

NATIONAL AFFAIRS · C4S COURSES

PM-SETU Scheme

9 July 2026

Source: *BL*

Context

On **Tuesday, 7 July 2026**, the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** approved the **pan-India nationwide rollout of the ₹60,000-crore Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme** across **200 Industrial Training Institute (ITI) clusters** — moving beyond the pilot phase — along with clearance for **Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs) worth ₹1,237.58 crore** for 5 clusters spread across **Odisha, Gujarat, and Telangana**. The decision was taken at the **4th meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC)** chaired by **Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, MSDE**.

The scheme at a glance

- **Scheme:** Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU).
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- **Outlay:** ₹60,000 crore over 5 years.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- **Announced:** Union Budget 2024-25.
- **Union Cabinet approval:** May 2025.
- **Formal launch by PM Modi:** 4 October 2025.
- **Nationwide rollout approved:** 7 July 2026.
- **Global co-financing:** World Bank + Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Key Objectives

- Modernise India's ITI ecosystem.
- Upgrade **1,000 government ITIs** into industry-aligned training institutions.
- Bridge the **skills-jobs mismatch**.
- Align vocational training with **current + future industry requirements**.
- Prepare a **future-ready workforce**.

Practice MCQs

Q1. With reference to the PM-SETU Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a total outlay of ₹60,000 crore over 5 years.
2. It aims to upgrade 1,000 government ITIs across India.
3. It follows a hub-and-spoke model with 200 hub ITIs and ~800 spoke ITIs.
4. It was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one (b) Only two (c) **Only three** (d) All four (e) None

(Statement 4 is wrong; **PM-SETU was announced in the Union Budget 2024-25** — NOT 2023-24. It was approved by the Union Cabinet in May 2025 and formally launched by PM Modi on 4 October 2025.)

Answer Key

1. **(c)** — Statement 4 wrong: Announced in Budget 2024-25, not 2023-24.

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