

# **SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION IN PUNJAB KEY CHALLENGES, HINDERANCES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Government has launched various poverty and unemployment alleviation programs. Integrated rural development programs, training of Rural Youth for self-employment, Jawahar Rozgar Yagna, Prime Minister Rozgar Yagna are a few schemes launched by the government to reduce unemployment in India. The number of new government jobs is decreasing every year. Business houses are now a days looking for youth having skills. Developing Skills is the only alternative to counter poverty and unemployment.*

*Honourable Prime Minister has launched Skill Development Mission, so as to make India hub of skilled manpower. The mission is not only limited to skill but also entrepreneurship. Hence both and entrepreneurship is promoted through this campaign.*

***Keywords: Skill Development Mission, Unemployment Poverty, Entrepreneurship Apprenticeship, Training, Opportunities.***

## **I INTRODUCTION**

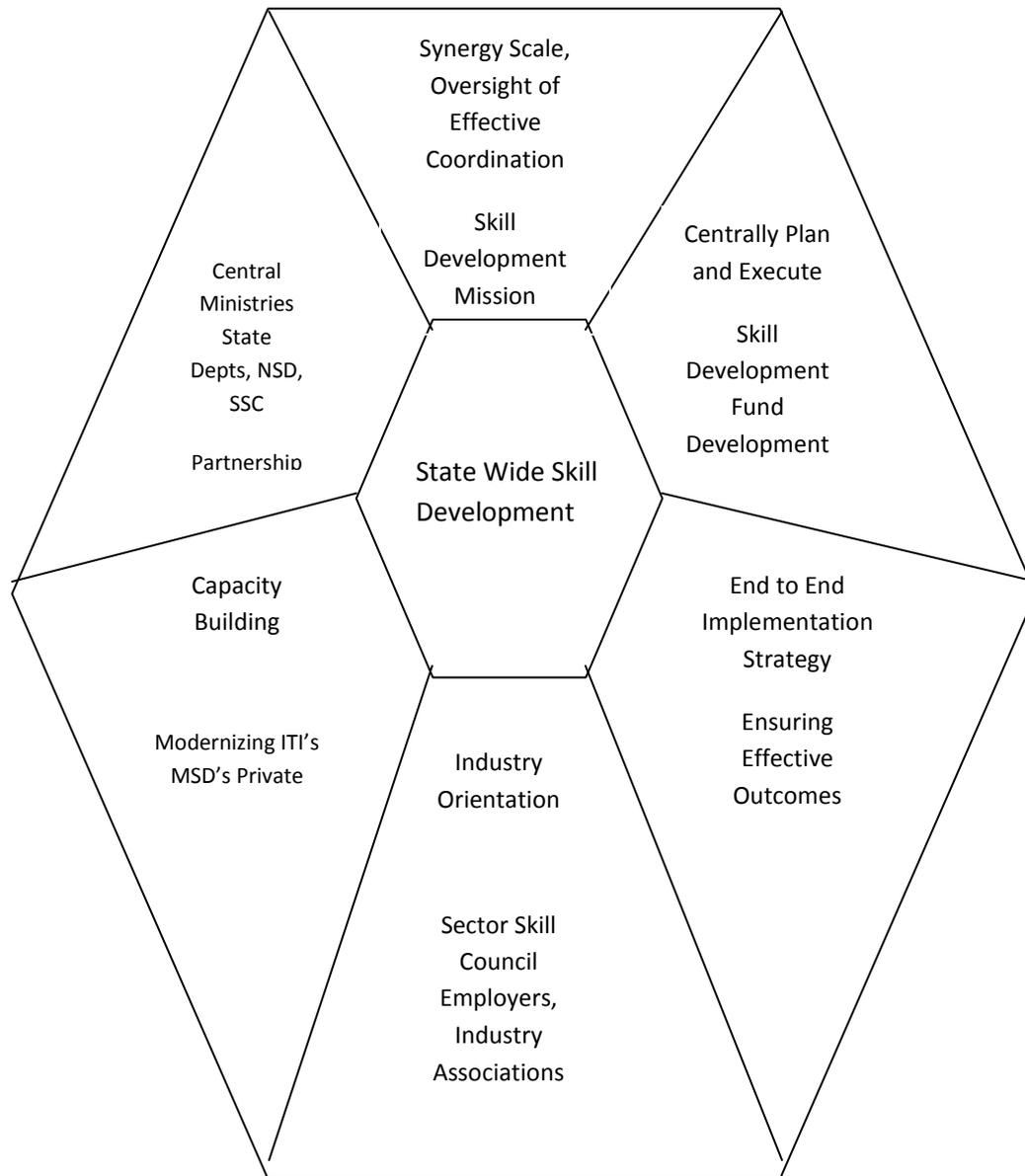
Punjab skill development mission seeks to create constant opportunities for the youth of Punjab so they are able to acquire skills to choice and support them with means of creating sustainable livelihoods. State of Punjab has launched new courses under skill development program to train more than 15000 desirous youths to enhance their employability<sup>1</sup>.

Demand driven short training courses based on Modular Employable.

Skills (MES) is identified and decided in consultation with industry. Central government facilitates and promotes training while industry, private sector and state governments provide training to the persons. Punjab needs to have a massive skill development program and create employment opportunities through this mission.

The Government of Punjab gives top priority to skill development to its people. This is done only with one most important reason, to make them employable. The unemployed youth of Punjab are helped by making them choose right skills, so that they can have better livelihoods. This is done by keeping in view their academic background and aptitudes. The mission of Punjab state is to coordinate all the efforts of different departments in providing skills based training<sup>2</sup>.

Punjab Skill Development Mission, Government of Punjab has illustrated its working with sighting the following State Road Map for Skill Development Model<sup>3</sup>.



State Roadmap for Skill Development Comprehensive and Sustainable Model

Source PSDM

Skill and knowledge helps in the growth of a person and makes him self-reliant. It also helps people in getting job-oriented jobs. It also helps people in exploring their talents to their full. Skill Training Centre help in finding job opportunities. The Training Centres set up by the Government impart various types of training in different courses as per qualification, skill of people. Various camps and workshops are organized. Edusat sessions, presentations become part of the course curriculum.

## **II OBJECTIVES**

1. To study the challenges and problems faced by Skill Development Mission in Punjab.
2. To study all possible solutions to make Skill Development mission in Punjab a success.

## **III METHODOLOGY**

In order to study Challenges and problems faced by Skill Development Mission in Punjab, data was generated through various journals, books, websites, reports related to State of Punjab.

- As per 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Employment and unemployment survey by Labour Bureau<sup>4</sup> population aged 15 and above 6.8% has received vocational training.
- Majority of people have acquired hereditary skills and do not go for a formal training<sup>5</sup>.
- Women in rural areas do not indulge in skills which are technical in nature.
- Employers complain that youth do not have the skills which are suited to their organizations.
- Job creation is not on the same pace as the number of youths coming out of these training centres.
- Lack of awareness on the part of youth to choose the right type of course.
- Skill development is associated with blue collar jobs which are thought to be below dignity for some.
- The perceived “Stigma” associated with skill development has also resulted in low enrolments in vocational courses<sup>6</sup>.
- Bank educational loans are very high, hence future investments become uncertain.
- Quality and good trainers are also a matter of concern.
- Number of IIT’s and Vocational Centres are less.
- To identify voids in the existing system and to rectify the same.
- To refine the course curriculum and pedagogy in the training centres.
- To upgrade the courses in the training centres which have a high demand in the job market.
- To increase funds and infrastructure in the training centres.

- To change the mind set and perceptions of the youth from bookish knowledge to vocational courses<sup>7</sup>.
- Quality trainers should be hired to train youth.
- Training policies of the government need to be updated from time to time.
- Practical training, Hand-on-training is required for trainers. Good stipend during training programs should be provided.
- Skills should be developed to work overseas.

#### **IV CONCLUSION**

Skill Development Mission in Punjab is a successful Government venture which has definitely helped youth to get employment. It is a strong help taken by the Government of India towards making the State prosperous.

There is a great need of such ventures which will help in uplifting the standard of living and attaining financial independence among youth.

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