



## 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference

on Life Skills & Livelihood Skills - Leveraging Digital India for Rural Empowerment.

16 -17 November 2017, at Dr. MCR HRD Institute of Telangana, Hyderabad



It's a well known fact that there's a great divide between rural and urban India in terms of livelihood opportunities or quality of life. Solutions to empower the rural producers or consumers have had a limited success because they are fragmented in terms of their individual size, are heterogeneous in their profiles, and are dispersed geographically, making access difficult and expensive. Consequently, the divide kept widening.

For the first time, the developments in Digital Technologies over the recent past offer hope to bridge this divide. It is now conceivable to offer personalised solutions in real time to millions of people and empower them. Rural Indians can now access input or output markets or financial services as well as citizen services without the conventional limitations.

In this backdrop, this international conference on the theme, "Life Skills and Livelihood Skills - Rural Empowerment for a Digital India" is very timely and will surely advance the cause. I wish the conference all success.

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