

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1462
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014
NEW APPRENTICESHIP ACT
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State-run apprenticeship regime in India manages to train just 2.5 lakhs youths which is very low in comparison to other countries including Japan and Germany;

(a) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the apprenticeship covers only technical graduates and diploma holders at present;

(d) if so, whether the Government has proposed to make suitable amendments in the Apprenticeship Act, 1961 to bring all graduates under its ambit and also to resume 50 percent of new job opportunities for apprentices trained under the Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL, MINES AND LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) Yes Madam, the apprenticeship regime in India manages to train 2.82 lakh apprentices under the categories of Trade apprentices, Graduate apprentices, Technician apprentices and Technician(Vocational) apprentices against 4.9 lakh apprenticeship seats located in the Central & State Sector establishments (Public & Private)

(b) The reasons therefor are :

(i) Low rates of stipend do not attract candidates to undertake apprenticeship training.

(ii) Establishments face difficulty due to lesser flexibility on account of seasonality of operations .

(iii) Some establishments are unable to engage apprentices due to severe financial constraints as they do not have sufficient funds to pay stipend to the apprentices.

(c) No Madam. Apprentices of four categories, namely;

i. Trade apprentices

ii. Graduate apprentices

iii. Technician apprentices, and

iv. Technician (Vocational) apprentices, are included in the Act.

(d) & (e) The Government has a proposal to bring comprehensive amendments to the Act keeping in view suggestions received from various stakeholders to provide necessary flexibility with safeguards, and facilitate wider participation of youth and the industry.