SKILL DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYABILITY

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The National Skill Development was approved by the Union Cabinet on 01-07-2015 and officially launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 15-07-2015 on the occasion of World Youth Skill Day. Hon’ble Prime Minister of our country, Shri Narendra Modi states that today the world and India needs a skilled workforce. If we have to promote the development of our country then our mission has to be “Skill Development and Skilled India”. Millions and millions of Indian youth should acquire the skills which could contribute towards making India a modern country and hence remove unemployment from the face of the earth. The need of the hour is to create various pools of young people who are able to create jobs. The pre-requisite for this is the need to improve the employability of our graduates. Graduates now require the skills beyond the basic of reading, writing and arithmetic. Rather four C’s are required today – critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity – to get more and more jobs.

With the union budget 2017-18 allocating Rs. 4000 crore to the Skilled Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) the Prime Minister’s ambitious Skill India Mission Campaigners got a new zeal. Launched in 2015, the mission aims to train 400 million youth in new skills by 2022. Though, amount allotted is insufficient but mission is promising.

Through skills for employability we work to develop higher quality skills systems in vocational and higher technical education to meet industry needs and help young people prosper. Through the themes of skills and enterprise international collaboration is fostered and social and economic development is supported.

National educational and training system support to better respond to labour market demands and learner’s needs. Policy and decision makers in government are engaged to set the agenda at the highest level to meet the global skills challenges. In the UK, senior educationist and employers are being provided with partnership and knowledge sharing opportunities to support skills development and promote innovation. Young people are being given new opportunities, higher aspirations and a global perspective in which India lacks behind. UK is conducting this program in different countries like China, Egypt, Vietnam, Yemen, Uzbekistan, Romania, Ukraine, South Africa, Libya etc. where it
targets hundreds of institutions and thousands of students to be trained by teachers where scores of teachers are trained by them. Seniors members of staff receive quality assurance training, enabling them to develop policies and procedures to be implemented across all those institutions. Senior educationist and employers are being provided with partnership and knowledge sharing opportunities to support skill development and promote innovation. This way, young people are being given new opportunities, higher aspirations and global perspective. We, the Indians also, can make this possible.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) is now-a-days. But, what’s the problem with PMKVY? The government is ready to pay money to the institutions which get themselves registered to them. But, institutes have to arrange the trainers themselves which is an uphill task. Under government approved SIAPM (Skill India Awareness and Placement Mission) there are approximately 170 job oriented programs having their tie-ups with National and Multi-National Companies to place its candidates. In PMKVY, there are 221 job roles under 32 sectors like 7 courses in ‘Beauty and Wellness’, 9 courses in Apparel and Made ups and Home Furnishing’, 10 courses in Agriculture sector, 7 courses in Construction, 4 courses of ‘Domestic Workers’, retail, security and so on. Both these programs have been either launched by the government or approved by the government to increase the ratio of employment. More than 70 % of our population is youth but 80 % of our youth is now aware about the jobs. There are unemployed because the paraphernalia that is a pre-requisite of the centers and institutes is tough to be met with along with finding qualified trainers for different courses. Then, other ground realities in India are that students are trained in one job and placed in another as there is no sufficient demand of the skill in which they are trained in the area where they live and they don’t want to migrate to other places where their skill can be utilized due to low payment and higher cost of living. This is also a tough concept to sell to the students without a job insight. These are certain drawbacks which need to be removed from PMKVY if our government wishers for its optimum benefits.