



## **ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Microsoft and AICTE collaborate to skill students and educators in next generation technologies**

*Over 900 course modules from Microsoft will be made available to students and educators free of cost through AICTE's free e-learning portal*

**New Delhi, October 12, 2020:** With a vision to provide uninterrupted online learning to millions of students across the country, the Government of India's All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has partnered with Microsoft to empower learners and educators with future-ready skills.

As part of this partnership, over 900 course modules from Microsoft will be made available to students and educators free of cost through AICTE's free e-learning portal, **ELIS ([free.aicte-india.org](http://free.aicte-india.org))**. Microsoft's learning resource centre, **Microsoft Learn has been integrated with the ELIS platform** to provide access to personalized learning paths and resources for students, covering a broad range of technologies including AI, IOT, data science and cloud computing among others.

The collaboration also gives educators access to best-in-class online learning paths and instructor-led training material through the **Microsoft Learn for Educators** platform. Eligible educators and faculty members can access Microsoft's ready-to-teach curriculum and teaching materials aligned with industry-recognized Microsoft certifications.

Commenting on this, **Anant Maheshwari, President, Microsoft India**, said, "Our collaboration with AICTE reflects our commitment to building a strong skilling ecosystem in the country and ensure continuity in learning. COVID-19 has accelerated the need for upskilling and has shown clearly that the future of learning will be profoundly personalized and supported by technology. We are committed to empowering learners and educators across the country to skill themselves in emerging technologies and partner in the journey to thrive in a digital future."

**Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE, Ministry of Education**, said, "Upskilling is very important to enhance employability opportunities for students. AICTE is happy to partner with Microsoft to help students get an opportunity to be hands-on with the latest technology and build products and services for the future."

Through this partnership, students will also get an opportunity to be hands-on with technology and build for the future with **Azure for Students**. Eligible students aged 18 and above can building apps, explore AI, and make the most of big data with access to more than 25 free Azure services along with \$100 in Azure credit, renewable annually.

To make learning more interactive, Microsoft will host live webinars on next-generation technologies for students of AICTE. To ensure technology benefits everyone, Microsoft will also sponsor 1000 Microsoft Certification Exam Vouchers spanning different technologies for students from underserved communities.

### **About AICTE**

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is the statutory body and a National-level council for technical education, under Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India. It is an advisory body, responsible for proper planning and coordinated development of the technical education and management education system in India. The AICTE accredits postgraduate and graduate programs under specific categories at 10k+ Indian institutions as per its charter. There are over 2.5 Mn students and 0.4 Mn faculty.

### **About Microsoft**

Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT" @microsoft) enables digital transformation for the era of an intelligent cloud and an intelligent edge. Its mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. Microsoft set up its India operations in 1990. Today, Microsoft entities in India have over 11,000 employees, engaged in sales and marketing, research, development and customer services and support, across 11 Indian cities – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, New Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Pune. Microsoft offers its global cloud services from local data centers to accelerate digital transformation across Indian startups, businesses, and government organizations.

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