

National Skill Conference 2017

The annual National Partners Meet (NPM) and National Skill Conference (NSC) of FVTRS was held from 14th to 16th November 2017 at Hotel Fortune in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The theme of the event was '**Skilling Specific Communities**'.

On the 14th of November, the NPM was organized where 75 participants representing 71 partner organizations were present. Mr. P.M. Philip (Executive Director - FVTRS) in his welcome address highlighted that FVTRS is not doing things on our own, but through the collaborative effort of our partners – hence when our partners succeed, we will succeed too. Fr. V.M. Thomas (President of the Board – FVTRS) in his presidential address stressed that 'it is madness to repetitively do the same thing and expect different results', and encouraged the partners to do things differently and creatively in order to achieve different and better results. Dr. Ghandi Doss (Vice President of the Board – FVTRS) launched the FVTRS MIS and addressed the gathering. Sr. Suman (Board Member- FVTRS) felicitated the participants, and Ms. Noyola Sheela (Finance Manager – FVTRS) gave the vote of thanks. The rest of the day saw several sessions being conducted that included 'Skill Net and Skill Net Company' by Mr. Jimmy Mathew (Manager – FVTRS), 'Skill Support Mission' by Mr. Felix D'Souza (Senior Program Manager – FVTRS), Orientation session on the new FVTRS MIS by Mr. Prashant (Consultant – FVTRS), 'Partners Consortium' compered by Mr. P.M. Philip, and finally an update on FVTRS by Mr. C.P. Nicholas (Manager - FVTRS). Mr. Joseph Stanley, the director of SKIP was the moderator for the day.

On the evening of the 14th, a special cultural program was organized for all the participants at 'Kanchan Kesari Village Resort (an ethnic theme based amusement resort)' where an array of traditional Rajasthani arts and cultural performances was on display.

The first day of the NSC was held on 15th November. The chief guest was Dr. Lalit K Panwar (Vice Chancellor – Rajasthan ILD Skill University. Government of Rajasthan), who addressed the gathering as well as released the book on Green Trades , a manual for developing skills in organic farming compiled by FVTRS and Rajasthan Partners. Dr. J. Alexander (Retd. IAS and Ex. Minister of Karnataka) released the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) module developed by FVTRS. A special award was given for three drop-out youth from Rajasthan who successfully completed their high school education and secured the highest marks. During the rest of the day, various sessions were conducted by guest resources persons that included 'Issues, challenges and opportunities in skilling most vulnerable groups' by Mr. Bharat Joshi, 'Skill promotion in primary Sector' by Dr A.K. Gupta, and 'Issues of people engaged in traditional skill based occupations' by Mr. Gopal Saini.

The second and final day of the NSC was held on 16th November. The day began with a special session on 'Role of community towards the achievement of Skill India Mission' by Mr. Prabhat Failbus. The session was moderated by P.M Philip, the executive director. Following this, the valedictory function was held. Mr. P.M. Philip addressed the gathering and welcomed all the participants and dignitaries. Fr. V.M. Thomas gave the presidential address and launched the jubilee year of FVTRS. The NSC souvenir was released by Dr. Joseph Stanley, and Fr. Peter Brank released the Organizational Directory that has been compiled by FVTRS. Two NGOs were recognized and awarded - Development for Rural Oppressed Peoples Society (DROPS) for training the highest number of vulnerable individuals, and Shimoga Multipurpose Social Service Society (SMSSS) for

the highest enrolment of dropout youth trainees in NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling). The program came an end with the vote of thanks that was given by Mr. Felix D'Souza.

Special mention needs to be made of all the partner organizations in Rajasthan whose efforts and collaboration contributed to successfully conducting the 11th National Skill Conference of FVTRS. Overall the NSC was successful in bringing together our partners and collaborators in order to cast a shared vision for the future, and together work toward skilling India and making the underprivileged youth employable.