

# Skill development to get boost in state

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**A**t the inaugural session of the 5th Global Exhibition on Services (GES) that began here on Tuesday, Large and Medium scale industries minister Jagadish Shettar (in picture) said that the Karnataka government is planning to teach various skills to about 2 crore youngsters and is working on creating the infrastructure for it.

He said, "The state is home to leading educational institutes like NLSIU, IISC, IIM and so on that has enabled the creation of a robust talent pool. More than 26% of international students coming to India, prefer to study in Karnataka. The tourism sector holds a lot of potential as well."

Terming Karnataka as the service hub of India, T M Vijay Bhaskar, Karnataka Chief Secretary said that the state is the top exporter in the service sector in the country. He said that the state is emerging as a global startup



hub.

Gaurav Gupta, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, said that Karnataka has been at the forefront of the services growth story.

"Karnataka has been making strides in many other sectors as well. We are also developing a wellness cluster in Shivamogga."

Big Basket founder Hari Menon, musician Ricky Kej, Nandakumar Jairam from Columbia Asia, Devi Shetty were also at the session.