

# India launches mission to skill 400 million by 2022

BS REPORTERS  
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Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday launched his government's another ambitious scheme the National Skill Development Mission to train 400 million Indians by 2022.

"If China is known as world's manufacturing factory, India can be world's human resource capital," Modi told a packed audience in New Delhi. The prime minister was referring to 65 per cent of India's population which is below the age of 35 years. Modi said Indians should be ready to replace the diminishing workforce in other countries. "We have to scientifically map the world's manpower requirement and prepare accordingly," he added.

The government also launched the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Skill Loan scheme and the national policy for skill development and entrepreneurship 2015 on the World Youth Skill Day. Under the Skill Loan scheme, youth can avail credit between Rs 5,000 and Rs 150,000 to attend skill-related training programme. Modi stressed the need for more ITI institutes in the country.

The government estimates an incremental requirement of 110 million additional skilled personnel across 24 sectors by 2022. The



Prime Minister Narendra Modi felicitating world skills Oceania winners at the launch of the Skill India campaign in New Delhi on Wednesday

PHOTO: PTI

demand will be highest in real estate, transport, retail and beauty and wellness sectors. But the agricultural sector will see a negative growth with 24.8 million people moving to other jobs.

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has announced nearly a dozen schemes, including Digital India, Make in India, Jan Dhan and Swachh Bharat since it took over in May last year. Speaking at the launch, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said Indian economy was looking up and there would be a huge manpower requirement in services and manufacturing sectors.

"With economy recovering and picking up, with

wages in our other competitive economies increasing hugely compared to the Indian economy, our opportunities are great. And when Make in India and Skilling India will converge, no doubt we have a great future ahead of us," Jaitley said.

Besides Jaitley and other Cabinet ministers, chief ministers from various BJP or its alliance-run states were also present at the occasion.

The industry also wasted no time to announce its support and participation. While the NIIT Limited committed to train 10 million young Indians across 16 sectors over the next five years, Tata Housing announced that the company will provide vocational skill development

## GROWTH FORECAST

- According to the latest government data, the manufacturing sector grew by 2.2% in May compared with 5.9% in the corresponding month last year
- The IMF in its report had retained India's growth projection for 2015 at 7.5 % but lowered the global economy growth forecast to 3.3%

training to 100,000 socio-economically backward youth across the nation by 2024.

"Around 50 per cent of our population is below 27 years. We are talking about 700 million such youngsters by 2020. This is the first time in the history of humankind such a large population is actively seeking livelihood and employment opportunities. Skill India gives youngsters the most important aspect for their life employability and respect in society. Skill India will get India the most important asset of this century manpower," Narayanan Ramaswamy, partner and head of education and skill development, KPMG in India said in a statement.

## BUILDING SKILLS FOR TOMORROW

### Romesh Wadhvani commits \$1 billion

Romesh Wadhvani, Founder and Chairman, Wadhvani Foundations announced a commitment of \$1 billion to Wadhvani Foundations. Wadhvani Foundation's two major ongoing initiatives — National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN) and Skills Development Network (SDN), have had a significant impact on job creation and job fulfilment in India and now the foundation is looking forward to scale-up its initiatives to help India create and fill 25 million jobs, in the organised sector, by 2020.

"Entrepreneurship and skilling are the two magic keys to India's economic and job growth. Recently, the honourable prime minister said that India has a large number of hands to work and even larger number of dreams to realise," said Wadhvani, in a video address from Silicon Valley.

### NIIT to skill 10 mn youth

NIIT Limited committed to train 10,00,000 young Indians across 16 sectors over the next five years. The aim is to skill, re-skill and up-skill Indian youth with employable skill sets across multiple sectors. NIIT's Yuva Jyoti Limited — a joint venture of NIIT and NSDC, has enrolled 1550 students under the pilot phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, across three sectors — Telecom, Retail and IT in North East, Jammu & Kashmir and Jharkhand. In 2011, NIIT entered into a significant public-private partnership with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), to enhance skills and employability for youth across India. NIIT Yuva Jyoti Limited — joint venture of NIIT and NSDC (a Public Private Partnership under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, with 49 per cent equity held by the Government of India).

### Tata Housing to skill 100,000 youth

Tata Housing, announced that the company will provide vocational skill development training to 100,000 socio-economically backward youth across the nation by 2024, under its 'Samarth' initiative in line with the Prime Minister's vision of skilling the youth in India.

A flagship program of Tata Housing, 'Samarth' is dedicated to enhance employability and enable people from the bottom of the pyramid. It not only trains people but handholds and facilitates their gainful employment as well.

Under this initiative, the company has partnered with various non-government organisations, government institutions and professional bodies like Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Don Bosco Tech Society, NIIT Foundation, LabourNet, Udyogwardhini amongst others. Samarth provides training in construction-related trades including masonry, carpentry, bar bending, construction supervisor, RCC etc as well as non-construction job-oriented trades such as computers and retail sales.

