GLOSSARY OF TERMS

a) “Vocational Education , Training and Skill Development (VETSD) “means all forms and levels of the educational process involving, in addition to general knowledge and academic skills, the study of technologies and related sciences, the acquisition of practical skills, know-how, attitudes and understanding relating to occupations in the various sectors of economic and social life.

b) “Accreditation” means the formal recognition of a vocational education and training course by accreditation body in accordance with the NVEQF Standards or the quality standards set by the State.

c) “Apprenticeship training” means a course of training in any industry or establishment undergone in pursuance of a contract of apprenticeship and under prescribed terms and conditions which may be different for different categories of apprentices.

d) “Associate Degree” means degree offered by Community colleges which build a foundation for a more advanced degree by allowing the students vertical mobility into third year of undergraduate program.

e) “Certificate” means an official document, issued by an awarding body, which records the training achievements of an individual following a standard assessment procedure.

f) “Community College” means an alternative system of education, which is aimed at the empowerment of the disadvantaged and the underprivileged through appropriate skills development leading to gainful employment in collaboration with the local industry and the community.
g) “Competency standard” means an industry-determined specification of performance which sets out the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to operate effectively in employment. In vocational education and training, competency standards are made up of units of competency, which are themselves made up of elements of competency, together with performance criteria, a range of variables, and an evidence guide.

h) “Continuing vocational education and training” means education training after initial education or entry into working life, aimed at helping individuals to improve or update their knowledge and/or skills, acquire new skills for a career move or retraining, or continue their personal and professional development.

i) “Credit Point System “means a method to measure the workload of a student’s learning effort

j) “Credit transfer” means the process in which credits already obtained from one qualification is recognized completely or partially, towards obtaining a new qualification. Credit transfer allows students to transfer credits from one program to another within the same institution or across institutions.

k) “Further Education” means post-secondary education, including higher education, adult education, and vocational education and training.

l) “Learning outcomes” are statements of what a learner is expected to know, understand and/or be able to demonstrate after completion of a process of learning.

m) “Pre-vocational training “ means training arranged primarily to acquaint young people with materials, tools and standards relating to a range of occupations, to prepare them for choosing an occupational field or a line of training.

n) “Recognition” means the formal approval of training organizations, products and services operating within the vocational education and training sector.
o) “Recognition of prior learning” means the acknowledgement of a person's skills and knowledge acquired through previous training, work or life experience, which may be used to grant status or credit in a subject or module.

p) “Jan Shikshan Sansthas (JSS)” are volunteer agencies which are provided financial assistance for taking up vocational training programs for illiterates and neo-literate people belonging to socio-economically weaker sections, disadvantaged groups, unskilled and unemployed youths in the age group of 15-35 years. There are a total of 217 JSSs across India.

q) “Community Polytechnics (CP)” are selected AICTE Polytechnics that run vocational programs in the local area/region for Community Development under the Community Development Through Polytechnics (CDTP) scheme. Each CP runs short term non formal skill development programs through 5-10 extension centers in nearby villages. There is no age or qualification bar for trainees under this scheme and no fees are charged to students. There are a total of 703 CPs have been selected out of which 479 have been provided financial assistance to carry out this scheme.