



"Skill India" and Supply Chain Competence in India

Our Prime Minister heralded several concepts like MAKE IN INDIA , SKILL INDIA, DIGITAL INDIA ETC., All these are towards creating an environment of high motivation , driving to accelerated growth of Indian overall economy. In this



article let us look at **SKILL INDIA** and its relevance to Supply Chain Management in the present Industrial scenario in India.

The role of Supply Chain Management (SCM) in India has dramatically changed since a decade. The focus has been intensified and it is now not a just functional but more strategic role. Days of SCM function reporting to production or finance are diminishing and today many companies have realised the importance and its impact on the companies operation and SCM heads are sitting in the Board rooms.

Nevertheless SCM heads needs to be functional experts in Planning of Materials, Acquisition of Materials, Warehousing of Materials, Distribution of Materials, Transportation of Materials, Inventory Optimisation, Export/Import and even Customer Relation Management and Supplier Relation Management.



Thus Supply Chain Management extends end- to- end within the firm and even outside the firm with a relationships with chain of suppliers and chain of customers and even final consumers on a global basis. The supply chain talent needs to be focused on acquiring people with process expertise and not only functional expertise. Then the supply chain experts qualify to be in the Executive team of the company who will be competent in finding and driving opportunities to increase economic profit of the enterprise.

The knowledge and talent in Supply Chain should be converted into skill which I define as, actual doing and close to the work table. The skill, over period of time, will mature into Global perception, leadership to drive the team towards the objective, tech-savvy and advanced business skills.



SCM skills should include managing their enterprise across continents and deal effectively with suppliers and customer's globally. The cross functional processes and interdependencies among purchase, logistics, manufacturing and even marketing and sales is an integral part of SCM. Building team and managing people as well as communicating effectively with their stake holders are elementary skill for SCM professionals. SCM professional will not be fit in their positions unless he is exposed to the challenges of technology option, implementation, and application and be vigilant to the next generation of tech-tools.

Business skills keep changing, from hard copy purchase order to web based buying, E procurement and Reverse auction, Cheque payment to EFT/RTGS/On-line banking, e-commerce , advanced logistics , risk mitigation tools, E -Supply Chain Management , budgeting as well as cash flow and they should speak such business language in their working forums.

There will be a growing demand for most talented and skilled supply chain professionals and hiring and retaining them will be a real challenge and taxing to the organisation. Acquiring, developing and retaining the right talent and skill is critical in making world class supply chain.



Our Prime Minister's vision of SKILL INDIA include in particular rural India, as major portion of youth need Education and Training in various skill jobs enabling them to remain in rural areas and not migrating to Urban areas for want of living. As we are aware India is the youngest country in the world, of maximum young people. We have more youth population than elder's population. Youth population need lead and skill training in tier 2 towns.

In the days of E-commerce boom, rural and tier 2 towns will accelerate on-line business of consumer goods, electronic goods and personal goods. E-commerce is predominantly logistics domain. Adequate training in fundamentals of SCM and making them skilful will be towards journey to destination of SKILL INDIA.



Companies should have a strategic partnership with professional training institutions, which is capable of imparting latest and contemporary knowledge, talent and skill for their pool of SCM professionals at all levels, periodically. This

institution should adopt modern training tools and techniques such as inducting communication skills, analysing skills, case presentation and Role Plays and continuous feedback the trainees.

When we speak of Skill India, it is [GLOBAL INSTITUTE OF SUPPLY MANAGEMENT \(GISM\)](#), in Bangalore, who can design and develop courses and training programs whether it is for start-ups or expert professionals, and whether for junior staff or for senior professionals and top Executives of any verticals and sectors of organisations.



GISM partnering with INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE, Geneva, which comes under WTO/UNCTAD, for training and certifying in their Supply Chain Program for all sectors of

business, is most suited in this domain.

GLOBAL INSTITUTE OF SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, a premier training and certification institute in Bangalore, offer basketful of skill developing and skill enhancing courses and training programs driven by highly experienced and internationally trained trainers.

GISM undertake In-Company training programs of staff, officers and senior executives and also conduct Management Development Programs on topics of vital importance to SCM professionals.

GISM also has Certification Programs for experienced professionals who would not have taken any formal educational courses. GISM will evaluate their knowledge and certify them as "Expert Supply Chain Professional" , "Expert Logistics Professional" , "Expert Procurement Professional" "Expert Warehouse Professional" etc., Such certificates will be very useful for their career and also for openings for senior cadre. Please visit www.gismind.org for more details.

"There is no destination for innovation and learning which is a continuous journey."

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