

**Embassy of India
Abu Dhabi**

Sub: India's participation in World Skills Competitions Abu Dhabi 2017 (WSAD 2017)

World Skills Abu Dhabi 2017 is the 44th World Skills Competition. The Competition will take place 15-18 October 2017 (four days of competition). The Opening and Closing Ceremonies will be held at the du Arena-Yes Island on 14 and 19 October. Competitors from 77-member Countries and Regions will take part in 51 skill competitions. Launched in 1950, the competition is held every two years around the world. India joined World Skills International Organization as its 48th member. India has been chosen to be part of the significant three countries along with UAE and Netherlands to display highlights of the skills during the Opening Ceremony.

2. Indian Delegation: The core Indian contingent comprising 28 participants will be representing the country in 26 skills at the World Skills Abu Dhabi 2017. It includes two teams with one member in each. The Indian delegation comprises of 26 experts, 10 interpreters and 10 special experts.

3. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is the nodal agency for WSAD 2017 and has been leading country's participation at World Skills International Competitions since 2011. As part of Skill India mission, World Skills India is an initiative of the NSDC under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).

4. Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Joint Secretary from MSDE is the official delegate as head of Indian delegation. Shri Ranjan Choudhary is the Technical Delegate from NSDC who is also the Head of World Skills India. Retired Col. Ravi Kharbanda is the Assistant Technical delegate of the Indian delegation. Shri Rajesh Agarwal will be representing Indian delegation in the General Assembly and Strategic committee meetings. Five senior officers of the rank of Joint Secretary/Directors from MSDE, two representatives from National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), MD & COO of NSDC and State Government representatives from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh are participating in the WSAD 2017. Shri T.P. Ramakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister of Labour, Government of Kerala is also participating in the conference leading the official delegation of Kerala.

5. The Indian contingent also comprises of three team leaders (TL) and one assistant team leader (ATL) who are tasked with responsibility of care of competitors during the entire period of the competition including health, safety and competition related issues that may arise.

6. From India, Competitors from total eleven states in 26 different trade skills are participating in the competitions which includes representatives from FICCI and CII, TATA, Maruti, Mahindra, etc. CII is bringing a strong 40-member delegation for participating in various events of WSAD-2107. CII in collaboration with IBPG (Indian Business and Professional Group) Abu Dhabi will be conducting a conference "exploring Opportunities in Skills" along with CII Business Networking Session & dinner on 15 October evening 7.00 pm at Sofitel Hotel, Abu Dhabi.

7. As part of WSAD 2017, India Pavilion (IP) will be set up by NSDC in an area of 112 square meters in hall no 5 of Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) premises. H.E. Navdeep Suri, Ambassador of India to UAE, will inaugurate India Pavilion on 15 October at

11.30 AM. The three main components of IP are Hire for India, investments in India (for Skilling) and Advisory services. CII and FICCI along with other partners have been given the responsibility of leading and promoting skills-Beauty Therapy, Mechatronics, Cabin making, Welding and other key skills through their exhibition in India Pavilion. States of Kerala and Andhra Pradesh will set up their stalls in India Pavilion and are keen to explore investment opportunities in skilling and setting up Skill Parks.

9. World Skills Conference 2017 will be held at ADNEC on 16-17TH October, 2017. It will be framed by a ministerial opening plenary in the morning of 16th October, 2017. India will be represented by H.E. Navdeep Suri, Ambassador of India to UAE in the opening plenary. The representatives of industry, governments, international organizations, and academia. will discuss global skill agenda, changing skills demands of the globalized world, and the required response.

10. Youth Conference will also be taking place as part of the WSAD-2017 and two participants from India will be participating in it.

11. Mr. Chirag Goel, a World Skills Competitor in web design in the year 2015 from India representing Asia has been chosen as the one of nine Champions Trust representatives to promote World Skills Competitions as the major global hub for skills excellence. Champions Trust is a group of Champions working to help bridge the gap between Champions and World skills beyond the Competition.

12. Indian Ambassador will host Tea for the Indian contingent and official delegation at the Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi and interact with them on 16th October at 6 pm.

NOTE: For any additional information or query, the undersigned may be contacted at fsca.abudhabi@mea.gov.in, M;0506627980.



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