Higher Education Summit - Get EQUIP-ed for the Future

Hyderabad, 13th November, 2019: Higher Education Summit – ‘Get EQUIP-ed for the Future’ was organized in Hyderabad on 13th November, 2019 at Novatel HICC, Hyderabad. The event saw participation of 109 institutes from the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana with 300+ delegates.

As part of Government of India’s efforts to integrate employable skills into education, MHRD is working with all stakeholders including IT-ITeS Sector Skills Council NASSCOM (SSC NASSCOM) to increase the employability quotient of our future workforce. There is an urgent need to incorporate skilling on emerging technologies including current popular job roles across all verticals in Non-STEM higher education. NASSCOM’s report indicate that up to 2 MM jobs can be created directly in IT-ITES and up to 4-6 million additional jobs in other sectors that need IT enabled professionals. Skilling (fresh talent) is a major input necessary to create a skilled youth base to build the digital economy in India. India’s demographic dividend needs to be capitalized upon for both growth and development objective.

MHRD and SSC NASSCOM in partnership aim to equip India’s Higher Education Non-STEM students with such current and future skills for enhancing their employability, vis-à-vis NASSCOM’s FutureSkills platform and faculty and student training on programs, foundational and current in demand job roles. Presently the focus is on a pilot program addressing the top 100 Higher Educational institutes in consideration of their current work in reshaping higher education. Select Institutions from the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana were invited to participate in this event with an aim to enable a strategy to get their students ‘EQUIP..ed’ for the future.

The FutureSkills initiative is an industry driven learning ecosystem which provides a complete solution for the introduction and training needs for all in emerging technologies. It is aimed at building robust IT-ITeS skills, for making our students Market Ready.

FutureSkills enables all students to accelerate on the path of discovery, continuous learning and deep skilling in the 10 emerging technologies. The portal has been designed as a marketplace and content library, where the best global providers of content and learning come together to offer learners information on the latest jobs, the skills needed for those jobs, learning content, assessments and certifications.
Sri Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary of the Industries & Commerce (I&C) and Information Technology (IT) Departments of the Telangana government, Govt of Telangana said “FutureSkills: An industry driven learning ecosystem to get India accelerated on the journey of building skills and becoming the global hub for talent in the emerging technologies is the need of the hour and we need to consciously work towards building the future ready workforce, this initiative will enable the Higher education system to absorb these skills and enable the students to create a brighter future for themselves. Year of 2020 is declared as Year of AI by Govt of Telangana and such initiatives by MHRD and NASSCOM will create Future ready and readily deployable workforce for the industry. Such skills will enable students to have global mobility I congratulate the selected Institutions and wish they come up with implementation strategy and showcase as pioneers in Higher education system.”

Sri Subba Rao, Senior Economic Advisor MHRD said: “The need of the hour is to ensure that the Higher Education sector in the country is not left behind especially the Non-STEM students. The aim is to introduce FutureSkills as optional courses, part-time courses and full-fledged degree courses in a phased manner so that general degree students have the opportunity to take up skill courses along with their degrees. This initiative of MHRD and NASSCOM would create an employable workforce for current and future requirements with reference to this and other interrelated industries in India and abroad.”

About IT-ITeS Sector Skills Council NASSCOM

IT-ITeS SSC NASSCOM is the skill standard setting body of the IT-ITeS Industry and it is the education and skill development initiative of NASSCOM. The SSC NASSCOM as an integral part of NASSCOM works with industry members, select academic and skill development institutions to help improve the quality and quantity of the employable workforce available to the industry. For more details access [www.sscnasscom.in](http://www.sscnasscom.in)

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About NASSCOM

The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM®) is the premier trade body and chamber of commerce of the Tech industry in India and comprises over 2800-member companies including both Indian and multinational organisations that have a presence in India. Our membership spans across the entire spectrum of the industry from start-ups to multinationals and from products to services, Global Service Centers to Engineering firms. Guided by India’s vision to become a leading digital economy globally, NASSCOM focuses on accelerating the pace of transformation of the industry to emerge as the preferred enablers for global digital transformation. Our strategic imperatives are to reskill and upskill India’s IT workforce to ensure that talent is future-ready in terms of new-age skills, strengthen the innovation quotient across industry verticals, create new market opportunities - both international and domestic, drive policy advocacy to advance innovation and ease of doing business, and build the Industry narrative with focus on Talent, Trust and Innovation. And, in everything we do, we will continue to champion the need for diversity and equal opportunity.

NASSCOM has played a key role in not just the growth of the Industry to become a $180+ Billion industry today, but we have helped establish the Tech industry in India as one of the most trusted partners, globally. NASSCOM continues to make significant efforts in contributing towards India’s GDP, exports, employment, infrastructure development and global visibility. Our membership base constitutes over 95% of the industry revenues in India and employs over 4 million professionals, and as technology blends into every aspect of the economy, we expect the industry to become key driver
of growth, development and inclusion for the country. Our mission is to make India a global hub for Innovation and Talent so when the world thinks Digital, the world will think India.