

Globsyn on a job-awareness drive among rural youth

statesman news service

KOLKATA, 4 OCT. Young people from rural areas have a limited knowledge of job prospects in the corporate world, say recent graduates of Globsyn Skills vocational training courses. As India's need for a skilled workforce grows, many of the rural youth are either unaware, unmotivated or distrustful about corporate employment.

Aiming to tackle the gap between supply and demand for skilled workers in India, Globsyn Skills and the National Skills Development Corporation have collaborated to train up 3.52 lakh young people in the next decade.

Teams from Globsyn Skills regularly go into rural areas to recruit young people (usually between the ages of 21 and 25) for their vocational training courses.

But spreading awareness in rural districts about the corporate world has proved difficult.

The director of Globsyn Skills, Mr Rahul Dasgupta, said, "Young people face parental pressures. NGOs do a great job in creating awareness about skills training and employment opportunities, but there are still significant social challenges to overcome."

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corporate world, or have no aspirations to join it. "They either want a government job or to work for their father's business," he said. Mr Sahoo is now working for Aegis, a business processing outsourcing (BPO) company affiliated with Globsyn. He said, "My family doesn't even know what a BPO is." Mr Sahoo is also qualified in hardware networking, and wants to work for Aegis until he can pursue a career in this. Mr Susovan

Samanta — also from East Midnapore — has a job offer from an IIS company after doing a Globsyn Skills course in communication. The course "helped a lot" in securing employment, he said, and added, "It was a good thing to do."

Travelling from rural areas to the training centres drains time and money, say some graduates, which deters people from applying for courses.

During his welding course, Mr

Rakesh Biswas travelled for four hours each day, taking a bus from North 24-Parganas to Sealdah and back again.

To counter this, Globsyn Skills are planning to open training laboratories in rural areas. Earlier this week, Mr Dasgupta announced that over the next four years, Globsyn Skills plans to invest around Rs 20 crore in 100 Skills for India labs in Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Assam and West Bengal.