

Cabinet clears ₹13k cr plan to train artisans

To Be Launched
On Vishwakarma
Jayanti, Sept 17

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New Delhi: The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved the Rs 13,000-crore 'Vishwakarma Yojna' to boost livelihood opportunities for craftsmen pursuing traditional skills, a day after PM Modi announced from Red Fort his government's plan to launch the centrally-funded scheme aimed at benefiting 30 lakh families, mostly from the OBC community.

Under the five-year scheme, to be formally announced on Vishwakarma Jayanti on September 17, one person each from the eligible families will get collateral-free subsidised loans of up to Rs 2 lakh in two tranches at a concessional interest rate of 5%.

"Embracing our nation's

NOD TO E-BUSES, RLY MULTI-TRACKING

➤ Nod for scheme to support operation of **10,000 e-buses on PPP model in 100 cities** with population of 3 lakh to 40 lakh. Centre to provide



₹15,930cr assistance for 10 years. Private players deploying buses to get pre-decided per kilometre cost

➤ **Seven railway multi-tracking projects to increase line capacity** and reduce congestion.



Project to benefit several states, including UP, Bihar, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal

➤ **Extension of Digital India with outlay of ₹14,903 crore** approved. Involves

reskilling of more than 6.2 lakh IT professionals and training more than 2.6 lakh in information security. Also aims to simplify technology for masses



skills and cultural diversity, the Vishwakarma initiative will celebrate our traditional artisans and crafts people, both from rural and urban India," Modi said on X, formerly Twitter. "Honouring the timeless Guru-Shishya tradition, it will augment the efforts of our Vishwakarmas, connecting them to modern value chains and preserving

their invaluable skills..."

Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said in the first year, the scheme will cover 6 lakh families of craftsmen, including carpenters, boat makers, blacksmiths, cobblers, masons, barbers, washermen, tailors and makers of brooms, toys and garlands.

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