

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to begin by extending my sincere gratitude to all the stake holders implementing the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme for their continued support and understanding. Since its foundation in 1968, the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region) [BOPT(ER)] has grown up to become one of the important partners in the Central Government's flagship skill development program under The Apprentices (Amendment) Act, 1973 & 1986. BOPT (ER) is known for its commitment for the quality skill development for Graduate, Diploma Engineers and 10 (+2) Vocational Certificate holders over the last four decades. BOPT (ER) has continuously increased its annual capacity in the eastern region from about 400 apprentices in 1980 to more than 15000 apprentices in 2015-16, thereby deserve appreciation for its service to the nation.

One of the primary roles of BOPT (ER) is to develop a strong interface between the technical institutions of the Eastern Region and the industries who require such technically qualified skilled human resources for their development and sustainability in the competitive market. It is a role that we take very seriously here at BOPT (ER) and one that determines the nature of the oversight given to our apprentices through technical and soft-skill development.

As we look into the future, one thing is certain - Skilled manpower will be a key resource and will be highly sought after within India and around the Globe. Our challenge is not only to create more training facilities in the industries, but also to guide the industries to improve the quality of training at the work places. Thus, it is to generate ideas that will ultimately benefit the Society by providing quality skill development and to train people to work in fields where they will be valued for their specialized knowledge and skill.

The Society of 21st century is referred to as a knowledge-based Society. The changes are rapid and the emphasis is on knowledge and skill. At BOPT (ER) we adhere strictly to the philosophy of creating innovations in "On-the-Job" training by devising students - friendly and student-centred paradigm. We aim to bridge the gap between what the technical institution offers to the students during the course of education and what the industries need in terms of skill. This gap is bridged by creating a win-win situation for the technical students and the training establishments to help each other in developing a skill based Society. During the course of one year apprenticeship training of the technical students in the industries, we continuously monitor the quality of training aiming to develop a better skilled personnel after one year who can display independence, creativity, as well as practical ability and who can contribute to the Society in various fields. Over the last few years, we have carried out various reforms by implementing information and communication technology in the process and even now we are striving for further strengthening and improving the quality of skill development and would continue to do so. As we work to achieve these goals, I would very much appreciate your continued support.

Sandipan Chakravortty
Chairman, BOPT (ER)