

## HPCED Selected as PIA under PM VIKAS Scheme; MoU Signed with Ministry of Minority Affairs

The HP Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (HPCED) has been selected as a Project Implementing Agency (PIA) by the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the implementation of the PM VIKAS Scheme. An MoU in this regard was formally signed on **29 May 2026** between **Ms. Neha Giri (IAS), Director, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India**, and **Ms. Deepika, Joint Director, Industries -cum- Executive Director, HPCED, Himachal Pradesh**.



*MoU signing between Ms. Neha Giri (IAS), Director, Ministry of Minority Affairs, GoI and Ms. Deepika, Joint Director, Department of Industries, HP-cum-Executive Director, HPCED, HP on 29 May 2026.*

Under this initiative, HPCED will provide training to **2,420 candidates** across Himachal Pradesh, including **720 candidates** under the *Non-Traditional Component* and **1,700 candidates** under the *Women Leadership & Entrepreneurship Component*.

The programme will offer a wide range of industry-relevant training courses, including ***Mountain Cuisine Chef, Fashion Designer, Beauty Therapist, Leadership Development, Entrepreneurial Skills for Women and Business Mentors (Udyami Mitra)***

The training programmes will be conducted across multiple centres in Himachal Pradesh and will include comprehensive support such as mobilisation, training delivery, certification, and post-training handholding to ensure sustainable livelihood opportunities for beneficiaries.

This initiative aims to strengthen skill ecosystems and promote entrepreneurship, particularly among women and minority communities in the state.