

MEDIA INFORMATION

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VFS Global Academy, knowledge partner to VFS Global Foundation, opens its skill training academy in Ahmedabad

Together, VFS Global Foundation and VFS Global Academy aim to equip over 10,000 young people in India with employability skills.

VFS Global Foundation inaugurated its skill training centre in Ahmedabad, marking a significant step in its commitment to empower local youth through employability-focused training. The centre will train **250 students in its first year**, equipping them with practical skills aligned to industry needs.

The programmes have been specially curated by the **VFS Global Academy**, the knowledge partner for the initiative, ensuring that students gain exposure to future-ready skills, career guidance, and learning frameworks that meet global standards. The academy will be offering programmes in the travel and hospitality domain.

Speaking at the inauguration, **Neetu Wadhawan, Deputy CHRO, VFS Global, and Director, VFS Global Foundation**, said, “At VFS Global, we believe in creating pathways for sustainable livelihoods. The Ahmedabad centre represents our vision to nurture talent and empower communities through skill development in India. We are proud to bring the expertise of the VFS Global Academy to curate impactful training programmes. With centres already operational in Deoghar, Ekta Nagar, and Lucknow, and another set to open in Chandigarh by year-end, the Foundation is on course to train thousands of youth across the country.”

The launch event was attended by senior leaders from VFS Global and the first batch of students. Guests toured the training facilities and interacted with students, reaffirming the Foundation’s focus on inclusive, community-centric development.

The initiative aligns with VFS Global’s broader mission to empower young people via education, skill training and entrepreneurship, creating a long-term social impact globally.

About VFS Global

As the global leader in trusted technology services, empowering secure mobility for governments and citizens, VFS Global embraces technological innovation including Generative AI to support governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. The company manages non-judgmental and administrative tasks related to applications for visa, passport, and consular services for its client governments, increasing productivity and enabling them to focus entirely on the critical task of assessment.

With a responsible approach to technology development, adoption and integration, the company prioritizes ethical practices and sustainability while serving as the trusted partner to 69 client governments. Operating over 3,900 Application Centres in 166 countries, VFS Global has efficiently processed more than 509 million transactions* since 2001.

Headquartered in Zurich and Dubai and majority owned through investment funds managed by Blackstone Inc, along with minority stakeholders including Swiss-based Kuoni and Hugentobler Foundation.

** Comprised of 323.15 million transactions by VFS Global and 186.43 million transactions by CiX Citizen Experience*

About VFS Global Academy

VFS Global Academy is at the forefront of providing innovative, learner-centric vocational education and upskilling programmes. With a vision to meet the growing demand for skilled professionals in the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors, it combines academic rigour with practical experience. The Academy's programmes focus not only on domain-specific expertise but also on essential soft skills, equipping students to meet the evolving demands of a rapidly changing industry. Its commitment is to nurture the next generation of professionals and industry leaders capable of thriving in a global environment.

The Academy currently operates in four countries. In India, it has academies in Jaipur, Mumbai, and Varanasi, with plans to expand to Guwahati, Hyderabad, and New Delhi. Internationally, it is present in China, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, with planned expansion into Sri Lanka and the UK.

Over the next five years, the Academy aims to extend its presence to 10 additional countries and 20 more locations across India, with a goal of training between 8,000 and 10,000 students.

About VFS Global Foundation

Registered in 2024, VFS Global Foundation empowers young people from marginalised communities in India through education and vocational training. In partnership with non-governmental and community organisations, it offers specialised training in travel, tourism, and hospitality curated by VFS Global Academy. The Foundation runs Skilling Centres in Ahmedabad, Deoghar, Ekta Nagar, and Lucknow, with new centres planned in Chandigarh and Mumbai by end of 2025.

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