

UP Govt to honour 21,000 skilled workers on August 15

Lucknow, Aug 7 (UNI) The Uttar Pradesh Government will honour as many as 21,000 skilled workers on the occasion of Independence Day under the Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana (VSSY).

The workers will be presented with toolkits as per their skills at award ceremonies, which will be held across the state on the occasion.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will honour some of the beneficiaries at an event in Lucknow while similar ceremonies led by local public representatives will be held across districts to honour the workers, officials said here on Saturday.

Launched on December 26, 2018, the scheme has become a lifeline for the skilled workers of UP living in large numbers in villages, towns and cities.

The objective of the programme was to hone the skills of the workers through training and provide them with advanced toolkits in order to enhance their competencies and productivity. Under the Yojana (scheme), workers from different walks of life are selected and trained for a week by experts.

The workers are also given an honorarium of Rs 250 per day during the training period, which is transferred to their bank accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). In the three years of the scheme, about 68,000 workers have been provided with advanced toolkits for self-employment in various traditional disciplines.

Additional Chief Secretary, MSME, Navneet Sehgal here on Saturday said the trained workers are given advanced kits related to their profession for free.

The Government also facilitates loans on liberal terms for those workers, who are willing to expand their works, under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, or Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojana. For the beneficiaries seeking credit facility, loan applications have been completed under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and sent to various banks, Sehgal said.

In the financial year 2020-21, applications for loans worth about Rs 222 crore have been sent to various banks by a total of 10,161 trained beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, he informed further.

The state-level Bankers Committee meetings aim to ensure that loans are provided to all eligible candidates. In this context, the district-level departmental officers keep in constant touch with the district level bankers committee officials.