

Futuristic cuts

At the ATDC regional conclave for principals held in Gurgaon, plans for future manpower training in the apparel sector readied. A report by **Qasim K Naqash**

THE apparel industry would require approximately 10 million additional workforce by 2020 and more than 15,000 – 20,000 trainers for training the candidates. The Apparel Training and Design Centre (ATDC) needs to gear up to meet the challenging target of training 34,000 candidates on ATDC-SMART Training Project, under the Integrated Skills Development Scheme, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, and over 40,000 candidates (youth and women) under the ATDC-IGNOU Community Colleges in next two years. ATDC aims to cross over 1.7 lakh students under its skill pyramid of Institute of Apparel Management (IAM), ATDC-IGNOU Community Colleges & SMART by 2014-15, said Dr Koshy, Director General & CEO-IAM & ATDC, during the inaugural session of the Annual Regional (North, East & North-Eastern Zones) Principals' Meet of ATDC in Mid-March.

The Annual Meet 2012 focused on formulating a clear strategy and detailed

plan of action for the year 2012-13. Dr Koshy and Hari Kapoor, Vice Chairman, ATDC also explained how ATDC, through its network, is effectively imparting skills & improving lives in this direction to meet the requirements.

"The apparel industry, globally, is facing acute shortage of skilled labour, and India is no exception. ATDC endeavours to work with various State Governments and other agencies to provide skill training opportunities to the country's youth, and also ensures that the employability gap is bridged through our need based "hands on' training programmes" said Kapoor.

On the occasion, Dr A Saktivel, Chairman AEPC, ATDC and IAM, congratulated the entire ATDC team for the lead it has taken through ATDC-IGNOU Community College, SMART Training Project and Training of Trainers' Academy and encouraged the team to take the initiatives to the next level, especially quality up gradation and industry linkages. Dr Saktivel lauded ATDC for its focused leadership and execution in developing a comprehensive 'skill pyramid' for the entire workforce requirement, from shop floor to managerial level in the apparel sector. He also encouraged his team-heads of 99 centres to cross-share their experiences through newsletter publications.

The conclave progressed with Dr CK Ghosh, Nodal Officer, CCU-IGNOU, sharing ideas and future road map of IGNOU Community Colleges with the ATDC teams. "Till now, we were authorised only to provide a certification to the candidates who train with us, but now, with the ATDC-IGNOU Community College Units tie up, we would be able to provide the full-fledged degrees," said Dr Saktivel.

Ideas for establishing 'In-Company Training Cells', need of 'SMART' for Compliance, etc. were also discussed during the conclave.



Dr Darlie Koshy, DG and CEO-IAM & ATDC felicitating Dr CK Ghosh, Nodal Officer-CCU-IGNOU