Skills devt a key area of cooperation between Singapore and India

Mr Gan and Indian Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan. It will take place in Gandhinagar in the state of Gujarat in August. The 2023 version of the hackathon is one of the events under India’s Group of 20 presidency. “This hackathon is a part of Singapore’s and India’s cooperation in skills development, especially for our youth,” said Mr Gan, identifying skills development as a key area of cooperation between the two countries. Calling Singapore a friend, Mr Pradhan said he appreciated the collaboration with Singapore in skills development.

Mr Gan said he looks forward to working with Mr Pradhan “to encourage our educational institutions and business associations to develop training programmes that will enable our people to keep pace with the demand for increasingly complex skills and future-proof their employability”.

Singapore has helped India develop skills centres in various cities, including the capital New Delhi and Guwahati in the country’s north-east. In February, Singapore and the central state of Uttar Pradesh agreed to work together in a range of areas, including skills training. The South Asian country is seeking to ensure that the millions who enter the job market are gainfully employed, and will provide them with the requisite skills.

The hackathon will see the involvement of the Monetary Authority of Singapore. “This is the first time students and start-ups are being mixed together. We want to see that the winners find a path to commercialisation using our ecosystem,” Mr Sopnendu Mohanty, the central bank’s chief fintech officer, told The Straits Times.

“We will be showcasing them (the winners) at the Singapore FinTech Festival.” The hackathon will be organised by the Nanyang Technological University and the Indian Ministry of Education. Mr Gan also met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal during his three-day visit to India.