



## 16th FICCI Global Skills Summit 2025

### Empowering Youth, Energizing Economy: Building Future-Ready Workforce

**FICCI, Federation House, New Delhi  
August 7 & 8, 2025**

**Day 1 : Thursday, August 7, 2025**

**Commission Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Federation House, FICCI, Tansen Marg, New Delhi**

**09:15 am – 10:00 am**

**Registration**

**10:00 am – 11:00 am: Inaugural Session**

The inaugural session of the 16<sup>th</sup> FICCI Global Skills Summit 2024 on the **theme “Empowering Youth, Energizing Economy: Building Future-Ready Workforce”** sets the tone for the entire event. The session will be inspiring, strategic, and forward-looking, bringing together key voices from government, industry, and academia.

The session will have the presence of the Hon’ble Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India along with senior leadership of FICCI, the Chairs and Co -chairs of the FICCI’s National Committee on Skills, very senior industry leaders and government officials.

The session shall frame the broader narrative of the summit and will create the common sense of purpose amongst all stakeholders. It will foster engagement and lay a strong foundation for productive discussions and collaborations throughout the two days of the conference.

**11:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Networking Break**

**11:30 am - 11:45 am**

**Report Presentation (released during the inaugural session)**

**11:45 am - 01:00 pm**

**Session 1 - Infrastructure in Skill Education**

### **Infrastructure in Skill Education: The Cornerstone of ongoing reforms**

India is poised at a transformative juncture in its pursuit of becoming a global manufacturing and innovation powerhouse. Central to this vision is the development of a robust skill education infrastructure that can meet the evolving demands of industries. Recognizing the pivotal role of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in this endeavour, the Government of India has unveiled the National Scheme

for Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Upgradation and the establishment of five National Centres of Excellence for Skilling. To improve skilling infrastructure in India, the Union Cabinet has recently approved the new ₹60,000 crore Industrial Training Institute (ITI) upgradation scheme, with focus on 1,000 government ITIs in hub and spoke arrangement with industry aligned revamped trades.

As part of these ongoing efforts, significant investments are being made in infrastructure development—including the modernization of ITI campuses/ vocational training & skilling institutions, creation of smart classrooms, well-equipped labs, digital skilling infrastructure and dedicated technology centres. A robust infrastructure push will enhance connectivity between institutions, promote industry collaboration, and lay a strong foundation for a future-ready workforce.

The session will focus to address the following:

1. How does the ITI Upgradation Scheme align with India's national development goals like Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Viksit Bharat 2047?
2. What systemic issues (governance, funding utilization, faculty shortages) must be addressed to make these efforts effective on the ground?
3. How can states and local governments be empowered to support implementation while maintaining national standards?
4. What kinds of industry partnerships are essential—for curriculum alignment, hands-on training, and placements?
5. What mechanisms are needed to ensure that upgraded skilling institutions remain responsive to changing industry needs in the long term? What innovations can be introduced to prepare skilling institutions for the future of work, including AI, green jobs, and Industry 4.0?

**11:45 am - 01:00 pm**

***Session 2 - International Partnerships and Global Mobility Pathways***

## **International Partnerships and Global Mobility Pathways: The New World of Work**

As nations grapple with technological disruption, demographic changes, and shifting economic priorities, there is a growing recognition that no country can build a future-ready workforce in isolation. Cross-border collaborations and mobility frameworks have become essential tools to align skills development with global standards, foster innovation, and ensure inclusive growth. International partnerships and global mobility pathways have emerged as vital enablers of shared progress in education, skills development, and workforce transformation.

As economies become increasingly interdependent and the demand for skilled talent becomes more universal, countries must move beyond insular approaches and embrace collaborative models that allow for the seamless exchange of knowledge, people, and capabilities.

For a country like **India**, with its demographic dividend and growing base of skilled professionals, international mobility and global partnerships present an enormous opportunity for both outbound and inbound collaboration in education, employment, and entrepreneurship.

This session aims to explore how India's skilling ecosystem can be strengthened through strategic international collaborations and global mobility frameworks that enable Indian youth to access overseas education, training, and employment opportunities.

The session will also discuss mutual recognition of qualifications, transnational standards, and global employer engagement to enhance India's positioning as a global talent hub.

1. How can Bilateral and Multilateral Skill Partnerships be leveraged to enhance mobility?
2. Experiences sharing from successful government-to-government (G2G) skill mobility programs.
3. What is the Opinion of global recruiters on key sectors in terms of workforce and skills demand from India?
4. Leveraging Technology-Driven Cross-Border Training to enhance international mobility.
5. Feedback/ bottlenecks on worker protection, pre-departure orientation, language skills, and making reintegration pathways seamless & smooth.

**01:00 pm – 02:00 pm**

**Networking Lunch**

**02:00 pm- 03:15 pm**

***Session 3 - Catalysing Industry-Led Skilling: Powering India's Workforce Transformation***

## Powering India's Workforce Transformation Through Industry-Led Skilling

India stands at the threshold of a significant demographic and economic opportunity. With one of the youngest and largest workforces in the world, the country has the potential to become a global hub for talent and innovation. However, the true realisation depends on how effectively the nation can equip its youth with the right skills—those that are aligned with the needs of a rapidly evolving, technology-driven economy.

In recent years, the Government of India has launched several initiatives to bridge the skill gaps and ensure a stronger industry-academia connect. These programs are designed not only to increase employability but also to enhance productivity, innovation, and global competitiveness by aligning skilling with real-time industrial demands.

The recent emphasis on upskilling, reskilling, and future-skilling through programs such as PMKVY 4.0, Skill India Digital, and the newly announced ITI Upgradation Scheme reflects a deeper commitment to building a workforce that is not only employable today but adaptable tomorrow. These initiatives are now increasingly embedded in public-private partnerships where industry plays a key role in curriculum design, infrastructure development, assessment, and certification.

This session will highlight how **government interventions** (PM Internship Scheme, PM E2E Lounges, AICTE Fellowship Program, National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme, National Apprenticeship Training Scheme) **have shifted from supply-driven to demand-driven models** of skilling, by embedding industry at the heart of curriculum design, training delivery, internships, and apprenticeships

The session will focus to address the following:

1. What motivates or deters companies from participating in these national schemes?
2. How can we embed skilling into the business model (beyond CSR)?
3. What are the bottlenecks to scaling participation from MSMEs and Tier-II institutions?
4. What support do academic institutions need for student mobilization, logistics, or training?
5. How can we simplify compliance and enhance outcomes?

**03:15pm – 03:45pm**

**Tea Break**



03:45pm – 04:00 pm	Special Address
04:00pm -05:15pm	Session 4: From Job Seekers to Job Creators: Igniting Youth Entrepreneurship
<h2>Igniting Youth Entrepreneurship</h2> <p>India is today the <b>3rd largest startup ecosystem in the world</b>, with over <b>125,000 registered startups</b> and <b>more than 110 unicorns</b> as of 2024. These enterprises span sectors from fintech and Health tech to agritech and sustainability, creating <b>millions of direct and indirect jobs</b>. Yet, despite this impressive growth, entrepreneurship remains concentrated in urban centres and among relatively well-resourced individuals. At a time when the country boasts one of the largest and youngest workforces in the world, the traditional aspiration of securing a stable job is no longer sufficient to meet the demands of a fast-changing economy.</p> <p>This session will delve into the systemic challenges that inhibit widespread youth entrepreneurship: the fear of failure, limited access to role models, insufficient business education in schools and colleges, and an ecosystem that often rewards risk-aversion over innovation. It will also address the need for a cultural shift—moving from job-security mindsets to problem-solving, impact-driven enterprise.</p> <p>The discussion will spotlight promising government initiatives and institutional support through over <b>500 incubators and accelerators</b> across the country. From reimagining curricula to enabling risk-taking through policy innovation and funding access, this session will chart a roadmap for building a generation of <b>job creators</b>—youth who not only create employment for themselves but drive inclusive, innovation-led economic growth.</p> <p>The session will focus to address the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Policy-level changes or interventions are needed to further support young entrepreneurs—especially first-generation founders.</li><li>2. Highlighting innovative financial instruments (e.g., outcome-based financing, credit guarantees) that can reduce risk for young founders.</li><li>3. Contribution of industries to more proactively to mentor, incubate, and scale up youth-led ventures.</li><li>4. The emerging sectors or problem areas where young entrepreneurs have the biggest potential to lead and innovate.</li><li>5. How could schools, colleges, and skilling institutions integrate entrepreneurial thinking and problem-solving into their curricula?</li></ol>	
05:15pm Onwards	High Tea
End of Day 1	
<b>Day 2: Friday , August 8, 2025</b> <b>Commission Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Federation House, FICCI, Tansen Marg, New Delhi</b>	
09:30am –10:00am	Registration

<b>10:00am -10:30am</b>	<b>Special Address</b>
<b>10:30am – 11:45am</b>	<b>Session 5: Blending Bricks and Clicks: Reimagining TVET through Technology and Innovation in Learning</b>
<h2>Reimagining TVET through Technology and Innovation in Learning</h2> <p>Reimagining TVET through the lens of technology and innovation is not an option—it is a necessity. The evolving landscape of education and work demands a fundamental rethinking of how we deliver skills training, particularly, within the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) ecosystem. The session reflects on the new ways to combine the strengths of traditional classroom-based instruction with the transformative potential of digital technologies. It now focuses on the shift towards the new and more flexible, inclusive, and future-ready approach to vocational education—one that prepares learners not only for existing jobs but also for emerging roles in a rapidly digitizing global economy.</p> <p>The integration of technology into TVET is not just about digitizing content; it is about creating learning ecosystems that are agile, modular, and learner centric. It allows for real-time industry alignment, continuous upskilling, and the democratization of quality training across geographies. Government and industry must work together to ensure that infrastructure, connectivity, and content are robust, inclusive, and aligned with real-world job requirements.</p> <p>The session will focus to address the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promising innovations (such as AR/VR, AI, digital simulations, or virtual labs) that can enhance skills training outcomes in the TVET space.</li> <li>2. Building teacher and trainer capacity to deliver blended or digital-first vocational training.</li> <li>3. Policy reforms needed to mainstream blended TVET into national skilling initiatives like PMKVY, ITI modernization, or Skill India Digital.</li> <li>4. Lessons for India to learn from international models of technology-integrated vocational training, and how can global partnerships support this transformation.</li> </ol>	
<b>11:45am – 12:00pm</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>
<b>12:00 pm –01:15pm</b>	<b>Session 6: Innovate, Integrate, Inspire: Best Practices Shaping the Future of Skills</b>
<h2>The Future of Skills: Sharing of Best Practices</h2> <p>As India prepares to harness its demographic dividend and meet the demands of an evolving economy, the effectiveness of its skilling ecosystem becomes a national imperative. This session will bring together diverse voices—government leaders, industry stakeholders, skilling institutions, and international partners—to share successful practices and innovations that are delivering measurable outcomes on the ground. The session aims to spotlight transformative models and approaches that are redefining how skilling is conceptualized, delivered, and scaled in India and globally.</p> <p>From national flagship schemes like PMKVY and initiatives under the Skill India Mission, to pioneering models by state governments and Sector Skill Councils, the session will examine how integration of</p>	

policy, industry, and technology is producing scalable and sustainable impact. At the same time, it will draw on international experiences—from dual education systems in Germany and apprenticeships in the UK, to digital-first approaches in countries like Singapore—to explore how global frameworks can inspire localized action. The role of emerging technologies—AI, AR/VR, data analytics—in improving training delivery and monitoring will also be explored.

Importantly, The session will look at how integration across stakeholders—between central and state governments, academia and industry, public and private players—can lead to stronger governance and accountability in the ecosystem.

The session will focus to address the following:

1. Leading innovations that have shown promise in improving outcomes for remote, rural, or underrepresented learners.
2. Shift from input-driven metrics (enrolments, certifications) to outcome-based monitoring (placements, productivity, income).
3. The best ways to design skilling programs that are inclusive of women, differently abled persons, and marginalized communities.
4. Priorities for India's skilling ecosystem over the next 5–10 years.
5. Integration of national and state-level skilling efforts to avoid duplication and ensure synergy.

<b>01:30 pm – 02:30 pm</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>
<b>02:30pm-04:00pm</b>	<b><i>Special Session on Mentorship and Guidance for Teachers/ ITI Instructors/ Principals / Faculty</i></b>
<b>04:00pm – 04:05pm</b>	<b><i>Vote of Thanks followed by High Tea</i></b>