

Govt launches scheme to train 100,000 construction workers

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The Union minister of housing and urban affairs Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday launched an initiative for skill training of construction workers -- the National Initiative for Promoting Upskilling of Nirman workers.

The project NIPUN is an initiative of the ministry of housing & urban affairs (MoHUA) under its flagship scheme of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to train over 100,000 construction workers, through fresh skilling and upskilling programmes and provide them with work opportunities in other countries also, said a statement from the ministry.

Addressing the launch event, the minister said that the transformational impact of the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) has reduced the vulnerability of urban poor households by providing upskilling and employment opportunities to urban dwellers, especially the youth. He said the spirit of entrepreneurship has been encouraged and supported by giving urban workers access to self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities.

"This initiative will enable Nirman workers to be more

The project is an initiative under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission



Union minister for housing and urban affairs Hardeep Singh Puri at the launch of the 'NIPUN' in New Delhi.

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proficient and skilled while making them adopt future trends in the construction industry by increasing their capabilities and diversifying their skill sets," he said.

Noting that the construction industry has been investing in skilling but it has not spread horizontally across the industry, Puri said that the initiative taken by ministry in this regard should expand to cover larger number of construction workers.

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), the nodal agency under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) will be the Implementation partner for NIPUN.

The project implementation is divided into three parts - training through recognition of prior learning (RPL) at con-

struction sites, training through fresh skilling and international placement through industries, builders and contractors. Onsite skill training will be provided to around 80,000 construction workers through industry associations under the RPL certification, co-branded with MoHUA, while about 14,000 candidates will receive fresh skilling through plumbing and infrastructure Sector Skill Council (SSC) in trades having promising placement potentials.

The courses are aligned with the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) and will be imparted at accredited and affiliated training centres. Under NIPUN, it is also envisaged that NSDC will place around 12,000 people in Saudi Arabia, UAE and other countries in the Gulf.

Project NIPUN will also facilitate and support convergence with related line ministries.