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VLFM NEWS

CII Launches Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Programme The Programme to enhance government's skill development initiatives

Confederated of Indian Industry launched the Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing (VLFM) Programme on Sep 29 in Mumbai. This is a unique programme of national importance aimed at developing Visionary Leaders to lead the Indian manufacturing sector to the next leap of growth. The Prime Minister's office on behalf of Dr Manmohan Singh, said in a congratulatory message that the "Prime Minister is happy to note that the CII has started the Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Programme, an initiative under the Joint Co operative Agreement signed between the Government of India and the Government of Japan."

The Prime Minister's Message further added that "While providing impetus to the growth of manufacturing this programme will also enhance the government's skill building initiatives critical to developing competency in India's manufacturing sector"

The VLFM programme is a unique partnership between industry represented by CII, academia represented by the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and Madras and the Government of India represented by National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council, NMCC. The programme has received technical and financial support from the Government of Japan. Over the next six months experts from Japan as well Indian industry and academia will share their experiences with the participants.

Mr. J N Godrej, Chairman CII VLFM Division while speaking at the inaugural function of the VLFM Programme while emphasizing the importance of the VLFM programme to India's manufacturing sector said, "In the current global scenario, significance economic factors has overtaken the importance of political factors. While the world is recognizing the potential of the Indian CEOs, we need a programme like the VLFM to build visionary leaders for our manufacturing sector". Mr. Godrej further urged the participants of the CII VLFM programme to work towards transforming the manufacturing sector and work towards attaining new heights in manufacturing.

Prof Shoji Shiba, Chief Advisor, VLFM Programme and an international expert in Breakthrough Management

said that the VLFM Programme did not focus on teaching since "teaching is a word of arrogance. We can only create an innovative learning environment". In this context the CII Godrej VLFM Centre created Mumbai is a creative first of its kind centre developed under the patronage of Mr Jamshyd Godrej.

Mr. Mrityunjai Sahu, Joint Secretary, NMCC, while speaking at the inaugural function said "the VLFM initiative will provide the necessary foundation to improve skills in manufacturing sector. India requires a higher level of manufacturing for which we need to expand this program. While thanking the Government of Japan for its support in this he also assured them that Prime Minister of India's address will be clearly taken into consideration.

The Consulate General of Japan, Mr. Hirotsugu Hagiuda, Consulate General of Japan, Mumbai while referring to the long standing relationship between Indian and Japan said the two countries "enjoyed a high level of exchange in investment and the diplomatic relations have grown much faster over past two decades."

Speaking about the VLFM Programme the Consulate General added that "Japan agreed to develop and promote the Infrastructure and human resource of India during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Japan last year. It is in this context that the VLFM programme has been project"

Dr Surrinder Kapur, Chairman CII Mission for Innovation and Director VLFM Programme while thanking the Government of Japan for its support to the Programme said "Japan has committed to help India to improve the technological and infrastructural aspect. This kind of a commitment is much higher than merely launching some project".

Dr Kapur further added that the "we should be proud of the Indian technological developments. For this we need to transform ourselves and unlearn the past." Talking about the programme he said that we would endeavor to convert the VLFM programme into a national program instead as we need at least 500 visionary leaders to transform the manufacturing arena of the country.

A Glance at the Inaugural Function



Prof Shiba lighting the traditional lamp at the Inaugural Function



Prof Shoji Shiba, Mr J.N.Godrej and Dr Surinder Kapur after unveiling the plaque at the CII Godrej VLFM Centre



Participants at the Inaugural Function



Participants of the Programme with Invitees



Mr Hirotsugu Hagiuda, Consulate General of Japan, Mumbai delivering the Keynote Address at the Inaugural Function



Children from the Udyanchal School offering Prayers