प्रवीण कुमार सचिव Praveen Kumar Secretary



भारत सरकार कौशल विकास और उद्यमशीलता मंत्रालय GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

D.O. No. SD-17/88/2020-SNP

18th August, 2020

As you are aware, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is responsible for co-ordination of all skill development efforts across the country with the objective of bringing out uniformity and standardization as per standardized skilling framework. The Skill India Mission aims at vocational training and certification of Indian youth for a better livelihood and respect in the society.

- 2. The current disruption of the physical training caused due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the whole skilling ecosystem across the country at a scale is unprecedented. The same must be the case for skilling activities done under the Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) Welfare Cess Act 1996, the cess being managed by State Welfare Boards in the States/UTs.
- 3. In this regard, I would like to assure you that MSDE is taking all the necessary efforts to realign the current skilling ecosystem in-line with the requirements of the present unforeseen situation. MSDE have started the process of shifting to blended form of training with future integration of online component in the short term skilling covering all the aspects such as course specific training content, assessment protocols, pay-outs, etc. Additionally, the issue of training through online/ blended mode, list of courses, pay-out rate, etc. would be taken up in the upcoming meeting of the Common Norms Committee.
- 4. In this connection, I have to state that while the online component of blended training will help in increasing the reach to more people in a shorter period of time, the initial investment is high in developing the content, and in maintaining the infrastructure to house the content. Most training providers or the Sector Skill Councils have expressed their inability in raising funds towards this objective.
- 5. It is understood that there is a provision for spending upto 10% of the total funds under BOCW on skilling of construction workers in the States/UTs. Directorate General Labour Welfare (DGLW) under Ministry of Labour and Employment along with the State Welfare Boards of the State/ UTs oversee the implementation and other related processes such as preparation of guidelines, course content, pay-out etc.

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- 6. I would like to suggest that, using these funds, the Construction Welfare Board may partner with the Construction Skill Development Council of India (CSDCI), in developing and maintaining such funds. The assistance may be in form of part grant, part loan, which may be paid back by the Sector Council based on recovery to be made from training programmes over next two-three years. This will be a win win situation, wherein the construction sector would benefit in the end.
- 7. In view of above, I would request your kind intervention for issuing directions to DGLW and the State Welfare Boards present in the States/ UTs responsible for operating the BOCW cess to utilize some of the funds under BOCW for development of online course content for construction workers, wherever possible, in alignment with the current unanticipated situation.

Yours Sincerely,

Sd/--

(Praveen Kumar)

Shri Heeralal Samariya Secretary Ministry of Labour and Employment 104, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi -110001. E-mail id: secy-labour@nic.in

Copy to with a request for following up:

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- ii. Shri Ajit Gulabchand, Chairman, CSDCI, CPB-103 & 104, Block 4B, DLF Corporate Park, Phase-III, M G Road, Gurugram-122002.(Email: ajit.gulabchand@hccindia.com)
- iii. Col . A K Singh (retd.), CEO, CSDCI, CPB-103 & 104, Block 4B, DLF Corporate Park, Phase-III, M G Road, Gurugram-122002. (Email : anand@csdcindia.org)

with myd,

(Praveen Kumar)