WorldSkills 2026 (Shanghai) – CM Vijay gives ₹49 lakh incentives to Tamil Nadu medal winners and participants

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News

CM C. Joseph Vijay on 27 Oct 2026, at the Secretariat, Chennai, gave ₹49 lakh in all to the 12 Tamil Nadu competitors at the 48th WorldSkills Competition, Shanghai, China (22–27 Sept 2026). J. Mohammed Salam, silver medallist in Dental Prosthetics, got ₹15 lakh; four Medal for Excellence winners got ₹5 lakh each; seven other participants got ₹2 lakh each. India's 70-member team in 63 skills won 6 silver and 20 Medals for Excellence and finished 10th.

Key facts

Event	48th WorldSkills Competition, Shanghai (China), 22–27 Sept 2026
India	70 competitors (largest ever), 63 skills; 6 silver + 20 Medals for Excellence; 10th (13th at Lyon 2024)
Tamil Nadu	12 competitors; 1 silver (Mohammed Salam – Dental Prosthetics), 4 Medals for Excellence
Incentives	Silver ₹15 lakh; Excellence ₹5 lakh; participation ₹2 lakh – total ₹49 lakh
Coordination	State: Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC); national: NSDC under MSDE

Eligibility	Age 16–23; selected via State → South zone → national rounds
Next	49th – 2028, Aichi (Japan)

Background

- WorldSkills International grew out of post-WWII efforts to create youth jobs; the first competition was held in Madrid, Spain, in 1950. Formerly the International Vocational Training Organisation (IVTO). Held every two years – the 'Olympics of skills'.
- India became the 48th member of WorldSkills International in 2007. In 2026 India debuted in 11 new skills (incl. Dental Prosthetics, Retail Sales, Aircraft Maintenance). Smriti Nambiar (Bakery, silver) was 'Best of Nation'.
- National: the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) was set up in 2014; Jayant Chaudhary is MoS (Independent Charge). The Skill India Mission began on 15 July 2015. The UN General Assembly declared 15 July 'World Youth Skills Day'.

Tamil Nadu link: State skill competitions are run by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC), open to school, arts & science, engineering, polytechnic, ITI and hotel-management students and working youth. TNSDC also runs the 'Naan Mudhalvan' skilling scheme, launched on 1 March 2022. The CM asked heads of schools and colleges to raise participation.

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