



MoU to Empower Unemployed Youth

Why in News?

Recently, **Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC)**, Gurugram, and **South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)**, Bilaspur, signed a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) to start a [vocational training program](#) for underprivileged youth from [economically weaker sections](#).

Key Points

- **About the Agreement:**
 - The program aims to **uplift underprivileged youth** from economically weaker sections by providing [skill-based training](#).
- **CSR Initiative:**
 - The initiative is part of SECL's [Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\)](#) efforts.
 - A total of Rs 3.12 crore has been allocated to train 400 candidates.
 - **Training Program Structure:**
 - **Non-Residential Training:**
 - ATDC will set up **training centers for 300 candidates** under the **Self-Employed Tailor Program**.
 - Training centers will be established in SECL Bishrampur, Sohagpur, and Korba areas.
 - **Residential Training:**
 - **100 candidates** will undergo a **fully residential training program** at the ATDC Training Center in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh.
 - The program will provide **free boarding and lodging**.
 - Candidates will be selected from within a 25-kilometer radius of SECL establishments.
- **Objective and Vision:**
 - Under the guidance of [the Ministry of Coal](#), this initiative aims to:
 - Empower underprivileged youth in [coalfield regions](#).
 - Create self-employment and job opportunities.
 - Contribute to the vision of [Viksit Bharat](#).

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- **CSR** in general can be referred to as a **corporate initiative** to assess and take responsibility for the **company's effects on the environment and impact on social welfare**.
- **It is a self-regulating business model** that helps a **company to be socially accountable**. By practising corporate social responsibility, **companies can be conscious of the impact they are having on economic, social, and environmental factors**.
- **India is the first country to mandate CSR spending** under **clause 135 of the [Companies Act, 2013](#)**, with a framework for identifying potential CSR activities.
 - Unlike India, **most countries have voluntary CSR frameworks**. **Norway and Sweden**, which have moved to mandatory CSR provisions, began with voluntary models.

