

**Aspiring Minds organizes Skill India Fellowship 2017: An initiative to recognize excellence in skills training**

***Launches Skill India Report 2017***

- A first of its kind initiative aimed at recognizing and awarding vocational skills trainers across the country
- Aspiring Minds launches ‘Skill India Report’ - a derivation of the key findings of the national level assessment
- Only 28% trainers have the required professional skillset in their respective industry, according to the report
- NSDC and DDU-GKY, Ministry of Rural Development partner the cause
- Ms. AlkaUpadhyaya, Joint Secretary, MoRD, chairs the event

**New Delhi, July 10, 2017** - Global job skills credentialing leader Aspiring Minds organized the Skill India Fellowship program – its first initiative to acknowledge excellence in skills training. The vision of the fellowship germinated from the need to celebrate excellence in skills training to ensure increased aspirations, achievements, and pride in the vocational skills sector.

**The ceremony was chaired by Smt. AlkaUpadhyay, Joint Secretary (Skills), Ministry of Rural Development. Smt. Upadhyay also released the Aspiring Minds Skills India Report, an in-depth study of the performance of vocational skills trainers.**

**Speaking at the event, Smt. Upadhyay said,** *“There has been no initiative so far, to recognize the trainers in the skilling space. Recognition of skilled trainers is vital for the holistic development of the skilling ecosystem. The initiative by Aspiring Minds to acknowledge skill trainers from across sectors is an encouraging move.”*

The program awarded trainers from eight sectors for their exemplary skills as trainers in their respective field of work. The top 5 trainers in each sector were acknowledged in an award ceremony, held on 7th July 2017 at The Welcome Sheraton, Delhi, The fellowship invited applications from candidates with a minimum two years of experience from any registered institution across the following domains -

- Tourism/Hospitality
- Electronics/IT/Hardware
- Construction
- Automobiles/Components
- Healthcare
- Logistics
- Retail
- Apparel

According to the Skill India Report 2017 by Aspiring Minds, close to 73% vocational skills trainers lack the requisite skills needed in their domain. While tourism/hospitality sector tops the list with the highest percentage (72%) of trainers with requisite skills, the construction sector has the lowest percentage (7%). Female trainers emerge as more competent trainers as compared to their male counterparts.

About 250 million people are expected to enter the labour market by 2025 in India. If this workforce is managed well, a larger talent pool can contribute towards growth and development. With globalization, innovation and digitalization driving global competition, skills and services need to be constantly evolve to remain relevant. The focus on innovation and excellence in skill training has the potential to drive the economy successfully and meet the standards of quality performance.

**Commenting on the initiative, Varun Aggarwal, Co-Founder & CTO Aspiring Minds said,** *“To fit into this changing landscape and to stay ahead of competition, it is important for employers to hire the right professionals who can adapt to these evolving job-related skills. With this program we aim to emphasize on vocational training and encourage re-skilling in the country. We are happy to have received an overwhelming response from across various sectors.”*

To know more about the fellowship, click on the link: <http://skillindiafellowship.org/>

#### **About Aspiring Minds:**

*Aspiring Minds is a global job skills credentialing leader set up with a vision to create a merit driven talent ecosystem and enable efficient job skills matching by crafting credible and intelligent assessments. The flagship product AMCAT, is the world’s most widely-taken employability test helping over two million candidates find the ‘right’ jobs every year. Backed by state-of-the-art, adaptive assessment technology and machine learning algorithms – it allows adaptive, standardized and reliable measurement of generic employability skills (language, cognitive, behaviour) and a wide range of functional skills using simulated assessments. Aspiring Minds enables job seekers to evaluate their job skills, earn industry recognized credentials and find appropriate career opportunities. We also help companies dramatically improve their quality and efficiency of hiring and are today associated with more than 3500 corporations. Founded in 2008 by Himanshu Aggarwal and Varun Aggarwal, Aspiring Minds is a 500+ people strong organization with operations in US, China, India, Middle East, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Philippines and Sub-Saharan Africa.*

*For more information, log on to [www.aspiringminds.com](http://www.aspiringminds.com) or [www.myamcat.com](http://www.myamcat.com)*