Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participates in the 5th Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

21st-century India can progress only by honouring skills; Therefore, over the past years, our government has taken a series of steps guided by the spirit of 'Shrameva Jayate': PM

When you learn a skill, you do not merely work on machines; you make people's lives easier and strengthen the nation's capabilities: PM

Today, India is advancing towards becoming the skill capital of the world: PM

I urge every young person in the country; the entire sky lies open before you today, dream big, hone your skills, and dedicate all your energy to fulfilling your dreams: PM

Posted On: 21 NOV 2026 8:16PM by PIB Delhi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today participated in the 5th Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Prime Minister expressed happiness that Lucknow was chosen to host such a major skill development event, noting that as a Member of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh, it is a matter of pride for him as well.

Observing that the graduating youth have crossed an important milestone in their lives and are now set to join the process of nation-building directly, the Prime Minister emphasized that the skills and craftsmanship they acquired at ITIs serve as a major driving force for a Viksit Bharat. He added that any nation progresses capably in this very manner through the skills of its youth. Highlighting India's long-standing respect for craftsmanship, he cited Lucknow's Chikankari, fine muslin, Banaras and Kanjeevaram silk, Kashmir Pashmina, cotton textiles, Kalamkari, steel for the world's finest swords, and bronze and

Panchdhatu idols as hundreds of traditional crafts that once formed society's foundational pillars. “For a long time, India's identity in the world has been through such skills,” observed PM Modi.

Explaining that India's earlier social system was structured around skills, the Prime Minister shared the example of Gujarat's Vasavaya tradition, under which skilled artisans who sustained village life settled wherever a new village was established. “These were such skilled people without whom it was difficult even to imagine village life,” remarked Shri Modi.

Pointing out that while such a system existed across every region of India since ancient times, it gradually lost importance, the Prime Minister recalled an exercise he assigned to officers as Chief Minister of Gujarat to list every task and service a person needs from waking up to sleeping and from birth to death, which yielded around one thousand essential skills that kept society moving. “I asked the officers to focus on this very thing, and then a modern ecosystem of skill development was created there in Gujarat,” noted PM Modi.

Attributing the decline of India's skill ecosystem to the colonial education system which reduced a skill-based society to producing paper clerks while the British advanced their own industry and manufacturing, the Prime Minister observed that clerical jobs came to be revered even after independence while skilled craftspeople were subjected to an inferiority complex and began shying away from their trades. “Our country has had to suffer a huge loss due to this mentality of slavery,” asserted Shri Modi.

Highlighting the government's successive initiatives driven by the spirit of Shrameva Jayate, including extending the tradition of convocations beyond college and university degree holders to ITI skill certificate recipients and placing strong emphasis on skill development in the new National Education Policy, the Prime Minister underscored the importance of honoring craftsmanship. “The India of the 21st century can move forward only by giving respect to skill,” asserted PM Modi.

Addressing widespread discussions and anxieties about Artificial Intelligence taking away jobs in the modern era, the Prime Minister recalled how during the COVID pandemic, when everyone felt helpless, it was skilled workers who managed critical operations and kept things running. “Understand this point of mine very well: whoever has skill, no one can take away their employment,” affirmed Shri Modi.

Emphasizing that learning a craft goes beyond operating machines to making people's lives easier while strengthening national capability and manufacturing capacity, the Prime Minister highlighted the unprecedented focus on ITIs since 2014, noting that nearly 5,000 new ITIs have been built in a single decade. “The number of those studying in ITIs has also increased by more than 5 lakh, and in this too, the number of girls has become more than two and a half times,” noted PM Modi.

Highlighting the focus on training, quality, faculty, and infrastructure in ITIs, which had previously lagged behind with outdated trades, the Prime Minister noted that over 30 new-age trades have now been introduced, including Aeronautical Structure, Artificial Intelligence Assistant, Cyber Security Assistant, Drone Technician, Green Hydrogen Technician, Industrial Robotics, Electric Vehicles, Animation and Special Effects, and

Semiconductor Technician, designed for both Indian and global needs alongside India's ongoing trade agreements and FTA discussions. “All of this is being done for you, the youth; new opportunities are being created for your future,” affirmed Shri Modi.

Detailing efforts to modernize ITI curricula and machinery, train instructors in new technologies, and build direct links between training and industry, the Prime Minister highlighted the investment of 60,000 crore rupees under the PM-SETU scheme.“Our youth are going to benefit immensely from this,” affirmed PM Modi.

Noting that India's rapid development is generating vast employment opportunities for skilled workers, the Prime Minister pointed to the 50 crore people lifted out of poverty over the past 12 to 13 years through government facilities that instilled confidence. Citing mega campaigns such as building 4 crore houses for the poor, laying water pipelines, and delivering first-time electricity lines where electricians, carpenters, and other skilled youth found work, he underlined the scale of job creation. “In this mega campaign, lakhs and lakhs of new opportunities were also created for skilled workers in the country,” observed Shri Modi.

Highlighting rising skill demand across emerging sectors, the Prime Minister cited the disruption in gas supplies during the West Asia conflict a few months ago, when the government targeted at least one lakh PNG connections per day and review meetings repeatedly flagged a shortage of plumbers delaying targets, while pointing to huge skilled manpower needs in solar power and the burgeoning sports economy spanning sports equipment manufacturing and fitness. “If you are skilled, you have that many more opportunities to get employment,” asserted PM Modi.

Announcing that India is advancing toward becoming the skill capital of the world, the Prime Minister shared good news for youth and Uttar Pradesh that India will host the WorldSkills Asia competition in 2027 in Greater Noida, welcoming youth from numerous countries. “I extend advance best wishes to UP for this as well,” remarked Shri Modi.

Praising Uttar Pradesh for accelerating national development, the Prime Minister credited the present government under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for transforming the state into an expressway state with multiple international airports, major universities, flourishing tourism, large mobile manufacturing plants, an upcoming chip factory, and manufacturing of BrahMos, which shook the enemy in Operation Sindoor. “Because of all these development works happening in UP, new opportunities are being created for you youth,” observed PM Modi.

Recalling a recent interaction during a factory inauguration in his parliamentary constituency of Banaras where a young woman told him she now returns home comfortably even at 11 PM, the Prime Minister credited the current government under Yogi Adityanath for creating an environment of security, asserting that the sense of security and confidence of prosperity will build a Viksit Bharat, and extended his heartiest best wishes to all youth. “The entire sky is before you at this time; dream big, develop your skills, and put your full strength into fulfilling your dreams,” asserted Shri Modi.

Celebrating the hard work and achievements of India's skilled youth at the Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow. https://t.co/HJ8DAt1bpY

— Narendra Modi (@narendramodi) November 21, 2026

21वीं सदी का भारत कौशल को, स्किल को सम्मान देकर ही आगे बढ़ सकता है। इसलिए, बीते वर्षों में हमारी सरकार ने श्रमेव जयते की भावना से एक के बाद एक कई कदम उठाए हैं: PM @narendramodi

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) November 21, 2026

जब आप कोई हुनर सीखते हैं, तो आप केवल मशीनों पर काम नहीं करते। आप लोगों की जिंदगी को आसान बनाते हैं। आप देश का सामर्थ्य बढ़ाते हैं: PM @narendramodi during Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) November 21, 2026

आज भारत, विश्व की स्किल कैपिटल बनने की तरफ आगे बढ़ रहा है: PM @narendramodi at Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) November 21, 2026

मैं देश के हर युवा से कहता हूं कि आपके सामने इस समय पूरा आसमान है...बड़े सपने देखिए, अपने कौशल का विकास करिए और अपने सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए पूरी ताकत लगा दीजिए: PM @narendramodi at Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh in Lucknow

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) November 21, 2026

*****

MJPS/SS/VJ/PRK

(Release ID: 2339719) Visitor Counter : 377
Read this release in: Urdu , हिन्दी , Assamese , Gujarati , Odia

Share

1348 words | 5 min read