

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) has launched **Future Skills PRIME** Platform (www.futureskillsprime.in) an e-Learning Platform to facilitate re-skilling/ up-skilling on emerging technologies as well as Professional Skills to enhance employability. The platform was unveiled in Nov 2020 by Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) and Debjani Ghosh, President, NASSCOM. The implementing agency for this initiative is the IT-ITES SSC NASSCOM.

Future Skills PRIME platform is available **free to access** and has been designed as a resource for all the learners to not only develop digital fluency on new-age technologies but also build advanced skills by getting certified on industry defined & SSC NASSCOM validated skills on both emerging technologies and professional skills. At present the contents on PRIME platform, comprising of expert curated pathways on the 10 emerging technologies and 10 professional skills as well as Foundation and Competency aligned programs on AI, Big Data, Cybersecurity and UI/UX are available free to access.

The platform facilitates a learner to seamlessly access free and paid courses aligned to the National Occupational Standards (NOS), assessments and virtual labs and get certified on the skills of their choice. In its final phase, expected in March 2020, government incentives will be available to those learners, who are part of the target beneficiary group, who earn approved accreditations on the platform, rewarding those who make the effort to upskill themselves for the digital future.

The current pandemic situation has accelerated our use of digital technology. You may be aware that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has also given increased focus on the usage of digital technology in education. PRIME platform shall enable learners to get high quality content and courses at free/ affordable prices particularly in three specific areas for STEM Higher Education.

1. **Faculty Development:** Faculty shall be able to undertake these free to access NSQF aligned 'Foundation' courses and other "Deep Skilling' NOS & NSQF aligned courses with curriculum developed by industry as part of their approved annual professional development program. The faculty shall get a GOI approved certification in addition to high quality learning in the new emerging technologies.
2. **Digital 101 programs:** These are broad-based programs for 10-20 hours where anyone in higher-education could get an introduction to each of the 10 emerging technologies and 10 professional skills, with a quiz after each topic, and a joint NASSCOM – NPIU certificate of completion, along with badges after finishing the Digital 101 Journey.
3. **Foundation courses:** Students can take up the digital fluency pathways to build awareness and enrol in 'Foundation' NSQF aligned courses across various technologies (viz. AI, Big Data Analytics, IoT, Cloud, UX Design) and subsequently take up deep skilling courses.

Salient Features of Future Skills PRIME are:

- Skill-based Learning - Offering learners skill-based learning from an early foundation level of academics and empower them to be future-ready.
- Education meeting Standards - Providing online learning content and assessments that rests on National Occupational Standards.
- Credit structure - These can be used as credits in university degrees and formal academic programs of learning on a continuing basis.
- Skill Development for Faculty - Enabling faculty development through continuous learning and offering Industry perspective
- Promoting an effective blended learning environment.
- Democratization of Technology - Creating a pan-India platform on which learners can access content designed by industry and approved by government, leading to a true democratization of technology training.
- Technology -enabled education delivery system – The platform gives systematic diagnostic analysis of the student's interest and ability enables and guides the learning

These programmes shall be offered as a robust online platform to encourage remote and self-paced learning. Many awareness-building modules will be free to access, allowing the maximum number of participations. Under the Programme, 4.12 lakh learners will get subsidised access to certified courses in next phase in any of the 10 identified emerging technologies (Artificial Intelligence, Internet of things, Big Data Analytics, Robotic Process Automation, Additive Manufacturing/3D Printing, Cloud Computing, Social & Mobile, Cyber Security, Augmented/Virtual Reality and Blockchain).

TEQIP Coordinators are requested to widely circulate the above information with faculty members and students and encourage them to avail the free available courses. More information is available at www.futureskillsprime.in. In case of any query you may contact Mr. Laxmikant Nagar, NPIU at lnagar.teqip@gmail.com or 8827749689.

With Regards,

Prof (Dr.) P.M Khodke
Central Project Advisor

National Project Implementation Unit (NPIU)
Copia Corporate Suites, 301-302, 3rd Floor, Plot No - 9
Jasola Vihar New Delhi - 110025
Email : cpa.npiu@gov.in
Web : www.npiu.nic.in
Twitter: @TeqipN