





## **NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

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Transforming Vocational Education and Training for Excellence : Perspective and Challenges



### **CALL FOR ACTION**

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### **PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education**

A Constituent Unit of National Council of Educational Research and Training, under Ministry of Education, Government of India



### **Call For Action**

The National Conference on 'Transforming Vocational Education and Training for Excellence: Perspective and Challenges', organized by the PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education, Bhopal in collaboration with UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre, Bonn and Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC), Manila was held online on 25 & 26 March 2021. Around 1219 delegates from 11 countries shared and deliberated upon the themes included in the conference and agreed to submit relevant authorities this declaration hereafter referred to as the 2021 Bhopal Vocational Education Declaration, whereas;

**RECOGNIZE** that equipping youth through skills is an emergent concern, which calls for conscious integrated actions to strengthen Vocational Education and Training (VET) in meeting the changing demands of the labour market;

CKNOWLEDGE that strengthening excellence in vocational education is essential for improving quality and bench marking with others in order to define new strategies for future development;

CCEPT that the transforming VET for excellence contributes to the attractiveness and strengthening of VET programmes;

SSENTIAL that vocational training programmes be reoriented to provide continually relevant 21st Century skills through appropriate programmes and, therefore, develop a new generation of human resource;

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**ECOGNIZE** that four fundamental factors for transforming VET towards excellence require relevant curricula, strong leadership, high quality teachers, and efficient school-industry linkages;

ALUES that institutional leadership plays an important role in transforming VET towards excellence. Excellent leadership prepares the school for future challenges and increases its capacity to respond to external conditions with agility and speed;

**PALISE** to build a strong and sustainable relationships at the local and transnational levels, between the VET community and enterprises, in which interactions are reciprocal and mutually beneficial;

CKNOWLEDGE that school-industry linkages have become a critical factor in the current transformation of VET towards excellence;

ONSIDERING the demands of the world of work, which call for better-trained professional teachers/trainers to meet the needs of industry and the labour market;

**EVELOP** innovative ideas for using existing resource and infrastructure to increase the efforts to achieve VET excellence.

The Delegates propose to make deliberate and conscientious efforts with committed actions taken to transform the VET system for the crucial role of empowering youth for a better future.

THIS DECLARATION DRAWS special attention to the following specific recommendations through deliberations, exchange of ideas, and discussions in order to advance VET advocacy and transformation practices for excellence:

- → Increase investment in quality VET, as it provides a bridge to enter the world of work and promotes sustainable development.
- → Putting VET excellence at the top of the agenda and integrating it in national policy making and budget arrangement;

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- → Promote strong advocacy for the digitalisation of VET through networking and cooperation at national and international levels;
- → Equip graduates with the skills of the 21st century to respond to emerging new demands in the labour market;
- → Stakeholder engagement is critical to achieve excellence in VET. There is a need to promote synergistic multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnership.
- → Exchange and share knowledge, including good practices to promote excellence in the VET system.
- → Undertake research with greater emphasis on the development of innovative teaching and learning, the use of ICT tools, including Augmented Reality /Virtual Reality techniques and programmes.
- → Effective implementation of NEP 2020 recommendations requires committed actions of stakeholders to meet the SDG goals of access and lifelong learning.
- → Reorienting teacher training programmes to include VET into both pre-service and inservice programmes; in particular, to assist teachers in the development of practical vocational education strategies and the assessment of skills learning processes.
- → Establish strong and enduring relationships at both the local and national levels, between the VET community and industries, in which interactions are reciprocal and mutually beneficial;
- → Robust structural changes are necessary in VET system to ensure holistic development of learners. This will lead to greater possibility of global and domestic mobility of skilled human capital.

The Conference, organized by PSSCIVE, Bhopal in collaboration with UNESCO-UNEVOC and CPSC urges upon policy makers from the government, private sectors, non-government organizations (NGOs), multi-lateral and bilateral development partners and international, regional, and national organizations to work together for transforming VET for excellence. This orientation is essential for building the capability of the VET system and preparing the workforce of tomorrow for new generation jobs in a strong and committed spirit of action.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by 1219 delegates from 11 countries and representatives from international and national institutions/organisations on 26 March 2021.

## **About PSSCIVE**

#### PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education, Bhopal

The Pandit Sundarlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE) is an apex research and development organization in the field of vocational education. It is a constituent unit of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), established in 1993 by the Ministry of Education [Formerly Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)], Government of India. It is also a UNEVOC (International Project on Technical and Vocational Education) Network Centre in India. The Institute has a picturesque 35-acre campus with Departments created for different disciplines, viz. Agriculture & Animal Husbandry, Business & Commerce, Engineering & Technology, Health & Paramedical Sciences, Home Science & Hospitality Management and Humanitites, Science, Education & Research.

The Institute offers quality-training programmes in vocational pedagogy and a wide array of disciplines for the key functionaries in vocational education and vocational teachers. The highly qualified team of the Institute possesses excellent professional skills and experience required to impart training for classroom teaching and training.

The Institute has traversed the path of rapid development in vocational education, responding positively to the changing needs of the industry and at times initiating significant changes in the field of vocational education. The evolution of the Institute in the last twenty-five years has witnessed various challenges, but these have served as opportunities to explore new horizons and work on possibilities of reorienting strategies for meeting the skill needs of the people at the local and global canvas.







#### JOINT DIRECTOR

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