

## **‘Skill Connect’ Road Shows Launched to Strengthen Skill Ecosystem through Industry Associations**

- *Hon’ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates Skill Connect Road Shows in New Delhi*
- *Partnership between NSDC – GIZ – CII to implement Skill Connect Road Show; with special focus on Apprenticeship*
- *Encourage participation of industry in skill development*

**New Delhi, July 30, 2018:** National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have launched road show **‘Skill Connect’**. The road show intends to enhance awareness and participation of industry in the Skill development agenda with a special focus on apprenticeship.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon’ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, launched road show **‘Skill Connect’** in New Delhi. The roadshow will aim to drive awareness about various skilling Initiatives of the state and Central governments, and is a step to supporting industry associations in proactive efforts towards building an industry-ready skill force in India, especially under the Apprenticeship Programme. Skill Connect is expected to provide a platform for the sharing of best practices, both globally and from associations. It will seek to gather inputs about the current availability of skilled manpower at cluster levels.

The Road Show will be rolled through a series of workshops and seminars in more than 20 locations across India. The participants to the workshops would include the local/regional industry associations, companies, the state and the central government, and training partners.

Launching Skill Connect, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India**, said, *“To achieve a higher growth trajectory we need a more productive skilled workforce. National projects like Make in India need makers in India. While Germany has a three layered education system where industry and government work closely with each other and 70 percent of contribution is made by the industry, India has maximum investment from the government exchequer. The emphasis on quality manpower is only when it comes to personal services but not when it comes to the industry. There is a generic mindset issue where we usually compromise on the workforce efficiency to save on cost. We need to address this behavioral pattern of the industry and start investing in our country's youth which will create the New India of our dreams.”*

**Shri Pradhan added**, *‘India has abundance of natural resources, tremendous knowledge capacity and a huge captive market. Unless we create quality workforce we cannot realise the benefits. We can be self-sufficient if we tap the right opportunities and skill our own workforce to bridge this demand and supply gap. Apprenticeship is one the most sustainable model for addressing the issue of unemployment and employability. I urge the industry to come forward and leverage these reforms and contribute to the economic growth of the country.’*

**Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII**, said, *“Right from pushing for Amendment in the Apprenticeship Act to encouraging Industry to engage apprentices, CII has been working towards*

*supporting both ends of the spectrum. At CII we understand that there is a great need for hand-holding of industry particularly MSMEs to participate in the Apprenticeship Program and towards this we are giving a 360 degree hand holding support to the ministry.”*

**Programme Director (Private Sector Development), GIZ India, Mr. Noor Naqschbandi** underlined the importance of the road show, hoping to attract more participants from the industry in addressing the cooperative VET. The Indo-German programme on Vocational Education and Training (IGVET) focuses on developing cooperative VET models based on the experiences gained in industrial clusters. Through this road show, IGVET intends to strengthen the cooperative VET as important part of the ecosystem.

He wished the road show a great success, particularly in attracting the willingness of more industry associations and companies to participate in cooperative workplace-based vocational education and training (VET) and promoting the understanding of youth that cooperative workplace-based VET is a promising opportunity to start the professional life and achieve a good standard of living.

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### **About the Partners**

#### **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**

*NSDC is a public-private-partnership organisation, working under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. NSDC aims to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality and for-profit vocational institutions. Further, the organisation provides funding to build scalable and profitable vocational training initiatives. Its mandate is also to enable support system which focuses on quality assurance, information systems and train the trainer academies either directly or through partnerships. In recent developments, NSDC is mandated by the Ministry to implement Apprenticeship (including National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme) for enhancing the participation of industry association in cooperative training among others. NSDC, having gained deep experiences via establishment of Sector Skill Councils and implementing Government’s skill development schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), has adopted systemic approach to address the engagement of MSMEs, and is looking at the Industry Associations as one of the key drivers of NAPS.*

#### **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**

*CII has been a supporting, promoting and contributing the Government of India skill initiatives since long. One of the mandate they have recently taken over, is to support the industry participation in the NAPS. With the intention of extending last-mile-connect to its industry members, CII, inspired by the success of the German Dual VET system, is proactively reaching out to its network of chambers /industry associations and the member companies, advising them on participating the NAPS, setting up a system for addressing their inhibitions, and setting up a dedicated helpline for continued connect and information dissemination; thereby, creating conducive conditions for these members to participate in Skill India Mission, and especially NAPS.*

#### **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

*Continuing the commitment towards skill development initiatives together with the Government of India, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) signed an implementation agreement with Indian Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in 2016 to jointly implement the Indo-German programme for Vocational Education and Training (IGVET). The overall*

*objective of IGvet is that the “Actors of the public and private sectors work together to achieve conditions conducive to create and improve cooperative VET in India”. The project applies cluster-based approach for promoting cooperative VET in India, based on the inspiration drawn from the German Dual VET model. The project adopts a systemic approach focusing on the industry Chamber/Associations to become an active and responsible partner in the VET system.*

**For more information on Skill Development, please follow the links below:**

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IndiaSkills/](https://www.facebook.com/IndiaSkills/); Twitter: @WorldSkillsInd

Website: [www.nsdcindia.org](http://www.nsdcindia.org)

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