



“We need to bring momentum to Skill India campaign and I would encourage more and more youth to come forward and participate in these opportunities being extended to them”

**Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**  
Hon'ble Minister,  
Ministry of Skill Development &  
Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



“Skill India is one of the most inspiring missions. It remains a very active, well-funded, and solidly supported program of the Govt of India. Skilling should be a collaborative effort between Government & industry that requires skilled talent.

**Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar**  
Hon'ble Minister of State,  
Ministry of Skill Development &  
Entrepreneurship (MSDE)

## Agri Skills NEWSLETTER June, 2022



*“Sowing skills...  
...Harvesting opportunities”*



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### Message From CEO

India has the greatest youth population in the world with more than 808 million people (or around 66 percent of the overall population) under the age of 35. Over the next 10 years, the Indian labour force is expected to increase by more than 8 million people annually, primarily as a result of young people entering the labour force. As more than 60% of the Indian population resides in rural households that depend directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods, it is apparent that agriculture along with its allied sectors provides the largest source of livelihood in India & has the potential to boost Indian economy which is majorly agrarian.

The recent technological advancements in agriculture have created a lot of employment opportunities which requires a large number of skilled manpower to leverage the technological benefits & boost agriculture so as to increase the value and saleability of the agricultural produce in the wide expanse of markets. The skill enhancement initiatives in agriculture will not only fulfil the demand of the equipped manpower but will also make the sector profitable, attractive & enterprising for the youth. To achieve the same, ASCI has been constantly reaching out to bring together the Industry, Employers, Academia & Training entities to build a strong & robust agricultural skill development ecosystem that engages the major youth population of the country. The impact of this would certainly pay off in the long-term significantly in relation to the employment and earnings outcomes while building the talent pipeline for the future industry needs adding fresh impetus to the agricultural sector.

**Dr. Satender Arya**

## State Engagement

- ▲ Detailed discussion for driving skilling in the Agri and Allied sector with the support of Odisha Skill Development Authority was organized under the Chairmanship of Sri Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Govt of Odisha where need-based demand-oriented skill development programme will be done. To involve more numbers of Training Partners in Agri and allied sectors, OSDA has relaxed the placement criteria for Agri and allied sectors and henceforth self-employment/Entrepreneurship will be considered as placement outcome through their official order.



Meeting with Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha



Meeting with Agriculture Promotion and Investment Corporation Odisha Limited (APICOL)

- ▲ The Agriculture Promotion and Investment Corporation Odisha Limited (APICOL) has rolled out Agriculture Entrepreneurship Promotion Scheme by aligning its training programmes with ASCI in segments related to agri-crop production, horticulture and Animal Husbandry to bring standardization & uniformity in training and assessment.

- ▲ 6 Veterinary Training Centers (VTC) of the Department of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry, Government of Meghalaya, have been affiliated with ASCI on a fee-based model. During the meeting with all VTCs in Charges/Director/Joint Directors of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department of Meghalaya, the decision has been taken to affiliate the entire 10 VTCs in Meghalaya.

- ▲ ASCI participated in India International Aquaculture Expo (IIAE) Exhibition 2022 which held on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. During the exhibition, ASCI highlighted the importance of the blue revolution in the sector, the benefits of skilling youth for the industries and the importance of using NSQF-aligned Qualification Packs in the fishery sector. It also underlined the skill progression in the Fishery and Aquaculture sub-sector as youth acquire specific skill sets during their career.



ASCI during India International Aquaculture Expo (IIAE) Exhibition 2022 in Chennai, TN

## ASCI Participated in the Meeting Among the Sector Skill Councils, Industry & Academia

The Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC), the Government of Andhra Pradesh has planned an ambitious program to establish Skill Hubs in 175 Assembly Constituencies, one Skill College each in every Parliament Constituency and a global-level state of the art Skill University at State level. The objective was to bring together the Industry-Academia-SSCs to have a synergy in the creation of a strong skill ecosystem customized to the emerging industry requirements and market demands. ASCI along with the other SSCs discussed the Training Methodology & Training of Trainers (ToT) in the skill development ecosystem & the key role that SSCs play in providing the Training of Trainers (ToT) services.



Industry-Sector Skill Council & Academia Meet – Creation of Skill Ecosystem

## Skilling Under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)



Skill development under MIDH Programme

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of MIDH which integrates the ongoing schemes of National Horticulture Mission, Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States, National Bamboo Mission, National Horticulture Board, Coconut Development Board and Central Institute for Horticulture, Nagaland also joined the skill ecosystem. In this Quarter, 239 candidates have been trained and certified across the country under Amenity and Production Horticulture. These Horticultural Job roles provided better Entrepreneurship skills while increasing the scope of Wage based employment for the farmers and great enthusiasm was seen among them during the programme.

## Training for Horse Trainers Under RSLDC- Rajasthan Project

Equine Management is one of the important aspects of the Disease and Health management of Equines. ASCI and Rajasthan Skill And Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC) have collaborated for the assessment and certification of Horse Trainers in various districts of Rajasthan and around 400 candidates have been assessed and certified so far. ASCI also planned to place the certified candidates abroad as successful horse trainers.



Training for Horse Trainers under RSLDC

## UGC & School Program

### University Grants Commission

Under University Grants Commission, many colleges are running Agriculture & Allied courses, out of which, ASCI assessed over 600 candidates of 15 UGC-approved colleges.

The courses covered are from various segments such as Livestock Production and Management, Farm mechanization, Sustainable Agriculture, Green House Management, Fisheries & Aquaculture, Soil Sciences, Organic Farming, Sericulture, Tea Plantation, etc.



School Program in Himachal Pradesh



UGC Program in Maharashtra

### Samagra Shiksha

Under Samagra Shiksha, various states are running Agriculture courses from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> class. Since April 2022, more than 20,000 candidates have been assessed in States i.e. Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, Kerala, Punjab, Nagaland,, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir. The courses covered were Solanaceous Crop Cultivator, Floriculturist Open Cultivation, Agriculture Machinery Operator, Micro Irrigation Technician, Organic Grower, Gardener, etc.

## WorldSkills

IndiaSkills 2021 National Competition was held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Participants from 26 states/ union territories displayed their talent in 54 skills such as Cyber Security, Floristry, Robot System Integration, Cloud Computing, Water Technology, Painting and Decorating, Health and Social Care, among others.

Agriculture SSC's two Skills Floristry and Landscape Gardening were part of National Competition wherein States like Odisha, Andaman & Nicobar, Punjab, Chandigarh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, New Delhi, Mizoram, Bihar and Maharashtra have participated. In Floristry, 9 candidates had participated and 12 candidates in Landscape Gardening.



WorldSkills India - International Training

Post IndiaSkills National competition, ASCI started International level Floristry training for 3 Finalists (Gold, Silver & Bronze) from March 2022.

## Assessment Design & Development Capacity

ASCI has completed the following developments to facilitate the standardised assessments.

S. No.	Development	No. of Job Roles	Details
1.	Assessment Blueprints	3	Tea plantation worker, Beekeeper and Sericulturist
2.	Assessor Guide (Hindi)	1	Gardener
3.	Question Banks	6	Aquarium Technician, Bulk Milk Cooler, Nurse worker, Irrigation Service technician, Pack House Worker, Layer Farmworker

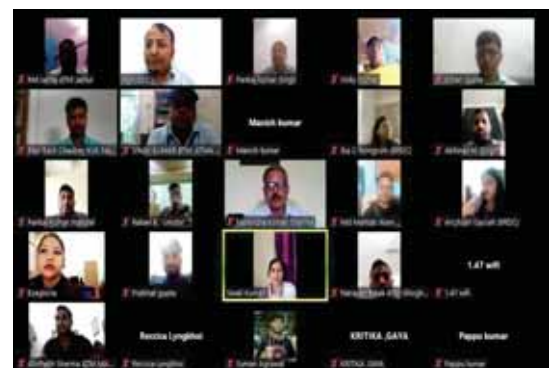
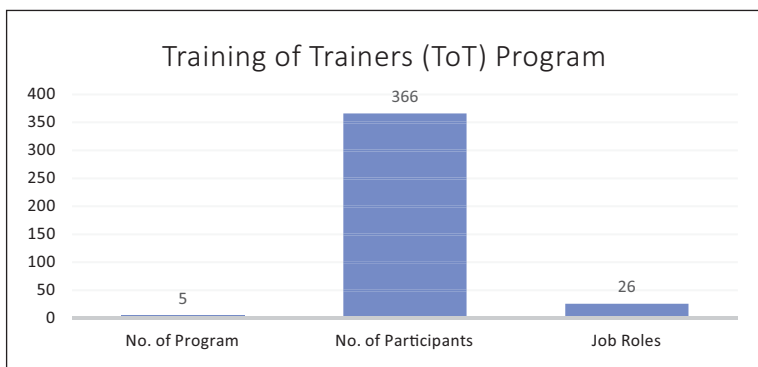
## Training of Assessors

ASCI conducted 9 different online ToA programmes for Existing Assessors (online mode) across various Agriculture sub segments from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Over 120 Assessors certified across various job roles and the validity for the certification would be next 2 years from the date of certification.

## Training of Trainer & Master Trainer

ASCI has organized 5 online TOT programmes covering 26 Job Roles involving 366 trainers from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Details are mentioned below:

- ▲ Online-TOT (11<sup>th</sup> May 2022): ToT (Domain & Platform skill) in online mode for 29 existing trainers for 20 Job Roles
- ▲ Online-TOT (24<sup>th</sup> May 2022): ToT (Domain & Platform skill) in online mode for 32 New Trainer for 6 Job Roles
- ▲ Online-TOT (25<sup>th</sup> May 2022): ToT (Domain & Platform skill) in online mode for 29 New Trainer for Mushroom Grower (Entrepreneur) Job Roles
- ▲ Online-TOT (2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022): ToT (Domain & Platform skill) in online mode for 10 existing trainers for 5 Job Roles
- ▲ Online-TOT (14<sup>th</sup> June 2022): ToT (Domain & Platform skill) in online mode for 266 new Trainer for Gardener Job Role



Online ToT – 24/05/2022 to 06/06/2022

## Content Development

- ▲ E-books for 25 Job roles in Hindi and 20 in English embedded with e-learning enhancements and QR codes enabled for 'Virtual Skill Hub' under the e-Skill India Portal.
- ▲ Orientation videos developed for 5 Job roles for Skill India Digital (SIP 2.0). These 5 job roles mainly include Micro-irrigation Technician, Solar Pump Technician, Tractor Operator, Soil & Water Testing Lab Technician & Soil and Water Testing Lab Analyst.

## Standards & Quality Assurance (QP/NOS)

During April-June 2022, 4 Qualifications got approved in NSQC as mentioned

S.No.	NSQC No.	Stake Holder Consultation Date	NSQC Date	No. of Presented	No. of Approved	Name of Qualification
1.	18	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	28 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	3	3	1. Paddy Farmer 2. Tea Factory Assistant 3. Tea Maker (Production)
2.	19	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022	26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	1	1	Urban Forest Developer

## Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

ASCI in collaboration with Foundation for Ecological Security and Arghyam organized three (3) Days Stakeholder consultation workshop for the revision and rationalization of the seven Qualifications related to watershed Management from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), Anand, Gujarat.



## Apprenticeships & International Placements



The Government of India, launched National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) in August 2016, to promote the apprenticeship program in India by introducing a package of financial incentives to establishments engaging apprentices. ASCI has received approval for the Model Curriculum of 5 job roles under the NAPS Scheme. These 5 approved Model Curricula which are also available on NAPS Portal include Packhouse Worker, Seed Processing Worker, Agri Commodity Fumigation Operator, Tea Maker (Production) & Tea Factory Assistant.

ASCI has the objective of providing a skilled & certified workforce across the globe & has the vision to transform India as a preferred partner country to meet this objective. In the international placements, ASCI has placed one certified candidate in USA in the Agri Crop Production job role.

## Industry Engagements & Collaborations

### CEO ASCI presented on the Potential of Skilling in the Fisheries Sector at the India International Aquaculture Expo (IIAE), 2022

CEO ASCI talked about “Skilling and Apprenticeship in Fishery Sector: Untapped Potential” at the conference during the India International Aquaculture Expo (IIAE) held in Chennai on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022. During the course, he highlighted the youth engagement in apprenticeships within the aquaculture/fishery sector & the demand for skilled human resources abroad with specific skill set requirements. Many organizations from the aquaculture industry and various stakeholders from the sector have shown their presence as a part of this international-level conference.



CEO ASCI at the India International Aquaculture Expo (IIAE), 2022

### MoU signed between ASCI & National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)



Signing of MoU between ASCI & NFDB

Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) & National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) signed an MoU on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022. Basis the MoU, the fisheries-related Skill development, Training and Capacity Building programs will be taken up on PAN India basis on need and priority in potential areas for a period of 03 years from the date of signing the MoU. The MoU has been signed in the presence of CEO ASCI and Chief Executive, NFDB along with other officials.

### Recognition of ASCI as an Awarding Body by the National Council of Vocational Education & Training (NCVET)

ASCI has been recognized as an “Awarding Body” by the National Council of Vocational Education & Training (NCVET) following the agreement signed on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in the presence of the Chairman, NCVET. As an Awarding Body, ASCI would continue its endeavour more strongly to build up robust skill competence in various spheres of agriculture.



ASCI received the Recognition of Awarding Body

## CEDSI: Next Dairy Revolution

The Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India is an autonomous institution established under the aegis of the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) and the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) with the objective of overall Skill Development and Capacity Building in Dairy and allied sector. CEDSI aims to ensure sustainability and profitability in the dairy sector through Skilling and Capacity Building, Policy Advocacy, Knowledge Management, and Research.

CEDSI since its inception in March 2020 is working with all the stakeholders in the dairy & Allied Sectors (Dairy Corporates, NGO's, State Govt. & Academia, and Farmers). CEDSI has its presence in Pan India and had organized programs in Srinagar, Bihar, Assam, Telangana, Karnataka, Himachal etc.

## CEDSI: Reviving Skills & Generating Livelihood

### 1. Industry Capacity Building Program

CEDSI is working with leading global dairy companies for Skill & Capacity Building, we have upskilled / Re-skilled more than 1000 Dairy Industry Professionals from organizations like Lactalis, Heritage, Ananda, and SIFTI.

### 2. Upskilling Program for Students of Sher -E-Kashmir University, Govt. of Kashmir, ICAR

CEDSI organized Industry Aligned Upskilling Program (8 Weeks) to upgrade the skills of students associated with Sher – E- Kashmir Agriculture University.

### 3. Dairy Farmers Training

CEDSI has organized Farmers, FPO, and Institutional Development Skill Building Training Programs so far we have organized Farmers Training Program for

- ▲ **FWWB FPO Training Program** - CEDSI organized a three-day Training Program along with the practical sessions for the board of Directors and members of the Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) in Samastipur Bihar.
- ▲ **Ambuja Cement Foundation** - CEDSI has organized Capacity building programs for ACF in Himachal Pradesh, the program was organized to sensitize the dairy co-operative members.

### 4. Govt. Capacity Development Programs

Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India (CEDSI) organized a short-term Upskilling & Certification program for the officials of the department of Dairy Development, Govt of Assam. The upskilling program was specially designed to focus on the Technological Advancements in the dairy & allied sectors in recent times.

### Glimpses of the CEDSI Training Activities



Corporate Training Program for the Prabhat Dairy



FPO Skill Development Program organised in Madhepura, Bihar

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