



Skill India and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation Join Hands to Train 1000 Masons in Uttar Pradesh

NSDC to implement project to skill upto 50,000 in three months



Jhansi, April 18, 2018: The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS), with support from the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** and the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** organized a training camp for approximately 1000 masons in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh for the construction of twin pit toilets. In what is expected to be an intense drive towards making India Open Defecation Free (ODF) by October 2019, this is the first such training camp to be launched in Uttar Pradesh, under this partnership between Ministries.

While starting with the training of a 1000 masons from Jhansi and the surrounding areas, more such training sessions will take place in the coming months. The skilling of approximately 50,000 masons will be coordinated by **NSDC** and their training partners. Depending on the skill levels of the masons, they will undergo the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) which is a seven-day training program designed to recognise and certify the informal learning and on the job skills that the candidate may have picked up and giving it equal acceptance as the formal NSQF levels.



Additionally, training will also be provided under the flagship **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna's (PMKVY)** Short Term Training program (STT) which lasts 45 days. With nearly 55 per cent successful placements, the Short-Term Training Program (STT) under **PMKVY (2016-20)** is an effective, refined and demand-driven endeavour, focused on the quality of training.

Up until now the widely favoured method of constructing toilets in Uttar Pradesh has been to construct large, sealed septic tanks to collect waste matter which tend to be prohibitively expensive particularly for the rural population, costing anywhere from 20,000 to 70,000 rupees.

On recommendation from the Government and the training partners, the masons receiving the skill training are being taught to construct a much smaller and cheaper twin pit system. This method involves the construction of two leach pits, with a 'Y' junction, so that one pit can be filled at a time. The practice being to fill one pit, which may take the average family five to eight years, cover it over when nearly full, and to leave it to stand while the second pit is used. After about a year, once the contents of the first pit have turned into harmless and valuable fertiliser it can be used and sold by the family.

Speaking at the occasion, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** said, *"The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship shall support ShriAdityanath Yogi ji's vision of making Uttar Pradesh Open Defecation Free by the end of 2018 by providing skilled, trained and certified manpower. To promote skill development in Jhansi, we commit to setting up a Pradhhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra within the district to ensure that the youth have access to employment linked skilling programmes without having to migrate."*

"Our work, where we are supporting national missions such as these through association with their respective ministries is a clear example of One India Team vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister. We are certain that our joint efforts will result into a wide positive impact in



the society and will bring about behavioural change in our people where they are sensitized about sanitation and well-being,” he further added.

In less than two years of its launch, **PradhanMantriKaushalVikasYojana (PMKVY) (2016-20)**, the flagship scheme of the **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** has made rapid progress. The scheme has achieved a landmark milestone of 4,76,592 placements (as on April 18th, 2018).

Sharing her thoughts, **Sushree Uma Bharti, Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation** said, *“Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has set us the target of making India Open Defecation Free by 2019 and we are focussed on constructing toilets in every district of the country to achieve this goal. With Shri Pradhan’s support, we will have skilled manpower to fast track this scheme as envisioned by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri Adityanath Yogi, who wishes to achieve this target in UP by end of 2018.”*

For more information on Skill Development, please follow the links below:

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