



News Release

NSDC forms the first joint venture with Centum Learning Limited to skill over 1.2 crore people

National Skill Development Corporation signs the MoA with Centum Learning, a Bharti Associate Company, to form Centum Workskills India Limited

New Delhi, September 21, 2010. Centum Learning Limited, a Bharti Associate Company and the National Skill Development Corporation, a public- private partnership company set up under the aegis of Ministry of Finance, entered into an agreement to develop skills and enhance employability of people across different industry sectors. The agreement was signed in the presence of Pranab Mukherjee, the Finance Minister, Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises and Chairman, Centum Learning Limited and M.V. Subbiah, Chairman, NSDC.

The mandate for the new joint venture, which would be called **Centum Workskills India Limited** would be to skill 1.2 crore people by 2022 across 11 states, 382 districts and make them employable by providing livelihood opportunities.

Speaking on the occasion **Sanjeev Duggal, CEO and Executive Director, Centum Learning** stated *“Being a part of one of the largest conglomerates in the country, we have taken the first big step to leverage India’s demographic dividend and fulfill the ambition of making our country the skill capital of the world. Our track record of building capabilities of millions across diverse sectors and strong industry connect will help deliver best in class learning, provide employment opportunities and develop successful entrepreneurs. We are extremely pleased to be associated with NSDC in transforming the skill landscape of the country to ensure that empowerment of the masses does not remain a mere rhetoric.”*

The venture is first of its kind and would form an integral part of the National Skills Mission launched by the Govt. of India. **Dilip Chenoy, CEO & MD, National Skill Development Corporation** said *“This would be the first ever joint venture for NSDC and is a unique model of co-operation between the private sector, Central ministries and the NSDC. It should serve as a beacon for other private sector companies to set up large training projects that would benefit millions of youth nationwide.”*



As a part of this agreement Centum Learning would hold 73% shares in the joint venture and the remainder 27% would be held by NSDC. The Board of Directors would comprise key personnel from both organizations.

The new entity **Centum Workskills India Limited** would impart vocational skill courses to seven key industry sectors - Automobile, Organized Retail, Telecom, Building and Construction, Hospitality and Health care with a target to skill 12,400 people across 6 states and 80 districts in the first year of inception. It would provide end-to-end solution including Youth Mobilization and Counseling, Training Execution, Assessment and Certification and also Placement Support. The organization is also gearing up to form both state level and International partnerships to reach the bottom of the pyramid.

About Centum Learning Limited

Centum Learning, a Bharti Associate Company, provides end-to-end learning and skill-building solutions that impact business performance through enhanced employee productivity, customer profitability and effective talent transformation.

Focused on 'People and Processes', its solutions cover the entire spectrum ranging from Learning Process Outsourcing, Custom Content Development, Training through Blended Learning Programmes, Executive Coaching and Performance Coaching to Process Management and Certification. It also focuses on building industry specific skills at the entry level for the service sector.

In the higher education domain, Centum Learning Limited has set up more than 130 Centum Learning Centres in 90 cities spread across India, to provide bridge the existing talent gap in the service sector. Centum Learning has now launched Centum U - Institute of Management & Creative Studies. It offers various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in association with world-renowned Universities and Institutes. <http://www.centumlearning.com>

About National Skill Development Corporation India

The National Skill Development Corporation India (NSDC) is a one of its kind, Public Private Partnership in India. It aims to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality, for-profit vocational institutions. It provides viability gap funding . to build scalable, for-profit vocational training initiatives. Its mandate is also to enable support systems such as quality assurance, information systems and train the trainer academies either directly or through partnerships. Its mandate is to create 150 million trained manpower by 2022 in 21 focus sectors identified by the government by catalyzing private sector involvement. It has also been given the responsibility to help in the formation of Sector Skills Councils that would establish quality standards for the segments they represent.