



Skills Time

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Webinar organised by RSDC for discussion on Current Scenario



Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey, on World Youth Skills Day 2020

From COO desk:

World Youth Skills Day: Virtual Learning holds the key

This year, World Youth Skills Day had an unprecedented context. Worldwide, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions have closed down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has also brought about a never-before-seen focus on the digital teaching and learning approach globally. In India too, there has been a paradigm shift in working and learning styles. This day also marks as anniversary of the launch of Skill India Mission. Addressing the youth of the country, the honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi presented a new mantra for the youth which will help them stay relevant in the time of crisis and empower them is Skill, re-skill and Upskill. He said "This day is dedicated to your skills. The millennial youth's biggest strength is acquiring new skills. Covid-19 has changed the nature of jobs, and then there is new technology which has impacted our lives too. Our youth have to adopt new skills." Thus, the current workforce is exploring all means of upskilling themselves and staying relevant in these trying times, whereas the future workforce is trying to equip themselves with new skills to enter a job market which is going to be more competitive than before.

Ms Shewani Nagpal



Global perspective on Skill Development

The immediate lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic has forced the world economy to standstill. It has also impacted the educational system around the world, whereas theoretical training can still be continued with the usage of technology, practical trainings that depends on equipment and machines available in training centres is a major challenge.

RSDC organized international webinar with the countries having strong TVET system. We discussed about the challenges and way forward for skill development during and post COVID-19. Our speakers from around the world shared the innovative techniques and experiences which are being used by different countries to overcome these challenges and impact. Sharing some glimpse below -



Mr Dato' Sri Ganes, Founder & Group CEO, SG Education Group, Malaysia - "Malaysia has a little different way of conducting the trainings than other countries, although the objective is similar to create sustainable skilled personnel which are highly notable and skilled. Our skill trainings are usually based on National Occupational Skill (NOS) so the basis of TVET system in Malaysia is NOS. When COVID-19 pandemic hit, the government was quick enough to get some of the private TVET colleges together and started enforcing the online studies. But only knowledge segment which occupies 30% of the training can be covered through online classes. So we proactively started working on digitising our practical TVET as well by using 3D technology."

Dr AbouElfadi Abdou, Senior Expert - TVET QA, Egypt - "Model of Skill Development in Egypt is based on competence-based program. We work parallelly between knowledge, skills and attitude. Although we are trying to adopt to new normal and innovative approach, we are still facing issues like distribution of skill development especially the ones which require direct contact with the policy master trainer, temporary stopping of competence assessment and verification, lack of cooperation from stakeholders in implementing activities etc. We are now looking at e-learning courses and new web portals. We are also building an electronic platform for the mutual exchange of creative practices."

Mr Jonathan Ledger, CEO, Global Skills Ledger Limited, UK- "In UK, we are still exploring our options and the ways of progressing with the students in terms of education, so it is still a challenge. Traditionally, technical skills are taught with hands-on type approach in colleges, that is what technical vocational education is all about, but we have moved in into a new era. COVID-19 situation has brought to our attention towards how to move faster and faster with the help of technology, so we are now finding new ways of working with the technology now. But the biggest barrier in the implementation of technologies is the lack of knowledge and skills among staff members."



Mr Jan Peter G de Otero, Vocational Education Specialist, Germany- "Germany's educational system is based on two different avenues - school based and in-company training. In case of Germany the impact of COVID-19 is more relevant to learning at workplace than school-based learning. We are trying to overcome this impact by adopting new normal. We are incorporating blended learning in apprenticeship training schemes and teaching appropriate use of online learning. We are also focusing on updating and creating new qualifications on relevant areas."



World Youth Skills Day 2020: Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey addressed the nation



To mark World Youth Skills day along with five glorious years of the Skill India Mission, a digital conference was organised which was addressed by Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey, Honorable Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

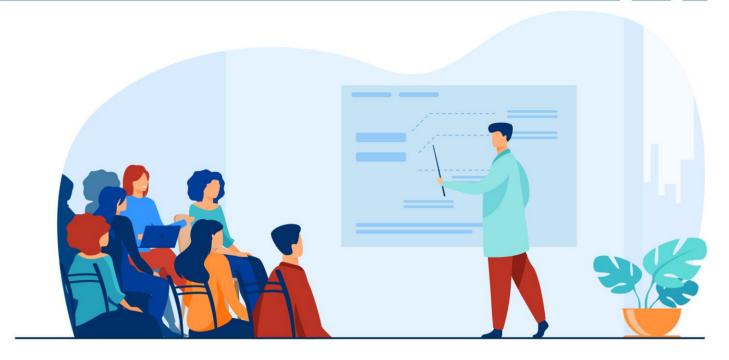
According to Dr Pandey "Youth of the country is the biggest asset and an important force in the economic growth, and social development of the country. We will focus our energies on increasing the versatility of different skills, making them suitable to meet the industry demands with the support of new technologies, nationally and globally."

"Education is moving online increasingly. Even though our youth can be skilled online, there is a limit to this. Physical training is required," said Dr Pandey. "For this, we will ensure that classes are held in batches in our ITIs and that strict physical distancing will be maintained among the students," he added. Dr Pandey also informed that while India has 10,750 ITIs until 2015, the number increased to 15,000 in 2020. He added that the Ministry's current mission is to counsel and train the migrant labourers who have come back to their homes.

Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey also emphasised on the success of Skill India Mission "The Skill India Mission or the Kaushal Bharat Abhiyan was kickstarted by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July 2015. He envisioned this using his successful experience as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Modiji's guidance helped us pave the way forward". He added "Prime Minister realised the need to skill the young people and bridge the gap, at the right time". According to Dr Pandey India has a "world-class skilling situation".



Rubber Skill Development Council to train migrant worker



With the lockdown being lifted from most of the cities of India, economy is slowly re-opening. While the factories are facing a severe shortage of labor, the migrants who shifted back to their hometowns during the lockdown are also out of jobs. Keeping this in mind, Rubber Skill Development Council has taken the initiative to skill and upskill the local population of the cities to help rubber industry overcome the labor shortage and will also be creating a model for the returned migrants in their respective states.

There are various states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana which are witnessing a mass departure of workforce. These states are also house to a large cluster of rubber manufacturing units, which are now facing a labor crunch due to migration. RSDC is joining hands with these states to provide skilling and up-skilling people in popular job roles required by these rubber manufacturing plants.

RSDC is also joining hands with states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand that have witnessed reversed migration in a large number. According to the government data Uttar Pradesh has more than 30 Lac of migrant workers out of which 7 Lac are skilled labour but has failed drastically to find employment for themselves. So, RSDC intervention in skilling them will help them get jobs and placements locally or motivate them to start their own businesses.

RSDC plans will train about 30,000 migrant workers for job roles of mill operator, moulding operator and mixing operator among others.

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