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Daily Morning Newspaper
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MSDE partners with Ministry of Jal Shakti to skill one lakh youth under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

CHENNAI – 26 Nov, 2026 MSDE partners with Ministry of Jal Shakti to skill one lakh youth under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0.

In an effort to align vocational training with emerging employment opportunities in the rural water sector, the Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti. The partnership will focus on implementing the Water Supply Operation & Maintenance Skilling Programme (Nal Jal Mitra) under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0.

The initiative aims to train and certify at least one lakh candidates, with an estimated financial outlay of ₹111.93 crore, entirely funded by DDWS.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; C. R. Patil, Union Minister of Jal Shakti; and V. Somanna, Minister of State, Jal Shakti.

Speaking on the occasion, Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, underscored that the initiative represents a significant example of inter-ministerial convergence aimed at addressing the skilled manpower requirements of a key national programme. He highlighted that the country's extensive network of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) offers an effective platform for imparting specialised skills required for rural water supply operations and maintenance.

The 165-hour training programme has been developed by the Central Staff Training and Research Institute (CSTARI) under DGT, in consultation with DDWS. It will be offered as an optional elective to existing and former trainees of the Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) Fitter and Plumber trades across ITIs and NSTIs.



The programme combines 120 hours of institutional training with 45 hours of mandatory on-the-job training. Candidates will learn plumbing, water distribution, pump and motor maintenance, basic electrical work and water quality monitoring. Upon successful completion, trainees will receive a National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF)-aligned short-term training certificate from DGT in addition to their National Trade Certificate (NTC).

The National Instructional Media Institute (NIMI), under DGT, will oversee training coordination, assessment, certification and fund disbursement. DDWS will make the details of certified candidates available at the district and Gram Panchayat levels, where they may be engaged for work as per the policies of the respective states.