



ASCI
Agriculture Skill Council of India

AGRI-SKILLS Newsletter

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Sowing *Skills*

Harvesting Opportunities

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Hon'ble PM launches Skill Development Mission, hopes to make India a hub of skilled manpower

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched his pet project Skill India Campaign in New Delhi on 15th July on the occasion of the first ever World Youth Skills Day. It also included the launch of the National Skill Development Mission and unveiling of the new National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015.

The launch of the mission assumes significance as "India currently faces a severe shortage of well-trained, skilled workers. It is estimated that only 2.3% of the workforce in India has undergone formal skill training as compared to 68% in the UK, 75% in Germany, 52% in USA, 80% in Japan and 96% in South Korea. Large sections of the educated workforce have little or no job skills, making them largely unemployable. Therefore, India must focus on scaling up skill training efforts to meet the demands of employers and drive economic growth", the document on the framework of implementation of the National Mission for Skill Development said.

According to the note of implementation, more than 54 percent of the country's population is below the age of 25, allowing it with an opportunity to provide a skilled workforce to fill the expected shortfall in the ageing developed world.

The Prime Minister said that while in the 20th century the IITs made a name for themselves globally, now in the 21st century ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) should acquire global recognition for producing quality skilled manpower.

Meetings of the Governing Council

Agriculture Skill Council of India conducted its 8th Governing Council Meeting on 20th March 2015, at India International Centre, New Delhi. The Governing Council had discussed about the impending announcement of Monetary Reward Scheme **PMKVY**. The Board discussed about the initiatives of ASCI which included the MoUs with the state government of Himachal Pradesh and introduction of Agriculture related courses in Haryana and Maharashtra. Also colleges and institutes have been selected to offer QP based courses.



The 9th Governing Council Meeting of Agriculture Council of India was conducted on 29th June 2015 at DLF City Club, Gurgaon. The Board appreciated the ASCI's initiatives and collaborations with the Universities and Schools for introducing vocational courses. ASCI presented 12 draft Qualification Packs to the board. The Board also took a note of the Industry Outreach Programme of ASCI which included organizing Workshop on Veterinary Para Professionals and Skill conference which was ably supported by the Ministry of Agriculture. Participation in Skill India Conference organized by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) was also appreciated.



Memorandum of Understanding

❖ **MoU with Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh**

ASCI has signed two tripartite MoUs with Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and two NSDC Training Providers for implementation of National Skill Qualification Framework at school level from class 9 (Level-1) to class 12 (Level-4). On similar lines Letter of Intent was submitted to Govt. of Haryana and Punjab and ASCI has been allocated 48 schools in Haryana & 123 Schools in Punjab for introduction of Agriculture related courses from class 9 to 12 .

❖ **MoU with State Institute of Capacity Building (SICB), Govt. of Sikkim**

ASCI has signed MoU with State Institute of Capacity Building, Govt. of Sikkim to introduce Qualification Pack (QP)- National Occupational Standard (NOS) based curriculum followed by assessment and certification in their one year specialized training programmes across various segments of agriculture & allied activities.

❖ **MoU with Amity University**

Agriculture Skill Council of India & Amity University, Gurgaon signed a MoU with an objective to create industry ready professionals in the field of Agriculture & dairy farming.

Apart from the above stated MOUs, ASCI has entered into collaborations with over 175 industry partners paving way for greater cooperation. The segments covered include Agri-input industry, Farm Mechanisation, Dairy, Poultry, Fishery; and Institutions such as Chambers of Commerce, Training and Research Institutes, Animal Feed and Veterinary Industries.

INITIATIVES

Department of Higher Education Maharashtra: Multi Skill Foundation Course

ASCI has started in new programme named Multi Skill Foundation course for students of Government schools in Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh, as per National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF), enrolling 810 and 190 students respectively

Savitribai Phule Pune University:

Pune University has established a Skill Development Centre in the year 2014 which has also got affiliated with ASCI to launch QP-NOS based specialised optional courses in Agriculture & allied subjects.

Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs), Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), GoI.

ASCI has launched a pilot programme to train rural BPL youth in the Job Role of 'Dairy Farmer/Entrepreneur' in collaboration with RSETIs under MoRD.

For the pilot 4 Institutes in Haryana at Narnaul, Rohtak, Jhajhar and Sonipat, managed by Punjab National Bank, have launched the programme.

Affiliation of Training Providers

- ❖ ASCI commenced the affiliation of training Providers for Regular programmes in October 2014 and also released an updated version of the Affiliation protocol document. So 54 Training Providers have been affiliated.
- ❖ ASCI has got its all 53 QPs approved for inclusion in the NSQF and the National Qualifications Register in the 7th NSQF Meeting convened on June 18, 2015.
- ❖ ASCI has developed 11 new Qualifications Packs and is in process of developing 12 draft QPs in-house (9 in the Post-harvest & Supply Chain Segment and 3 in precision farming) with the support of Industry partners viz Global Cold Chain Alliance & Jain Irrigation.

QPs Developed by ASCI

1. Animal Health Worker
2. Quality Seed Grower
3. Bare Foot Technician
4. Warehouse Worker
5. Coconut Grower
6. Community Service Provider
7. Friends of Coconut Tree
8. Neera Technician
9. Solar Pump Technician
10. Veterinary Clinical Assistant
11. Veterinary Field Assistant
12. Soyabean Cultivator
13. Agriculture Field Officer
14. Cotton Cultivator
15. Maize Cultivator
16. Coriander Cultivator
17. Sugarcane Cultivator
18. Hatchery Incharge Poultry
19. Shrimp Farmer
20. Mango Grower
21. Solanaceous Crop Cultivator
22. Poultry Farm Supervisor Broiler
23. Poultry Farm Worker Broiler
24. Marine Capture Fisherman
25. Hatchery (Fishery) Production Worker
26. Floriculturist (Protected Cultivation)
27. Agriculture Extension Service provider
28. Climate Change & Risk Mitigation Manager
29. Artificial Insemination Technician
30. Floriculturist (Open Cultivation)
31. Harvesting Machine Operator
32. Agriculture Extension Executive
33. Seed Processing Worker
34. Sericulturist
35. Supply Chain Field Assistant
36. Paddy Farmer
37. Banana Farmer
38. Gardener
39. Coffee Plantation Worker
40. Tea Plantation Worker
41. Micro Irrigation Technician
42. Green House Fitter
43. Tractor Operator
44. Dairy Farmer/ Entrepreneur
45. Dairy Worker
46. Bamboo Grower
47. Chillies Cultivator
48. Wheat Cultivator
49. Pulses Cultivator
50. Beekeeper
51. Citrus Fruit Grower
52. Bulb Crop Cultivator
53. Tuber Crop Cultivator

Assessment & Certifications

Sl. No	Programme/ Institution	Enrolled	Assessed	Qualified	Certified
1	STAR Scheme	100052	99775	67579	64495
2	Higher Education, HP	844	165	158	158
3	UPSDM	213	164	143	143
4	RSETIs	214			
5	RPL	480	480	453	453
6.	PMKVY	4620			
	Total	101803	100584	68333	65249

Industry Outreach Programme

Jagriti: ASCI in collaboration with Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP), Govt. of Kerala has conducted a Workshop 'Jagriti' on 21st January, 2015 at Trivandrum, Kerala. It has given visibility to ASCI Initiatives in Kerala. Jagriti was envisaged to address the pressing need of skill training in the Agricultural arena, to develop innovative course components that inspire critical thinking in students, equip them with relevant skills sets as per industry demands and to build a Business Advisory Committee.

Skill India Conference & World Skill India: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and the NSDC in partnership with 8 high employment based Sector Skill Councils had organised Sectoral Conferences on 26th and 27th February 2015 with an objective to get a deep sectoral perspective into the skill requirements. It was an enriching discussion with participation from ASCI, Industries, MSMEs, Assessment agencies, Training Providers and Knowledge Partners.

Participation in upcoming SSCs of People with Disabilities (PwD) and Green Skills: The MSDE with support from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has initiated the process of setting up of SSC for People with Disabilities (PwD) and Green skills respectively. These SSCs will cut across sectors and will have representation from various industries. ASCI is the part of core group for deliberations and discussions of various aspects of these SSC and will also be part of their governing structure.

Workshop on Veterinary Para Professionals and related Capacity Building Measures: ASCI organised a workshop with support from Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (Ministry of Agriculture) and GALVmed on 16th March 2015 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on skill development of veterinary para professionals who provide Minor Veterinary Services (MVS) and assist veterinarians. ASCI has also developed Qualification Packs for these professionals.

Advantage Jharkhand: ASCI participated in the two day program (conference and exhibition) "Advantage Jharkhand"- Food processing investor's summit organized by Department of Industries, Government of Jharkhand. Large number of farmers, industrialists and entrepreneurs actively participated



This scheme is a monetary reward scheme with similar features of the erstwhile STAR Scheme. The objective of the Scheme is to encourage skill development for youth by providing monetary rewards for successful completion of approved training programs. Specifically, the Scheme aims to:

- Encourage standardization in the certification process and initiate a process of creating a registry of skills.
- Enable and mobilize a large number of Indian youth to take up skill training and become employable and earn their livelihood. Increase productivity of the existing workforce and align the training and certification to the needs of the country.
- Provide Monetary Rewards for Skill Certification to boost employability and productivity of youth by incentivizing them for skill training.
- Reward: Rs. 8,000/- per candidate.
- Benefit 24 lakh youth at an approximate cost of Rs. 1,500 Crores.

Agriculture Skill Council of India is participating in the PMKVY scheme. In the pilot phase ASCI had been allotted to train 4620 candidates; which is successfully enrolled and for some of them training have been commenced.