

## 10 YEARS OF SKILL INDIA MISSION - SCHEMES

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NEWS: Skill India Mission completed ten years.  
WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

### About Skill India Mission (SIM)

- **Launch and Purpose:**

Launched on **15 July 2015**—the **World Youth Skills Day**—Skill India Mission aims to provide **skill development, re-skilling, and up-skilling opportunities** to India's workforce through a vast network of **skill development centres and training institutes** across the country.

- **Restructured Framework (2022–2026):**

In **February 2025**, the government approved the **restructured Skill India Programme** for the period **2022–23 to 2025–26**, consolidating key schemes such as **PMKVY 4.0, PM-NAPS**, and **JSS** into a **single Central Sector Scheme** to ensure streamlined implementation and improved outcomes.

### Key Components of the Restructured Scheme

- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 4.0):**

This scheme provides **short-term skill training** and **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** to youth across India, including outreach in **rural and semi-urban areas**, with a focus on improving employability and industry-readiness.

- **Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS):**

Designed to **promote apprenticeships** by providing **financial incentives for stipends** and facilitating both **basic and on-the-job training**, this scheme bridges the gap between academic learning and real-world industry experience.

- **Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme:**

JSS focuses on **vocational training for non-literates, neo-literates, and school dropouts (up to Class 12)**, particularly targeting **women, SC/ST/OBC groups, minorities**, and those from **rural and low-income urban areas**, enabling social inclusion through skills.



### Major Achievements (2015–2025)

- **Massive Outreach:**

Over **6 crore youth** were trained under SIM across **38 sectors**, including **Information Technology, manufacturing, construction, agriculture, and services**, expanding the scope of India's skilled workforce.

- **Women Empowerment:**

Special initiatives under SIM have successfully increased **female participation in vocational training and formal employment**, helping bridge the gender gap in multiple sectors.

- **Global Recognition:**  
India's performance in the **WorldSkills Competition 2022** was commendable, with a **rank of 11th globally**, showcasing improvement in global competitiveness of India's youth.
- **Sector-wise Employment Growth:**  
SIM contributed to employment growth in several sectors—**manufacturing (15%)**, **services (20%)**, and **construction (25%)**, helping boost sectoral productivity.

### Socio-Economic Impact

- **Reduction in Unemployment:**  
According to the **India Skills Report 2025**, **employability among Indian graduates has increased to 54.81%**, showing significant improvement in job readiness.
- **Improved Workforce Participation:**  
The **overall employment rate rose from 36.9% to 37.9%**, reflecting improved access to skill-linked employment opportunities.
- **Inclusive Development:**  
The Mission facilitated **inclusive growth** by targeting **rural areas, tribal belts, LWE-affected districts, and the North-Eastern Region**, reducing regional skill gaps.
- **Boost to Entrepreneurship:**  
SIM equipped youth with skills necessary for **self-employment, MSME development, and start-up creation**, thus fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem.

### Challenges in Implementation

- **Skill-Industry Mismatch:**  
Despite large-scale training, there is a **continued mismatch between acquired skills and industry demands**, particularly in fast-evolving sectors like digital technologies.
- **Low Industry Absorption:**  
A significant proportion of trained candidates, especially from **rural or informal sectors**, struggle to find suitable placements due to **lack of demand linkage or support services**.
- **Regional Disparities:**  
There is **uneven implementation across states**, with **some states lagging in outreach, infrastructure, or institutional capacity**, leading to skewed outcomes.
- **Social Perception Issues:**  
Vocational education is often perceived as **inferior to mainstream academic education**, resulting in **low enrolment and societal acceptance**, especially among the middle class.
- **Infrastructure and Trainer Deficit:**  
Several training centres face **shortages of modern equipment, updated curricula, and certified trainers**, affecting the **quality and relevance** of training imparted.
- **Funding and Coordination Issues:**  
The **Sinha Committee (2022)** flagged persistent problems like **funding delays**,

**bureaucratic bottlenecks, and lack of coordination between Central and State bodies, impeding programme efficiency.**

### **Way Forward**

- **Digital Integration in Training Delivery:**

There is a growing need to integrate **e-learning platforms, AI-based monitoring, and blended (online + offline) learning models** to enhance accessibility and efficiency.

- **Strengthen Private and Global Partnerships:**

SIM should focus on engaging with the **private sector, international training providers, and global value chains** to bring in **world-class training standards and employment opportunities** abroad.

- **Shift from Input to Outcome Focus:**

Future reforms must prioritize **regular impact assessments** based on **real employment outcomes, entrepreneurship generation, and sustained income**, rather than just tracking training numbers.