

Paridhaan

a quarterly newsletter of AMHSSC

Our cordial welcome to our new Skill Ministers



Shree Dharmendra Pradhan

Honorable Minister for
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship



Shree Anant Kumar Hegde

Honorable Minister of State for
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Why do we require spread of certifications under RPL Scheme in Informal Sector?

In India the number of skilled personnel, out of the total lot is mere 3%, as compared to whopping 96% in South Korea. Is our workforce less skilled than other countries? The answer is a big 'NO'. Then what is the reason for this dismal number of 3%? The answer is that till now we concentrated more on education stream and every youngster, after 12th standard aspired to become Engineer, Doctor or MBA. No one aspired to become a Machinist, a welder a sewing machine operator. As a result of the aspirations of Indian youngsters and their parents we have a situation where thousands of Engineers and MBAs are sitting idle without job or are doing menial jobs not at all commensurate with their education. The reason for such a situation is also the fact that Skills were never given the place which ought to have been given. The people, accordingly, got more attracted to only educational streams as those streams were giving them better packages. The Skills side remained almost neglected.

With the formulation of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 40 Sector Skill Councils were formulated. SSCs represent the respective sector and holds absolute expertise with the support of that particular industry.

The Govt came out with the excellent tool to bring in a great order to the Skilling ecosystem and introduced the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) which envisaged to bring in respect to Skills and to ensure that uniform skilling trainings get imparted across the country and which are acceptable to the industry. SSCs were mandated to develop National Occupational Standards (NOSs) in each sector.

The skilling process, thus, took a total turn with the ecosystem starting imparting trainings on these NOSs. Another great programme started by the Govt of India is the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme. Under this programme those artisans and workers are assessed and certified in various industries who have acquired skills thru conventional means and have never been assessed and certified. This programme has been started in both Organized, as well as in unorganized sector.

While this industry and the workers both get benefitted with this programme in organized sector, there is a greater need to conduct this programme more in the unorganized sector. In India 90% of the workforce is in Unorganized sector and until we assess and certify them, the job would be incomplete.

There are far more benefits of the RPL programme in Unorganized sector than in organized sector. Following are the benefits to the workers/artisans if this scheme is introduced in unorganized sector:

First of all the Govt of India would get the credible data related to the number of skilled personnel in that sector.

The concerned worker/artisan gets an emotional satisfaction on getting Govt of India's certification.

Immediately after getting such certification, a person gets eligible for the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) and the concerned worker/artisan can improve upon his small business.

There are various other agencies, like NBCFDC, NSCFDC and NSKFDC etc which also grant loans to the candidates after they get skill certification.

The candidates, after getting such certification also become eligible to enter Organised sector.

As this certificate has National, as well as International recognition, candidates can also aspire for international relocation.

The best part is that this process does not result in relocation of the candidates.

With this certificate with them, the candidates cannot be duped/exploited by unscrupulous elements.

– Dr. Roopak Vashishtha, CEO & DG, AMH SSC

AMHSSC Initiatives



UTES and AMHSSC will jointly train Youth of Haryana from the CSR funds of RITES

Faridabad: Under the Govt. of India's flagship scheme of "SKILL INDIA" the Apparel, Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council (AMHSSC) has joined hands with RITES (Under Government of India Enterprise) to impart trainings on Sewing Machine Operator (SMO) and Self Employed Tailor (SET) job roles, to the youth in the region of Faridabad, Haryana. Through this joint initiative the council will assess and certify the successful candidates. The project will be taken under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.



Role of AMHSSC in Formal and Informal Economy

India being one of the major players in Apparel segment not only offers diversified products globally but also offers huge employment opportunities both in the formal and informal economies. Apparel Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council (AHSSC) has been instrumental in building standards across various job roles and thus has been able to create strong industry connects. With its programs of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), PMKVY scheme and individual certifications, it has reached out to people involved both in formal apparel sector as well as hand embroiders, bespoke tailors, self-employed tailors etc. who fall under the informal economy. They have identified majority of the job roles constituting the supply chain of apparel production. The standardization and stream lining of processes across these job roles have brought in professional attributes enhancing the efficiency to the otherwise informal way of production which has aided in bridging the wide gap of formal and informal apparel economy. For example, there are job roles for budding entrepreneurs in the form of self-employed tailor, boutique manager & fashion designer, job roles for people who can be a part of larger organization but prefer working independently such as hand-embroider, sampling tailor etc. To cater to the industries involved in ready-made garments, AHSSC has developed job roles such as sourcing manager, line supervisor stitching, fabric cutter, store keeper, quality assessor, machine maintenance mechanic as well as export executive and many more.

AHSSC has been encouraging domestic sector apparel segment by focusing on micro entrepreneurs and micro factories which offer informal employment to produce specialized segment of clothes for women, men & children. Apparel exports also offer significant employment. Being a micro entrepreneur or being engaged in a micro factory offers more flexibility to the workforce across the supply chain as well as results in overall reduction of the production cost.

To create more micro entrepreneurs and micro apparel factories, the idea of cluster based approach in apparel sector can be explored. People belonging to same geographic region can be trained and skilled in various job roles across the value chain of the apparel products and job works can be distributed to them as per their area of expertise. A hub can be with resources dedicated entirely to manage the orders, logistics, packaging and other operations as well as expert's designers, business development experts etc for various products. The spokes can be small units or self-employed entrepreneurs producing products feeding into the hub. Cluster approach can aid in significant reduction of production costs since people involved in the value chain would own the tools and equipment for production purpose and would utilize their own personal space. Instead of setting up a full-fledged garment production factory, resources can be pooled up and brought under one eco- system of a hub and spoke model. A WIN-WIN situation can be created for the local people who do not wish to migrate in search of suitable livelihood options resulting in boosting the local economy of the region.



GST: Government gives interim relief to garment, made ups exporters till September 30.

Government announces a "transitional arrangement" wherein garments and made ups exporters can claim Remission of State Levies at the rates prior to introduction of GST till September 30.

New Delhi: Exporters of garments and made ups like bedsheets and towels will continue to get rebate on certain state levies for three more months as in the pre-Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.

Government on Tuesday announced a "transitional arrangement" wherein garments and made ups exporters can claim Remission of State Levies (ROSL) at the rates prior to introduction of GST till September 30.

The scheme aims at making exports competitive in the international market as exporters of made ups get incentives of 3.9 per cent of the value of exported goods.

The government in June had slashed the rates under the RoSL Scheme on export of garments and textile made-up articles to 0.39 per cent to be effective from July 1 from 3.9 per cent earlier causing a furore in the two sectors.

However, Tuesday's announcement will allow exporters the old incentive of 3.9 per cent till September 30.

The special scheme for remission of state levies for three years was part of the Rs 6,000 crore package that the government had approved in June last year for employment generation and promotion of exports in the textile and apparel sector.

<http://retail.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/apparel-fashion/apparel/gst-government-gives-interim-relief-to-garment-made-ups-exporters-till-september-30/59873277>

Usha launches advanced straight stitch sewing machines

Usha International, one of India's leading consumer durables and number one sewing machine company, has unveiled its latest innovation in the sewing machine category—Usha Nova and Usha Nova Pro. This range of advanced stitch sewing machines combines the functionality of a straight stitch machine with added convenience of an automatic machine.

The new range is customised with features like an in-built LED light for better visibility, a thread cutter and a one touch reverse stitch button for easy reverse stitching. Other features include an advanced presser adjuster for smooth operation on various fabrics, extra presser foot lift to work on heavy fabrics like denim and a feed drop knob to shift from stitching to embroidery at the touch of a button.

The Usha Nova range is available in three variants—Usha Nova hand operated, foot operated and Usha Nova Pro with an in-built motor. These machines have an aluminum die-cast body with smart color options and a carry handle for portability.

<http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/machinery-equipment-news/usha-launches-advanced-straight-stitch-sewing-machines-205896-newsdetails.htm>



Telangana Government offers incentives to textiles & Apparel industry

The sops are part of the Telangana Textile and Apparel Incentive Scheme 2017 announced by the TRS government with an aim to attract investments and generate job opportunities for the local population.

According to a government order (GO), the capital and operational incentives for the textiles and apparels industry will be applicable for both new as well as existing units for the next five years.

"The incentives proposed hereunder shall be operative for a period of five years from the date of notification and will cover all new and existing units.

"While the government is keen to encourage industry with the primary objective of attracting investments and generating employment opportunities for the local population, it is hereby clarified that it expects the industry to provide a fair and decent wage to the workforce," the GO said. It said VAT/CST/SGST reimbursement is available for tax collected on end product/intermediates within the entire value chain (from cotton to garment and made ups) to the extent of 100 per cent for a period of seven years from the date of commencement of commercial production. Or up to realisation of 100 per cent fixed capital investment the eligible fixed capital investment, whichever is earlier.

<http://retail.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/apparel-fashion/apparel/telangana-govt-offers-incentives-to-textiles-industry/60132570>

Stronger Rupee Plays Killjoy As India's Garment Exports to US Reach Top Notch

In the first half of 2017, Indian garment exporters have created history of sorts by notching up the top spot for market share in the category "men/boys knitwear shirts cotton". This is the first time that Indian exporters have reached the top of the ladder in this category. Supportive data that indicated this trend was released by the US department of Commerce's Office of Textile and Apparel. According to the figures made available, India has exported 8.5 million dozens of men/boys shirts cotton to the United States. In percentage terms, India had contributed to 8.7 percent of the total U.S. imports of garments falling under this category in the month of June.

The main factor contributing to the increase in cost of production is the appreciating rupee against the dollar. While we quote a mere 3 to 5 percent higher figure in terms of price owing to the rupee appreciation, to be adequately compensated for the losses we incur, we would need to implement a 7 percent hike," opined an exporter.

<http://www.textileexcellence.com/news/details/2401/stronger-rupee-plays-killjoy-as-india%E2%80%99s-garment-exports-to-us-reach-top-notch>



