

*Sowing Skills, Harvesting Opportunities...*

**German Agribusiness Alliance and Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) to set up Indo-German Centers of Excellence in Agriculture**

The German Agribusiness Alliance (GAA) and Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a meeting between the Agriculture Ministers from the two countries Mr Christian Schmidt from Germany and Mr Radha Mohan Singh from India, in order to cooperate with each other for the purpose of jointly developing the establishment of "Indo-German Centers of Excellence in Agriculture" aimed at creating a Platform for practical skill development in agriculture in India.

The inclusion, participation and funding from the German private sector shall be coordinated by the German Agribusiness Alliance.



**ASCI/ GAA MoU SIGNED**

The centres of excellence will cover four major areas viz crop production (including agricultural machinery/mechanization and postharvest handling) and marketing; horticulture crops management, production and value chain integration; cattle breeding / milk production, procurement and marketing and poultry/egg production. Mr Joerg Rehbein, spokesman for the German Agribusiness Alliance said,

"The prime objective of this collaboration would be to provide practical professional skill training as well as practical demonstrations of modern technologies and methods (capacity building) to various stakeholders of the agriculture development ecosystem." He further added, "With this initiative, we hope to raise awareness on emerging areas of agriculture technologies and their application, and to adopt best skill

development practices and concepts from India and Germany."

Mr Sanjeev Asthana, chairman, ASCI said, "The proposed Indo-German Centers of Excellence in Agriculture shall provide both short and long-term practical, professional skill training on modern technologies and methods, and organize demonstrations of technological advancements. The activities would target to reach farmers as well as farm workers and waged workers in agriculture related industries. In addition, the project shall be used to train trainers of certified private or state training providers and facilities. The Centers shall cover different areas of agriculture and shall be set up in cooperation with agriculture institutions".



## Meeting of the Governing Council Board



The 10th Governing Council of Agriculture Skill Council of India was conducted on 7th September 2015 at India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Board appreciated ASCI successful completion of pilot phase of-PMKVY. The board was appraised that ASCI

would be doing assessment certification and aligning various curriculums for Agriculture related program to be run across Kaushal Kendras, Community Colleges and B Voc Colleges. Board appreciated the development of 10 additional draft QPs for cold storage & piggery sector.

## Memorandum of Understanding

- ASCI has signed MoUs with Punjab Agriculture University (PAU) and Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU) on 10th Sep 2015 & 6th Nov 2015. These MoUs are for mutual co-operation between these two universities and ASCI
- ASCI signed an MOU with West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences (WBUAFS), Kolkata, for mutual cooperation for alignment of university short term skill development training program with ASCI QP-NOS model, assessment & certification.

Apart from the above stated MOUs, ASCI has entered into collaborations with over 201 industry partners paving way for greater co-operation. The segments covered include Agri-input

industry, Farm Mechanisation, Dairy, Poultry, Fishery; Animal Feed and Veterinary Industries and Institutions such as Chambers of Commerce, Training and Research Institutes,

## Train the Trainer (ToT) Programs

- ToT Program for Floriculturist Protected Cultivation Job Role at Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar from 4th to 7th of August 2015.
- ToT program in collaboration with GADVASU at Ludhiana on 'Dairy Farmer/Entrepreneur' job role from 25th Aug 28th Aug 2015.
- ToT Program for Dairy Farmer Job Role at BAIF, Uruli Kanchan, Pune from 4th to 6th of September 2015 by ASCI.
- ToT Program on Quality Seed Grower at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Sakoli, Nagpur from 8th to 11th Sep 2015.
- ToT Program for Tractor Operator Job Role at John Deere Centre, Murthal from 16th to 19th September 2015.
- ToT Program for Dairy Farmer/Entrepreneur Job Role Held at West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata – from 28th September to 1st of October 2015
- A four day ToT programme from 2nd Nov to 5th Nov 2015 on Micro Irrigation Job Role at Jain Agri Park, Jalgaon.



## German Federal Minister, Dr Gred Muller Distributes Certificates to ASCI Certified Animal Health Workers

Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) assessed & certified the Animal Health Workers first batch at the KGVK centre, Ranchi, Jharkhand. A certificate distribution ceremony to certify the candidates organised on 6th October 2015 at KGVK centre

Ranchi. Dr. Gerd Mueller German federal minister for economic Cooperation and development was the chief guest for the ceremony. The event was graced by President KGVK & Emeritus Chairman, Usha Martin, Shri .Basant Kumar Jhawar who shared the dais with Dr. Gerd Mueller. The other

respectable dignitaries who accompanied were Shri Randhir Kumar Singh (Minister in charge, Agriculture Department), Dr. Nitin Madan Kulkarni (Principal Secretary, Agriculture), Dr. Satender Singh Arya (Chief Executive Officer, ASCI), Shri Brij Kishore Jhawar (Vice President KGVK).

A total 20 students were enrolled in the first batch under the month long Course of Animal Health Worker. The successful candidates got certified by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) under Non PMKVY scheme.



## New Initiatives

- ASCI set up its first regional office outstation at Kheti Bhawan, Mohali, Punjab to coordinate and upscale its activities.
- ASCI has been allocated 95 Govt schools for Agriculture Skill Development programmes for students in the state of Punjab as per National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) for class 9 (Level-1) , 10 (Level-2) , 11 (Level-3) and 12 (Level-4) students under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).
- ASCI would be doing the assessment, certification and aligning various curriculums for Agriculture related program to be run across Kaushal Kendras, Community Colleges and B Voc Colleges.
- ASCI has done regular affiliation of 11 more Training Providers in the period 1st July- 7th September 2015 and thus the nos of TPs under regular affiliation has reached 61.
- ASCI has developed another 7 Qualification Pack and we now have total 60 QPs for different Job Roles.
- ASCI has started implementation of National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) at university level with colleges under community colleges scheme offering Certificate, Diploma and Advance Diploma programs and colleges offering B.voc Program of UGC. So far ASCI have done assessment of 956 students across 32 colleges.
- ASCI has introduced agriculture courses for students of class 9 to 12 as part of NSQF in Maharashtra in 150 schools .
- As part of NSQF, agriculture courses for students of class 9 to 12 has been introduced in Himachal Pradesh, Haryana & Punjab in 50, 48 & 90 schools respectively by ASCI.

## Assessment and Certification

Programme/ Institution	Enrolled	Assessed	Qualified	Certified
STAR Scheme	100052	99775	67579	65130
Higher Education, HP	844	810	810	810
Higher Education, Maha-rashtra	190	186	186	186
Higher Education, Kerala	28	28	25	25
UGC	1042	956	909	-
UPSDM	213	164	143	143
RSETIs (Pilot)	293	274	248	248
RPL (NSDA)	1404	1404	893	893
RPL(ASCI)	480	480	453	453
PMKVY	33911	17289	7385	5128
<i>Total</i>	<i>138457</i>	<i>121366</i>	<i>78631</i>	<i>73016</i>

## Industry Outreach Programme

**Briefings/Discussion on PMKVY:** Dr. Satender Singh Arya, CEO-ASCI participated in all the 4 briefings/discussions on PMKVY to the group of Hon'ble Members of Parliament on 27th July, 30th July, 3rd August and 5th August 2015 organised by MSDE. Several Hon'ble MPs showed keen interest in the training Programmes around Agricultural vocation.

**The CSR show NGO Expo:** Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) participated in "The CSR Show, NGO Expo" at Epicentre, Gurgaon on 29th and 30th September. Dr Satender Singh Arya participated as a speaker. He spoke about the NGO cases studies and Interventions – Learning and way forward. It was a good platform for ASCI to present itself among the selected India's strongest, sustainable and socially responsible brands, Corporations, PSE's, Foundations and NGO's. A number of CSR heads of companies, training partners, other NGO's people and people with an interest in agriculture visited ASCI's stall.

**ICE 2015, Exhibition/ Conference, Awards:** ASCI participated in "ICE India Expo 2015" at Chandigarh from 17th to 18th November 2015. Col Kamal Singh Sodhi, Director ASCI made a presentation. This was a good platform for showcasing ASCI's initiatives and discuss probable collaborations with Cold chain Industry.

## Development of Qualification Packs

ASCI has completed the process of developing 10 QPs in-house

- Pack house worker
- Ripening Chamber Operator
- Organic Farmer
- Piggery Farmers (Fattening)
- Pack house Supervisor/ Cold Storage supervisor
- Controlled Atmospheric (CA) store operator
- NTFP
- Cold storage keeper
- Pack house / Cold Storage Manager
- Piggery Farmers (Breeding)