

***Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates FICCI's 10th edition of 'Global Skills Summit'***  
**Underlines need for developing ecosystem for technology savvy common man**

**NEW DELHI, 15 September 2017: Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Petroleum and Natural Gas**, today underlined the need for developing an ecosystem for driving employers and other stakeholders to work in a participative and collaborative mode to create jobs for the technology savvy common man of the country.

Addressing **FICCI's 10th edition of 'Global Skills Summit'** organized in association with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on the theme **'New Age Skills for Today and Tomorrow'**, Mr. Pradhan said that though India missed the Industrial Revolution earlier, the country was gearing up for Industry 4.0.

Alluding to the wide skills gap in the country, the Minister said that in robust and advanced countries the skilled manpower ranged between 50 to 90 per cent, whereas India's National Sample Survey Office indicates that the country has only 10 per cent skilled workforce. This leaves a huge scope for improvement in the sector.

On the occasion, the Minister released four reports, namely, FICCI-NASSCOM-EY 'Future of Jobs' Report; FICCI'S Industry Engagement Report; FICCI's Employer Led Job Models Primer Report; Magazine on 'Media Talk Back' by FICCI incubated Media & Entertainment Skills Council and UNDP-FICCI Case Study, Private Sector Models of Skill Development. Besides, a Letter of Understanding between FICCI and UNDP was signed and exchanged at the summit.

Emphasizing on the importance of technology and craft education, **Mr. Simon Bartley, President, WorldSkills International**, said that 'head, heart and hands' were needed to make the world sustainable in the future. He added that India needed to focus on globalization, standardization and new-age technologies while keeping abreast with the fast-paced changes, which will accelerate in future for creating employment for the burgeoning youth entering the job market.

In his theme address, **Mr. Mohan Das Pai, Chairman, FICCI Skill Development Committee (SDC) & Chairman, Manipal Global Education**, said that there was a need to re-orient India's education and skill policies and develop an ecosystem for employers to create gainful employment. Employer-led training and creation of policy for each State pertaining to skilling of manpower was needed given the diverse nature of each State in the country, besides greater use of technology.

**Mr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Chairman, Sun Foundation and Board Member, NSDC**, said that education and job-oriented skills were the best gifts for the youth of the country. He urged industry to pledge and enroll in the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme of the Government of India and work in a PPP mode with the government to meet industry's demand

for skilled workforce. He called on industry to also participate actively in other initiatives such as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Skill India Mission.

**Mr. Bijay Sahoo, Co-Chair, FICCI SDC and President, HR, Reliance Industries,** said that data was key to decision making and there was a need to learn how India can use data for policy making. He added that FICCI with its research-orientation and data intensive knowledge papers and reports was outcome-oriented. Thus, by way of papers and reports, FICCI was working towards identifying technologies, industries, processes and skills that would enable the country to embrace Industry 4.0.

**Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Secretary General, FICCI,** said that FICCI seeks to retain its leadership in the area of skill development and added that with technology a range of employment needs have come to the fore and therefore it was imperative to develop skills in these diverse areas.

**Mr Manish Kumar, CEO, NSDC,** said that they are committed to impart new age skills to our youth, which would help them earn a better livelihood and contribute towards the building of New India. Initiatives like the Global Skill Summit play an important role in fostering collaboration and exposing all stakeholders to global best practices in skill development. He further added that India would be participating at the WorldSkills Competition in Abu Dhabi next month. This will help us benchmark our skills to the best in the world and make further improvement in our TVET system.

Also, present on the dais was **Mr. Rashmikant Joshi, Co-Chair, FICCI SDC and Managing Director, Festo India** and the session was moderated by **Ms Shobha Mishra Ghosh, Asst. Secretary General, FICCI.**