

May 31, 2023

Mr. Atul Kumar Tiwari Secretary Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) Government of India Room No. 516, Shram Shakti Bhawan Rafi Marg New Delhi - 110001

Dear Mr. Tiwari:

India: Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) Operation [IDA Credit no. 5965-IN] Implementation Support Mission (April 17-28, 2023)

Thank you for supporting the mission mentioned above. The attached Aide Memoire summarizes its findings and resulting agreements.

I am pleased to note that the project is progressing well towards achieving the Project Development Objective. Because implementation has accelerated significantly during the past six months, the project is likely to achieve development outcomes and intermediate results indicators by the May 31, 2024 closing date.

To maintain the good momentum, I seek your support and guidance for your project team to complete the following critical actions:

- Increase the number of environment and social management staff in the Project Management Consultant team to two staff by June 30, 2023.
- Closely monitor program expenditures and fund utilization, and manage with the Treasury the flow of funds to adequately support the program implementation by the States and other implementation entities. This will also help to estimate the amount of possible savings in the IDA funds.

The Bank values the partnership with you. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Shobhana Sosale (<u>ssosale@worldbank.org</u>) or Mr. Pradyumna Bhattacharjee (<u>pbhattarcharjee@worldbank.org</u>).

Yours sincerely,

Auguste Tano Kouame Country Director, India

Encl.

Copy to:

Mr. Parameswaran Iyer, Executive Director, World Bank Mr. Rajeev Topno, Senior Advisor to Executive Director, World Bank

Government of India

Mr. K. Manicka Raj, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance

Ms. Trishatjit Sethi, Director General (Training), Directorate General of Training, Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Mr. Hemant Ganjare Bangalore, Director (Project), Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship