year 2024-25.

Additionally, a review meeting with SSDM officials was held on 29th July 2024 to assess the progress of DSDP submissions and address any challenges faced by the States. As of 30th September 2024, a total of 639 DSDPs for the year 2024-25

were successfully submitted on the DiSPAK portal. Out of 112 Aspirational Districts 98 districts have submitted their DSDP for the year 2024-25. Out of the 15 Aspirational Districts which had not submitted the DSDPs for the year 2022-23 as mentioned in the recommendation above, 12 have submitted the DSDP for the year 2024-25. Continuous follow up is being undertaken with the remaining States for ensuring the submission of DSDPs by the remaining Districts”.

15. The Committee note that despite making it mandatory for the States/UTs to submit their District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) on the DiSPAK portal of SANKALP by 30th July 2024, conducting online orientation sessions with district officials, review meeting with SSDM officials, etc., a total of 639 DSDPs have so far been received for the year 2024-25 as on 30th September 2024. Out of the 15 Aspirational Districts which had not submitted the DSDPs for the year 2022-23, 12 have submitted the DSDP for the year 2024-25. The progress in respect of the remaining States/UTs regarding submission of DSDPs may be furnished to the Committee urgently. The Committee accord high priority to preparation of DSDPs for encouraging and facilitating access to skill training, bridging the demand and supply for skilled human resources and inclusion of women and other marginalized groups and desire that the Ministry should make all out efforts to ensure that every districts in the country including aspirational districts, prepare and submit their DSDPs for 2025-2026 by September, 2025. Progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

IV. Skill Training and Placement

Recommendation (Para No. 7)

16. The Committee had further observed from the data of State-wise Comparison of Placement and Training as furnished by the Ministry that total trained certified is 13,90,865 and total placed are 5,61,020 which is 40.33% only. Further, the data of

District-wise Comparison of Placement and Training furnished by the Ministry shows a dismal achievement. To state a few examples, for instance, East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh has 11 certified trained, but no placement; Goalpura of Assam has 66 certified trained, but no placement; Kokrajhar of Assam has 110 certified trained, but no placement; Yadugir of Karnataka has 362 certified trained, but only 9 placements; Kalaburgi of Karnataka has 1427 certified trained, but only 40 placements; Idukki of Karnataka has 123 certified trained, but only 1 placement; Kasargod of Kerala has 224 certified trained, but only 7 placements; Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh has 98 certified trained, but only 9 placements; Chandrapur of Maharashtra has 34 certified trained, but no placement; Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal of Maharashtra have 10, 12 and 13 certified trained respectively, but no placement at all; South Tripura of Tripura has 21 certified trained, but no placement; Sant Kabeer Nagar of Uttar Pradesh have 164 certified trained, but only 41 got placement; and Alipurduar of West Bengal have 143 certified trained but only 30 got placement.

Moreover, according to the data of district-wise details of the Skill Training Centres in West Bengal, as furnished by the Ministry, the number of persons trained and placed during last three years (2020-21 to 2022-23), depict an extremely discouraging picture. A total of 4,71,382 persons are trained, and 1,01,291 are given placement, which is only 21.48%. Besides, in large number of courses offered for training, placement is totally left blank in most of the courses trained.

The Committee had observed that such a situation prevailing in the States is indicative of absence of proactive interventionist measures on the part of the Ministry while implementing the SANKALP scheme. In the opinion of the Committee, the wide gap between candidates trained and their placement broadly defeats the intent and objectives of the Scheme. The Committee had impressed upon the Ministry to take specific measures and strengthen collaborative efforts with various States/UTs and stakeholders so that the noble intent of providing quality skills to promote livelihoods promotion to the deserving citizens of the country may well be served. In view of the meager number of certified trained and placed, the Committee had desired the Ministry to ensure there is no gross mismatch between the number of candidates trained/certified and those actually getting placement.

17. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“MSDE has noted the concern raised by the learned Committee regarding placement outcomes under the SANKALP scheme. The data referenced by the

Committee pertains to achievement against Disbursement Linked Indicator 2 under SANKALP which includes percentage of graduates who are wage employed or self-employed within 6 months of completion of short-term skill training programs. The referred data is of initial phases of PMKVY 2.0 (FY 2016-20) reported in year 2018-19. It may however be noted that, while placement percentages were initially low in several districts, significant improvements were observed as the PMKVY 2.0 progressed towards completion. The improvements are mentioned at Table 2 below:

Table 2

FY 2017-2018 & FY 2018-2019					PMKVY 2.0	
S No.	State	District	Certified	Placed	Certified	Placed
1	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siang	11	0	4,891	2,175
2	Assam	Goalpura	66	0	2,804	902
3	Assam	Kokrajhar	110	0	1,658	1,039
4	Karnataka	Yadgir	362	9	2,873	1,170
5	Karnataka	Kalaburagi	1,427	40	4,874	1,307
6	Karnataka	Idukki	123	1	1,347	651
7	Kerala	Kasargod	224	7	959	14
8	Madhya Pradesh	Neemuch	98	9	2,683	805
9	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	34	0	3,523	1,355
10	Maharashtra	Wardha	10	0	3,046	1230
11	Maharashtra	Washim	12	0	1,452	937
12	Maharashtra	Yavatmal	13	0	4,712	2,117
13	Tripura	South Tripura	21	0	1,355	-
14	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Kabeer Nagar	164	41	868	277
15	West Bengal	Alipurduar	143	30	2,847	1,592

For example, in **East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh**, the placement rate was initially 0% (11 certified, 0 placed) during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19. However, by the end of PMKVY 2.0, placements increased substantially, with 2,175 candidates placed out of 4,891 certified, reflecting a placement rate of 44.47%.

Similarly, in **Goalpura, Assam**, while the initial placement rate was 0% (66 certified, 0 placed), the situation improved significantly by the end of PMKVY 2.0, with 902 candidates placed out of 2,804 certified, achieving a placement rate of 32.17%. **Kokrajhar, Assam**, saw an even higher improvement, with a placement rate of 62.67%, with 1,039 candidates placed out of 1,658 certified.

In **Yadgir, Karnataka**, placements rose from 9 out of 362 certified during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19 to a 40.72% placement rate by the end of PMKVY 2.0, with 1,170 candidates placed out of 2,873 certified. **Kalaburagi, Karnataka**, similarly saw improvements, reaching a 26.82% placement rate under PMKVY 2.0, with 1,307 candidates placed out of 4,874 certified.

Challenges do remain in certain districts, such as **Kasargod, Kerala**, where only 14 candidates were placed out of 959 certified under PMKVY 2.0, representing a placement rate of just 1.46%. However, the overall improvement in placement outcomes across multiple districts demonstrates the success of the measures implemented during the scheme.

In **West Bengal**, placement outcomes under PMKVY have also seen improvements. The overall Short-Term Training (STT) placement rate in West Bengal has increased to **45.06%** under PMKVY, reflecting significant progress in the Ministry's efforts to align training with placement opportunities. The placement data for West Bengal shows an upward trend in placement performance over the years, with a total of **98,634** candidates placed out of **1,80,673** certified between FY 2017-18 and FY 2022-23.

It may also be noted that the skilling schemes of MSDE are demand driven and enrolment in these courses by potential trainees is voluntary. The key objective of skill development programmes is to equip the youth with market relevant skills to get gainfully employment in wage or self-employment. The impact assessment of PMKVY 2.0 (published by MSDE in March 2019) mentions that 32% of PMKVY trained and certified trainees were employed. Further, the average monthly income level of PMKVY 2.0 trained and certified was found to be 15% higher than that of similar non-PMKVY individuals. Third party evaluation reports for the other MSDE schemes have observed success in terms of placement or enhancement of income of candidates trained. In the case of JSS scheme beneficiaries, the evaluation report observed employment of trainees in self and wage employment. In addition, 77.05% of beneficiary trainees have experienced occupational shifts, highlighting the scheme's effectiveness in facilitating better livelihood opportunities. The final report of the Tracer Study of ITI Graduates (published in January 2018 by MSDE) states that 63.5% of total ITI pass-outs were employed (wage and self-employment), with 6.7% being self-employed.

With respect to the SANKALP scheme, the learned Committee is apprised that the objective is to improve the outcomes of skill development initiatives by strengthening institutions, making skill development training more market-relevant, and promoting the inclusion of marginalized sections of society across skill development initiatives. The scheme encompasses various components aimed at strengthening the skill ecosystem and addressing broader issues including training and job placement. Indicative activities under the scheme include the development of the Skill India Digital Hub, the establishment of skill labs in select Jan ShikshanSansthans (JSS), and the Mahatma Gandhi Fellowship Program. Additionally, unique placement-linked programs such as AMBER, with a placement rate of 73% of certified candidates as of 31st July 2024, and the entrepreneurship development project by NIESBUD, with a placement rate of 52% (enterprise set up and wage employment) as of the same date (as explained in reply to recommendation no. 12), demonstrate the scheme's diverse approach.

At the State level, several initiatives have been implemented under the SANKALP scheme to strengthen industry linkages and promote the placement of trained candidates. These initiatives include district/cluster-wise workshops with industry partners, job fairs, skill summits for industry personnel and training partners, as well as multiple rounds of district-level industry consultations and Kaushal Evam Rojgar Melas. Such efforts have been undertaken by most States across the country under the SIG component of the SANKALP scheme”.

18. In their earlier Report, the Committee had highlighted the gross mismatch between the number of candidates trained/certified and those actually getting placement at State and district levels. The Ministry, in their Action taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated that the data referred is of the initial phases of PMKVY 2.0 (FY 2016-20) reported in the year 2018-19 and while placement percentages were initially low in several districts, significant improvements were observed as the PMKVY 2.0 progressed towards completion. The Committee, while acknowledging the improved rate of placement in multiple districts, find much scope for further improvement in placement outcomes. A key determinant of the success of the

skill training programmes of the Ministry is the ability to ensure livelihood opportunities, enhancement of income, self and wage employment, etc. The Committee, hence urge the Ministry to give focused attention to making skill development training more market-relevant and aligning training with placement opportunities and better livelihood prospects in all the skilling schemes being run by them.

V. Setting up of SIICs

Recommendation (Para No.9)

19. The Committee had noted that Budget 2023-24 announced the setting up of 30 Skill India International Centres (SIICs) to promote skill based International mobility. The Committee had appreciated that a total of 992 candidates have been trained and 4,215 candidates, including those who underwent Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT), have been successfully deployed. Two centres have been made operational so far – one at Varanasi and other at Bhubaneswar. As of now, 2813 deployment have been done from SIIC Varanasi. The Committee had desired that appropriate steps should be taken on priority to ensure that the remaining Skill India International Centres be made operational by March, 2024.

20. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship have stated as follows:-

“The observations of the learned Committee are noted. Currently, two SIICs have been established, one at Varanasi and another at Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar. The proposal for establishing 05 SIICs at NSTI Hyderabad, NSTI Kanpur, NSTI Ludhiana, NSTI Bengaluru and Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship Guwahati has been approved by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) chaired by Secretary, MSDE. Additionally, the framework for establishing the remaining centers is under consideration by the Project Steering Committee”.

21. The Committee find that out of 30 Skill India International Centres (SIICs) announced in the Budget 2023-24, only 02 SIICs have so far been established at Varanasi and Bhubaneshwar. The proposal for establishing 05 SIICs at NSTI Hyderabad, NSTI Kanpur, NSTI Ludhiana, NSTI Bengaluru and

Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati has been approved by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) while the framework for establishing the remaining centres is under consideration. The Committee lay stress on promoting skill based international mobility through SIICs and desire that concerted efforts be made to operationalize the 05 approved SIICs at the earliest. The Committee also urge the Ministry to expedite finalization of the framework for establishing the remaining centres within a specified timeframe.

CHAPTER-II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

(Recommendation Para.No. 1)

The Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) was conceived to support National Skill Development Mission (NSDM). It was a World Bank loan assisted Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Scheme was made effective on 19th January, 2018 with an initial implementation period till March, 2023 which has been extended by one year upto March, 2024. As per the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approval, the overall Scheme outlay is USD 675 million or Rs. 4,455 crore which includes the World Bank loan of USD 500 million (i.e. Rs. 3,300 crore). The current agreement with the World Bank and Government of India is USD 250 million (i.e. Rs. 1,650 crore). The first tranche of the World Bank loan Rs. 1,650 crore was approved in October, 2017. The World Bank so far disbursed Rs. 1,596.14 crore to the Government of India and the Committed amount on the projects which have been approved under National and State components is Rs. 1,219.76 crore, which includes State leverage. SANKALP, no doubt, is a laudable Scheme launched by the Government to strengthen the short-term skill eco-system and to address key issues of skilling in the Country. The Scheme was designed to support implementation of Government's skill development strategy as outlined in National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015. The Committee had a comprehensive examination of the Scheme in terms of the objectives and its execution through defined Result Areas namely, Institutional Strengthening at National, State and District level, quality improvement of skill development programmes, and inclusion of marginalized population in skill development programmes. The Committee's examination has revealed that though there has been reasonable success in the achievement front, the implementation *inter-alia* is marred with shortfall in financial and physical targets, gaps in Result Areas, meager percentage of placement, inadequate monitoring etc. The specific observations/recommendations of the Committee are brought out in the succeeding paragraphs.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The observation/recommendation of the Committee is noted for compliance.

**(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-
IC dated 15.10.2024)**

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

(Recommendation Pa.No. 2)

Financial Allocation, Utilization and Physical Progress

The Committee note that the current agreement with the World Bank and the Government of India for SANKALP is for USD 250 million (i.e. Rs. 1,650 crore). This is equally divided amongst National and State components. With the inclusion of State leverage of Rs. 330 crore, the present allocation for SANKALP is Rs. 1,980 crore, out of which Rs. 1,219.76 crore has been committed expenditure leaving balance amount to the tune of Rs. 760.24 crore. Under National component, out of Rs. 825 crore allocated, Rs. 718.55 crore has been committed with a balance amount of Rs. 106.45 crore. Under State component, out of allocated amount of Rs. 1,155 crore (which includes State leverage of Rs. 330 crore), Rs. 501.21 crore is committed leaving a balance of Rs. 653.79 crore. The Committee have been informed in the evidence that World Bank has so far released Rs. 1,596.14 crore, out of which committed projects worth Rs. 1,137.02 crore have been approved for their implementation. Considering that only Rs.797.10 crore has so far been utilized, it is evident that the index of financial progress under the scheme has been largely unsatisfactory. The component-wise analysis in the subsequent paragraphs would further corroborate the Committee's findings.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

While acknowledging the Committee's concerns, it is submitted that the project was initially scheduled for completion by March 2023, with a planned duration of five-and-a-half years. However, the COVID-19 pandemic severely disrupted progress from 2020 to 2022. In 2022, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) requested a 24-month extension from the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) via a letter dated 25th April 2022. This request was supported by the World Bank, but the DEA granted a 12-month extension until 31st March 2024. Additionally, DEA informed MSDE that any further extension would depend on a joint review by the World Bank and DEA in January 2024.

Subsequently, in a memorandum dated 4th December 2023, the DEA indicated that no further extension would be necessary for SANKALP from a disbursement perspective for the remaining eligible World Bank loan. However, an extension might be needed to incur the approved expenditure, which the Department of Expenditure (DoE) could consider. At this stage, the World Bank did not support an extension since the project's development objectives had already been achieved. On

15th December 2023, the DoE conveyed their no objection to the extension of SANKALP scheme for the financial year 2024-25 with a budget estimate of Rs 380 crores, provided that the total expenditure remains within the approved outlay/expenditure under the scheme (Rs 1,650 crores) and that no committed liabilities extend beyond March 2025.

The Ministry, by empowering the States/UTs to re-appropriate activities, conducting periodic reviews, and instituting a mechanism for the submission of quarterly monitoring reports on the physical and financial progress of the scheme, has taken substantial steps to enhance fund utilization under the scheme. Through an Office Memorandum dated 29th March 2022, the Ministry empowered States/UTs to adjust their activities and proposals under the State Incentive Grants (SIG), allowing for the removal of unviable activities and the inclusion of new initiatives based on each state's specific requirements. Consequently, 27 states have re-appropriated funds, adding 67 new activities and deleting 116 activities under the State Component of the SANKALP project. This initiative has significantly improved fund utilization.

Furthermore, DO letters from the Secretary, MSDE, were issued to the Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs on 30th January 2023, and 17th May 2024, apprising them of the status of fund utilization in their respective States and providing necessary guidance to enhance the physical and financial progress of activities under SANKALP. Additionally, six progress review meetings have been organised at regular time intervals by MSDE, involving representatives from State Skill Development Missions, to address issues related to physical and financial progress under SANKALP. During these meetings, the challenges faced by the States/UTs were addressed, and States/UTs were urged to expedite fund utilization.

As of 31st July 2024, the committed expenditure under SANKALP has increased significantly, reflecting positive progress in fund utilization. The committed cost has risen from Rs. 1,219.76 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 1,520.44 crore in July 2024. Under the National Component, the entire allocation of Rs. 825 crore has been fully committed, with Rs. 674.12 crore already utilized by 31st July 2024. Similarly, under the State Component, the committed expenditure increased from Rs. 501.21 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 548.20 crore by July 2024. Overall, there has been substantial improvement in fund utilization, with total utilization increasing from Rs. 797.10 crore in October 2023 to Rs. 980.29 crore by July 2024, thus, over a period of 9 months an increase of 23% in utilization has been achieved.

Additionally, the World Bank completed its Implementation Completion Mission in March 2024 and submitted an Implementation Status and Results Report, in which they rated the project's performance as 'Satisfactory'.

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

(Recommendation Pa.No. 3)

The Committee note that under National Component, out of Rs.718.56 crore committed, only Rs.360.68 crore has so far been utilised by implementing agencies. Out of 65 projects, only 19 have been completed and 46 are yet to be completed. The Ministry have attributed delays to factors like impact and restrictions imposed during Covid-19 pandemic, changes in implementation strategy of the projects, administrative changes, procurement related delays and situational issues. The Committee recognise the covid related issues slowing down the projects for a limited period but other factors cited for the delay were not completely out of control and could have been anticipated and prudently factored into project implementation. Under State Component, out of Rs.501.29 crore committed, only Rs.215.55 crore has been spent by the States. Glaringly, two states, namely, Bihar and West Bengal could spend only 5% (Rs.4 crore) of total available funds of Rs.78 crore. What is further disquieting to note is that an amount of Rs.760.24 crore both under Central and State Components are yet to be planned for utilisation under the scheme. The Ministry have admitted that low expenditure under the scheme has been an area of concern. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should reinvigorate the monitoring mechanism and continuously engage with the implementing agencies to fast track the execution process so that approved funds are utilised within the extended period of the scheme. In addition, States should be empowered to re-appropriate their activities/proposals under state incentive grants with deletion of unviable activities and addition of new initiatives based on the requirements of the respective state. The Administrative Ministry should take up at higher levels the issue of poor utilisation of funds by State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal. It is also all the more necessary to prepare an action plan for utilisation of balance funds under National Component. The Committee also emphasize that the Ministry should ensure seamless allocation of funds for projects which are expected to extend beyond 31 March, 2024. The Committee also recommend that the Ministry of Finance should favourably consider the request of MSDE to make available funds so far disbursed by the World Bank but remained unutilised through budget allocation beyond March, 2024.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendations of the learned Committee are noted. As stated in the response to Recommendation No. 2 above, proactive steps have been taken to expedite the implementation and completion of approved projects. In 2022, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) requested a 24-month extension from the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) via a letter dated 25 April 2022. This request was supported by the World Bank, but the DEA granted a 12-month extension until 31st March 2024. The DEA informed MSDE that any further extension would depend on a joint review by the World Bank and DEA in January 2024.

Subsequently, in a memorandum dated 4th December 2023, the DEA indicated that no further extension would be necessary from a disbursement perspective for the remaining eligible World Bank loan. However, an extension might be needed to incur the approved expenditure, which the Department of Expenditure (DoE) could consider. At this stage, the World Bank did not support an extension since the project's development objectives had already been achieved. On 15th December 2023, the DoE conveyed their no objection to extending the SANKALP scheme for the financial year 2024-25 with a budget estimate of Rs 380 crores, provided that the total expenditure remains within the overall approved outlay/expenditure (Rs 1,650 crores) and that no committed liabilities extend beyond March 2025.

Regarding the Committee's recommendation to empower States to re-appropriate their activities, it is stated that necessary directions have been provided to the States for re-appropriating their activities/proposals under the State Incentive Grants (SIG). This allows for the deletion of unviable activities and the addition of new initiatives based on the requirements of each state, as communicated through an O.M. dated 29th March 2022. Consequently, 27 states have undertaken the re-appropriation of funds, wherein, 67 new activities have been added and 116 activities have been deleted under the State Component of the SANKALP project.

With respect to the poor utilization of funds by the State Governments of Bihar & West Bengal, it is submitted that the issue has been raised with the Chief Secretary of the respective states via DO letters from the Secretary, MSDE, dated 30th January 2023, and 17th May 2024. Additionally, this issue has been continuously raised with the respective State Skill Missions during review meetings. Furthermore, MSDE has identified 18 states including Bihar and West Bengal, where fund utilization has been relatively low. The Ministry has reinvigorated the monitoring mechanism and has been continuously engaging with these states to fast-track the execution process, ensuring that approved funds are utilized within

the extended period of the scheme. The resulting improvement in the status of fund utilization is presented in the table below:

Table 1

S. No.	Name of the State	Status as on 31.08.2023		Status as on 31.07.2024		Utilisation Increased (Rs Cr.)
		Fund Released (Rs Cr.)	UC Submitted (Rs Cr.)	Fund Released (Rs Cr.)	UC Submitted (Rs Cr.)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6 (5-3)
1	Andhra Pradesh	13.44	5.47	13.44	5.47	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3.15	-	3.15	0.79	0.79
3	Bihar	43.45	0.07	43.45	13.10	13.03
4	Chhattisgarh	15.07	7.73	15.07	7.73	-
5	Gujarat	25.07	4.51	25.07	4.51	-
6	Haryana	11.22	1.13	11.22	2.59	1.46
7	Himachal Pradesh	2.22	0.29	2.22	2.16	1.87
8	Jharkhand	12.53	6.87	12.53	9.42	2.55
9	Kerala	10.32	2.50	10.32	3.45	0.96
10	Madhya Pradesh	25.37	3.59	25.37	3.59	-
11	Maharashtra	37.41	14.53	37.41	21.72	7.19
12	Manipur	1.95	1.21	1.95	1.21	-
13	Punjab	12.09	2.28	12.09	5.02	2.74
14	Tamil Nadu	20.64	4.97	20.64	15.35	10.38

15	Telangana	14.29	1.87	14.29	1.87	-
16	Uttar Pradesh	75.81	12.45	75.81	29.57	17.12
17	Uttarakhand	4.00	3.05	4.00	3.05	-
18	West Bengal	34.51	0.36	34.51	4.04	3.68
	Total	362.53	72.88	362.53	134.64	61.76

The Table 1 demonstrates improvement in fund utilization by 84.7%, with majority of the states showing notable progress. The total increase in fund utilization by Rs 61.76 crore reflects the success of proactive measures and the reinvigorated monitoring mechanisms implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). However, some states continue to lag in fund utilization. For these states, MSDE is maintaining ongoing engagement and support to ensure that the remaining funds are effectively utilized within the extended period of the scheme.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

Implementation Support Mission

(Recommendation Pa.No. 4)

The Committee note that the World Bank undertakes periodic Implementation Support Mission (ISM) to review the progress of the scheme. So far the World Bank had organized 8 Implementation Support Missions and the performance ratings are said to be satisfactory till the 7th mission. The 8th Mission was organized during 1st to 8th May, 2023. The mission visited Rajasthan and Kerala and conducted one-day interactive session with ten States to discuss successes and challenges in the implementation of the scheme. The Committee note that the performance rating final report of ISM are still awaited and urge the Ministry to inform them the findings in the Report.

The Committee observe that the World Bank team recognized improvement in state level expenditure during the Implementation Support Mission visits to the States. However, the World Bank highlighted on the aspect of low expenditure by the States/UTs and recommended for undertaking steps to ensure that the States/UTs utilize the funds judiciously and expeditiously. In this regard, the Committee

appreciate the steps taken by the Ministry by empowering the States/UTs for re-appropriation of activities, Periodic reviews with States/UTs and instituting Quarterly Monitoring the physical and financial progress of the scheme.

The Committee also note that the ISM team had interactive workshops with ten states, i.e., Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh to discuss successes and challenges of implementation of SANKALP. On the basis of data of Summary of expenditure of the ten states as on 30.04.2023 and as on 31.10.2023, slight improvement are noted in case of both the States of Bihar and Karnataka, however, rest of the eight states don't exhibit any significant improvement. Further, as an outcome of periodic reviews and Quarterly Monitoring Report (QMR), 18 States/UTs are identified with low expenditure.

The Committee is dismayed to note the under-utilization of funds in the States/UTs despite efforts being taken by the Ministry. Under this situation it is equally discouraging to see that there will be huge shortfalls in the targets. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to reorient their activities prudently and confine it to those selected schemes so that earmarked funds could be spent within the extended period of scheme i.e. by March, 2024, which in-turn is expected to augment the physical achievement envisaged under the scheme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry had informed the learned Committee, through the response of post-evidence questionnaire in October 2023, that the Implementation Status and Results Report of the 8th Implementation Support Mission (ISM) is now publicly available on the World Bank's website and the same is also enclosed at **Annexure**. The report reflects that as of March 2023, the project had completed six years of implementation and further extended by 12 months, with a revised end date of 31st March 2024. At that time, the project was making significant progress towards achieving its Project Development Objectives (PDOs), with two of the four PDO indicators fully achieved and the remaining two on track. As per the 8th ISM Implementation Status and Results Report, the Project Development Outcome rating had been revised from Satisfactory to Highly Satisfactory, and the Implementation Progress rating was maintained as Satisfactory. The report also emphasized the ongoing focus on enhancing state-level capacity for project implementation. Financially, as of the report's release, 84.42% of the total US\$250 million (Rs 1,650 Cr) had been disbursed, amounting to US\$211.05 million. (Rs 1,578.03 cr).

MSDE would like to submit that, as per the data in Table 1, there has been significant improvement in fund utilization under the state component of SANKALP project, with majority of the states showing notable progress. The total increase in

fund utilization by Rs 61.76 crore (84.74%) between August 2023 and July 2024 reflects the success of proactive measures and the enhanced monitoring mechanisms implemented by MSDE.

The Ministry acknowledges the concerns raised by the learned Committee regarding the under-utilization of funds in certain States/UTs. In response, the Ministry has been rigorously following up with the States/UTs to address these issues. D.O. letters have been sent to the Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs, urging them to expedite fund utilization and align their activities with the scheme's objectives. Additionally, review meetings have been regularly conducted with State Skill Development Missions to assess progress and provide guidance.

As mentioned in the reply to Recommendation No. 3 above, MSDE has empowered the States/UTs to re-appropriate their funds, allowing them to adjust their activities under the scheme. As a result, 27 States have re-appropriated funds, with 67 new activities being added and 116 unviable activities being removed.

This re-appropriation has significantly reinvigorated the funding mechanism, ensuring that resources are redirected towards activities that are on track to be completed by December 2024.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

Capacity Building of the District Skill Committee

(Recommendation Para No. 5)

The Committee observe that District Skill Committee (DSC) is an important initiative towards decentralization of planning and monitoring of skill development programmes at the district level. The DSCs are headed by the District Magistrates/District Collectors. The District Skill Planning and Aid Kit (DiSPAK) and Skills Book have also been developed to assist the DSCs. The District Skill Committees have been institutionalized in 748 districts across the Country. Out of 748 districts, 711 districts have been onboarded on DiSPAK portal and 60 districts are yet to be onboarded from various states. The DSC plan and monitor the implementation of skill development programmes at the district level. The DSCs are mandated to prepare the District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) to align skill development programmes at the district level with local requirements of skilled manpower and aspirations of the youth. The Committee, therefore, impress upon the Ministry to accord top priority for onboarding of the remaining 60 districts on DiSPAK within a fix time frame. The Committee note that in the newly created Districts, DSCs have not been formed. The Committee recommend that forming DSCs in those newly created districts should be taken up on priority with the

concerned State Governments within a given time period and the same be onboarded on the DiSPAK Portal soon after the DCSs are constituted.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The concerns of the learned Committee are noted, and it is informed that at present District Skill Committees have been formed in 769 out of 783 districts of India. The remaining 14 districts in which DSCs are yet to be formed are spread across 5 States, namely, Assam (1 district), Chhattisgarh (5 districts), Karnataka (1 district), Madhya Pradesh (3 districts) and Nagaland (4 districts). To ensure the coverage of all districts under the decentralized skilling process, a DO letter dated 27th September 2024 has been sent to the Principal Secretary/Secretary in charge of skill development in the five states mentioned above, requesting them to ensure the notification of District Skill Committees in the specified districts by 15th October 2024. Post notification of DSCs, online sessions will be conducted for the district officials from these 14 districts for their capacity development towards onboarding on the DiSPAK portal and subsequent development of the DSDPs by 15th November 2024.

With respect to the onboarding of the remaining 60 districts on the DiSPAK portal as mentioned by the learned Committee, it is informed that 42 districts have been onboarded on the portal and regular follow ups are being undertaken with the concerned State Skill Development Missions to ensure the onboarding of the remaining districts on the portal.

**(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC
dated 15.10.2024)**

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

(Recommendation Para No. 6)

The Committee also note that the DSDP seeks to create innovative district plan of action for encouraging access to skill training, bridging the demand and supply for skilled human resources and for the inclusion of women and other marginalized groups. The Committee appreciate that out of 766 districts, 691 districts have submitted their DSDPs for the financial year 2022-23 as on 31st October, 2023 on SANKALP portal, and 75 districts have not yet submitted. Further, out of 112 Aspirational Districts, 15 Aspirational Districts of 9 states have not submitted their DSDPs. The Committee note that no time line has been given for submission of District Skill Development Plan. The Committee impress upon the Ministry to fix time line and intensify its follow up with those States/UTs for submission of the District Skill Development Plans. The Committee would like to be apprised of action taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In line with the recommendations of the learned Committee, the Ministry has issued a letter dated 21st May 2024 to Mission Director's of all States/UTs, informing them of the requirement to develop and submit their District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) for the financial year 2024-25 by 30th July 2024. Subsequently, meetings were held with officials from the State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) from 27th to 29th May 2024 to brief the States on the DSDP submission process.

To streamline the DSDP development process and facilitate data aggregation, it was made mandatory for the States/UTs to submit their DSDPs on the DiSPAK portal of SANKALP by 30th July 2024. Additionally, an online training session was conducted on 6th June 2024 to orient State officials on DSDP development on the DiSPAK portal. Further, a series of online orientation sessions were conducted in June 2024 with district officials to ensure their understanding and preparedness for development of DSDP for the year 2024-25.

Additionally, a review meeting with SSDM officials was held on 29th July 2024 to assess the progress of DSDP submissions and address any challenges faced by the States. As of 30th September 2024, a total of 639 DSDPs for the year 2024-25 were successfully submitted on the DiSPAK portal. Out of 112 Aspirational Districts 98 districts have submitted their DSDP for the year 2024-25. Out of the 15 Aspirational Districts which had not submitted the DSDPs for the year 2022-23 as mentioned in the recommendation above, 12 have submitted the DSDP for the year 2024-25. Continuous follow up is being undertaken with the remaining States for ensuring the submission of DSDPs by the remaining Districts.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

International Workforce Mobility

(Recommendation Para No. 8)

A Global Skill Gap study was undertaken to identify the global gaps in demand and supply of skilled manpower and overseas employment opportunities for skilled workers of India. The Ministry through the NSDC implement a project "International Workforce Mobility" to identify international job opportunities. The Committee note that a study has been undertaken on 16 high priority destination countries of developed/high income countries and Gulf Co-operation Countries (GCC). The studies indicate international job potential of over 35 lakh in various sectors in these 16 countries. In the developed countries under studies opportunities lie in sectors like Healthcare, Science, IT and Manufacturing. Whereas in GCC countries,

opportunities lie in sectors like wholesale and retail trade; construction, transportation, warehousing, tourism, manufacturing, mining and quarrying etc. The Committee note that NSDC International (NSDC-I) was incorporated in 2021 to drive the Skill India International Mission. The Committee appreciate that the Ministry through NSDC-I has established its representative offices at Dubai (UAE), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Perth (Australia) and further signed MoU with 14 States in the country. The Committee desire that to avail the potential of over 35 lakh jobs, the Ministry should strengthen closer collaboration with MEA, work more closer on migration matter and foster Mobility Partnership Agreement (MPA) in a more intensive ways. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

The Committee also note that as a result of international workforce mobility, a total of 30,000+ overseas jobs have been aggregated. Further, 23,127 candidates have been deployed across multiple countries. The Committee desire that initiatives undertaken under International Workforce Mobility in partnership with various States Governments, Government & Private RAs (recruitment agents), staffing agencies, various Ministries including the MEA, the Indian Nursing Council etc., should be taken up with a faster pace. The Committee impress upon the Ministry to strengthen its international collaboration and partnership with various international institutions, training providers, global employers etc.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In line with the recommendation of the learned Committee, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has been actively collaborating with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to enhance skilled mobility from India to meet global demand. To support this effort, MSDE has signed 11 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), of which five are currently active, namely, Australia, Denmark, Japan, Qatar and UAE. New MoU is underway with Singapore and MoUs with Germany and France are being revived.

Furthermore, MSDE is recognized as a key stakeholder under the Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements (MMPAs) and Labour Mobility Agreements (LMAs) signed by MEA, which currently include agreements with 20 countries, with skilled-based mobility being a significant aspect in partnerships with 8 of these nations (namely, Denmark, Japan, UK, Germany, Mauritius, Austria, Italy and Israel).

Progress of mobility through some of the key Agreement / MoU is as follows:

1. Under the India-Japan Technical Intern Training Program (TITP), 1,498 Technical Interns have been sent to Japan since 2018 till 31st July 2024.

2. Under the MEA's 'Agreement on Facilitation of the Temporary Employment of Indian Workers in Specific Labor Market Sectors in the State of Israel', MSDE has signed two Implementation Protocols with Israel: A demand for 10,000 construction workers across four specific job roles was received from Israel under Implementation protocol A for construction workers, of which a total of 4,825 candidates have travelled to Israel as on 15th August 2024. As on 29th May 2024, Israel has raised a demand of 5,000 caregivers under the Implementation protocol B for Caregivers for the year 2024-25.
3. Further Standard Operating Procedures for implementation of 'India-Mauritius MoU on Employment of Workers from India' signed by MEA is in discussion with MEA.

Bilateral skills benchmarking and harmonization have been identified as crucial element of MSDE's international collaborations and facilitating mobility. The Ministry has initiated the mapping of qualifications with countries such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Australia. A notable achievement is the signing of a Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Education and Skill Qualifications with Australia on 2nd March 2023 wherein 5 Qualification Packs (QPs) and 20 Nation Occupational Standards (NOSs) have been developed.

Additionally, as reported by the National Skills Development Corporation – International (NSDCI), as on 30th August 2024, deployment of 30,916 candidates has been facilitated across multiple countries. The top countries of deployment facilitation are Saudi Arabia, Qatar and UAE. The top sectors for deployment are Construction, Facility Management, Mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) and Healthcare. So far, predeparture training of 1,40,189 candidates has been undertaken by NSDCI through its partner organizations. As on 9th August 2024, more than 35,421 candidates have registered in the Skill verification program for Saudi Arabia being implemented by NSDCI in collaboration with Takamol. To ensure language skills as per international standards, NSDCI is focusing on English, German, Finnish, and Japanese languages and has collaborated with OET/Cambridge, TELC, Goethe Institute, etc.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

(Recommendation Para No. 11)

The Committee note that as reported by the MGNF fellows, the challenges of Skill Development at the District level include frequent changes of DSC members and lack of adequate funds with DSCs. MGNF fellows also suggested that District Skill

development Plan (DSDP) should be made an integral part of District Development Plan. To overcome the challenges, the Committee have been informed that capacity building of DSC members is undertaken through workshops as well as online training. As regards lack of funds, the State Skill Development Missions have been encouraged to include DSC recommendation in the State Component under Sankalp wherever appropriate. The States have also been empowered to re-appropriate the funds as per the requirement. In this regard, the Committee note that the Ministry have also requested States/UTs to issue necessary instructions to all the District Collectors/Magistrates for incorporating the recommendations of DSDP into the District Development Plan and ensure the inclusion of the skill development component in the overall District plan. However, responses in this regard have still been awaited from the States/UTs Government. The Committee desire the Ministry to institute a mechanism of holding Secretary level meetings with Chief Secretaries of the States/UTs Governments to make DSDP an integral part of District Development Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the directives of the Hon'ble Committee, MSDE has issued necessary instructions to the Principal Secretaries of all States and Union Territories (UTs) vide letter dated 17 November 2023 requesting to issue instructions to all District Collectors/Magistrates to integrate the recommendations of the District Skill Development Plan (DSDP) in the District Development Plans. Furthermore, the forum of upcoming Chief Secretaries conference will be utilized to stress upon the need to integrate the insights of DSDPs in DDPs.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

Entrepreneurship Promotion

(Recommendation Para No. 12)

The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship in partnership with NIESBUD have launched a project that aimed to promote entrepreneurship through capacity building, incubation support, mentoring and handholding training to 24,600 candidates. The Committee note that the Ministry have committed Rs. 19.84 crore towards the entrepreneurship project, out of which Rs. 15.37 crore have been disbursed. The third and final instalment is yet to be released. Till date, NIESBUD has utilized total funds amounting to Rs. 10.20 crore.

The Committee note that Entrepreneurship initiative under SANKALP is for skilling people in various sectors to become entrepreneurs. This includes artisans, tribals,

people with disability, SC, ST, women and people from marginalized sections. A total of 21,073 candidates have been trained and certified as on 30.09.2023. Out of this, 3771 trained candidates belong to Scheduled Castes which is about 15.8% and 4711 candidates belong to Scheduled Tribes which comes to around 19.78%. Further, beneficiaries of certified trained placements have not been mentioned. In the opinion of the Committee, efforts should be made to include a significant percentage of marginalized section of the people in the trained entrepreneurship category. Further in the absence of data regarding placement of beneficiaries, the Committee cannot assess the efficacy of this project. The Committee be informed the details of engagement of trained entrepreneurs in different sectors. The Committee also recommend that final instalment of 20% be released to NIESBUD and they should expend the amount under the project to meet the target.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Entrepreneurship initiative under SANKALP being implemented by NIESBUD includes components for entrepreneurship development training and incubation support for 13,000 candidates; awareness generation for 9,000 candidates including migrants and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya students; and capacity development/upskilling training for 2,000 existing entrepreneurs. In addition, the project includes a component for training of 600 master trainers. As of 31st March 2024, a total of 23,825 candidates have been covered under the program which includes 3,902 candidates (16%) belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) and 5,052 (21%) from Scheduled Tribes (ST).

The project's objective is to foster entrepreneurship among diverse target groups through capacity building, incubation support, mentoring, and handholding. As a result of the project interventions, out of the 13,000 candidates who participated in the Entrepreneurship Development Training & Incubation component, 6,841 (52.6%) have secured placements, with 5,532 engaged in self-employment and 1,309 pursuing wage employment. Out of the total placed candidates, 42% of candidates are working in the service sector, followed by 11% in the apparel sector and 6% in the beauty and wellness sector. Additionally, candidates have also been placed in the manufacturing (5%), food processing (4%), telecom (3%), agribusiness (2%), electronics (2%), and construction (1%) sectors.

Furthermore, mentoring and hand holding support has been provided to 5,153 participants towards activities such as applying for trade licenses, Udyam registration, and bank loans.

As per the project implementation guidelines issued to NIESBUD by this Ministry vide O.M. dated 7th March 2022, final tranche of the funds to the tune of 20% shall be released to NIESBUD on completion of project and submission of documentary evidence, establishing proofs in terms of quantitative outcome of project

(establishment of enterprises and linking beneficiaries with wage employment). The closure documents shared by the institute are currently under examination and the institute has been requested to furnish additional documentary evidence/proof for processing of payment.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

(Recommendation Para No. 13)

To sum up, SANKALP was a necessary intervention by the Government to support National Skill Development Mission (NSDM) in achieving its full potential. The Scheme was launched on January, 2018 with an initial implementation period till March, 2024. It is a World Bank Loan assisted project. The current agreement with the World Bank and Government of India for SANKALP is for Rs.1650 crore. The committed amount for National and State components under the scheme was Rs.1219.76 crore. The Committee's examination has revealed that the objectives of SANKALP has been reasonably fulfilled viewed through its three result areas, namely,

- Institutional Strengthening at National, State and District Level.
- Quality improvement of skill development programme.
- Inclusion of marginalized population in skill development programmes.

The overview of the Committees' examination is broadly summarized as follows:

- From the amount Committed under National Component i.e. Rs.718.56 crore, Rs.458.72 crore was disbursed and Rs.360.68 crore was utilized. Thus barely 50.19% percent of the committed amount under National component was utilized.
- The fund available with the States was Rs.471.41 crore. The expenditure reported was Rs.215.55 crore and Utilization Certificate amounting to Rs.150.79 crore was submitted. The actual utilization of funds by the States/UTs was 31.98% only.
- Under the National component, 65 projects were undertaken. 19 projects have been completed. 46 projects are said to be ongoing. The physical progress of the projects undertaken so far is only 29.23% .
- As regard funds disbursed by the World Bank but unutilized, the MSDE informed that the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance. On the issue of further extension of the project, the MSDE stated that final decision will be taken at appropriate time.

- From the State-wise comparison of Placement and Training data furnished, total Trained Certified are 13,90,865 and total placed are 5,61,020, which means only 40.33% trained are placed. Further as per data of District-wise Skills training Centres of West Bengal state, a total of 4,71,382 persons are trained, out of which 1,01,291 are placed which is only 21.5%.
- A Global Skill gap study indicated that there are over 35 lakhs job potentials in various sectors in 16 countries. As a result of International workforce mobility, a total of 30,000+ overseas jobs have been aggregated. Further, 23,127 candidates have been deployed across multiple countries.
- MGNF is an intensive field immersion programme to strengthen the District Skill Committees. It covered 731 districts. Fellows are deployed in 657 districts. 581 MGNF fellows completed the programme. In 28 districts fellows were not deployed.
- Under an Entrepreneurship promotion programme, it was planned to impart hand-holding training to 24,600 candidates. A total of 21,073 have been trained and certified as on 30.09.2023. As per the reported State/UT-wise data (including SCs and STs), a total of 23815 candidates benefitted from the programme, out of which 3771 and 4711 belong to SC and ST respectively. Funds committed for entrepreneurship promotion was Rs.19.84 crore. Rs.15.37 crore had been released, out of which Rs.10.20 crore had been utilized. However, submission of applicable utilization certificate is under process.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Ministry extends gratitude to the learned Committee for their observations and guidance. Given below is summary of the progress in the performance of the SANKALP scheme as of 31st July 2024, for the esteemed committee's perusal:

- Summary of Committee's Examination: From the amount Committed under National Component, i.e., Rs. 718.56 crore, Rs. 458.72 crore was disbursed and Rs.360.68 crore was utilized. Thus, barely 50.19% percent of the committed amount under National component was utilized.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: The fund utilization status for the National Component under SANKALP cited by the learned Committee pertains to period upto November 2023. As of 31st July 2024, Rs. 1,167.55 crore was committed, Rs. 674.11 crore was disbursed, and Rs. 560.21 crore was utilized. The actual utilization has increased by Rs. 199.54 crore compared to the utilization reported in November 2023. The details of funds committed, disbursed and utilized are as under:

	Amount committed (Rs Cr.)		Funds disbursed (Rs Cr.)		Utilization			
	Nov '23	July '24	Nov '23	July '24	Nov '23	July '24	Increase by (Rs Cr.)	Percentage Increased (%)
Total	718.56	1167.55	458.72	674.11	360.68	560.21	199.54	55.32%

- Summary of Committee's Examination: The fund available with the States was Rs.471.41 crore. The expenditure reported was Rs. 215.55 crore and Utilization Certificate amounting to Rs.150.79 crore was submitted. The actual utilization of funds by the States/UTs was 31.98% only.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: The fund utilization status cited by the learned Committee pertains to data upto October 2023. As of July 2024, the funds available with the States has increased to Rs. 481.22 crore. The reported expenditure has risen to Rs. 249.84 crore, and Utilization Certificates amounting to Rs. 217.16 crore (45.13%) has been submitted by the States. This represents a 22.94% increase in funds utilized compared to the previously reported data upto October 2023.

- Summary of Committee's Examination: Under the National component, 65 projects were undertaken. 19 projects have been completed. 46 projects are said to be ongoing. The physical progress of the projects undertaken so far is only 29.23%.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: Between May 2023 (data cited above by the learned Committee) to July 2024, 22 new projects have been approved, 24 projects have been completed and 5 projects have been dropped. Taking the above into account, under the National component, upto July 2024, 87 projects have been approved, out of which 43 are completed, 39 projects are ongoing and 5 projects were dropped. The physical progress of these projects has increased to 52%.

- Summary of Committee's Examination: As regard funds disbursed by the World Bank but unutilized, the MSDE informed that the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance. On the issue of further extension of the project, the MSDE stated that final decision will be taken at appropriate time.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: In 2022, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) requested the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for a 24-month extension. This request was supported by the World Bank, but DEA granted only 12 months until March 2024, with further extensions contingent on a joint review with the World Bank. By December 2023, the DEA

communicated to Department of Expenditure (DoE) no further extension was needed for disbursement, though it might be considered for approved expenditures. As the project development objectives for the project were achieved, the World Bank did not support further extension of the project beyond 31st March 2024. However, in December 2024, the Department of Expenditure (DoE) approved extending the SANKALP scheme for FY 2024-25, with a budget of Rs 380 crores with the condition that the total expenditure remains within the overall approved outlay/expenditure (Rs 1,650 crore) and no liabilities extend beyond March 2025.

- Summary of Committee's Examination: From the State-wise comparison of Placement and Training data furnished, total Trained Certified are 13,90,865 and total placed are 5,61,020, which means only 40.33% trained are placed. Further as per data of District-wise Skills training Centres of West Bengal state, a total of 4,71,382 persons are trained, out of which 1,01,291 are placed which is only 21.5%.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: MSDE has noted the concerns raised by the learned Committee regarding placement outcomes and recognizes the significance of providing skill training and ensuring meaningful employment. The data cited by the learned Committee pertains to PMKVY 2.0. During the early phases of PMKVY 2.0 (2016-20), placement rates were low in several districts, but significant improvements were observed as the scheme progressed. West Bengal also saw an increase in placement rates to 45.06%. Key measures, such as linking placement performance to payouts and organizing Rozgar Melas, were instrumental in these improvements.

- Summary of Committee's Examination: A Global Skill gap study indicated that there are over 35 lakhs job potentials in various sectors in 16 countries. As a result of International workforce mobility, a total of 30,000+ overseas jobs have been aggregated. Further, 23,127 candidates have been deployed across multiple countries.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: MSDE has been actively collaborating with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to enhance skilled mobility from India to meet global demand. MSDE has signed 11 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), of which MoUs with Australia, Denmark, Japan, Qatar and UAE are presently active. MSDE is a key stakeholder under the Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements (MMPAs) and Labour Mobility Agreements (LMAs) signed by MEA with 20 countries. 1,498 Technical Interns have been sent to Japan since 2018 till 31st July 2024 under India-Japan Technical Intern Training Program. MSDE has signed two Implementation Protocols with Israel under which a total of 4,825 candidates for employment as Construction Workers have travelled to Israel as on 15th August 2024. As reported by the National Skills Development Corporation – International (NSDCI), as on 30th August 2024, deployment of 30,916 candidates has been

facilitated across multiple countries. Predeparture training of 1,40,189 candidates has been undertaken so far.

- Summary of Committee's Examination: MGNF is an intensive field immersion programme to strengthen the District Skill Committees. It covered 731 districts. Fellows are deployed in 657 districts. 581 MGNF fellows completed the programme. In 28 districts fellows were not deployed.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31st July 2024: The Phase-II of MGNF programme was started in October 2021 and keeping in view the number of districts at that time, 657 no. of fellows were selected and were assigned for 661 districts. However, only 581 Fellows completed the fellowship programme and 80 fellows dropped out of the programme. The vacancies arising in some of the districts due to non-joining of fellows/dropping out was supplemented by allocation of adjoining districts to existing fellows. In case of the 28 new districts where fellows were not deployed, those in nearby areas supported skill development, leading to the formation of District Skill Committees (DSCs) in 18 districts. In addition, 18 districts have submitted DSDPs for the year 2024-25. To cover the remaining 10 districts where DSCs have not been formed so far, a letter dated 27th September 2024 has been sent to the Principal Secretary/ Secretary in charge of skill development in Assam, Chhattisgarh, and Nagaland, requesting for formation of DSCs by 15th October 2024. Thereafter, capacity-building sessions for the DSCs will be conducted for onboarding on DiSPAK portal and preparation of the DSDPs by 15 November 2024.

Summary of Committee's Examination: Under an Entrepreneurship promotion programme, it was planned to impart handholding training to 24,600 candidates. A total of 21,073 have been trained and certified as on 30.09.2023. As per States/UTs wise data (including SC and ST) furnished, a total of 23,815 candidates benefitted the programme, out of which 3,771 and 4,711 belong to SC and ST respectively. Funds committed for entrepreneurship promotion was Rs.19.84 crore. Rs.15.37 crore had been released, out of which Rs.10.20 crore had been utilized. However, submission of applicable utilization certificate is under process.

Progress of SANKALP as on 31 July 2024: Under the Entrepreneurship Promotion Program, a total of 13,000 candidates have been trained and certified in entrepreneurship development programs, 8,225 candidates have participated in awareness programs, capacity building/upskilling has been provided to 2,000 existing entrepreneurs, and 600 master trainers have been trained and certified. Out of the total 23,825 candidates covered under the program, 3,902 belong to Scheduled Castes (SC), and 5,052 belong to Scheduled Tribes (ST). The Ministry has received a Utilization Certificate for Rs. 14.56 crore from NIESBUD against the released amount of Rs. 15.37 crore.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

CHAPTER-III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY **Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF)**

(Recommendation Para No. 10)

MGNF is a two-year programme which combines classroom sessions by Academic Partners (IIMs) to strengthen the District Skill Committees (DSCs) and district ecosystem. Phase-I of the fellowship was launched in 2020 where 74 fellows were deployed in identified 74 districts across six states, out of which 69 fellows successfully completed their fellowship programme in March, 2022. The Committee note that the MGNF programme covered a total of 731 districts including aspirational districts under Phase I and Phase II. Phase-II of MGNF fellowship was inaugurated on 25th October, 2021. Phase-II of the fellows covered 657 districts across the country, i.e. 657 fellows were deployed, out of which 581 MGNF fellows have completed the programme. However, MGNF fellows were not deployed in 28 districts as these districts were created post launch of Phase II of MGNF programme. The Committee desire that the Ministry should take steps to ensure deployment of trained fellows in those 28 districts as well.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Phase-II of MGNF programme was started in October 2021 and keeping in view the number of districts at that time, 657 no. of fellows were selected and were assigned for 661 districts. However, only 581 Fellows completed the fellowship programme and 80 fellows dropped out of the programme. The vacancies arising in some of the districts due to non-joining of fellows/dropping out was supplemented by allocation of adjoining districts to existing fellows. The same strategy was used in respect of districts carved out after the launch of the Phase 2 of the programme. As regards the 28 districts mentioned specifically in the recommendation, it is stated that although MGN Fellows could not be deployed in these 28 districts, the fellows posted in nearby districts provided support to the district administration in undertaking skill development initiatives. As a result, District Skill Committees (DSCs) have been constituted in 18 of these 28 districts. Additionally, District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) for the year 2024-25 have also been submitted by 18 of these districts so far. With the completion of Phase II, the MGNF programme has been discontinued.

To ensure the coverage of decentralized planning initiatives in the remaining 10 districts (in the states of Assam, Chhattisgarh, and Nagaland) where DSCs have not yet been constituted, a DO letter dated 27th September 2024 has been sent to the

Principal Secretary/ Secretary in charge of skill development in the three states, requesting for notification of District Skill Committees in these districts by 15th October 2024. Following this, online capacity-building sessions will be conducted for district officials to facilitate onboarding on DiSPAK portal and development of DSDPs in these 10 districts by 15th November 2024.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

CHAPTER-IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

(Recommendation Para No. 7)

The Committee further observe from the data of State-wise Comparison of Placement and Training as furnished by the Ministry that total trained certified is 13,90,865 and total placed are 5,61,020 which is 40.33% only. Further, the data of District-wise Comparison of Placement and Training furnished by the Ministry shows a dismal achievement. To state a few examples, for instance, East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh has 11 certified trained, but no placement; Goalpura of Assam has 66 certified trained, but no placement; Kokrajhar of Assam has 110 certified trained, but no placement; Yadugir of Karnataka has 362 certified trained, but only 9 placements; Kalaburgi of Karnataka has 1427 certified trained, but only 40 placements; Idukki of Karnataka has 123 certified trained, but only 1 placement; Kasargod of Kerala has 224 certified trained, but only 7 placements; Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh has 98 certified trained, but only 9 placements; Chandrapur of Maharashtra has 34 certified trained, but no placement; Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal of Maharashtra have 10, 12 and 13 certified trained respectively, but no placement at all; South Tripura of Tripura has 21 certified trained, but no placement; Sant Kabeer Nagar of Uttar Pradesh have 164 certified trained, but only 41 got placement; and Alipurduar of West Bengal have 143 certified trained but only 30 got placement.

Moreover, according to the data of district-wise details of the Skill Training Centres in West Bengal, as furnished by the Ministry, the number of persons trained and placed during last three years (2020-21 to 2022-23), depict an extremely discouraging picture. A total of 4,71,382 persons are trained, and 1,01,291 are given placement, which is only 21.48%. Besides, in large number of courses offered for training, placement is totally left blank in most of the courses trained.

The Committee observe that such a situation prevailing in the States is indicative of absence of proactive interventionist measures on the part of the Ministry while implementing the SANKALP scheme. In the opinion of the Committee, the wide gap between candidates trained and their placement broadly defeats the intent and objectives of the Scheme. The Committee impress upon the Ministry to take specific measures and strengthen collaborative efforts with various States/UTs and stakeholders so that the noble intent of providing quality skills to promote livelihoods promotion to the deserving citizens of the country may well be served. In view of the meager number of certified trained and placed, the Committee desire the

Ministry to ensure there is no gross mismatch between the number of candidates trained/certified and those actually getting placement.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

MSDE has noted the concern raised by the learned Committee regarding placement outcomes under the SANKALP scheme. The data referenced by the Committee pertains to achievement against Disbursement Linked Indicator 2 under SANKALP which includes percentage of graduates who are wage employed or self -employed within 6 months of completion of short-term skill training programs. The referred data is of initial phases of PMKVY 2.0 (FY 2016-20) reported in year 2018-19. It may however be noted that, while placement percentages were initially low in several districts, significant improvements were observed as the PMKVY 2.0 progressed towards completion. The improvements are mentioned at Table 2 below:

Table 2

FY 2017-2018 & FY 2018-2019					PMKVY 2.0	
S No.	State	District	Certified	Placed	Certified	Placed
1	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siang	11	0	4,891	2,175
2	Assam	Goalpura	66	0	2,804	902
3	Assam	Kokrajhar	110	0	1,658	1,039
4	Karnataka	Yadgir	362	9	2,873	1,170
5	Karnataka	Kalaburagi	1,427	40	4,874	1,307
6	Karnataka	Idukki	123	1	1,347	651
7	Kerala	Kasargod	224	7	959	14
8	Madhya Pradesh	Neemuch	98	9	2,683	805
9	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	34	0	3,523	1,355
10	Maharashtra	Wardha	10	0	3,046	1230
11	Maharashtra	Washim	12	0	1,452	937
12	Maharashtra	Yavatmal	13	0	4,712	2,117

13	Tripura	South Tripura	21	0	1,355	-
14	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Kabeer Nagar	164	41	868	277
15	West Bengal	Alipurduar	143	30	2,847	1,592

For example, in **East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh**, the placement rate was initially 0% (11 certified, 0 placed) during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19. However, by the end of PMKVY 2.0, placements increased substantially, with 2,175 candidates placed out of 4,891 certified, reflecting a placement rate of 44.47%.

Similarly, in **Goalpura, Assam**, while the initial placement rate was 0% (66 certified, 0 placed), the situation improved significantly by the end of PMKVY 2.0, with 902 candidates placed out of 2,804 certified, achieving a placement rate of 32.17%. **Kokrajhar, Assam**, saw an even higher improvement, with a placement rate of 62.67%, with 1,039 candidates placed out of 1,658 certified.

In **Yadgir, Karnataka**, placements rose from 9 out of 362 certified during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19 to a 40.72% placement rate by the end of PMKVY 2.0, with 1,170 candidates placed out of 2,873 certified. **Kalaburagi, Karnataka**, similarly saw improvements, reaching a 26.82% placement rate under PMKVY 2.0, with 1,307 candidates placed out of 4,874 certified.

Challenges do remain in certain districts, such as **Kasargod, Kerala**, where only 14 candidates were placed out of 959 certified under PMKVY 2.0, representing a placement rate of just 1.46%. However, the overall improvement in placement outcomes across multiple districts demonstrates the success of the measures implemented during the scheme.

In **West Bengal**, placement outcomes under PMKVY have also seen improvements. The overall Short-Term Training (STT) placement rate in West Bengal has increased to **45.06%** under PMKVY, reflecting significant progress in the Ministry's efforts to align training with placement opportunities. The placement data for West Bengal shows an upward trend in placement performance over the years, with a total of **98,634** candidates placed out of **1,80,673** certified between FY 2017-18 and FY 2022-23.

It may also be noted that the skilling schemes of MSDE are demand driven and enrolment in these courses by potential trainees is voluntary. The key objective of skill development programmes is to equip the youth with market relevant skills to get gainfully employment in wage or self-employment. The impact assessment of PMKVY 2.0 (published by MSDE in March 2019) mentions that 32% of PMKVY

trained and certified trainees were employed. Further, the average monthly income level of PMKVY 2.0 trained and certified was found to be 15% higher than that of similar non-PMKVY individuals. Third party evaluation reports for the other MSDE schemes have observed success in terms of placement or enhancement of income of candidates trained. In the case of JSS scheme beneficiaries, the evaluation report observed employment of trainees in self and wage employment. In addition, 77.05% of beneficiary trainees have experienced occupational shifts, highlighting the scheme's effectiveness in facilitating better livelihood opportunities. The final report of the Tracer Study of ITI Graduates (published in January 2018 by MSDE) states that 63.5% of total ITI pass-outs were employed (wage and self-employment), with 6.7% being self-employed.

With respect to the SANKALP scheme, the learned Committee is apprised that the objective is to improve the outcomes of skill development initiatives by strengthening institutions, making skill development training more market-relevant, and promoting the inclusion of marginalized sections of society across skill development initiatives. The scheme encompasses various components aimed at strengthening the skill ecosystem and addressing broader issues including training and job placement. Indicative activities under the scheme include the development of the Skill India Digital Hub, the establishment of skill labs in select Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), and the Mahatma Gandhi Fellowship Program. Additionally, unique placement-linked programs such as AMBER, with a placement rate of 73% of certified candidates as of 31st July 2024, and the entrepreneurship development project by NIESBUD, with a placement rate of 52% (enterprise set up and wage employment) as of the same date (as explained in reply to recommendation no. 12), demonstrate the scheme's diverse approach.

At the State level, several initiatives have been implemented under the SANKALP scheme to strengthen industry linkages and promote the placement of trained candidates. These initiatives include district/cluster-wise workshops with industry partners, job fairs, skill summits for industry personnel and training partners, as well as multiple rounds of district-level industry consultations and Kaushal Evam Rojgar Melas. Such efforts have been undertaken by most States across the country under the SIG component of the SANKALP scheme.

(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC dated 15.10.2024)

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

Comments of the Committee

Please refer to Para No.18 of Chapter-I of the report.

CHAPTER-V
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF
THE GOVERNMENT ARE INTERIM IN NATURE

(Recommendation Para No.9)

The Committee note that Budget 2023-24 announced the setting up of 30 Skill India International Centres (SIICs) to promote skill based International mobility. The Committee appreciate that a total of 992 candidates have been trained and 4,215 candidates, including those who underwent Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT), have been successfully deployed. Two centres have been made operational so far – one at Varanasi and other at Bhubaneswar. As of now, 2813 deployment have been done from SIIC Varanasi. The Committee desire that appropriate steps should be taken on priority to ensure that the remaining Skill India International Centres be made operational by March, 2024.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The observations of the learned Committee are noted. Currently, two SIICs have been established, one at Varanasi and another at Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar. The proposal for establishing 05 SIICs at NSTI Hyderabad, NSTI Kanpur, NSTI Ludhiana, NSTI Bengaluru and Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship Guwahati has been approved by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) chaired by Secretary, MSDE. Additionally, the framework for establishing the remaining centers is under consideration by the Project Steering Committee.

**(Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship O.M. No.SD-17/35/2024-IC
dated 15.10.2024)**

Signature of AS/JS concerned.

Comments of the Committee

Please refer to Para No.21 of Chapter-I of the Report

**New Delhi;
31st July, 2025
09 Shravana, 1947 (Saka)**

**SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
CHAIRPERSON,
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR,
TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT
(2024-25) HELD ON 31 July, 2025

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 31st July, 2025 from 1500 hrs. to 1645 hrs. in Committee Room No.1, Block 'A', Parliament House Annexe-Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Basavaraj Bommai - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri G. M. Harish Balayogi
3. Shri Ram Prasad Chaudhary
4. Shri G. Lakshminarayana
5. Shri Asit Kumar Mal
6. Shri Rudra Narayan Pany
7. Shri Kartick Chandra Paul
8. Shri Tanuj Punia
9. Shri Pradeep Purohit
10. Shri Mukesh Rajput
11. Shri Raja Ram Singh
12. Shri Adhikari Soumendu
13. Shri Manoj Tigga
14. Shri Chavan Ravindra Vasantao

RAJYA SABHA

15. Shri Ritabrata Banerjee
16. Shri Naresh Bansal
17. Shri Govindbhai Laljibhai Dholakia
18. Shri Rajendra Gehlot

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Lalkithang | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Ms. K.Muanniang Tunlut | - | Director |
| 3. | Ms. Mili Dinesh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri S. Lalengzau Ngaihte | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee, convened for consideration and adoption of the following Draft Reports on:

- (i) Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty- First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'The Employees State Insurance Corporation-Applicability and Benefits under ESI Scheme, Functioning of ESI Hospitals and Management of Corpus Fund' pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and Employment;
- (ii) Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty-Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Development and Promotion of Jute Industry pertaining to Ministry of Textiles';
- (iii) Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifty- Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Implementation of Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Project' pertaining to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; and
- (iv) Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Third Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2024-25)' pertaining to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the aforesaid Draft Reports with some modifications and authorised the Chairperson to finalise the Reports and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

* * * * *

(Vide Para No. 3 of the Introduction)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTY-
SIXTH REPORT (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	13	
II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government – Rec. Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12 and 13	10	76.92
III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply – Rec. Para No. 10	01	7.69
IV Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration – Rec. Para No. 7	01	7.69
V Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature – Rec. Para No. 9	01	7.69

100%