

'Skill India platform to equip youths for global job market'

National Skill Development Corporation CEO Ved Mani Tiwari speaks to TOI's Manash Gohain on Skill India Digital (SID) which promises to offer a wide spectrum of skill certification like QR-coded digital CVs giving access to the portfolio of the candidate to potential employers globally

What is SID?

■ SID is a comprehensive digital platform that seeks to revolutionise skills, education, employment, and entrepreneurship landscape of India. It is the convergence of initiatives such as 'Digital India' and 'Skill India', offering a multifaceted approach to empower the country's youth and its workforce. The platform provides industry-relevant skill development courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support. It facilitates access to entrepreneurial initiatives and fosters connections between jobseekers and employers. It is an easy-to-use interface adaptable to various devices and it adopts a mobile-first approach, recognising the reliance on smartphones. This ensures uninterrupted learning experiences through handheld devices, thus transforming traditional learning methods.

How is it going to open opportunities to the workforce?



The platform provides industry-relevant skill development courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support. It fosters connections between jobseekers and employers

■ By granting access to a wide spectrum of skill courses, SID empowers India's youth to explore different learning paths. These courses can be pursued through multiple modes, including apprenticeships, ensuring opportunities in sectors spanning across industries. It offers users means to explore location-based services and locate skill centres in their vicinity. These centres range from PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana to Jan Shikshan Sansathans, Industrial Training Institutes to skill universities, polytechnics, corporate social responsibility centres, educational institutions, industry-owned entities, and fee-based

centres. Moreover, SID available in multiple Indian languages.

It also promises access to global opportunities...

■ In an era of globalisation of the workforce, India is positioning itself as a prime global outsourcing destination. SID offers a wide range of industry-relevant skill courses, designed to equip learners with the skills and knowledge that are in demand not only in India but also globally. SID also leverages modern technology to provide real-time insights into market trends and the skills currently in demand, ensuring that candidates stay up-

dated with the latest industry requirements.

What is the role of NSDC International?

■ Since October 2021, NSDCI has actively contributed to international workforce mobility through strategic collaborations with foreign governments, dedicated training programmes, and digital and on-ground initiatives. NSDC has identified over 35 lakh job opportunities across sectors in 16 countries. Additionally, bilateral agreements with select partner nations, international work mobility opportunities are to be made available for more than 3.5 lakh Indian workers over the next five years. A range of priority areas for employment have been also identified which include construction, healthcare, hospitality and tourism management, energy, education, transport and logistics, IT and digital, retail, manufacturing, and media and entertainment. We have also found out that there is significant potential for women's employment, particularly in technology and care-related job roles, which can significantly enhance their participation in the labour market.