



NURTURING SKILLS & TALENT FOR BETTER TOMORROW

Rubber Tappers RPL Training inaugurated by Minister Rudy

Rubber Board of India and Rubber Skill Development Council (RSDC) has initiated the re-skilling of Rubber Tappers in Kerala under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) of Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). In PMKVY, special focus has been given to Recognition of Prior Learning (re-skilling) of the candidates and provide them with Certification.



Entrepreneurship Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy and State Agricultural Minister of Kerala, Adv. Shri V. S. Sunil Kumar along with RPL trainees

The inauguration ceremony of the RPL training was graced by the Hon'ble Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, State Agricultural Minister of Kerala, Adv. Shri V. S. Sunil Kumar and Executive Director of Rubber Board of India, Shri Ajith Kumar, IAS.

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Speaking about the need to recognize and certify tappers under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Scheme, the minister said, "Tappers have never been certified. Kerala has 72% of Natural Rubber. And we need to certify them in a better way."

Comparing the percentage of skilled labour in the total workforce of various countries and citing the figures from the National Sample



(From L to R) Shri Ajith Kumar, Executive Director, Rubber Board, Shri N. Hari, BJP Zilla President, Adv. Shri V. S. Sunil Kumar, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Shri Viju Chacko, DFO, Rubber Board and Smt. Sudha. P, Director (Training).

Survey, he said India was so low in the list with only three per cent of the total workforce are skilled labourers. Continued.



Rubber Tappers RPL Training inaugurated by Minister Rudy

Continued.

recognise skilled labourers and add them to the workforce,” he said.

Delivering his address, Kerala’s Agriculture Minister Mr V S Sunil Kumar said, “Rubber was a never a part of the agricultural sector.

Rubber plantation got a late entry into the agricultural sector. Kerala government will ensure to improve the condition of the Rubber growers in the state.”

Mr. Ajith Kumar, IAS, Executive Director of Rubber Board said “In the last three years the production of Natural Rubber has gone down due to the shortfall of tappers. Through re-skilling we aim at improving the quality of tappers thus enhancing the yield of Natural Rubber and ergo the income of the tappers.”

Under the current RPL Scheme, the training is being conducted through Rubber Board Channel of 2314 Rubber Producer Societies and 254 Group Processing Centers in Kerala. Skilling is important particularly for the role of Tapper, as an unskilled tapper would not only affect the yield of the product but can also damage the life of the Rubber tree. In Kerala, many holdings are believed to have been left untapped owing to the shortage of skilled tappers.

Making our youth more industry ready with Dual Certification Courses

In an initiative by Rubber Skill Development Council, a dual certification course of Senior Rubber Technician (SRT) has been introduced for the B. Tech students. Due to the persisting skill gap in the industry, this initiative was undertaken to make the students industry ready through dual certification. The program has been designed specifically for those students who are pursuing B. Tech in Polymer Technology. After the completion of the course, students can be readily deployed in the industry.

Kamraj College is the first to launch this program for the students pursuing B. Tech in Polymer Technology. “The initiative taken by the college in introducing an add-on program of RSDC with the regular stream of engineering degree, is crucial to fill the skill gap and to address the issue of availability of skilled manpower in the rubber sector. The kind of facilities available in the college will give more emphasis and hands on practical skills that will make students readily deployable”, said Mr. Vinod Simon, Chairman, RSDC.

To overcome the issues of non availability of skilled manpower in the rubber sector, RSDC has developed a strong eco system for the sector at various levels. Such as developing National Occupational Standards (NOS), affiliating training providers, revamp of curriculum aligned to NOS, certification of trainees and trainers, and setting up labor market information systems (LMIS) to assist in the planning and delivery of training, besides identifying skill development needs of the sector.





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Bachelor in Vocation (B. Voc) in Rubber Technology, an industry Endorsed course

India is the 6th largest producer of rubber. Keeping in view the area under plantation, growth potential and rubber production trends, specific states have been identified as the capital of growth for natural rubber.

The Rs 75,000 crore Rubber industry is manpower intensive and currently two million people are directly employed in the industry, a large percentage of whom are unskilled. The industry is dominated by small & medium sector as out of approx. 6000 Rubber products manufacturing units, 90% are Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Rubber industry fits in perfectly with the Government's initiatives of Make in India and Skill India as rubber units spread across the country manufacture around 35000 different rubber products which find usage in Auto, defence, healthcare, agriculture and in various other critical sectors.

Given the growth potential in the rubber sector, Rubber Skill Development Council (RSDC) was established to ensure the quality skilling and up-skilling of fresh candidates and professionals in rubber sector and placing them in the industry as per their skills. RSDC along with some of the renowned universities in India has been imparting programmes for various Job roles in Rubber Industry, at the same time also looks for possibility of research programs in rubber technology and polymer science. RSDC along with the

inputs from Subject Matter Experts, both from Industry and Academia has designed a unique program called Bachelor of Vocation (B. Voc) in Rubber Technology. This Program has been approved by University Grants Commission (UGC).

B. Voc is a 3 year program. The program has been made modular and provides flexibility to students to exit at the end of each year depending upon their needs. If a student exits at the end of year 1, after passing the exam he/she gets a Diploma, in year 2 if the student exits he/she gets the Advanced Diploma and after completion of three years, the student is awarded the degree, B. Voc in Rubber Technology.

B Voc Program is successfully running in Tripura University, and is setting example for other Universities, "Imaginatively designed B. Voc programme will make available trained personnel at various levels to meet the demand for manpower and accelerate the development of the Rubber Industry. At the same time, the courses would enhance the employability of students of TU by equipping them with industry/ business relevant skills", said Mr Vinod Simon, Chairman RSDC.

The program also looks at certifying the existing work force in rubber sector for their skills and thus making them readily employable. RSDC provide certification and assessment support to the University.

Students completing the B. Voc program can work well with manufacturing units, tyre and tube production, quality control, sales and purchase strategy and human resource management. The curriculum has been designed such that the students can be readily deployed to the industry.

RSDC through its various NOS aligned programs impart Skill based trainings to the man power employed in auto parts, footwear, tread rubber, vulcanized rubber, rubber band, rubber cushion and mattress, latex thread, textile fabric, hoses etc.

RSDC's Job Portal

Register yourself on our job portal and access the data base of skilled manpower for your industry

<http://placements.rsdcindia.in/>

Mr. Vinod Simon
Chairman, RSDC

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