



Analysis of Present Skill Development Initiatives: A Vision of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for Indian Youth

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ABSTRACT

The present research article studies skill development schemes for youths vis a vis Dr. APJ Kalam vision for the skilled India. The paper presented proposed reforms towards skill development as suggested by Dr. APJ Kalam and the present scenario of Skill India initiatives. The research article analyzed the elements of the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana such as short-term training, recognition of prior learning, and Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Melas. It also reflected the achievements of these flagship schemes. The latest data shows that so far 1.37 Crore candidates have been trained and more than 1.1 Crore candidates have been certified under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana program. Overall 2.5 Crore individuals received skill training during 2009-2020 through training under NSDC partnerships, certification under PMKVY and training under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) established in every district of the country. At present the education system of India is moving towards the path suggested by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam that is highly advocating to skill development. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship scheme for skill training of youth implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

Keywords: Vision of Dr. APJ Kalam, Skill Development, Indian Youth.

Introduction:

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was one of the best educationists and suggested best practices in the education system. He emphasized tele-education and e-education methods to provide qualitative education in rural areas. He dreamed of establishing an intense relationship between the student and the teacher. The role of today's colleges or universities is not only to give degrees but also to make students experts in technology. Integration of education and occupation is also necessary. There should be one skill-based subject along with the academic subjects. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was in favour of an education system in which students develop themselves as self-learner and learn the process of learning. In the educational system, special importance is given to primary and higher education, but it is also important to emphasize on the secondary educational system. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam advocated such an educational system in which students can develop themselves as an ideal citizen and by which they can contribute to national development planning. According to A P J Abdul Kalam, if schools and colleges establish a moral and value-based educational system, then there will be nurturing of the child as an ideal citizen. The objective of education is to create competence. He said that the education system should teach the students how to search for their needed knowledge; the education system should satisfy the hunger of the knowledge of students; the education system should not stop the students from being a dreamer. He believed that it is very necessary for the educational system to develop qualities like research and curiosity, adventurous and moral leadership in the students. Dr. APJ Kalam's main emphasis is on reforming the areas to develop education for personal growth and employment generation.

Reforms Towards Skill Development as Suggested by Dr. APJ Kalam:

- Reforming school and higher education syllabus.
- Education for employment generation.
- Industry involvement at school and higher education level.
- Providing two certificates after completing senior secondary school certificate. The first certificate is for completing a school certificate and the second for Skill related certificate.
- Dual certification after completing higher education, emphasizing skill education-related certificates. That is providing skill certificates along with conventional degree certificates.

- Involvement of shared educational infrastructure at school level. Advocated laboratories on wheels. Mobile laboratories enabled with ICT for various purposes.
- Review of curriculum to pave the way for skill development.
- Involvement of ITI's and Polytechnic's at school level to develop skills.
- Involvement of Industry at higher education level to develop skills.
- Youth as an employment generator, not an employment seeker.
- Training of youths in setting enterprises.
- Support of banking system to provide venture capital.
- Research based market support to generate quality products needs to be provided to the youths.
- Science and technology should be interlinked and further integrating technology and the economy may make wonders for young entrepreneurs.

Dr. APJ Kalam's Skill Development Vision and Present Skill India Schemes:

At present the education system of India is moving towards the path suggested by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam who is highly advocating skill development. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship scheme for skill training of youth.

The elements of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana:

1. Short term training:

Short-term training is given through Training Centres created by PMKVY for dropout or unemployed students. These centres also provide training in soft skills, entrepreneurship, financial and digital literacy. Upon successful completion of assessment, candidates are provided placement assistance by training providers.

2. Recognition of prior learning:

Recognition of Prior Learning is a skill certification component to enable Indian youth to take on industry-relevant skill certification which will help them to secure a better livelihood. Individuals with prior learning experience or skills can register themselves and get assessed and certified under the RPL component of PMKVY. It focuses mainly on individuals engaged in unregulated sectors.

3. Special projects :

The Special Projects component of PMKVY envisages the creation of a platform that will facilitate trainings in special areas and/or premises of Government bodies, corporates or industry bodies, and training in special job roles, not defined under the available Qualification Packs (QPs)/National Occupational Standards (NOS). Special Projects require some deviation from the short-term training guidelines under PMKVY. A proposing stakeholder can be institutions of Central or State Government(s), an autonomous body/statutory body or any other equivalent body or a corporate that wants to provide training to candidates.

- 4. Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Melas (PMNAM):** PMNAM is being organized started in many districts with the aim to present the local youths with diverse apprenticeship training opportunities offered by local businesses and organizations..

Achievements of Skill India Schemes:

The latest data shows that so far 1.37 Crore candidates have been trained and more than 1.1 Crore candidates have been certified under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana program.

Overall 2.5 Crore individuals received skill training during 2009-2020 through training under NSDC partnerships, certification under PMKVY and training under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) established in every district of the country.

Conclusion:

The present the education system of India is moving towards the path suggested by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam who was highly advocating for skill development. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship scheme for skill training of youth implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). This scheme has presented numerous success stories and demonstrates the positive impact on individuals who have undergone skill training under the Skill India Mission and have been able to secure better jobs and improve their livelihoods. Industries and sectors such as information technology, healthcare, hospitality, and manufacturing have experienced

positive changes due to the availability of a skilled workforce. Case studies of these industries showcase how skill training has resulted in increased efficiency, improved product quality, and enhanced competitiveness.

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