

NASSCOM®

Government Approves Rs. 436 Crore for Future Skills PRIME – India Stack for Digital Talent

New Delhi: 18th Dec 2019: By 2030 Indian will have more than 90 million people joining the workforce due to its existing demographic dividend. India will become the largest workforce in the world by 2030. Indian IT giants have been investing over Rs. 1,000 Crore per year to address the reskilling/ upskilling requirements of their employees given the magnitude of the challenges.

Keeping this in mind the Government had made a strong commitment to drive skilling at scale of our citizens and youth. The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had announced the Future Skills Initiative in February 2018 at Hyderabad to reskill the IT industry workforce in emerging technologies and job roles.

Since then the Ministry of Electronics and IT and NASSCOM have worked with the IT industry to reskill/ upskill over 200,000 IT employees leveraging the Future Skills platform. The Future Skills platform currently offers reskilling/ upskilling in 10 emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Blockchain, etc. across 70 new job roles and 155 new skills.

Today the Union Minister for Electronics and IT Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad approved expansion of the Future Skills initiative to industry professionals across different segments, higher education students and government officials, with the goal to train 4 lakh professionals in next three years. This expanded digital platform would be called Future Skills PRIME (Programme for Reskilling/ Upskilling of IT Manpower for Employability). The Union Minister on this occasion said, *“In the digital world trained workforce will become India’s biggest competitive advantage. The Government is committed to work with the IT Industry and NASSCOM to create **India Digital Talent Stack** that will propel India into a leadership position in the digital world.”*

Speaking on the occasion, **Debjani Ghosh, President, NASSCOM**, said, *“It is phenomenal to see the Government taking on such a huge initiative and recognising the imperative of skilling in our industry today. The common objective we share is to showcase India as the global hub for talent development in emerging technologies as well as globally recognized process structures. I am confident that such an initiative will significantly contribute to building a future-ready workforce and accelerate the technology sector in achieving its skilling targets for the country.”*

The Government of India will invest Rs. 436 Crore over a period of three years on this initiative.

Salient Features of Future Skills PRIME:

- It will offer diagnostics for learner preference and skill gaps leading to identification of relevant courses.
- It will help in building digital fluencies in emerging technologies.

NASSCOM®

- It will offer online upskilling in identified skill competencies.
- It will offer blended programmes with online and classroom trainings.
- It will enable assessment and certification of learners in line with industry needs and Government standards.
- Each learner will get a **Skills Passport** where competencies acquired by the learner will get accumulated.
- Every learner will get a **Skills Wallet** where s/he will have the opportunity to get upto Rs. 12,000 from the Government of India as an incentive upon certification.
- This digital platform is being developed in strong partnership with the IT Industry, academia and government. Apart from industry, the existing infrastructure of CDAC and NIELIT centers will also be leveraged as resource centers in hub and spoke model.
- The data center for this digital platform will be kept in India.

With the aim to upskill/reskill over 4 lakh IT professionals in emerging technologies, Future Skills PRIME will be one of the largest government led digital skilling initiative globally.

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.

<p>Satyaki Maitra Kritarth Srivastava</p> <p>NASSCOM Press Office – Genesis BCW</p> <p>+91 9958041503 +91 7289870408</p> <p>satyaki.maitra@genesis-bcw.com kritarth.srivastava@genesis-bcw.com</p>	<p>Kavita Doshi</p> <p>NASSCOM</p> <p>+91 120 4990200</p> <p>kavita@nasscom.in</p>
---	---

NASSCOM[®]