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**"Skilling the Nation : Time to Act"**

Focusing on skilling our people, will create several industries and professions where India will become the global talent pool. Our nurses, teachers, healthcare workers for elderly, construction workers, teachers, chefs, hospitality experts, have great potential global opportunities if we skill people with quality standards and in sufficient numbers.

Address at Pune International Centre, 24 September 2013

**"We need to work out a plan to make on demand learning a reality using the national IT backbone of rural broadband."**

Why are we not leapfrogging when it comes to education? The 21st century model demands a shredding of traditional mindsets. Online resources, from wikis to podcasts to training videos, are allowing both children and adults to pursue education on their own. This kind of empowerment of our children especially in rural areas which lack good teachers, is just the kind of thing that India needs. It would be a great supplement to the learning in schools or colleges. Schools and Universities on a cloud are a real possibility. We need to work out a plan to make on demand learning a reality using the national IT backbone of rural broadband. We need hub and spoke models to leverage limited resources, we may even need to blend software with human intervention, and there are a host of strategies for every situation.

Address at the Second C K Prahalad Memorial Lecture in Chennai August 2013.