## Saamrath project empowering million lives in rubber sector

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In deference to the mandate from Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship to assess & skill 10 lakh manpower in the rubber sector, Rubber Skill Development Council (RSDC), the sector skill council for Rubber sector in the country has launched the project titled Saamrath — Empowering million lives in rubber, aimed at skilling, up-skilling and reskilling.

Marking a formal launch of the Saamrath project, a Mobile Tyre Service Skill Van was unveiled, which will move across different State highways, villages and towns, creating awareness about skill requirement for tyre service and maintenance and safety on

roads.

In his communication at the launch of Saamrath project, Sh. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) said, "Rubber sector generates large scale employment and is an important contributor to India's GDP. It goes to the credit of

RSDC that they have undertaken an in-depth study of the sector, conducted skill gap analyses and have standardized job roles across manufacturing, rubber plantation and services segments".

Mobile van, fitted with necessary equipment and manned by skilled personnel, will train tyre fitters, assess them on skills acquired and also certify them. The van was flagged off by RC Bhargava, Chairman, Maruti Suzuki Ltd. and R Gopalakrishnan, Ex-Executive Director, TATA Sons Ltd in the presence of key industry members, Training Partners, Assessment Agencies and other esteemed guests.

"Tyre fitters which dot the length and breadth of Indian highways play an important role in making road transport safer and smoother. Fitting of tyres especially commercial tyres is a skilled job requiring formal training. Unfortunately a large majority of tyre fitters are not formally trained so we chose to embark on the Saamrath project with skilling of tyre fitters', said Vinod Simon, Chairman RSDC.