No.M.13015/6/2006-LEM/LP
Government of India
Planning Commission
(Labour, Employment & Manpower Division)

Yojana Bhawan, Parliament Street
New Delhi, the December 6, 2006

ORDER

Subject:- Constitution of a Task Force on Skill Development.

It has been decided to constitute a Task Force on Skill Development to make recommendations on how to meet the requirements of skilled manpower for India's growing economy in the Eleventh Five Year Plan period and beyond. The recommendations of the Task Force will be used as inputs for formulation of the Eleventh Plan.

2. The composition of the Task Force will be as follows:

1. Dr. Tarun Das, Chief Mentor, CII Chairman
2. Shri Krishan Khanna, Chairman, "i Watch" Member
3. Shri Rajendra Pawar, NIIT Member
4. Dr. Naresh Trehan, Executive Director, Escorts Hospital Member
5. Dr. Surinder Kapur, Chairman, Sona Koyo Steering System Member
6. Shri V. Akula, CEO, SKS Microfinance Member
7. Shri R. Gopalakrishnan, Director, Tata Sons Member
8. Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU Member
9. Vice-Chancellor, NUERT Member
10. Representative, MHRD Member
11. Representative, Ministry of Labour & Employment Member
12. Representative from a private training establishment Member
13. Shri B.S. Baswan, Senior Consultant Planning Commission Convenor

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3. The Task Force will have the following Terms of Reference:

i) To catalogue/map:
   - VET (Vocational Education & Training) courses being presently offered, both by the Government and the private sector
   - All enterprises employing more than 10 persons, block, district and state-wise, in a standardized nomenclature, so that these enterprises could be used for practical/hands on/on-the-job training.
   - VET institutions, village, block, district and state-wise, along with details of the courses offered, infrastructure available, trainers and teachers, certification etc.

ii) To draw a long term plan for redesign of present courses and introduction of new ones, in a phased manner, keeping in view the needs of the economy.

iii) To recommend the division of responsibility between the Government at various levels and the private sector in imparting VET and the steps required to facilitate the role envisaged for the private sector. More specifically, to recommend the role that Industry Associations and Chambers of Commerce should play in VET.

iv) Address the question of VET degrees/diplomas/certificates and recommend certification procedures for the various levels of VET.

v) To recommend how the existing physical infrastructure for VET can be optimally utilized. Possibilities of Public-Private-Partnerships should be explored by allowing the private sector to make use of the physical infrastructure that exists in Government institutions.

vi) To recommend the appropriate stage (class 8 or 10) at which pre-vocational courses should be introduced in the regular school system so that it has two broad streams to offer – the ‘academic’ and the ‘applied’. Also, to recommend the consequential changes that may be required in the school system.

vii) To explore ways to meet the requirement of quality teachers/trainees required for expansion in VET.

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viii) To recommend setting up of an effective mechanism to enable potential employers and employees to access the information they require.

ix) To recommend ways in which the general perception about VET can be made more positive, including change of nomenclature and a media campaign.

x) To consider and make recommendation on any other relevant matters that may include
   - the need for a VET law
   - role of distance education in VET
   - the requirements for language training in view of the fact that the trainees may have to relocate for taking up jobs.

4. The Chairman of the Task Force will be authorised to co-opt other members if needed.

5. The Task Force will submit its report to the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission by February 28, 2007.

6. Expenditure on TA/DA for the non-official Members of the Task Force including co-opted Members, if any will be borne by the Planning Commission as per SR190(a). In the case of official Members, they will be paid TA/DA by their respective Departments as per the rules of entitlement applicable to them.

7. The Task Force will be serviced by the LEM Division of the Planning Commission and Smt. Padmaja Mehta, Director, Planning Commission, Room No.561, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi (Tel.No.23096541) will be the nodal officer for the activities of the Task Force. Any further correspondence/query in this regard may be made with the nodal officer.

(K.K. Chhabra)
Under Secretary to the Government of India

To
Chairman & Members (including Convenor) of the Task Force etc.

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Copy for information to:

1) PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
2) PS to Minister of State for Planning, New Delhi.
3) PSs to Members, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
4) Cabinet Secretary, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
5) Secretary to the President of India, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
6) Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, South Block, New Delhi.
7) Shri N.N. Kaul, Information Officer.
8) Plan Coordination Division.
9) On the Website of the Planning Commission.

(K.K. Chhabra)
Under Secretary to the Government of India