



## **India requires 12 lakh plumbers by 2020**

**~ Current availability is just 2.5 lakh**

**~ Industry-Govt step up to train more plumbers**

As the real estate in India is booming, people are spending more and more on bathroom fittings and luxuries than their drawing rooms. Meanwhile luxury home decor segment is growing at 25% annually and is expected to touch \$2 billion by 2015, according to Technopak Advisors Pvt. Ltd, a Delhi-based retail consultancy firm. Plumbing is not merely fixing up a tap, with more complex buildings getting designed and constructed, there is a growing need of trained plumbers.

According to a National Skill Development Council survey, just 0.5% of plumbers in this country are trained. There is whopping requirement of 12 lakh trained plumbers by 2020 whilst currently available are only 2.5 lakh that too most of them are untrained/self trained.

It is often noticed that access to good quality water supply and sanitation systems is taken for granted but still many parts of the world face the tragedy of death and disease as a direct consequence of the lack of access to basic plumbing systems. It's a proven fact that sound plumbing practices reduce water consumption and prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases like cholera and jaundice.

Keeping in mind the current state of the plumbing skill availability various bodies are taking steps towards the same. For instance the Indian Plumbing Skills Council under National Skill Development Council, Under the Ministry of Finance, takes up various initiatives to train plumbers. Similarly corporate brand such as M-Seal is tying up with IPSC to launch a training programme. M-Seal and Indian Plumbing Association, towards this direction also celebrated World Plumbing Day across India to recognize the important role plumbing plays in the health and safety of modern society.

Mr. Vishal Malhan, VP- Sales and Marketing, CP-MNT Division, Pidilite Ltd, said, "As an industry, plumbing plays a paramount role in providing potable water, safe sanitation and water conservation apart from ensuring safety of buildings and their occupants. It is crucial that Plumbers need to be trained and provided with required skill sets for them to be equipped and contribute towards improving water and sanitation conditions."

Mr. Harpreet Singh, Vice President- Industry Engagement, Indian Plumbing Skill Council (IPSC) said "IPSC works as an accrediting and certifying body to fill gaps between skilled and unskilled labor in India. We aim to initiate in developing national occupation standards, execute, aid and assist all activities towards skill development in plumbing sector. We are glad to announce our association with Pidilite Industries Ltd. who are helping us take this initiative of training plumbers on a sustained and evolving basis."

In Indian cities, up to 40 percent of water is lost in transmission due to old distribution pipe networks. There are many instances where water is wasted and contaminated through leaky and substandard pipes. It is a paradox that in the western world, a plumber is considered as "health keeper to the



nation”, but in India, he is the last man in the hierarchy. A plumber today faces various hazards. He is exposed to the risk of contracting various diseases due to sub-standard plumbing practices.

Mr. Sudhakaran Nair, Chairman, WPC & President, IPA, said, “Plumbing has made an extraordinary but little recognised contribution to human health and the environment. The plumbing industry is on the frontline of how we use water and energy and is also indicative of how we live as households, individuals and working population. Plumbers in India play a very key role especially when India loses out on precious water due to leakages and bad plumbing. Through World Plumbing Day we would want to create awareness about the work this community is doing.”



# India requires 12 lakh plumbers by 2020

**While the current** *availability is just 2.5 lakh, the industry and the government step in to train more*



**A**s real estate booms, several other sections gain importance, plumbing for example. Plumbing is not merely fixing up a tap. With more complex buildings getting designed and constructed, there is a growing need of trained plumbers. According to a National Skill Development Council survey, just 0.5 per cent of plumbers in this country are trained. There is a whopping requirement of 12 lakh trained plumbers by 2020, while the current availability is 2.5 lakh, with most of them being untrained or self-trained.

The scary scenario of the plumbing skill availability has pushed various bodies into taking steps towards the same. The Indian Plumbing Skills Council under the National Skill Development Council, Ministry of Finance, has taken up various initiatives to train plumbers. Similarly corporate brand M-Seal is tying up with IPSC to launch a training programme. M-Seal and the Indian Plumbing Association, towards this direction, celebrated World Plumbing Day across India to recognise the important role plumbing plays in the health and safety of modern society.

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## Hazards

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