



“ Skills are the foundation of modern life. They are the driving force behind successful careers and companies, thriving industries, and economies. Skills keep the world working. Through efforts of Skill India, we are certain to achieve a better socio-economic condition for today’s youth by making them more productive and addressing unemployment and underemployment in a way”

Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey
Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Skill
Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



“ We have seen great potential, great energy & enthusiasm in the youth of the country & how they are adapting to new age skills, transforming their lives & contributing to the new India. If the program has been able to transform lives, it is because of the passion & grit with which the youth is participating in it. We are working closely with the States, Department and Industry to ensure a robust skill ecosystem which would empower the youth and create opportunities of employment for them”

Shri. R K Singh
Hon’ble Minister of State, Ministry of Skill
Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



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

Message From CEO

According to the report The World of Organic Agriculture (2018), India ranked ninth in terms of the size of agricultural land under organic cultivation & has the highest number of organic producers in 2016. Although the country accounts for just 2.59% of the total area of 57.8 million hectares devoted to organic farming globally, India is home to nearly 31 percent of the total organic farmers in the world. But at the same time, most organic farmers are struggling due to the lack of cost-effective & efficient value chains, rising input costs & lack of awareness on scientific cultivation. Organic farming is certainly an effective mode of achieving sustainability, provided farming community, industry, government & all other stakeholders actively participate in sharing the responsibilities & risks to reap the equal benefits & recognition. ASCI facilitates short term training under the flagship schemes of Government of India- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana & Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana for capacity building of the farmers & encourage them to take up Organic Agriculture in a big way. Looking at the opportunity of organic products, India has a huge potential in export & domestic markets. The transition to organic farming may take a longer period & appear challenging, but in the long run, it is going to prove remunerative for the farmers & consumers alike. The northeast State Sikkim & many tribal areas of the country in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, & Odisha have made significant strides towards organic cultivation. However, there is a need for investment in infrastructure & supply chain, ensuring standard regulations, skill development, research & extension.

Dr. Satender Arya

Imperative for skill development in the Organic Sector



Mr. Pawan Kumar
Chief General Manager
Patanjali

The onset of new millennium saw a new India emerging with new opportunities and new challenges. As it is an agriculture driven economy for more than 70% of the population; meeting food demand in a sustainable way is a major challenge. In early 90s sustainable agriculture movement was initiated after the worldwide jeopardy of green revolution. The liberalization of Indian economy in the early 90s meant open market, foreign investment and increased consumerism. Food demand for the exponentially growing population is geometrically increasing whereas, the food production is arithmetically increasing. Due to fragmented land holdings in most parts, it is of utmost importance to empower marginal farmers who form the backbone of the country. Major emerging challenges of Indian agriculture are crop residue management causing air pollution especially in North India, climate change is aggravating droughts, floods, desertification and irregular rain patterns, improper natural resource management, neglected rainfed area, depleting water tables, deteriorating soil ecosystem, deforestation and loss of biodiversity.

There is an upward trend for search of other relatively high paying jobs in turn, creating shortage of agricultural labor leading to increased cost of production. Hence, there is an immediate need to change our approach towards agriculture and its stakeholders.

In order to capacitate the farmers a holistic approach was undertaken by Patanjali Farmer Samridhi Programme (PFSP) which is being implemented by Patanjali Bio Research Institute (PBRI); supported by Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation) under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in association with ASCI (Agriculture Skill Council of India) to endow skill training for "Organic Grower" and "Group Farming Practitioner".

It was envisaged under the project that awareness of Organic farming would contribute to doubling of farmers' income through an integrated approach under which Farm Labs were established in the farms of selected Trainer Farmers across various agro-climatic zones of the country. State-wise soil profiles were created in order to understand crop-rotations, soil fertility, issues upon adopting organic farming, production costs & profit and finally recommendations for the same. Organic farming practices v/s farmers' practices were experimented; leading to better knowledge dissemination through advertising and skill development to nearby farmers. The major objectives of the programme were to facilitate capacity building by rendering information on potential crops and principles of organic farming, training on better organic package of practices, educating on natural resources management, awareness on cropping systems and mobilizing farmer groups by the trainer farmer.

During implementation of the project significant achievements have been made and valuable lessons learnt. PFSP was able to reach out and train over 42,000 farmers under the job role of organic grower in 18 states of the country covering 178 districts and 348 talukas. Collaboration and linkages were created with various KVKs, SAUs and other institutions for training of the farmers as trainers and for providing technical assistance as per the requirements. The target beneficiaries are farmers interested in Organic Farming from rural areas. Most of the farmers are small and marginal but most of the farmers do have mobile phones which can be used for effective dissemination of agricultural knowledge.

Tangible benefits for Trainer Farmer/candidates: The unique approach of engaging trainer farmers to train the farmers had long term benefits for each category. The trainer farmers underwent a 10 day residential training and certification program. Farm lab units were provided with other essential equipment. Dharti ka Doctor Board and soil testing kit along with trainer handbook and Jaivik Krishi book were also provided. In the end Job role kit and certificates were handed over as a proof of accomplishment. The farmers were provided with candidate handout and Jaivik Krishi book along with Job role kit and certificate.

Approaches experimented and trends observed: Farmer to Farmer approach has led to establish and strengthen linkages for knowledge sharing, problem solving and mutual appreciation. Trainer certificate provided by ASCI has increased self-esteem and recognition of Trainer

/Farmers. Farmers are considering self-fulfilling enterprises for e.g. Seed exchange, mutual exchange of products and in a case Factory to Farmer (farmer buying PBRI products) and buy back through seed production (52 tonnes of paddy seed procured) was done.

Suggestions for improvement: Currently, the course curriculum involves theory and practicals however, linkages with stakeholders is more important and needs more attention. Linkages with departmental functionaries of Agriculture, Horticulture,

Animal Husbandry, Rural development and Panchayat Raj, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), State Agriculture Universities Agriculture Universities (SAU), Agriculture Research Stations (ARS), reputed NGOs, bankers, financial institutions, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), NABARD, representatives of mandis, haats, niche organic markets and urban consumers is necessary. Organizing an event with the above mentioned representatives along with PRI representatives would lead to better understanding and enhance the curriculum for the job role of Organic Grower.

Industry Outreach



Magnificent Madhya Pradesh 2019, Indore

- ▲ ASCI participated in Kisan Exhibition held in Pune from 11th to 15th Dec '19 and Livelihoods India Summit from 12th to 13th Dec '19. Companies, farmers and students have been apprised about updates in agriculture skilling and relevant opportunities.



National Livestock & Poultry Show, Guwahati

- ▲ Participated in 5 days Agriculture Event Krishithon at Nashik from 21st to 25th Nov '19.
- ▲ Participation at 11th Agrovision, Central India's biggest Agri Summit and Exhibition, at Nagpur from 22nd to 25th Nov '19.

- ▲ Participated in Skill Exhibition at Magnificent Madhya Pradesh 2019 at Indore from 17th to 19th Oct '19 and interacted with organizations and local people and apprised about initiatives taken at different locations and updated about opportunities to participate in skilling initiatives.



Kisan 2019, Pune

- ▲ Participated in National Livestock and Poultry Show, Guwahati organized by Assam Livestock & Poultry Corporation & Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Govt. of Assam. Mr. Atul Bora, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Assam visited ASCI's stall. Many people from North East states were present and apprised about development in Agriculture skilling and training.



Krishithon, Nashik

State Engagement

- Participated in Regional Workshop on “Youth as Torchbearers of Business Oriented Agriculture in South India” and presented the role of ASCI in Agri-preneurship and skilling youth in Agriculture. The workshop held at Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University, Hyderabad.



Regional Workshop, Hyderabad



Workshop at Nagaland

- Presented its plan of action in the North-east region in the “National Conference on Policy Reforms to Access Skills for Agrarian Prosperity” organised by ICCo and Shobhit University at New Delhi. The focus was on Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities in North Eastern Region States, with special reference to Assam: Fishery, Piggery and Spices Sub Sector.



National Conference, New Delhi



District Level Skill Meeting, Pune

- Discussion was held with Hon'ble VC, Dr. Rameshwar Singh of Bihar Animal Sciences University (BASU), Patna to prepare a pool of Master Trainers from Veterinary, Dairy and Fishery colleges who can contribute in the skill ecosystem and also making BASU as model ToT centre in future.



Meeting at BASU, Patna

- Discussion held with JOHAR team pertaining to Jharkhand Innovation Forum jointly organized by JSLPS and World Bank for awarding certificates to skilled candidates. Jharkhand innovation Forum is first of its kind initiative by Govt. of Jharkhand through JSLPS to make awareness of Skilling ecosystem, building innovation forum to have new innovative project and appreciate the micro-enterprise within the state.

- ▲ Discussions held with Ms. Rashmita Panda IAS, CEO, Odisha Skill Development Authority for updated status under CSSM-PMKVY scheme. The Training Partners have been advised to submit the proposal at the earliest.
- ▲ Discussion held with Dr. Purnendu Biswas, Vice Chancellor, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Science to prepare a pool of Master Trainers from Veterinary, Dairy and Fishery colleges who can contribute in the skill ecosystem and also making WBUAFS as model ToT centre in future.
- ▲ ASCI has participated at Sonepur Cattle Fair, Bihar which is one of the largest fairs of Animal Husbandry and Livestock and apprised people on skilling need in Animal Husbandry Sector.
- ▲ ASCI participated in 32nd Industrial India Trade Fair (IITF) at Kolkata organized by Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry in association with Times of India.



Cattle Fair, Sonepur



IITF Workshop, Kolkata

Engagement with Ministry of Agriculture

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare focusing on Skilling of farmers and rural youth in Horticulture segment at a large scale. Currently the focus is on providing advanced skill on Gardening and Floriculture among rural youth.

It is targeted to train 19,900 trainees till March 2020 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Scheme.



Training under RKVY, Bhubaneswar

QP & Model Curriculum Development

- ▲ ASCI is in discussion with the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi for development of Qualification Packs in Zoo Management segment. A meeting has been conducted wherein ASCI had presented the draft QPs to the Technical Committee of the Central Zoo Authority and had sought their feedback.
- ▲ ASCI has undertaken the revision of 65 Qualification Packs in Horticulture, Farm Mechanization, Seed, Soil Health Management, Poultry, Fisheries, etc. segment.

3 new QPs in Fisheries segment were approved by the QRC on 16th Dec'19:

1. Seaweed Cultivator
2. Cage Culture Fish Farmer
3. Coldwater Aquaculture Farmer

ASCI has developed 4 new Model Curricula:

1. Agriculture Field officer
2. Seaweed Cultivator
3. Cage Culture Fish Farmer
4. Coldwater Aquaculture Farmer

RPL Program

- ▲ Patanjali Farmer Samridhi Program providing skill training for Organic Grower and Group Farming Practitioner. Awareness of Organic farming would contribute to doubling of farmers income through an integrated approach under which Farm Labs are being established which main crop along with boundary crops would lead to increase in crop intensity for sustainable agricultural practices across various agro-climatic zones of the country.



Organic Farmer training, Odisha

- ▲ Spices Board conducting PMKVY RPL for Organic Grower, Vermicompost Producer, Tissue Culture Technician, Medicinal Plants Grower, etc. job roles at various locations such as Kerala and Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Karnataka, etc.



Vermicompost Producer training, Kerala



Group Farming Practitioner training, Maharashtra

- ▲ Maharashtra State Skill Development Society is conducting RPL training in Group Farming Practitioner job role at various locations of Maharashtra viz. Vitthalwadi, Pimpalwandi, Jalna, Pune etc. More than 3 lac people have been trained till date.

Rozgar Mela / Job Fair



Rozgar Mela, Dhanbad

ASCI participated in Rozgar Melas organized by NSDC at Bikaner, Agartala and Dhanbad. Various agriculture companies like Netafim, Moringa Bio tech, Aditya Birla capital, Tata AIG, Tripura Agro, Swiggy, CR Agro Industries Ltd, TAFE Ltd., Nava Bharat Fertilizers Ltd., etc. participated for recruitments wherein more than 300 candidates got shortlisted.

Apprenticeship

Considering latest amendments in National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme by MSDE, ASCI has enrolled 24 more candidates in Tractor Mechanic job role taking the total 45 including Gardener job role.



Training of Trainer & Master Trainer

Total 1,143 Trainers participated in 34 ToT / ToMT Program during Oct - Dec'19

- ▲ Patanjali Yogpeeth Phase-II, Haridwar, Uttarakhand on 28th Sep'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research Center, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 1st Oct'19
- ▲ Yoga Centre, Mathura Lawn, Buldhana, Maharashtra on 3rd Oct'19
- ▲ Horticulture Research Centre Baruasagar, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh on 9th Oct'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research center, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 10th Oct'19
- ▲ Patanjali Yogpeeth, Howrah, West Bengal on 10th Oct'19
- ▲ Vijay Hotel & Lodge, Cuttack, Odisha on 11th Oct'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research Center, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 13th Oct'19
- ▲ Krishi Vigyan Kendra NDRI, Karnal, Haryana on 14th Oct'19
- ▲ KVK Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh on 20th Oct'19
- ▲ Extension Training Centre, DRDA, Bhawanipatna, Odisha on 21st Oct'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research center, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 30th Oct'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research Centre, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 3rd Nov'19
- ▲ Horticulture Research Centre Baruasagar, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh on 16th Nov'19
- ▲ University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, Karnataka on 20th Nov'19
- ▲ Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh on 26th Nov'19
- ▲ ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Hyderabad, Telangana on 27th Nov'19
- ▲ ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana, Punjab on 27th Nov'19
- ▲ Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam on 28th Nov'19
- ▲ Bihar Animal Science University, Patna, Bihar on 28th Nov'19
- ▲ Patanjali Yogpeeth Phase-II Haridwar, Uttarakhand on 29th Nov'19
- ▲ Adhyapak Bhavan, Nagpur, Maharashtra on 30th Nov'19
- ▲ ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Ludhiana, Punjab on 2nd Dec'19
- ▲ Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalna I, Maharashtra on 5th Dec'19
- ▲ West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata, West Bengal on 9th Dec'19
- ▲ ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh on 10th Dec'19
- ▲ ATARI Barapani, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya on 11th Dec'19
- ▲ Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Udaipur, Rajasthan on 17th Dec'19
- ▲ Global Agriculture Innovation & Research center, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 13th Dec'19
- ▲ IL&FS Skills Development Corporation Ltd, Hatigaon, Guwahati, Assam on 27th Dec'19
- ▲ Kaushal Kendra, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 28th Dec'19
- ▲ VOC Skills, Mahendragarh, Haryana on 28th Dec'19
- ▲ Spice Board, Kochi, Kerala on 30th Dec'19
- ▲ Spice Board, Myladumpara, Kerala on 31st Dec'19



ToT at Hyderabad



ToT at Ludhiana

Training of Assessor (ToA)

Two Training of Assessor programs were organized at Gurugram, Guwahati and Aurangabad for Maharashtra State Council of Vocational Training (MSCVT), Assess People, Aspiring Minds, Mettl, MSAGsi, Trendsetters and SPIWD wherein 93 assessors have registered their presence. These programs were a combination of orientation on domain and platform skills /soft skills pedagogy training followed by assessment. Post successful qualification of assessment, these assessors would be called as certified assessors.



ToA at Gurugram



ToA at Aurangabad

World Record Holders' Meet



World Record Holders' Meet

ASCI recognized by World Record Union for assessing Maximum number of farmers in a single day.

On 15th July'19, ASCI created India and Asia Book of Records by assessing maximum numbers of farmers on Skill Development program in a single day. The assessment organized at multiple venues in Maharashtra and nearly 3,000 farmers have been assessed on Group Farming Practitioner job role under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.

Governing Council Meeting

27th Meeting of the Board of Governing Council was held on 6th Dec'19. The board was apprised about the new initiatives and collaborations like Training of Trainer (ToT) / Training of Master Trainers (ToMT) program, Universities MoUs, Skilling under Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM), IndiaSkills and Rozgar Mela / Placements. The Governing Council had review the current status and way forward for the establishment of Centre of Excellence in Dairy, Horticulture and Farm Mechanisation.



27th GC Meeting at IIC, New Delhi

Agriculture Skill Council of India

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