

Apparel sector hails ATDC in Millennium City

By Md Tausif Alam, ET Bureau | 27 Mar, 2014, 03.30PM IST

The high demand for skilled employees in the apparel sector beckons a large investment from various areas to train the candidates. The body like Apparel Training and Design Centre (ATDC) is running various programmes and courses to train the candidates.



ATDC has been training candidates under different programmes to produce skilled force available for the apparel sector.

"The apparel sector is one of the largest employers in the country and it also has a sizeable population in Gurgaon," said Darlie Koshy, director general & CEO, ATDC. He added that the body has been training candidates under different programmes to produce skilled force available for the sector.

Last month, ATDC had also organised an exhibition of handicrafts in the city. In this exhibition craftsmen exhibited the work on clothes and garments. "The sole purpose of this exhibition was to showcase the skills of craftsmen working in apparel industry," added Koshi.

Koshi also claims that the body ATDC has taken the initiative to train 2, 50, 000 candidates across the country. "We have eight ATDC centres in Gurgaon which are training around 3, 000 people every year. These institutes are offering advance diploma and certificate programmes." He added that the Millennium City offers interested candidates for the programmes.

The apparel sector also cites the necessity of the skilled workforce required for the industry. "Trained people are always in demand in the apparel Inc. The sector enthusiastically participates in such programmes. It also conducts various seminars for its workforce," said Praveen Yadav, president, Gurgaon Udyon Association.

He added that in Gurgaon, this sector alone accommodates around 100, 000 workforce, which involves skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour. Vivek Sehgal, owner of Radiant Exports said that his company is working on the individual level to



provide skill development programmes to its employees. His company is based out of Noida.

The experts also say that such training programmes also help the workforce to gain certain skills and get a good hike in income. "The remuneration of unskilled labour is based on minimum wage, which earlier was around Rs 5, 300 and now has increased to Rs 8, 100. In comparison to minimum wage fixed for unskilled labour, the skilled labour gets twice the amount or more than that," said Yadav. He also added this has also helped increasing employability as well as income.

Besides, the apparel industry has also evolved in terms of use of machines and working environment. "The technology has undergone many changes. It requires the equipped workforce to work on them," said Koshy.

He also said that the apparel sector in Gurgaon has many clients in different parts of the world. The sector has to meet various demands rising from his clients and provide quality products to them.

The workforce needs to remain to date with the demands of the clients. And the continuous seminars and programmes offer them the exposure of the outer world.

PROGRAMMES OK MORE REQUIRED

The apparel Inc says that it applauds the works of various bodies and organisations involved in training activities and other programmes. However, the industry requires more to tackle issue like high attrition rate.

Talking about the high attrition rate in the sector, Koshy admitted the attrition rate in the sector is as high as 18 percent. "We need to tackle the challenges and to provide for attrition related substitution."

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