

Launch of Transnational Standards with Global Recognition: partnership between NSDC and FISSS supported by UKIERI and MSDE

UKIERI facilitated a partnership between National Skill Development Corporation and The Federation of Industry Skills & Standards to support a project for benchmarking Indian National Occupational Standards against UK National Occupational Standards. Through this partnership, standards across 82 job roles have been benchmarked.

To launch these **‘Transnational Standards’**, an event was organised on April 5 in New Delhi. Speaking at the launch event, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India said *“Standardisation of Vocational education is crucial in bringing about a level in the efficiency of the skilled workforce. It is an endeavour that we benchmark the standards so as to support international mobility of Indian workforce and also prepare them to work in International Companies establishing their operations in the country. I hope UKIERI 3 will help expand this work further.”*



Gracing the occasion was also British High Commissioner to India, **Sir Dominic Asquith KCMG**, who said, *“India and UK have been collaborating on skill development since a long time now and this is yet another effort to bring more quality in vocational education which will open more avenues for employment across countries for the youth.”* He also announced the start of the third phase of UKIERI which began on 1st April 2016.

The **Indian Sector Skills Councils** which participated in the project included Automotive, Agriculture, Life Sciences, Healthcare, Capital Goods, Apparel, Beauty and Wellness, Telecom, Hospitality, IT & ITeS, Construction, Retail,



electronics and Security. The **UK Sector Skills Councils** included Agriculture, Automotive, Beauty and Wellness, Capital Goods, Construction and Electronics, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality, Security, Apparel and Textiles, IT and Telecom, Life Sciences and Healthcare.

The partnership initiated in January 2016 with a meeting of the Indian and UK SSCs and 15 Indian SSCs have benchmarked 82 job roles with 11 UK SSCs and prepared transnational standards.

These *Transnational Standards* identified the gaps between Indian standards as compared to the UK standards and provide a workable document to create bridge course on these gaps.

The key highlight of this partnership is recognition of Indian SSC Assessment and Certification by the UK Awarding bodies. Those interested to migrate will now simply have to take “bridge training” on the gap identified in the benchmarking process and get assessed on the components of the “bridge training”. Thus just by doing “bridge training” and getting assessed and certified on it, will lead to award of UK IVQ which has a global acceptance including Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

During the event two MoUs were also signed between National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Association of Colleges (UK) and UK Awarding Organization City & Guilds and Pearson’s Education. These MoUs will enable sharing of best practice, staff exchange and development of new models to increase employer engagement and investment in skills.



The event also saw few employers from GCC countries who have committed employment to Indian workforce certified on these benchmarked standards. This overall initiative aims to support two major initiatives of the Government of India i.e. “Make in India” and “Skill India”.

To operationalise the next phase of the partnership, UK Further Education Colleges will be partnering with Indian Organisations to setup the skill Academies in the identified sectors in India.

Media Coverage:

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<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/India-launches-skill-standards-which-have-global-recognition-benchmarks-them-to-UK-Standards/articleshow/51699462.cms>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=138584>

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<http://www.babushahi.com/news-detail.php?id=58380&newssection=sarkardarbar&t=Rajiv+Pratap+Rudy+launches+Transnational+Skill+Standards+in+India+&fbrefresh=909#jump0>