

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:658

ANSWERED ON:19.07.2017

Definition of Skills as per International Standards

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Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether at present there is no clear definition of skills that is aligned with international standards and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether people trained for vocational education from Industrial Training Institutes under the erstwhile Skills Development initiative are only counted for under the existing rules for measuring skills in the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether this has resulted in only a few people being shown skilled though the actual number is higher; and
- (e) if so, whether the Ministry is now ready with a definition of skills in tandem with international standards and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

(a) to (e) There is no standard international definition of skills. The manner in which skilled manpower is assessed may also differ across nations. In India, the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), in its Employment and Unemployment Surveys, does not collect information on 'skill'. However, in the said survey, information is collected on formal and non-formal vocational training received through various sources, including Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). The number of 'skilled manpower' will be higher than the number of people who have received vocational training. Effort is to estimate skilled manpower in a way which is most comparable to the practice followed internationally.