

# NEWS BULLETIN

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"Transforming Lives"



Functional  
Vocational  
Training and  
Research Society



## World Youth Skill Day Celebration – FVTRS, India

As per the United Nations General Assembly, July 15th is celebrated as World Youth Skills Day, and this year, the theme was 'Youth Skills for Peace and Development.' Following this theme, FVTRS nationally celebrated World Youth Skills Day as an important occasion to focus on empowering a large youth population across 14 states through skill development.

We organized a WYSD poster competition among field staff from 56 locations and selected the poster by Ms. Mini Murmu from Godda, Jharkhand, which was circulated as the common poster for the occasion. FVTRS inaugurated WYSD on July 13th, with the Executive Director, Mr. Felix D'Souza, unveiling the WYSD poster online. Field staff in 56 locations organized various programs, including:

- ★ Job fair organised in 6 locations where 380 job seekers attended.
- ★ Rallies to create awareness about the importance of skilling and employability in 13 locations
- ★ Street plays about the significance of women and skilling in 4 locations
- ★ Cultural events focused on skilling & entrepreneurship
- ★ Workshops on opportunities and changing the lives of youth through skill training
- ★ E-shram card registration
- ★ Sapling distributions and planting
- ★ Health camps and blood donation drives
- ★ Awareness camps on skilling and employment
- ★ Workshop on equipping women in entrepreneurship

The focus of our World Youth Skills Day celebration was on skilling and creating more jobs and sustainable livelihoods through skilling and employment. FVTRS places specific emphasis on preparing early school leavers for emerging opportunities in the skilling sectors, such as service and manufacturing.

During the occasion, FVTRS' WYSD activities had a significant impact on youth in rural, semi-urban, and urban locations, helping them understand the importance of skill training and employment and how to match skills with various opportunities in the manufacturing and service sectors. Altogether more than 2043 youth attended various programmes organized by our field team.

***"Today, and every day, let's work to transform education. And let's ensure that youth have what they need to build skills for shaping a more peaceful, sustainable future for all"***

UN  
Secretary  
-General  
António  
Guterres.



**SKILL INDIA - Making Underprivileged Youth Employable**

I am pleased to present this edition of the FVTRS newsletter to you.



The new Union Government Budget for 2024-25 brings us immense happiness, as it prioritizes employment and skilling as key focus areas. The budget aims to provide skill development training and create employment opportunities for 4.4 crore people, especially the youth, over the next five years. With job opportunities becoming increasingly global, it is crucial that we continuously update and upgrade our skills to meet the evolving demands. If we fail to do so, the youth from the unorganized sector may lag behind. Emerging sectors such as delivery and logistics, as well as intellectual skills, which were not as popular in the past, are now becoming strong employment providers.

At FVTRS, we are gradually incorporating digital skills into our training programs alongside other vocational skills. These trainings are further enriched with human skills through Entrepreneurship Development Programs (EDP) and life skill training. The past quarter has been quite satisfactory for the organization, as we successfully initiated a new course for master trainers in life skills and brought together our field team for capacity building and review of ongoing programs. The review meetings provided us with an opportunity to celebrate our successes and plan for the next phase. We are also pleased to announce the renewal of our associations with TATA Power Mumbai and BOSCH Bangalore for another year. Our purposeful linkages with various CSR institutions, government entities, and other relevant stakeholders are becoming stronger.

FVTRS celebrated World Youth Skills Day on July 15, an initiative started by UNESCO-UNEVOC nine years ago to champion the role of youth in changing the world through skills. As a committed social organization, FVTRS joined this campaign by organizing a series of programs across 13 states.

FVTRS also launched the National Alumni of trained youth called '**Skillanair**'. The purpose of this Alumni is to find more employment opportunities for our youth and also to create opportunity to upgrade their skills.

The 16th National Skill Conference on the 29th of November 2024 at Bangalore. Those who are interested to participate kindly contact our office at the earliest and you can find the details.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our supporters, especially Misereor, TATA Power, BOSCH, and Quest Alliance, for their continued support and the trust they have placed in us. The team at our head office and in the field has also played a significant role in vigorously implementing our decisions and strategies. The upcoming National Skill Conference in November will be a platform to reaffirm our vision and mission towards skill development.

We sincerely thank each and every one of you who has supported us in this noble journey. We assure you of our continued commitment to building the skills of disadvantaged youth in the country to make a lasting difference in their lives.

**Felix D'Souza**  
Executive Director



## BOSCH BRIDGE Program



BOSCH under its BRIDGE programme is supporting FVTRS skill training programmes. As part of their BRIDGE Program, they are providing essential kit bags that include T-shirts and study materials. These kits are designed to improve the quality of our training and assist with placements for our trainees. BOSCH also training the master trainers to enhance the human skills of our trainees. These trainers completed online assessments and tasks and were awarded Certified Master Trainer certificates. So far they have trained more than 100 such master trainers who in turn providing training to our trainees at various

locations.

In the financial year 2023-24, BOSCH BRIDGE made a significant impact by supplying 4,982 kits to trainees and conducting online assessments, and awarding BRIDGE certificates to them. The current financial year 2024-25, FVTRS has signed MoU with BOSCH to support 3000 trainees under BRIDGE Program. The tool kits are being received in batches and it is being distributed to various training centres.

Additionally, another tri-party MoU will be signed to train 2,000 Trainees from government ITIs of Rajasthan and Karnataka. This will be done in collaboration with the Government ITI Colleges and BOSCH. This partnership will continue to strengthen our training programs and support our mission to improve vocational education.



## Skillionaire- Concept and Inauguration

FVTRS has been training youth in various livelihood skills in the past 31 years and could train over 175000 youth and has facilitated over 80% of the trained youth for gainful employment. The Skill development played a pivotal role in shaping the future of the trained youth. The trained and employed youth have been supporting their families to increase their living status and also have been contributing to the development of their communities. FVTRS is envisaging to bring the trained and employed youth under an umbrella called

Skillionaire which will play as alumni of the youth.

This planform will help the trained youth to Network, interact and stay in touch. This will in turn helps the youth to get new ideas, details and knowledge of latest technological advancement in their spectrum of jobs/sectors. FVTRS is planning to have a technology-based platform that leverages on the national alumni network. It partners with institutions, industries, departments and alumni to connect entrepreneurs with experts, investors, corporates, and other entrepreneurs.

A virtual meeting conducted on 11 July, 2024 with the participation of over 100 people comprising of trained youth, associating partners in skill development, other stakeholders in the area of skilling and the staff members of FVTRS wherein Mr Felix D'Souza, Executive Director FVTRS welcomed the participants and explained the objectives of the intervention. Mr Jimmy Mathew, Lead Executive explained the functionalities, processes and future scope of Skillionaire and unveiled the official skillionaire banner. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Mr CP Nicholas.

## Exploring Skill Intelligence FVTRS Hosts Annual Staff Capacity Building in Hyderabad

The Functional Vocational Training and Research Services (FVTRS) conducted its annual staff capacity building and review meeting at MSI, Hyderabad, drawing participation from 25 Field Consultants and Field In-charges. This four-day program focused on assessing the progress of skill training initiatives, sharing innovative practices, and strategizing future efforts.

The event opened with a warm welcome from Mr. Felix Dsouza, Executive Director, who highlighted the importance of continual improvement in FVTRS's operations. Mr. Dsouza urged participants to leverage World Youth Skill Day on July 15th for broader outreach and engagement.



Mr. Nicholaus, Manager for projects, introduced the agenda, emphasizing the significance of evaluating past performances and setting realistic future targets. The program included presentations from field staff and discussions on the findings from a national survey on employment opportunities for early school leavers, led by Dr. Romate John and Dr. Kiran from central university, Karnataka.

Key recommendations from the research included integrating behavioural, technical, and knowledge-based skills in training programs, aligning curricula with industry demands, and fostering collaboration among government and private sectors to enhance youth employment. Participants also visited Boys Town Industrial Training Institute, where they observed best practices in vocational training for underprivileged youth. Discussions were held on improving infrastructure, obtaining qualified trainers, and conducting market surveys before finalizing training programs. Finance-related challenges and MIS data management were addressed by Ms. Noyala Sheela, Lead Executive (Finance), and Ms. Divya, Field Executive. They provided guidelines for improving financial documentation and data accuracy.

Mr. Jimmy Mathew facilitated the future course of action and put forwards options to make the organization more vibrant. The session included the action plan for each field team which was aligned with the strategic plan **“Visions 2026”**. The session concluded with the formulation of state-wise action plans focusing on youth mobilization, market scanning, and resource mobilization.

The program successfully set the stage for FVTRS's future initiatives, underscoring the organization's commitment to empowering early school leavers through targeted skill development and strategic partnerships.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Felix Dsouza discussed the need to adapt to the evolving preferences of youth for shorter courses and encouraged exploring collaborations with non-functional ITIs. The meeting concluded with announcing various award categories during next National Skill Conference.





## Staff Development



FVTRS recently conducted a comprehensive staff development programme at Visthar, Bangalore. The three-day event, attended by 11 head office staff members, was facilitated by Executive Director Mr. Felix D'Souza and Manager for Programme Mr. Jimmy Mathew.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Mr. Felix D'Souza, who highlighted the objectives of the workshop. Following this, Mr. Jimmy Mathew presented the agenda, which focused on team building, a critical review of FVTRS programmes, and the formulation of the organization's annual action plan.

### Key elements of the agenda included:

- ★ Team-building exercises to foster a collaborative workshop environment.
- ★ A review and analysis of FVTRS programmes, including challenges, constraints, and financial inter-connectivity.
- ★ A SWOT analysis to evaluate the organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.
- ★ Group discussions on the SWOT analysis and a review of the organization's strategy document.
- ★ Development of an action plan for the year, both for the organization and individual staff members.
- ★ Creation of a monitoring system to track the progress of proposed actions.
- ★ Review and finalization of HR policies and other necessary documents.
- ★ Assessment of the Misereor budget and the development of a skill training plan for various states.
- ★ Preparation of the annual budget based on skill training targets and other activities.
- ★ Commitment to key decisions and collective discussion on how to address them.

The programme began with a team-building exercise led by Mr. Sajeesh, where participants, blindfolded, worked together to form a diamond shape using a rope. This exercise emphasized the importance of leadership roles, team coordination, crisis management, trust, and time management. Following the exercise, Mr. Jimmy Mathew led a discussion on staff expectations for the meeting, reviewed FVTRS's key operational areas, and assessed the organization's achievements and future goals. The team engaged in a detailed SWOT analysis to better understand FVTRS's current position in terms of financial strength, staff capacity, skill training initiatives, visibility, branding, and resource mobilization.

The programme concluded with a review of the strategic plan, "**Vision 2026**", and the development of individual deliverables. A monitoring mechanism was also established to track progress. The event was widely regarded as successful in strengthening team bonds and setting a clear, actionable path for FVTRS's future initiatives.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Life Skill Master Trainers- Final Phase
2. EDP Master Trainers Training-First phase
3. 16th National Skill Conference
4. National Review Meeting
5. SPIN Meeting
6. Leadership Trainings for the Field Team
7. 21st Century Training for the Training Faculty Designing, Monitoring and Evaluation- KKID, Coimbatore
9. Safe Guarding Policy- KKID- Coimbatore



*Our team members celebrated their birthday during this quarter.*

*We wish them all the best.*

*Felix D'Souza, Hema S, Madhusudhana*

*Joseph A, and DivianaNayagi*



## From a Small Village to Big Dreams The Inspiring Journey of Bhagwati

At just 22, Bhagwati's story stands as a testament to the power of determination. A resident of Bade murmagaon, a small village in Bastar District, Bhagwati comes from a humble background. Her father, a seasonal farmer, often struggles to find work during the off-season, leaving the family in financial uncertainty. While her siblings are married and live separately, Bhagwati remains at home, shouldering the responsibility of supporting her parents.

Despite facing economic hardships that forced her to leave college, Bhagwati never gave up on her aspirations. When she learned about the General Duty Assistant (GDA) course, she saw a path to a brighter future. She completed the four-month training program, gaining valuable skills in home care, which opened doors for her. Bhagwati's perseverance paid off when she secured a job with Portea Medicals in Hyderabad, earning ₹18,000 per month.

This income has brought much-needed financial relief to her family, and her success has filled her parents with pride. Her journey is a testament to how opportunities for skill development can be life-changing. Thanks to the training she received from FVTRS, Bhagwati's life has taken a dramatic turn. Now, with newfound financial independence, she plans to pursue further studies in General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM), with the ultimate goal of becoming a nurse.

Bhagwati's story is not just about personal success but reflects a broader truth - when young women gain new skills, they don't just uplift themselves; they create ripples that can transform families, communities, and future generations. Her resilience and drive stand as an inspiring example of how education and skill-building can unlock a world of possibilities.



## Empowering Lives Pampa Das Transforms Her Future with FVTRS Training

Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal – In a remarkable story of determination and self-reliance, 30-year-old Pampa Das from Pithakiari village has emerged as a shining example of how skill training can change lives. Coming from a modest middle-class background, Pampa's husband works in the unorganized sector, struggling to support their family of six. Despite these challenges, Pampa was determined to contribute to her family's well-being and ensure a better future for their children.

Her journey of transformation began when she visited the FVTRS Training Centre and met with in-charge Tarun Dutta. He introduced her to the benefits of the skill training programs offered by FVTRS, inspiring her to enrol in the Beautician course at Rupnarayanpur on April 1, 2024. Pampa's commitment to her new path was evident in her daily routine. She walked 14 kilo meters every day to attend her training sessions without fail. During her training, she not only learned the technical skills required to be a beautician but also participated in Life Skill and Entrepreneurial Development Program (EDP) training, as well as exposure visits. These experiences helped her build confidence and gain the knowledge necessary to succeed in her chosen field.

Upon completing her certification, Pampa took a bold step towards entrepreneurship by launching her own beauty parlor, "**Pampa Ladies Beauty Parlour**," in August 2024 in her local area. Her venture has quickly become successful, earning her a monthly income of ₹8,000 to ₹10,000, with occasional increases during peak periods. Pampa's success has brought immense joy and financial stability to her family. She and her family express their heartfelt gratitude to FVTRS Bangalore for the training and support that has brought about such positive changes in their lives. Her story stands as an inspiring testament to the impact of vocational training and the difference it can make in the lives of those determined to succeed.



## Resilient Journey

### Iftikar Ansari's Path from Tragedy to Triumph



**B**ajrapara Mihijam, Jamtara District - In the face of unimaginable adversity, 23-year-old Iftikar Ansari has transformed his life through sheer determination and the support of vocational training.

Born to Md. Aslam Ansari, a tailor, Iftikar's life took a devastating turn at the age of 12 when his family's home was destroyed in an arson attack, leaving him with nothing but the clothes on his back. The tragedy was compounded the following year when his mother tragically died during childbirth, along with the newborn. This loss pushed his father into a deep depression, further straining their already fragile existence.

In an effort to stabilize the family, Iftikar's father remarried, bringing a stepmother into their lives who, thankfully, was compassionate and took on the role of caregiver for Iftikar and his younger brother. Despite this, the young Iftikar was forced to enter the workforce at an early age, labouring to fund his education and support his family. His life took a hopeful turn when he learned about the vocational training programs offered by the Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS) from a community member. In September 2022, Iftikar enrolled in a Retail Sales Associates course, determined to improve his circumstances.

Under the guidance of FVTRS master trainer Mr. Rashal Shaurav, Iftikar's dedication and hard work shone through. On December 3, 2022, he successfully completed his training in sales and marketing, emerging with the skills needed to pursue a better future. Since completing the course, Iftikar has been actively seeking employment, participating in interviews in Dhanbad, Kolkata, and Durgapur. His journey is a testament to resilience and the power of education in transforming lives.

Iftikar's story, like many others, highlights the critical role that organizations like FVTRS play in providing opportunities to those from humble backgrounds. With newfound skills and a determined spirit, Iftikar is on the path to not only uplift himself but also his family, turning the page on a past filled with sorrow to write a new chapter of hope and success.

He has successfully done the interview in the local health department in Dhanbad district in the state of Jharkhand for the post of Surveyor.

As part of his job he will have to do door to door visit and gather the information based on demography and ongoing health issues in those families, and if they have any health insurance. Etc. At present he is working for the monthly payment of ₹ 14,000/-.





## NASSCOM – Future Skills Prime 101 Course

In association NASSCOM Foundation, FVTRS provided its staff and other stakeholders with a valuable opportunity to enhance their digital skills through the NASSCOM Future Skills Prime platform.

As part of our ongoing commitment to continuous learning and professional development, the 101 Digital Course, spanning 30 hours, focuses on essential AI-based digital competencies - crucial in today's rapidly evolving technological landscape. Total number of 32 members has enrolled for this digital course.

The training is being conducted entirely online, offering participants the flexibility to learn at their own pace while balancing work commitments. Upon completion of the course, an online assessment will be conducted, and performance scores will be reflected on the certificates.

These certificates will highlight participants' proficiency and serve as a testament to their dedication to digital up-skilling and professional growth.



## National Skill Conference - 29/11/2024

A multi stakeholder National Conference on Skill development will be held on **29th November 2024 at Bangalore.**

There will be exciting input sessions from CSR of leading companies, government departments, experts and Awards for social excellence.

You will also get an opportunity to participate in the exhibition.

To know about more details and register  
send your queries to **[director@fvtrs.org](mailto:director@fvtrs.org)**