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Title: Regarding issue of unemployment among the skilled workforce in the country.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a very important matter.

On the one hand, the Government is giving a lot of emphasis to create skilled manpower in the country and a separate Ministry has also been created for this purpose but on the other hand there is a growing concern among the people who have got skill training but are jobless.

India has less than two per cent of skilled workforce and the Government aims to train five crore people with various kinds of skills by 2022 to plug the skill gap in the country. But, as per the Survey conducted by the Labour Bureau, there is 14.5 per cent unemployment among the skilled workforce in the country. The findings reveal that except trades such as leather work, plumbing, motor driving, travel operations and other categories of skilled persons exhibited double digit unemployment figures. Nearly 17 per cent of those who have textile-related training and over 14 per cent with machine operator skills are lying idle. It has also been revealed that about 12 million people join the workforce every year. But the figures show that only 5.5 millions of them are actually employed every year.

Madam, many jobs are created by industry also which are going unfilled because local people lack the skills required in that local area. There is a mismatch.

To address this problem, I would suggest for the consideration of the Government to map sector-wise skill requirements of the country in consultation with industry. I also agree with the hon. Prime Minister when he says that there is also a need to map skill requirements of various countries. And, on the basis of these two maps, we have to lay emphasis on areas and trades, and train the people.

I think, we have to consider having the idea of the Rural Economic Zone. Most of the unemployment and underemployment in the country are in the rural areas. So, we can consider actually giving incentives to places where there are more people who have the potential to be employed and bring industry to those locations, and skill the people for those industries in those locations. We can align all of these things together, and, I think, the young people of this country will benefit, industry will benefit and the country will benefit. Thank you.