

# ITIs to be revamped, brought on par with CBSE/ICSE, says Rudy

## OUR BUREAU

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Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the country are set for a major revamp, with all of them getting industry partners "very soon".

"Maruti is running 116 ITIs. Very soon all ITIs will have industry partners," Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, said at press meet here to highlight his ministry's three-year achievements.

Rudy said students enrolled in these 13,000 institutes and clearing exams will now be given class X and XII equivalent certificates and facilities benchmarked with those provided in CBSE and ICSE schools.

"There will be a stage when students will opt for ITIs instead of secondary schools," he added.

"The Human Resource Development Ministry headed by Prakash Javadekar has permitted the Directorate Gen-



Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Rajiv Pratap Rudy (centre), releasing a booklet on his ministry's three-year achievements, in New Delhi on Tuesday PTI

eral of Training to conduct examinations for 23 lakh students enrolled in ITIs for matriculation, secondary and higher secondary equivalence and give certificates to those successful," he further said, adding that his ministry is considering if it should conduct the exams in affiliation with the CBSE or set up a national board of its own.

Rudy said new norms for buildings, assets, facilities,

training infrastructure and equipment will be notified soon for new ITIs.

Earlier, Rudy said his ministry has had over 1.17 crore aspirants in diverse skills through various schemes and programmes since the inception of Skill India. When asked about the lack of jobs and placements, he said his ministry's job is to ensure "employability, not to provide employment."