

## 'Bringing Switzerland Expertise to India'

*Dr. Rajendra Joshi is one of those leading dreamers of the nations who bring reforms for the development in the nation. He is a nation's pride who belongs to Rajasthan and has completed his pharmacy degree at BITS Pilani and later moved to Switzerland for his PhD and joined as Research Associate and Professor. Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi is a force behind bringing in the modern skill development as he has brought a 'Swiss-Dual-System' of training on job in India. He was a founder and partner of Fumapharm AG Switzerland, a pharmaceutical company which he sold in 2006 to Biogen Idec.*

*With the aim to bring the wonderful system of skill development in India, Dr. Joshi formed the 'Rajendra and Ursula Joshi Foundation' (JCF) in 2006 in Wilen, Switzerland and started working in this direction. In conversation with Dominic Rebello, Dr. Rajendra says, "Upon returning to India I realised that the country had a tremendous pool of talent, which needed education with a moto of making the youth skillful and employable."*

### Tell us about RS India...

RUJ & SRM Mechanics Pvt. Ltd. (RS-India) is a joint venture between the Indian organization Rajendra Ursula Joshi Group and Swiss based firm SRM AG. Incorporated on 10th of June, 2016 under the Companies Act, 2013, RS India was established with the objective of manufacturing and assembling of high precision parts, metal anodizing, painting, heat treatment and other high quality products.

Since the manufacturing sector holds the key position in the Indian economy, there is a minor glitch where, high dependence on imports for precision parts has been seen amongst Indian manufactures. Noting this, we realized the gap and saw it as an opportunity to fulfill the needs of these Indian manufacturers by establishing a Swiss Precision Assembly Unit within the country in the state of Rajasthan. The group introduced RS-India with an initial investment of Rs. 300 Cr.

### What persuaded or inspired you to work for skill development of youth in India?

I wanted to contribute back to my motherland and would always be astounded by the Swiss systems of skilling the talent pool which differentiates them from other countries. I observed that while Swiss, German and Austrian economies took very little recovery time after being hit by the massive World War II economic crisis, I studied and realized that it was the trained workforce and ultimately their education system which was responsible for this short recovery time. This workforce is not of merely managers but interestingly those skilled managers who are skilled in the trade so well that they acquired maximum productivity out of machines.

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**Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi,**  
Founder,  
Rajendra and  
Ursula Joshi Group

employable. According to India Labour Report 2012, around 12.8 million people would join the labor market annually, whereas the current capacity of the skill development in India is 3.1 million. According to a recent report, an estimated incremental HR requirement for skill development in the period 2012 to 2022 for India is 12.03 crore. There is a skill gap among Indian youth population. India can learn from European system of 'apprenticeship education' to leapfrog growth. This inspired me to work for skill development of youth in India.

### How is Bhartiya Skill Development University different from other institutes?

BSDU emphasizes on the dual training system where the focus is majorly on practical experience and exposure, this is the sole reason why students are offered a very flexible curriculum and are not bound to complete a programme if recruited by the industry. Students are offered multiple entry and exit points to maintain flexibility and

enhance their skills at any point in time of their respective careers. Programmes are designed in a unique way where one-student-one-machinery environment is created to provide a workstation like experience. The students are trained under the watchful eyes of the experienced, knowledgeable Swiss and Indian trainers. BSDU has many industry collaborations and some of them have set up their own workshops to help students in getting trained according to their own work modules.

### What are your expansion plans?

RUJ Group of companies has invested over Rs. 2000 crore to upskill the Indian talent. Apart from Bhartiya Skill Development University (BSDU), Jaipur, this multi-dimensional organization will be coming up with a hospital under the name Rajendra & Ursula Joshi Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.

Rajendra and Ursula Joshi Food Industries Pvt. Ltd (RUFIL) which was established in 2014 with an objective to manufacture quality food products. The company has set up a state-of-the-art

## MSE shows moderation in sentiment in Q4: CriSidEx

The micro and small enterprises (MSEs) saw moderation in sentiment in January-March quarter, says a survey.

For the fourth quarter, the Crisidex score was at 122, lower than the 128 seen in October-December 2018, but marginally up from 121 a year back. Crisidex is a sentiment index for MSEs that indicates the current state and expected outlook on the sector every quarter based on a survey.

"On a year-on-year basis, MSEs operating in the leather and leather goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, IT or ITes, and human resources segments reported a noticeable



increase in positive sentiment, while those into gems & jewellery, textiles, auto components and health care had a relatively subdued outing." Sidbi's Chairman and Managing Director Mohammad Mustafa said. The sentiment in the March quarter was shaped by a host of factors such as slowdown in auto sales leading to inventory pile-up and production cuts by the automobile industry, Crisil's Chief Operating Officer Amish Mehta

said. Other factors that affected the sentiment included slower tendering or awarding ahead of elections and regulations impacting logistics. Among manufacturing MSEs, 42 per cent reported a good survey quarter, which is on a par with the quarter immediately preceding. Nearly, 39 per cent of services providers reported a good quarter compared with 41 per cent in the previous quarter. The number, however, was better than the 29 per cent in the same period a year ago.

The sentiment about the business situation is expected to remain positive in the April-June 2019 quarter, the survey said.

## « BUSINESS SHOTS

### Kilitch Drugs (India) records 42.68% standalone growth in Q4FY19

Kilitch Drugs India has reported an increase of 42.68% in its Standalone revenue from operations which stood at Rs 22.33 crore as against Rs 15.70 crore. Standalone Net Profit after tax was at Rs. 2.65 crore for the quarter ended March 31, 2019 as compared to Rs 2.28 crore in the previous corresponding quarter. EBITDA stood at Rs. 3.53 crore in the quarter ended March 31, 2019 as against Rs. 3.05 crore in the previous corresponding quarter. The Board of Directors have recommended a dividend of Rs.0.50 per share of face value Rs 10, subject to shareholders approval. "Our growth momentum continued during the financial year despite the challenging business environment across different markets. During the year, we took a strategic step of building our new facility in Ethiopia. We believe this will help accelerate the growth of the overall organization", said Mukund Mehta, Managing Director, Kilitch Drugs (India) Ltd.

### Schaeffler India inaugurates vocational training center at Hosur



Leading industrial and automotive supplier, Schaeffler India Ltd has inaugurated a fully operational vocational skill development training center at Hosur. The inauguration of this center is under a program called STEP (Schaeffler Technical Enhancement Program) which is run under the CSR

umbrella HOPE. The program will be run by SkillSonics India Pvt Ltd, as the learning and implementation partner. The center was inaugurated by senior executives from Schaeffler India, Rakesh Jinsi, Director Schaeffler India Ltd Board; Dhamesh Arora, CEO, Schaeffler India; Santanu Ghoshal, VP Human Resource, Schaeffler India and representatives from SkillSonics India Pvt Ltd. Commenting on the occasion, Ghoshal said, "After establishing two centers in Pune, this is our third center under the STEP initiative, empowering students with technical skills with a focus on making them employable and self-reliant."

### IIT-NR launches B.Tech program in Data Science & AI



With the growing demand and applicability of Data Science, Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence, International Institute of Information Technology, Naya Raipur (IIT-NR), a State University (recognized by UGC) and established as joint venture between the Government of Chhattisgarh and NTPC Ltd. in Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India has launched India's first integrated B.Tech program in Data Science & Artificial Intelligence from the academic year 2019-20. IIT-NR has also launched an M.Tech program also in Data Science & Artificial Intelligence from the coming Academic Year (2019-2020). Dr. Pradeep K. Sinha, VC & Director, IIT Naya Raipur, said, "The scope of our new B. Tech. program in DSAI shall include methods and algorithms involved in collecting, curating, managing, analyzing, and transforming data into information, which in turn enables creation of knowledge and decision-making in a variety of application domains."

### WUD partners Oxford Brookes University, UK



World University of Design (WUD) India's first and only university dedicated to education in the creative domain, with one of the largest portfolio of design courses in India has partnered with School of Architecture of Oxford Brookes University, UK to offer a unique BA(Hons) course in Built Environment and Habitat Studies. Talking about the course Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice Chancellor, WUD said, "This course is designed to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to ultimately find a niche in the planning of a successful built environment system & profession that will address the needs of growing cities and their requirement for spatial designing. We see a huge potential for the course especially in India as well as globally as the unique inter disciplinary approach to the subject will ensure that challenges such as supply of basic resources like water, air, food are synergized with overall economic, social and environmental sustainability can be addressed effectively."

### OBC and Canara HSBC OBC Insurance launches Webassurance and POS Product for bank customers

Oriental Bank of Commerce and their life insurance partner Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance announced the launch of Webassurance and Point of Sale (POS) product 'POS - Easy Bima Plan' to enable bank customers to purchase life insurance through a seamless journey starting from the bank's website and through bank terminal. Anuj Mathur, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance Company Ltd said, "Webassurance is our digital collaboration and way ahead to target our online banking customers. This initiative integrates together the digital capabilities of the Bank and the Company to provide a convenient and hassle-free option for the bank customers to fulfill their insurance needs."

### RiteBite targets 20,000 outlets by FY20

Today with a family of crunchy snacks, that is healthy, handy, tasty and wholesome, Vijay Uttarwar, the Managing Director, RiteBite says that, "Consumers should never compromise on taste for nutrition. One's taste palate and nutritional needs should go hand in hand and at RiteBite we have kept all these factors in mind while the recipe for chips was in progress. RiteBite protein chips proves that guilt-free, crave-worthy indulgence is possible. Our products are available in 10,000 outlets and we intend to reach a target of 20,000 outlets by the end of this fiscal." RiteBite Max Protein brings to you a range of healthy, handy and delicious protein power snacks that fuel you with sustained energy, and has no preservatives and artificial sweeteners. RiteBite Max Protein chips is a power snack that provides protein by blending seven healthy ingredients.