



Press Release

Future Sharp Skills Limited to skill and provide sustainable livelihood to 5 lakh youth of UP by 2022 First UP centre launched in Ghaziabad

- *Future Sharp Skills Limited expects to train 500000 people in the next ten years.*
- *Future Sharp Skills Limited plans to launch multi-skill development and knowledge hubs across UP in various trades.*
- *Future Sharp Skills Academy to provide an end-to-end solution from skill development to employment.*

New Delhi, 9 February 2013: Future Group and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) have strategically tied up to create a joint venture company called Future Sharp Skills Limited that will train and provide sustainable livelihood to 500000 youth of UP by 2022.

This will be done through the setting up of multiple training hubs across the country. Already 15 centres across West Bengal, Assam and Maharashtra are operational. The Ghaziabad centre is Future Sharp's first foray in UP and the North. The immediate beneficiaries of this skill mission would be standard X/XII pass as well as graduates of small towns and semi-urban cities who will be provided with skilling opportunities in sought after vocations and then provided placement assistance so that they can earn a livelihood. The 'Mission Skill Project' has been programmed with accordance to the Unique Apprentice Model, wherein a student can learn and earn simultaneously. With an objective of providing sustainable livelihood, this project with its tag line 'Life Ban Jaaye' is expected to touch many lives and act as a catalyst to boost growth in the economy.

Future Sharp will offer several short and long-term programmes certified by industry-specific, sector skill councils. The courses are structured in such a manner that the classroom sessions at the skill academies are followed by 'On The Job' assignments. The initial set of programmes offered will cover Retail, Hospitality and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITeS). Each batch will have maximum of 25-28 students to maintain the optimum teacher to student ratio.

Expressing his view on this association **Mr. Muralidhar Rao, CEO, Future Sharp Skills Limited** said, "We are happy to be partnering NSDC's mission of making India globally competitive in every sector. This is a revolutionary project and we are confident that first-time-entrepreneurs and skilled workforce will get a sustainable and gainful livelihood. Corporates like Titan, Spencer, Emami, Speciality Group of Restaurants, Sodexo and Future Group have already started recruiting our students and we expect a good response from other corporate houses as well."



Mr. Dilip Chenoy, MD & CEO, NSDC, said “We would like to congratulate Future Sharp Skills for launching a training facility in Ghaziabad which marks its entry not just in Uttar Pradesh but in the whole of North India. We are confident that given Future Group’s proven expertise in retail, food, cold chain and logistics management, the training provided by Future Sharp Skills would contribute in a big way to raising the pool of skilled manpower in the country. Future Sharp Skills’ decision to have its training programmes certified by relevant industry-specific Sector Skill Councils facilitated by the NSDC would also inspire confidence in potential employers about the employability of students trained by the company.”

Initially, the knowledge hubs would cover Ghaziabad, Meerut, Aligarh, Lucknow, Kanpur and Mathura and then spread across the state to reach out to the maximum number of students. Course content will be updated regularly with strategic inputs from The George Telegraph Training Institute on automobiles while hospitality inputs will come from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute Association.

About Future Sharp Skills Limited (FSSL)

India is one of the fastest growing economies with the second largest labour force in the world. But India faces a severe deficit of skilled and employable manpower. To bridge this widening gap, FSSL will provide skill based training leading to gainful employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for millions of Indians so that they can have a sustainable livelihood.

About Future Group

Future Group operates some of India’s most popular retail chains including Central, Big Bazaar, Food Bazaar, Home Town, Pantaloons and eZone and also has allied businesses in life and non-life insurance, learning and development, logistics infrastructure and supply chain and brand development. The group operates over 17 million square feet of retail space in over 90 cities and towns and 60 rural locations across India. The group’s retail formats connect over 300 million customers to over 30,000 small, medium and large enterprises that supply products and services to its retail chains. Future Group believes in developing strong insights on Indian consumers and building businesses based on Indian ideas, as espoused in the group’s core value of ‘Indianness.’ The group’s corporate credo is, ‘Rewrite rules, Retain values’

About National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

The National Skill Development Corporation is a one of its kind, Public Private Partnership in India. It aims to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality, for-profit vocational institutions. It provides funding to build scalable, for-profit vocational training initiatives. Its mandate is also to enable support systems such as quality assurance, information systems and train the trainer academies either directly or through partnerships. Its objective is to contribute significantly (about 30 per cent) to the overall target of skilling / upskilling 500 million people in India by 2022.