

# SKILLING IN MINING

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SCMS

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**SKILL COUNCIL FOR MINING SECTOR**

(Promoted by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries)

FIMI HOUSE , B-311, Okhla Industrial Area ,Phase-1, New Delhi -110020 (India)



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(Metal/ Mining)



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## Impact Assessment Studies on completed Skill Development Programs

Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) recently commenced the Impact Assessment of its DMFT Angul and DMFT Jajpur (Phase-1) skill development projects. The Angul project was completed in 2022 and the Jajpur project was completed in 2023.

The questionnaires for all the stakeholders were finalized and the on-ground survey was initiated in the month of January 2026. The survey has been completed in the month of March 2026. Currently the project field activity has been completed and draft reports are being prepared.

## Renewal of MOU with TEXMiN

SCMS has renewed its MoU with TEXMiN at IIT ISM Dhanbad. The focus shall be on alignment of higher level skills in the mining sector and their alignment with NSQF and NEP 2020. The MoU was exchanged during the Conclave on Smart Mining, Critical Minerals, and Green Energy: Need for Atmanirbhar Bharat on 6-7 February, 2026. The Conclave is organized by Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) jointly with the Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), the Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CSIR-CIMFR), and TEXMiN, under the aegis of Industry-Institute Interaction (III-2026), to commemorate the Centenary Anniversary of IIT (ISM).



SCMS was represented by Dr. Sanjay Kumar Roy, Chief Scientist, CSIR-CIMFR and Governing Board member of SCMS.

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**Skill Council for Mining Sector Initiates Skill Gap Study (2025-30) for the Indian mining sector in collaboration with Ministry of Mines**

SCMS, in collaboration with Ministry of Mines, is conducting a Skill Gap Study for the period 2025-30 to prepare a Skill Plan for the Indian Mining Sector for the same period basis the findings of the study. M/s Deloitte Touché Tohmatsu India LLP is the consultant for this assignment.

The primary research phase commenced in January and is currently underway. This includes survey deployment and structured stakeholder interactions. Field work has been initiated across the identified 13 mining states. Overall, the study is progressing with strong stakeholder engagement.

**NUPPL, Dumka (Jharkhand)  
Skill Development Program for Project Affected Persons**

SCMS received a work order from Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power limited (NUPPL) on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to conduct residential skill development training program for 75 PAPs in the trades of Mine electrician, Mine mechanic/Fitter, and Mine welder in South Pachwara OCP/NUPPL, Dumka, Jharkhand.

The primary objective of this project is to upskill and empower Project Affected Persons (PAPs) from NUPPL command area/Project Affected Villages by providing Industry relevant training in mining related trades. The training aims to enhance employability, self-reliance, and livelihood opportunities.

**JPL Tamnar, Raigarh (Chhattisgarh) - Skill Assessment (Dakshta Initiative)**

SCMS has received work order from Jindal Power Limited on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to conduct skill gap assessment for 1850 non-executives and contractual workers across two sites at Tamnar, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh under Dakshta Initiative.

For executing this project, SCMS has collaborated with LSI Engineering and Consultants Ltd. This initiative is aligned with the group guidelines on workforce upskilling and enhancing knowledge, skills, and abilities of non-executive employees in mining operations. This initiative supports productivity, safety compliance, and training needs identification, mirroring prior Dakshta projects.

This project will be completed in three phases:

- Phase 1: Workforce profiling and toolkit design.
- Phase 2: Field assessments
- Phase 3: Analysis, skill gap reports, heat maps, and training recommendations

## Adani Skills, Sarguja (Chhattisgarh) - Skill Development program

SCMS received a work order from Adani Skills on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to conduct NoN-NSQF training program in the trades of Mine Electrician and Mine Welder. The training in Mine Electrician job role has already been commenced at Adani Skill Development Centre at Sarguja, Chhattisgarh.



Glimpses of training in Mine Electrician

## 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector

The 50<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) was held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at FIMI House, New Delhi which was chaired by Dr. Pankaj Kumar Satija, Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs, JSW Group & Chairman-SCMS.

In the opening remarks, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Satija, Chairman-SCMS, welcomed all the board members and highlighted the key activities undertaken by the SCMS during Q4. The Chairman also welcomed the newly proposed member, Dr. Yogesh Velankar from Adani Skills and Education. He then invited Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS to take the proceedings forward in line with the agenda. Further, Mr. Navneet informed the board members about the joining of new member of Team SCMS, Ms. Ahuti Swain, ex- Director (HR), Eastern Coalfields Limited, as the Honorary Advisor, Eastern Mining Zone.



50<sup>th</sup> GB meeting in progress

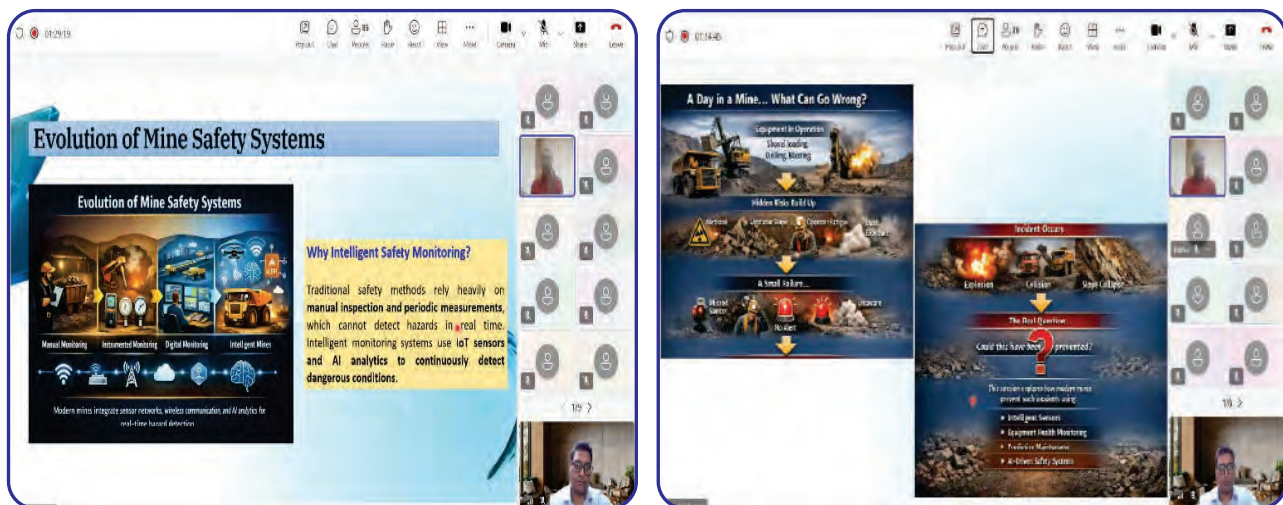
## Webinar on “Intelligent Safety and Health Monitoring in Mining: From Sensor Technologies to AI-Driven Systems”

Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) organized a webinar titled “Intelligent Safety and Health Monitoring in Mining: From Sensor Technologies to AI-Driven Systems” on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026, bringing together mining professionals to explore innovative approaches for improving productivity, reducing operational variability, and strengthening workforce capability. The session highlighted the limitations of traditional improvement programs in high-risk mining environments and presented AI driven health monitoring system.

The webinar explained how advanced sensor technologies, intelligent monitoring systems, and AI-driven solutions are transforming safety and health management in modern mining operations.

The session was delivered by Prof. Ajit Kumar, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, who brings over 13 years of experience in mining machinery and fluid power systems, with substantial exposure to both the mining industry and academia. His work focuses on mining machinery and energy-efficient fluid power technologies. He has led several R&D projects supported by DST (CRG), CMPDIL, CIL, Ministry of Coal, and TEQIP. He has authored over 70 research papers including conference and journal papers, holds patents in the field, and developed the SWAYAM–NPTEL course Industrial Hydraulics and Automation.

The webinar was attended by multiple participants from mining organizations, academia, SMEs, etc.



Prof. Ajit Kumar, Deliberating a session

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## MINING & EXPLORATION

### India's captive and commercial coal output crosses 200 MT so far in FY26

India's captive and commercial coal mines, along with other operational blocks, have together produced more than 200 million tonnes (mt) of coal so far in FY26.

Of the total output, captive and commercial mines accounted for 194.17 mt, while other mines contributed 6.06 mt, taking combined production beyond the 200 mt mark on March 11, according to the Coal Ministry.

The production milestone comes ahead of last year's pace. Coal output from these mines had already surpassed the entire FY25 production of 197.32 mt on March 7, about 24 days earlier than last year's timeline.

Coal dispatch from these mines also increased, rising 7.71% year-on-year to 197.09 mt, compared with 182.98 mt in the corresponding period last year.

The increase indicates higher supplies to power plants and other coal-consuming industries. Captive and commercial coal blocks were opened to private participation as part of reforms aimed at increasing domestic coal production and reducing reliance on imports. Since then, production from these blocks has been rising as more mines become operational. **(The Economic Times, New Delhi – 14 March, 2026)**

## GENERAL

### Odisha tops India's mining economy, eastern region drives growth: Report

Odisha has emerged as the largest contributor to India's mining economy, accounting for around 14 percent of the country's mining gross value added (GVA) in FY2025, according to a report released during the India Mines and Minerals Conclave 2026 in Bhubaneswar.

The report, jointly prepared by Assocham and credit rating agency ICRA Ltd, with data sourced from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), ranked Gujarat second with a share of 12.9 percent, followed by Maharashtra with 12.1 percent, Rajasthan with 9.6 percent and Madhya Pradesh with 8.6 percent. These five states together contributed over 57 percent of the national mining GVA, reflecting a high concentration of mineral-driven economic activity.

Pointing out that the size of a state's mining sector does not necessarily correspond to its contribution to the overall state economy, the report indicated that industrially diversified states such as Maharashtra and Gujarat, despite having large mining sectors in absolute terms, recorded relatively modest contributions to their gross state domestic product (GSDP) at 3.4 per cent and 2.8 per cent, respectively.

In contrast, eastern and north-eastern states demonstrated deeper economic integration with mining. In FY2025, mining contributed 12.9 percent to Odisha's GSDP and 11 percent to Chhattisgarh's, while other states such as Assam (8.6 percent), Tripura (8.3 percent) and Jharkhand (7.7 percent) also showed significant dependence on the sector.

Suggesting a sharper contrast in the growth performance of the mining sector over the past decade, the knowledge report said that while India's overall mining sector experienced modest growth between FY2015

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and FY2025, Madhya Pradesh recorded the highest compound annual growth rate (CAGR) at 12.5 percent, followed by Gujarat at 11.9 percent, Telangana at 11.4 percent and Odisha at 10.8 percent.

“These states benefited from consistent policy measures, improved ease of doing business, faster project clearances and increased private sector participation. In comparison, Jharkhand, despite being mineral-rich, recorded a relatively low CAGR of 4.5 percent, indicating structural bottlenecks and slower reform implementation,” the report stated.

The pace of mineral block auctions emerged as a key indicator of resource monetisation and the effectiveness of post-Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act reforms. Madhya Pradesh and Odisha led the country in the pace of mineral block auctions, by successfully auctioning 156 and 97 blocks, respectively, followed by Chhattisgarh with 95, Karnataka with 63 and Maharashtra with 62.

The composition of auctioned minerals varied across states, with Odisha focusing largely on iron ore and manganese; Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh concentrating on limestone, marble and other industrial minerals; and Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh maintaining diversified portfolios including coal, iron ore and bauxite. Regionally, eastern India emerged as the country’s primary mining hub, with Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal forming the core of this mineral-rich belt, while north-eastern states such as Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are gradually gaining prominence despite still having limited output.

Data indicated that Odisha alone accounted for over 38 percent of India’s mineral production value in FY2026, excluding hydrocarbons and atomic minerals. Rajasthan contributed 23 percent, Chhattisgarh 14 percent and Jharkhand around 4 percent, showing the dominance of a few states in national mineral output.

In iron ore, Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh collectively account for the bulk of India’s production, with Odisha alone producing around 155 million tonnes in FY2025, representing over 53 percent of the national output. Jharkhand’s Singhbhum region and Chhattisgarh’s Bailadila belt continue to be major contributors, the report stated.

In coal production, eastern India again leads, with Odisha producing 237 million tonnes in FY2024, accounting for nearly 24 percent of India’s total output of 997 million tonnes. Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh follow closely with substantial coalfield reserves, while Assam has begun contributing modestly from reserves in Ledo and Margherita, though output in the North East remains constrained by environmental concerns and infrastructure challenges.

In bauxite also, Odisha maintained a commanding lead, producing 17.5 million tonnes in FY2024, which accounts for nearly 73 percent of India’s total production, making it central to the country’s aluminium industry. Chromite production is almost entirely concentrated in Odisha, which holds 96 percent of the country’s reserves and contributes 100 percent of production, primarily from Jajpur district’s Sukinda Valley, making it the sole critical source of this strategic mineral in India, the report added.

**(Business Standard, Bhubaneswar – 19 March, 2026)**

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## SKILLS IN PARLIAMENT

### Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5808 answered on 30.03.2026

#### PMKVY Training and Employment Outcomes

**5808. Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy:**

**Will the Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of candidates trained under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana so far and number who have successfully completed the training and received certification;
- (b) the total funds allocated and disbursed under PMKVY in Tamil Nadu during the last three financial years;
- (c) the percentage of trainees from rural, marginalized and underprivileged communities along with the measures taken to ensure participation of women and weaker sections;
- (d) the sectors and skill categories covered under PMKVY and the number of trainees successfully placed in employment or self-employment after training;
- (e) the reasons for any shortfall in achieving training and placement targets along with the steps planned to improve effectiveness and outreach;
- (f) the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place to assess the impact of PMKVY on employment generation, skill development and financial independence of trainees; and
- (g) the initiatives taken to update curriculum, provide industry-relevant training and ensure alignment with emerging sectors and market demand?

#### Answer

**The Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship  
(Shri Jayant Chaudhary)**

(a): Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), since inception till 31.12.2025, a total of 1.64 crore candidates have been trained out of which, 1.30 crore candidates have been certified.

(b): The current version of the scheme, PMKVY 4.0, is a demand-driven scheme in which training is provided based on requirements projected by the State Skill Development Mission, industries, and other training providers. PMKVY 4.0 operates as a Central Sector Scheme, and therefore, there is no provision for state-wise fund allocation under it. However, during the last three financial years (2022–23 to 2024–25), a total of ₹120.21 crore has been disbursed to training providers who delivered skilling programs under PMKVY 4.0 in the state of Tamil Nadu.

(c): The percentage of candidates trained under PMKVY in different categories such as women, SC, ST, OBC, and minorities, is given below:

Category	Trained / Oriented	% Trained
SC	21,94,765	13.4%
ST	8,13,357	4.9%
OBC	55,51,185	33.8%
Women	74,43,779	45.3%
Minority	20,02,013	12.2%

PMKVY 4.0 places strong emphasis on enhancing inclusivity by ensuring that candidates from Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), women, PwDs, and other vulnerable groups can undertake skill training and gain access to wage and self-employment opportunities. To support these groups, boarding & lodging and transportation facilities are provided as per Common Norms. For non-residential training, conveyance / transportation costs are covered for women and PwDs. Additionally, ₹5,000 is provided for assistive devices, aids, and appliances for PwD candidates. All candidates are also covered under one-year accidental insurance for additional social protection. Further, to promote equitable access in underserved regions, an additional 10% of the base cost is permitted for skill development programmes conducted in Special Areas, namely the North Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, and Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected districts identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

**(d):** Under PMKVY 4.0, skill development training is imparted through Short-Term Training (STT) and up-skilling and re-skilling through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). The sectors covered under the Scheme are Aerospace and Aviation, Agriculture, Apparel, Automotive, Beauty and Wellness, BFSI, Capital Goods, Construction, Domestic Workers, Electronics, Food Processing, Furniture and Fittings, Gems and Jewellery, Green Jobs, Handicrafts and Carpet, Healthcare, Hydrocarbon, Iron and Steel, IT-ITeS, Leather, Life Sciences, Logistics, Management, Media and Entertainment, Mining, Plumbing, Power, Retail, Rubber, Sports, Telecom, Textiles and Handlooms, Tourism & Hospitality, etc. Under PMKVY, placements were tracked in the Short-Term Training (STT) component in the first three versions of the Scheme - PMKVY 1.0, PMKVY 2.0 and PMKVY 3.0, implemented from FY 2015-16 to FY 2021-22.

Under PMKVY 4.0, the focus is to empower trained candidates to choose their varied career path, either self-employment or wage-employment, and they are suitably oriented for the same through industry-relevant skill courses that include On-the-Job Training (OJT).

During the first three versions of PMKVY, around 43% candidates were reported placed, against the 56.89 lakh certified candidates under Short-Term Training (STT).

**(e):** The shortfall in the number of trained candidates against the target set is due to implementation of the Scheme in phases. The Government adopts a collaborative and convergence-driven approach to enhance the effectiveness of PMKVY through active coordination with State Governments and private sector stakeholders. Under the scheme, States are encouraged to propose training targets based on local demand, supported by district-level skill gap studies to ensure relevance and efficiency. Additionally, the scheme engages private sector partners as Awarding Bodies for curriculum development, industry-aligned training, and assessment. Further, employers are encouraged to participate through apprenticeship programs, demand aggregation and on-the-job training (OJT) initiatives to strengthen industry linkage and improve placement outcomes.

**(f)** Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems are in place to assess implementation quality. The impact and effectiveness of schemes for skill development are reviewed through thirdparty independent evaluation. An independent third-party impact evaluation of the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0) has been conducted by the Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management

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(AJNIFM). The evaluation was conducted across 12 States of the country to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, outcomes and impact of PMKVY at the national and state levels based on beneficiary surveys, stakeholder consultations and analysis of scheme data. The report highlighted that PMKVY training has contributed to a measurable shift in employment outcomes for STT candidates. The combined share of employed and self-employed STT respondents increased from 26.6% prior to training to 45.4% after PMKVY training, reflecting an 18.8 percentage point increase. Income-related outcomes also show positive movement, with 41.4% of STT candidates and 48.9% of RPL candidates reporting an increase in income following training and certification.

**(g):** Under PMKVY 4.0, various steps have been undertaken to introduce new-age skill courses in order to keep pace with the evolving industry demands and advent of new age technologies. Over 600 industry-aligned courses have been introduced across emerging sectors such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 5G technology, cybersecurity, green hydrogen, drone technology, and logistics, with the objective of preparing the workforce for Industry 4.0. Training is being imparted in future ready job roles to meet the demands of emerging sectors including drones, AI, robotics, and mechatronics. The courses offered under PMKVY are designed by industry-led bodies to ensure relevance and responsiveness to the needs of these sectors. Further, District Skill Development Plans (DSDPs) are formulated by District Skill Committees (DSCs) to assess skill gaps and map industry demand at the district level. This ensures that PMKVY training programs remain closely aligned with local employment opportunities and regional workforce requirements. Additionally, emerging areas like green energy, semiconductor, etc. have been prioritized in line with national missions and economic growth sectors.

**(Lok Sabha, New Delhi – 30 March, 2026)**

## **Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5941 answered on 30.03.2026**

### **PMKVY Training and Employment Outcomes**

**5941. Shri C N Annadurai:  
Shri Selvam G:**

**Will the Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship be pleased to state:**

- (a)** whether the Government has reviewed the implementation and outcomes of the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) following recent reviews of multiple skill qualifications across the high-growth sectors;
- (b)** the number of NSQF-aligned qualifications, training programmes, and Sector Skill Council certifications currently operational in the country and specifically in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year;
- (c)** whether any assessment has been made regarding the of gaps between NSQF-certified training and actual employment outcomes, particularly in emerging sectors, such as electronics, logistics and advanced manufacturing;
- (d)** the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure alignment of NSQF qualifications with industry demand, apprenticeships and higher education pathways; and
- (e)** the corrective measures being implemented to strengthen recognition of prior learning, mobility between vocational and academic streams and adoption of NSQF standards by training institutions and employers?

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## Answer

### **The Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Shri Jayant Chaudhary)**

**(a) to (e):** Under the Government of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres / institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country including the state of Tamilnadu. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready and equipped with industry relevant skills.

Government of India launched the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) in December 2013 and was rationalized and notified in June, 2023. NSQF is an outcome and competencybased framework which organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills, aptitude, and responsibility levels defined in terms of learning outcomes which the learner must acquire through formal, non-formal or informal learning which may comprise of academics, vocational education, training & skilling and experiential learning including relevant experience and proficiency/ professional levels acquired, subject to assessment. The NSQF is segregated from Level 1 to 8, and each level represents a different level of skills, complexity, knowledge, responsibility and autonomy.

NSQF provides for integrating and creditizing vocational education, training and skill learning in various dimensions of academics, skilling and experiential learning including relevant experience and proficiency/ professional levels acquired, subject to assessment. It establishes academic equivalence between vocational & general education while enabling mobility within & between them and recognize learning through close partnership with industry and employers through internships apprenticeships and on the job training across all sectors. As on 31.12.2025, a total of 9549 qualifications has been NSQF aligned and approved, out of which 3122 qualifications (including NOS and MC) are active and valid, while 6427 qualifications have been archived so far. Of the 3122 qualifications, 502 are National Occupation Standards (NOS) and 268 are Micro-credentials (MC). These active qualifications also include 678 future qualifications from various domains i.e. AI/ML, Big data, IoT, green Energy, Semi-Conductors etc. Around 1.40 crore candidates has been trained in last three years and in current year upto 31.12.2025 in India out of which 7.28 lakh candidates were trained in the state of Tamil Nadu under various schemes of this Ministry. Skill Gap studies conducted from time to time provide information on the skills needed and the skill gaps in various sectors. Such studies guide the interventions of the Government aimed at preparing the workforce as per the industry needs. Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) have undertaken skill gap studies across sectors including sectors such as Electronics, Logistics, Advance Manufacturing, etc. since 2019, providing demand–supply assessments and manpower requirement projections.

Further, to synergize initiatives of skill development in the country and to fulfil the regional skill requirements, the schemes of MSDE focus on implementation of training interventions with participation of States and Districts through State Skill Development Mission (SSDMs) and District Skill Committees (DSCs). DSCs identify sectors with employment opportunities as well as the associated demand for skilling in the district, and map the available facilities for Skill Training. Skill Development Programmes of the Government are designed and implemented to bridge identified skill gaps across sectors.

To align skill development programs with the industrial requirements in different sectors, and thereby improving the employability of the skilled manpower, the following specific steps have been taken by MSDE:

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- i. National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) has been set up as an overarching regulator establishing regulations and standards to ensure quality in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) space.
  - ii. The Awarding Bodies recognised by NCVET are expected to develop the qualifications as per the industry demand and map them with the identified occupations as per the National Classification of Occupations, 2015 and obtain industry validations.
  - iii. 36 Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), led by industry leaders in the respective sectors, have been set up which identify the skill development needs of respective sectors as well as to determine skill competency standards.
  - iv. Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the aegis of MSDE is implementing Flexi MoU Scheme and Dual System of Training (DST) which are meant to provide training to ITI students in industrial environment as per their requirements.
  - v. Under PMKVY, the new age/future skills job-roles have been specially aligned with Industry 4.0 requirements in areas like AI/ML, Robotics, Mechatronics, Drone Technology, etc. for upcoming market demand and industry requirements.
  - vi. DGT has introduced new age /future skills courses under CTS to provide training in emerging areas such as 5G Network Technician, Artificial Intelligence Programming assistant, Cyber Security Assistant, Drone Technician etc.
  - vii. DGT has signed MoU with IT Tech companies like IBM, CISCO, Microsoft, AWS etc. to ensure industry linkages for the institutes at the state and regional levels. These partnerships facilitate the provision of technical and professional skills training in modern technologies.
  - viii. Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) established at Ahmedabad and Mumbai, in Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode, provide training to create a pool of industry-ready workforce for Industry, equipped with cutting-edge technology and hands-on training.
  - ix. Kaushal Melas and Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Melas (PMNAMs) are organised to facilitate the placements and apprenticeship opportunities to the certified candidates.

In addition, the National Education Policy 2020 lays emphasis on integration of vocational education programs with mainstream education in all educational institutions in a phased manner. The National Credit Framework (NCrF) has been developed as a comprehensive credit accumulation & transfer framework encompassing elementary, school, higher, and vocational education & training. NCrF integrates creditization of learning in various dimensions i.e. academics, vocational skills and experiential learning including relevant experience and proficiency/ professional levels acquired. The University Grant Commission (UGC) has also mandated that upto 50% of the total credit requirement of an UG/PG program can be fulfilled through skill courses including NSQF aligned qualifications.

**(Lok Sabha, New Delhi – 30 March, 2026)**

## SCMS IN ACTION

### Adani Enterprises (Talabira) STT Project

Post successful completion of Phase-I STT program, SCMS again received a similar work assignment from Adani Enterprises for skilling another lot of 20 fresh youth (PAPs) for the trades of Mine Electrician, HEMM Mechanic, Mine Mechanic/Fitter and Assistant Opencast Mines. The program was initiated with 17 candidates on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 at Chandama Training Centre, Jajpur and has been successfully completed.



Glimpses of Training & Assessment

### IMFA Jajpur (Odisha) – CER Project

SCMS received a work order from Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Limited (IMFA) on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to conduct training and certification program under the Corporate Environment Responsibility \*CER) at IMFA's Jajpur facility in Odisha. The project covers training for a total of 90 candidates in the trades of Dumper/Tipper Operator, Loader Operator - Underground, and Loader Operator (Mining). This initiative is playing a vital role in strengthening the mining ecosystem by creating a skilled, safety-oriented, and job-ready workforce.

The first batch of 30 candidates for the Dumper/Tipper Operator role has successfully completed and training for Loader Operator (Open Cast) and Loader Operator (Underground) is currently underway, with a strong focus on equipment handling and practical exposure. The trainees are actively participating in hands-

on training sessions, enabling them to develop operational competence and confidence in real-world mining environments.



**Glimpses of Assessment at Dumper/ Tipper Operator**

### MOIL RPL Program

SCMS has completed the RPL project of MOIL Limited for reskilling/upskilling of 600 regular/contractual workforce of MOIL and their contractors for their various mining locations in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The program has been planned with 2 days of soft skills-cum-domain skills training followed by assessment on the third day.

### NLC India Ltd. Reskilling and Upskilling Program for Regular & Contractual Workforce

SCMS has successfully accomplished the RPL/reskilling/upskilling training program of NLC India Limited for 154 regular/contractual mining workforces at Neyvelli wherein the employees was to be trained & assessed for the job roles of Mine Welder, Bulldozer Operator, Dumper/Tipper Operator, Mine Electrician,

Mine Mechanic/Fitter, and Driver Special Utility Vehicle. The training program was planned in 2+1 mode (2 days of soft skills and domain training followed by assessment on the third day).

### MOIL - CER Project

SCMS received the work order from MOIL under the Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) for the location of Chikla mines for training and certification of 30 male candidates in the trade of Dumper/Tipper operator. The program is expected to commence by the end of April 2026.

### Skill Development Project with District Mineral Foundation Trust, Keonjhar

Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) is executing a Skill Development Project with District Mineral Foundation Trust, Keonjhar (Odisha) for “Short term Training” project covering 720 local candidates/PAPs in the trades of Mine Electrician, Mine Welder, HEMM Mechanic, HEMM Electrician, Hydra Crane Operator, Dumper/Tipper Operator, Loader Operator, Excavator Operator and Upskilling/Reskilling of 500 existing mine’s workers in their related trades through RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning) program.

So far, the STT training of 150 candidates in HEMM Mechanic trade has been completed and out of which 149 trainees have been certified and 111 trainees have been offered placements in various mining organization, while training for another batch of 60 candidates is currently underway. Under the RPL program comprising two days of training followed by one day of assessment, the training and certification of 537 existing mine workers have been completed and out of which 500 workers have been certified.



Glimpses of STT training of DMFT-Keonjhar

### Skill Development Project with District Mineral Foundation Trust, Jajpur

SCMS is executing Phase-II of the Skill Development Project at Jajpur, Odisha under funding from DMFT for Short Term Training (STT) for 360 local youth in the trades of Mine Electrician, Mine Welder, HEMM

Mechanic, Hydra Crane Operator, Dumper/Tipper Operator, Excavator Operator and upskilling/re-skilling of 500 existing mine's workers in their related trades through RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning) program.

The training of 270 STT candidates in the trades of Mine Electrician, HEMM Mechanic, Excavator Operator and Dumper/Tipper Operator have been completed so far. Currently training of 60 candidates is under progress at the Skill Development Centre, Chandama, Vyasnagar, Jajpur. Multiple placement drives have been conducted and a total of 160 candidates have been offered the jobs so far.

Under RPL, 568 existing mine workers have been trained and 505 have been certified.



**Classroom Training**



**Simulator Training**



**Practical Training**



**Assessment**

### **HAMARI ADIRA - EMIL Residential Female STT Training Program**

SCMS has received a work order from Essel Mining & Industries Limited (EMIL) to conduct a residential Short-Term Training (STT) program for 60 female candidates in the trade of Dumper Operator. The training is being implemented for Amelia Coal Mining Limited (ACML) at Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh, with a strong focus on developing job-ready skills through structured, hands-on learning. The first batch of 30 trainees has commenced on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

The program combines classroom sessions with hands-on training, including simulator-based practice that allows trainees to safely learn machine handling and improve their confidence before working on actual

equipment. To enhance real-world understanding, trainees visited the Jayant Base Workshop of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), where they closely observed a 100-tonne dumper and learned about its parts and functioning.

Candidates also visited Amelia Coal Mining Limited (ACML), where they were introduced to mining operations, safety practices, and daily workflows. During this visit, they interacted with senior officials of ACML who shared valuable insights about the industry standards, technical processes, workplace safety, and career opportunities in mining.

Along with technical training, the program also focuses on overall development. The trainees took part in a picnic to the Buddha Temple, which gave them cultural exposure, and celebrated International Women's Day through activities that promoted confidence, teamwork, and motivation. On this occasion, Mr. Umesh Mahto, President & Head of Mining Services- ESSEL MINING addressed the group, encouraging them to stay determined in achieving their goals and emphasizing the growing importance of women in the mining sector. Overall, the program is helping women develop skills, confidence, and readiness for careers in mining.



**Trainees Interaction with ACML Officials**



**Interaction with Mr. Umesh Mahto, President & Head of Mining Services- ESSEL MINING**



**Glimpses of Simulator Training**



**Trainees visit to NCL Workshop**

### **FIMI's Managing Committee Meeting**

Managing Committee Meeting of Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) was organized on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at FIMI House, New Delhi. Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO-SCMS, attended the meeting and shared updates/ highlights of SCMS to the esteemed members of the committee.



**Mr. Navneet Kumar shared key updates of SCMS with the members of committee**

## World Bank Delegation Visit

A senior delegation from the World Bank visited the office of Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The visit focused on providing an overview of the activities and initiatives undertaken by FIMI, SCMS & Sustainable Mining Initiative (SMI). The delegation was also apprised of the World Bank's ongoing technical assistance programme for critical minerals and skilling initiatives in the mining sector.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Pramod Tyagi, Secretary General, FIMI, Mr. B. K. Bhatia Director General, FIMI, Mr. Arnab Majumder, Assistant Secretary General, FIMI, Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS, Mrs. Pronota Mitra Mukherjee, Director, SMI, and Mr. Abhishek Srivastava, Director, SMI.

The representatives shared detailed insights into the initiatives and ongoing work of FIMI and SCMS, particularly in the areas of skill development and capacity building within the mining sector.



Meeting in progress with World Bank senior delegates

## NSDC and CEOs of SSCs All Hands Meet

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) convened the first All Hands Meet with CEOs of Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) in Hyderabad on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026, bringing together the leaders from the Sector Skill Councils for a focused dialogue on collaboration, outcomes, and future-ready workforce strategies. The meet underscored a strong push towards collaboration between NSDC and SSCs and value addition from both sides. Mr. Arun Pillai, CEO, NSDC presented the roadmap, proposed solutions, challenges, and aspirations for the NSDC-SSC ONE ecosystem.

Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS, participated in the meeting.

## TERI World Sustainable Development Summit

TERI World Sustainable Development Summit at Taj Palace on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026 as a speaker on “Partnerships for Accelerating EV Skilling Ecosystem in India”,

At the TERI World Sustainable Development Summit held at Taj Palace on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026, industry leaders and policymakers convened for a focused discussion on building a future-ready workforce for the electric mobility transition. The session spotlighted the growing requirement for EV and Charge Point Operator (CPO) skilling, emphasizing specialised training in installation, maintenance, and emerging technical domains, alongside alignment with the National Skill Qualification Framework and evolving EV policies.



Key voices included Sudhendu J Sinha, Former Advisor at NITI Aayog; Navaneeth Raghu, Lead – Sustainability at Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India; Manish Kumar, Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Heavy Industries; and Nameeta Prasad, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, along with a representative from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, who collectively underscored the importance of formalized skilling and empowerment ecosystem for the EV and CPO.



The discussion also highlighted avenues for financial support through government schemes, CSR partnerships, and national skilling missions, complemented by the digital release of an EV-focused report and brochure and testimonials from trainees under the Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India–The Energy and Resources Institute initiative.

Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS, was invited as a delegate and speaker in the session. He emphasized on-ground challenges, noting that EV skilling in remote regions requires tailored infrastructure and outreach, while also highlighting that electrification in the mining sector presents unique technical demands requiring specialised training interventions.

### Training of Trainer Program

Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) holds a key mandate to establish and maintain a qualified pool of trainers and assessors across all mining states, with the objective of ensuring the effective implementation of skill development initiatives in various mining-related job roles.

In alignment with this mandate, SCMS regularly conducts structured capacity-building programs, including Training of Master Trainers (ToMT), Training of Master Assessors (ToMA), Training of Trainers (ToT), and Training of Assessors (ToA). Certifications awarded under these programs are valid for a period of two years and are subject to renewal thereafter.

On behalf of SCMS, Mr. Kuldeep Singh, Deputy Manager–Multimedia Designer & ToT /ToA coordinated the training programs, with the support of SCMS master trainers.

SCMS conducted 10-day Paid ONLINE - Training of Trainers (ToT) program held from 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 for 30 participants, for both fresh and existing professionals of Great Eastern Energy Corporation Ltd., Thriveni Sainik Mining Pvt. Ltd., and SCMS training partners.

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## MSDE's Breakout Session on "Strengthening India's Care Ecosystem: Skilling 1.5 Lakh Multiskilled Caregivers" brings together global and national stakeholders

The Post-Budget Webinar 2026 on the theme "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas – Fulfilling Aspirations of People" was organised on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, multilateral institutions, private organisations, etc. to deliberate on the effective implementation of the Union Budget 2026–27 announcements. The webinar is part of the Government's annual post-Budget consultation process aimed at translating policy announcements into actionable implementation frameworks.

Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi emphasised that the Union Budget provides a roadmap for building a future-ready workforce and strengthening human capital for a Viksit Bharat, highlighting the need for scalable models, innovation-driven growth and stronger linkages between education, skilling and the real economy.

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education, Government of India, Shri Jayant Chaudhary also participated in the Inaugural session. In the concluding Session, he highlighted the strategic importance of the care economy in India's growth trajectory. He said, "The care economy represents both a social priority and an economic opportunity for India.

Through the Budget announcement to train 1.5 lakh multiskilled caregivers, we are building a professional ecosystem that combines healthcare, wellness and assistive technologies while creating dignified employment opportunities, particularly for women. Recognising language as a skill and strengthening global mobility pathways will further enhance employability in international markets. Through partnerships with countries such as Japan and Israel, India is advancing skill diplomacy and emerging as a trusted provider of skilled talent to the world, reinforcing our journey towards becoming the global skill capital."

As a part of the Post-Budget Webinar, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) steered a dedicated breakout session on the sub-theme "Strengthening India's Care Ecosystem: Skilling 1.5 Lakh Multiskilled Caregivers" in blended mode.

In her opening remarks, Secretary, MSDE, Ms. Debashree Mukherjee underscored the importance of building a robust, quality-driven training ecosystem to support the emerging care economy. She said, "As we move forward with the Budget announcement on strengthening India's care ecosystem, our focus is on developing a structured and quality-driven training framework that prepares multiskilled caregivers to meet emerging care needs. Equally important is ensuring dignity, recognition and credible career pathways for caregivers through professional training and standardised certification."

While welcoming the participants, Ms. Manisha Sensarma, Senior Economic Adviser, MSDE, outlined the strategic vision behind the budget announcement to train 1.5 lakh multiskilled caregivers, aimed at addressing rising domestic demand from an ageing population as well as global shortages of care and allied healthcare professionals. She highlighted that the initiative seeks to enable transition of the informal workforce into a structured National Caregiver Ecosystem, integrating healthcare skills with wellness practices while leveraging programmes to expand training and enhance employability.

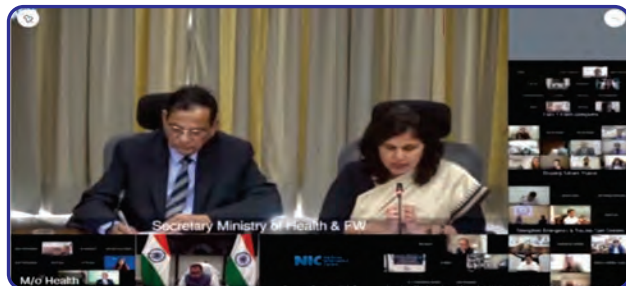
The session brought together an eminent panel of stakeholders including Shri Prashant Pise, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri Gyanendra Dev Tripathi, Principal Secretary, Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship, Government of Assam; Shri Jagadish Chelani, Executive Director, Meghalaya State Skill Development Society; Ms. Mia Oka, Country Director, Asian Development Bank; Shri Bharath Visweswaraya, Executive Director India, British Asian Trust; Ms. Giorgia Varisco, Chief of Youth & Adolescent Development, UNICEF; Prof. (Dr.) S. P. Singh, Director General, Kaushalya – The Skill University; Dr. Srinivasa Rao Pulijala, CEO, Apollo MedSkills Ltd.; Mr. K. Ganesh, Promoter &

Director, Portea Medical; Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Head HR Operations, Sodexo India; Dr. Karthik N, Managing Director, Athulya Senior Care; Ms. Sumitra Mishra, CEO, Mobile Creches; Mr. Rajit Mehta, Managing Director & CEO, Antara Senior Care; Dr. Alexander Thomas, Founding Member, Vyay Vikas; and Dr. Sunil Kumar M. M., Director, Trivandrum Institute of Palliative Sciences, among others.

As per the deliberations held during the session, the key action points inter-alia include developing a structured caregiver career pathway, with standardized training curriculum and multi-skilling modules; training of trainers to ensure the availability of sufficient pool of qualified trainers to ensure quality of training delivery; using the apprenticeship route as an opportunity for practical training of candidates utilising the network of hospitals, industries and institutions in this sector; working with respective State/ UT governments to leverage Skill India International Centres (SIICs) for international mobility of care professionals; developing a network of credible training infrastructure utilising ITIs, Healthcare providers, training institutions for quality training of candidates; Making the details of skilled care professionals to be available on Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH).

The Post-Budget Webinar witnessed large participation of various stakeholders through both online and physical modes, including representatives from States and Union Territories, National Council for Vocational Education & Training (NCVT), Directorate General of Training (DGT), National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Sector Skill Councils (SSCs), Awarding Bodies, Assessment Agencies, industry partners and training institutions.

Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS along with his team members, participated in the session virtually.



**Team SCMS participated in the Webinar**

**Industry Roundtable on the Battery Manufacturing Value Chain in India**

The World Bank Group convened a high-level industry roundtable on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at World Bank office, New Delhi, bringing together private sector stakeholders for a market-sounding discussion on strengthening India's battery value chain and rare earth element (REE) magnets ecosystem. Moderated by Mr. Shalabh Tandon and Mr. Michael Stanley, the dialogue focused on unlocking bottlenecks in long-term

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capital access, infrastructure readiness, and technology adoption critical to scaling domestic capabilities. Participants highlighted challenges such as limited access to competitive financing, gaps in high-purity refining technologies, dependence on global supply chains, and the need for secure offtake arrangements, while also exploring how public programs can de-risk investments and strengthen market linkages.

In the REE magnets segment, discussions aligned with India's ambition to build midstream processing and downstream manufacturing capacity for materials such as NdFeB and SmCo, with emphasis on value chain mapping, ESG considerations, and the development of efficient REE corridors to address logistics and scale. The roundtable underscored the importance of industry–government collaboration to bridge technology gaps, enable financing, and accelerate domestic manufacturing competitiveness.

Among the distinguished speakers, Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS, shared industry perspectives on the ongoing Skill Gap Study undertaken by SCMS in collaboration with Ministry of Mines, where Critical and Strategic Minerals (entire value chain) is an important inclusion. Moreover, the sector needs a dedicated focus and industry and Govt. alignment to create the skilled workforce for the domestic demand. However, the focus could also be to look towards Skills Export for the requirements of other major producers around the globe.

### India Skills National Competition 2025-26

India's premier platform to celebrate excellence in skills, the IndiaSkills National Competition 2025–26 commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 with a grand opening ceremony in Greater Noida. Organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and supported by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), the competition brings together over 650 skilled youth from across the country, competing across 63 skill categories aligned with national and global industry standards. The competition marks a significant milestone in India's journey towards building a future-ready workforce and advancing the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

The national competition features top-performing candidates who have emerged as winners from five regional rounds held across the country. These regional competitions organized in different zones witnessed participation from thousands of candidates, each demonstrating exceptional technical expertise, discipline, and commitment. The finalists gathered here today represent the very best talent from these rigorous selection stages.

Addressing the gathering, Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, MSDE, said, "Education builds knowledge, but skills give that knowledge purpose and power. In a rapidly changing world, the real strength of a nation lies in its commitment to lifelong learning and pride in craftsmanship. Through platforms like IndiaSkills, we are nurturing role models who inspire young Indians to pursue excellence in skills. As we prepare to send a strong contingent to the WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai, we are sending a clear signal that India is building one of the most skilled workforces in the world."

Ms. Manisha Sensarma, Senior Economic Adviser, MSDE, observed that IndiaSkills is not merely a competition but a key part of India's effort to build a structured skilled talent ecosystem. She noted that with over 200 industry partners and competitions across 63 skills, 43 onsite and 20 offsite, the platform reflects strong industry alignment, scale, and inclusivity.

Mr. Arunkumar Pillai, CEO, NSDC, highlighted the importance of industry-aligned skilling and collaboration, noting that IndiaSkills represents a powerful convergence of training, industry, and performance, setting benchmarks for excellence while equipping youth with skills aligned to real-world demands and global standards.

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Prof. Rana Pratap Singh, Vice Chancellor, Gautam Buddha University, noted that platforms like IndiaSkills foster lifelong learning and help students view skills as integral to higher education and future workforce readiness. He added that NEP 2020 promotes strong integration of education and skills through multidisciplinary learning and flexible academic pathways.

The IndiaSkills Competition 2025–26 cycle has recorded one of the largest participation footprints in its history, with over 3.65 lakh registrations from across 36 States and Union Territories, competing across 63 skill categories through the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH). This scale reflects the increasing aspiration among India’s youth to pursue skills as a viable and rewarding career pathway.

IndiaSkills Competition showcases an extraordinary spectrum of skills. Some of these skills are widely recognised such as Electrical Installation, Electronics, Web Technologies, and Cloud Computing. Additionally, many others represent emerging and highly specialised careers shaping the industries of tomorrow, such as Autonomous Mobile Robotics, Additive Manufacturing, Cyber Security, Industry 4.0, Optoelectronic Technology, Unmanned Aerial Systems, Digital Construction, Logistics and Freight Forwarding, and Chemical Laboratory Technology.

The strength of IndiaSkills lies in its collaborative ecosystem, bringing together the Central and State Governments, Sector Skill Councils, academic institutions, and industry partners to ensure strong alignment with real-world requirements. In the current cycle, over a dozen Sector Skill Councils are supporting competitions across key sectors such as automotive, electronics, IT–ITeS, construction, retail, agriculture, tourism, and healthcare, with active participation from more than 200 leading industry partners, including Toyota Kirloskar, Maruti Suzuki, JK Cement, and Lincoln Electric, ensuring that tasks and assessments closely mirror industry standards.

Over the next few days, competitors will be evaluated by industry experts and domain specialists on parameters such as precision, creativity, efficiency, and adherence to global standards. Of the 63 categories, 43 skills are being conducted onsite, allowing for live demonstrations of technical proficiency, while 20 skills will be evaluated through offsite formats, ensuring comprehensive and inclusive assessment across a wide range of disciplines. The winners of the national competition will earn the opportunity to represent India at the prestigious WorldSkills Competition Shanghai 2026, often referred to as the “Olympics of Skills.”

The opening ceremony was graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including Shri Gyanendra Dev Tripathi, Principal Secretary, SEED, Assam; Shri Manish Singh, Principal Secretary, Department of Technical Education, Skill Development & Employment, Government of Madhya Pradesh; Shri Zubemo Lotha Tsanglao, Additional Director, Government of Nagaland; Ms. Leena Padha, Mission Director, J&K Skill Development Mission; Shri Prashant Sinha, COO, NSDC; Shri Rajesh Swaika, CFO, NSDC; Shri Jagdish Mitra, Board Member, NSDC; along with senior officials from the Ministry and NSDC, industry leaders, and partners from academia and the skilling ecosystem. Their presence underscored the collaborative spirit driving India’s skilling ecosystem.

Aligned with national priorities such as Skill India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Viksit Bharat, the IndiaSkills Competition reinforces the importance of inclusive, decentralised, and future-oriented growth. MSDE continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening the country’s skilling landscape. With a focus on scale, speed, and standards, MSDE remains committed to building a future-ready workforce and positioning India as a global hub for skilled talent.



Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO-SCMS, attended the inauguration along with Dr. Pankaj Kumar Satija, Chairman-SCMS and Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs, JSW Group.

In continuation of this, second All Hands meet of CEOs of SSC and NSDC organized at India Expo and Mart centre, Greater Noida, on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

This meeting followed the collaborative framework launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 in Hyderabad between NSDC and the Sector Skill Councils, aimed at creating a significant and lasting impact through cluster-based projects and three-year business plans.

During this session, SSCs presented their respective cluster plans, and collectively explored opportunities across state-level initiatives, CSR, apprenticeships, and Centres of Excellence, with Digital and Green priorities integrated across all initiatives.

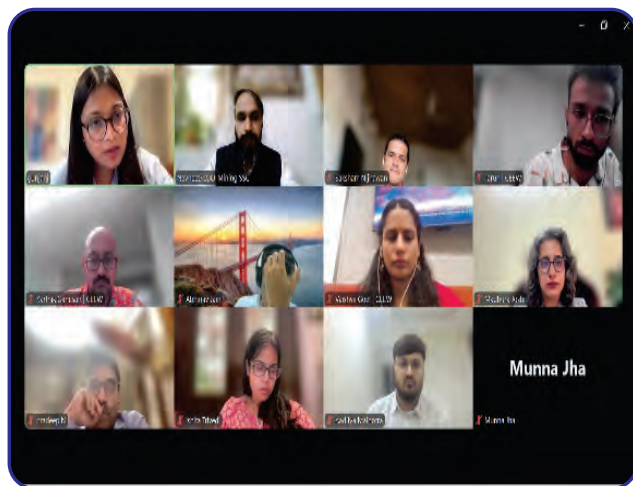
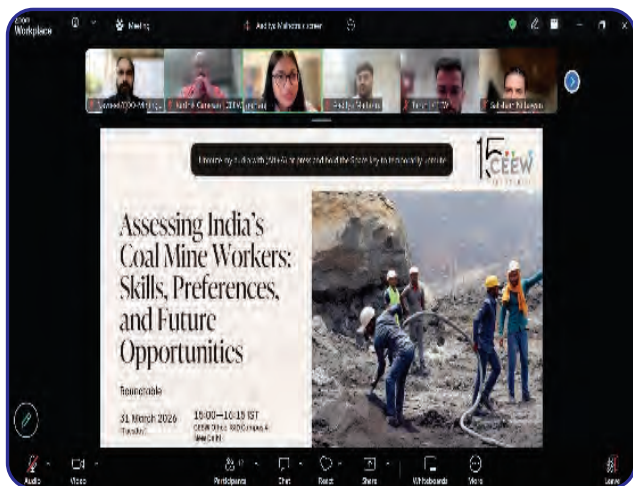


**Mr. Diptendu Bhattacharya, CEO of the Indian Iron & Steel SSC presented cluster plan of Mining and Iron & Steel Sector**

### **Roundtable on Skills, Preferences and Future Opportunities for Coal Workers in India**

The Council on Energy Environment and Water (CEEW) hosted a high-level closed-door roundtable on “Skills, Preferences and Future Opportunities for Coal Workers in India” in hybrid mode on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, bringing together policymakers, researchers, and industry voices to deliberate on pathways for a just transition. The session marked the launch of a comprehensive report based on a field survey of over 700 coal workers in Jharsuguda, followed by thematic discussions on decentralised regional planning, institutional preparedness, and the role of tech-enabled employment platforms. Key insights highlighted workers’ preference for local employment, the gap in formally recognised skills, and the need for inclusive, worker-centric transition frameworks supported by social protection and digital innovation.

Among the speakers, Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO & Officiating CEO, SCMS, commended the CEEW team for its rigorous field study and noted that initial transitions are likely to occur within the sector, even as shifts in immediate geography take shape. He emphasized the potential of agriculture and allied domains like including horticulture, floriculture, dairy, fisheries, and eco-tourism, as viable avenues for self-empowerment, citing emerging examples from mining organisations and support groups. He further underlined that transitional skilling, particularly domain-specific mining training in soon-to-close mines, must be complemented with structured counselling on future employment opportunities and the mindset shifts required to navigate change effectively.



Roundtable on CEEW report launch on coal mine workers' skills & future opportunities

MEDIA





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