

NSDC collaborates with The/Nudge Foundation to drive dialogues on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at Charcha 2020

- The 3-day skill development and entrepreneurship event is packed with 24 sessions, led by 50+ brightest minds as eminent speakers and panelists

New Delhi, May 15, 2020: National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), in partnership with **The/Nudge Foundation**, and supported by the **deAsra Foundation** and **G.A.M.E. India** to co-organise the **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** event at **#charcha2020** scheduled from May 14th to May 16th, 2020. The virtual event aims to act as a platform towards enabling constructive conversations on ways to overcome the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 outbreak on the skill development and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India. With 24 power-packed sessions being led by 50+ eminent speakers and panelists over three days, **#charcha2020** will facilitate important discussions around critical pieces of governance, policy, interventions and actions required to resolve the pressing challenges faced by the skill development sector as a consequence of the global pandemic.

The skill development and entrepreneurship event commenced yesterday with a plenary session on *'Convergent India to a better post-COVID world'*, with **Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, Niti Aayog** and **Mr. Amit Chandra, Managing Director, Bain Capital Private Equity**. This was followed by the opening address by **Mr. Praveen Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship**. Today, **Dr. Manish Kumar, MD & CEO, NSDC** delivers a keynote address on *'Governance and policies to create an environment for accelerated recovery'*. Over the course of three-days, multiple sessions will be organised on various topics including the future of jobs and methodologies of skilling in the emerging new normal along with inspirational stories of success through skill empowerment.

In his opening address, **Mr. Praveen Kumar** said, "The current pandemic environment solicits rethinking and redesigning of strategies and practices to plan skilling and livelihood of workforce for self-sustainability. The government has proactively made every effort, and continues to do so, to improve sentiment and set the stage for the youngsters of India to reach their full potential and contribute the most to the country as a whole."

He further said, "I believe that a productive discussion with industry partners, thought leaders, policymakers and understanding their constraints, and learning from their experience will help us bridge the gap and implement new, improved models for skills provision to create new capabilities in context of the new post COVID environment."

On the opening day, the discussions covered subjects like skilling for the future, the role of upskilling, reskilling and alternate skilling, evolution of the funding landscape, sectoral challenges and opportunities in times of crisis and compassionate economy for sustainable development. The day-2 covers topics such as the evolving role of foundations in India's development journey, opportunities in skilling economy, governance and policies to create an environment for accelerated recovery, innovation and digital transformation in the skilling sector, need for a collaborative for mass entrepreneurship and nonprofits' response to COVID-19 crisis. Day-3, marked for entrepreneurship, will deliberate upon subjects like Indian economy's recovery through

inclusive growth, increasing the competitiveness of the middle of the pyramid enterprises and the role of technology in entrepreneurship.

Commenting on the initiative, **Dr. Manish Kumar** said, “The Charcha 2020 platform aims at collaboratively brainstorming on adaptive programs and strategies for skill development and entrepreneurship, given the challenges imposed by ongoing pandemic.”

Sharing his thoughts on Charcha 2020, **Atul Satija, Founder, The/Nudge Foundation** said, “The ramifications of the outbreak of the global pandemic has impacted India's development sector significantly. Charcha 2020 is in line with our vision to enable necessary interventions needed to reimagine the design of the social development sector and boost the infrastructure needed to solve for India's most pressing problems. The platform aims at bringing together thought leaders to enable engaging conversations on the need to put together a strategic framework in response to the pandemic and build resilience against future shocks of this nature.”

About Charcha 2020

Charcha 2020 convening online from May 14th to May 16th, 2020 is a platform that will bring together some of India's brightest minds and key opinion leaders to discuss and deliberate on ways to overcome the unprecedented challenges posed by COVID-19 to India's economic growth. With 9 plenary sessions and 16 parallel events overall, Charcha 2020 will cover a broad range of topics in the development sector including health, education, rural development, water & sanitation, land & property inclusivity, skill development and entrepreneurship, among others. The platform will facilitate engaging discussions on the need to re-invent the wheel to strengthen the economy and chart a new pathway for the country's resurgence from COVID-19 crisis as well as other critical issues affecting the country.

The virtual summit will witness participation from India's most influential leaders and brightest thinkers, policymakers, communicators, philanthropists and community leaders such as **Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, Niti Ayog; Dr. Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Laureate and Founder, Bachpan Bachao; Ms. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Chairperson & MD, Biocon; Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate and Founder, Grameen Bank; Dr. S Krishnamurthy, Chief Economic Advisor to the PM; Kaushik Basu and Justin Lin Yifu, both former chief economists, The World Bank and Dr. Manish Kumar, MD & CEO, NSDC** among many others.

Charcha 2020 will witness participation of over 100 developmental organizations, 300+ speakers and nearly 6,000 registered participants on a single platform. The 16 events, each between 6 and 10 hours long, will cover the topics in each area of sustainable development, running in parallel through speakers notes, expert panels and demos. Registrations are open at <https://charcha2020.splashthat.com/>

About National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is a public private partnership working under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Established in 2009, NSDC aims to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality and for-profit vocational institutions. It provides funding to enterprises, companies and organizations to build scalable and profitable vocational training initiatives. The organization is mandated to create and nurture a sustainable support system focusing on capacity development, quality assurance, information systems and market intelligence.

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