

Agri Skills

Newsletter - June 2019

**Farm Mechanization
Special**



*"Sowing skills...
...harvesting opportunities"*

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Message From CEO

Farm Mechanization and Precision Farming plays a very important role in the context of increasing commercialization of agriculture. Agricultural machinery market in India is estimated to grow at CAGR of over 10% during the period 2013 to 2018. Use of proper equipment can increase the farm productivity by 30% & reduce input cost by 20%. India, with a mechanization level between 40-45 percent, lags in comparison to other BRIC countries such as Brazil and China.

There has been an increase in the use of farm machinery in Indian agriculture as it contributed to the increase in output due to timeliness of operations and increasing precision in input application, ASCI came up with nearly 17 new job roles under the category 'Farm Mechanization & Precision Farming' like Micro Irrigation Technician, Greenhouse Operator, Harvesting Machine Operator etc. With respect to the quality and precision of the operations, which are equally significant for realizing higher yields, ASCI evaluates that there is a strong need for mechanization in agricultural operations & is dedicatedly working towards the development of newer job roles to enhance the farmer's productivity to many folds.

Dr. Satender Arya



Skilling in Farm Mechanization



Mukul Varshney
Director, Corporate Affairs
John Deere India

Agriculture continues to engage a large population of India, and witnesses a continuous increase in the number of household dependency to 110 Million in 2011 as against 70 Million in 1951. More so, the landless agricultural labour increased in similar proportion to 144.30 million in 2011 as against 27.30 million in 1951. However, on the contrary, agriculture's contribution to the country's GDP remains around 15-16%.

With the changing food plate and consumption pattern that includes dairy, poultry, fruits and vegetables, raises the need for crop diversification and productivity in Agriculture. This compels the development/ upgradation of Indian agriculture. The Indian farmers at the same time, is surrounded by host of uncertainties, such as quality of seeds, chemicals and fertilizers, weather conditions, crop care, timely and adequate rains/ irrigation, post-harvest treatment, processing, market access and more importantly the availability/ usage of appropriate technology and the right equipment throughout.

Over the past decade there has been a strong growth and priority for mechanization. This has led to farm power growth from 1.47 kW/ha in 2005-06 to 2.02 kW/ha in 2013-14. While the farm power remains way below the global average, the farmers are shifting from traditional agriculture to more precision agriculture. The Government of India realizes the need and has taken several measures to promote a structured and scientific intervention in Agriculture. Besides many other initiatives, the Custom Hiring Centers are on the rise through Public and Private partnerships, especially adding value to small land owners, who find ownership of large farm machines expensive and unviable. Academia and Industry are continuously innovating and bringing needed technologies to increase productivity and profitability in agriculture with the aim to minimize drudgery. These high-tech machines and modernization drive in Agriculture needs skilled manpower for optimum resource utilization and efficient use for the desired outcome.

All of this, with the human capital engaged in this field paves the way for modern and profitable agriculture, provided the 'how' part is well addressed. We need to be cognizant of the fact that the farm operation windows are getting shorter due to climate change. Thus, a structured intervention for skill development shall boost this sector both in terms of adaptation of modern practices and utilization of technologically advanced equipment.

We also see a rising trend / interest of women reaching out to learn more precise and modern way of farming. These women aspire to drive tractors and participate in various stages of the crop cycle. Tractor Driving, Ag operations are some areas of interest for women to acquire skills on, which shall change the face of India agriculture. Imagining a day that women in India driving tractors, plowing field, managing crop care and harvesting shall be a powerful story.

The skilling program needs to be in the following areas to make it holistic and sustainable

- ▲ Agronomy practices
- ▲ Seed / Chemical and fertilizer usage
- ▲ Mechanization – Land Preparation, sowing, crop care and harvesting
- ▲ Water management
- ▲ Weather and its impact
- ▲ Minor processing/ storage / logistics (minimize wastage at the farm gate)
- ▲ Allied farm services
- ▲ Safety in agriculture operations

In times to come with AI, IOT and Big Data, Agriculture shall take another big leap. One must keep that scenario in mind to frame today's program and this should see a smooth transition to the upcoming Agriculture disruptive technologies.



Engagement with Ministry of Agriculture

Skilling under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

The aim of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, through RKVY Scheme, is skilling the rural youth and transferring agriculture latest technology to farmers. Farmers have been involved with greater interest in skill training. From April, few more institutes have commenced training program with enrolment of candidates from various districts. During 2018-19, a total of 399 Institutes participated under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and 15,898 trainees have been trained across 51 Agriculture Job roles. In 2019-20, around 20,000 people are expected to be trained under the scheme.



RKVY Training

QP & Model Curriculum Development

ASCI got 4 Equine related QPs approved in the QRC on 2nd May 2019

Job Role	Level
Assistant Equine Breeder	6
Horse Rider and Trainer	5

Job Role	Level
Equine Farrier	4
Equine Groom	4

ASCI has also developed 16 new Model Curricula

Job Role	Level
Agri Research Analyst	7
Risk Analyst Manager-Agri Commodity	7
Electronic Trading Supervisor - Agri Commodity	5
Produce Mapping Surveyor	6
Institution Development Manager	4
Agri Commodity Fumigation Operator	4
Vineyard Grower	3
Vineyard Worker	4

Job Role	Level
Lac Cultivator	4
Timber Grower	4
Essential Oil Extractor	3
Heritage Gardener	5
Assistant Equine Breeder	6
Horse Rider and Trainer	5
Equine Farrier	4
Equine Groom	4

Rozgar Mela / Job Fair

State Govt. of Punjab organized Placement drive from 24th Jun to 29th Jun'19 in different districts of Punjab for the students under VSE (Vocationalization of School Education). ASCI participated in 2 district i.e. Patiala & SAS Nagar, Mohali, with 2 companies Baani Milk Producer Company & TAFE Ltd. with an aim to provide a career opportunity to the desiring candidates in the respective domain.



State Engagement

▲ ASCI's CSR funded training with Jnana Jyothi Financial and Credit Counselling Trust (JJFLCC Trust) to conduct Financial Literacy Training for the Farmers of North Kanara District, Karnataka on Paddy and Sugar Cane Crops. JJFLCC Trust has initiated the implementation of the program at 6 different locations of the district namely, Kumta, Karwar, Bhatkal, Mundgod, Sirsi & Yellapur. The Trust mobilizes nearby village farmers and educating them on Financial Literacy component. So far, the initiative has reached more than 1,011 farmers in 6 different locations.



CSR Project initiated at Uttara Kannada

- ▲ Discussions held with Sri Sadananda Nayak, Managing Director of Odisha Agro Industries Corporation (OAIC) for skill training on Farm Mechanization and demand aggregation. As many machine suppliers are associated with OAIC and there is need of the skilled manpower too, the organization proposed to coordinate with different stakeholders and would provide input for further steps.
- ▲ Discussions held with Project Director of Community Tank Development & Management Society (CTDMS) for their upcoming world bank funded project "Odisha Integrated Irrigation Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture (OIIPCRA)". It's a World Bank and Govt. of Odisha funded project and will be implemented through Department of Water Resources (DoWR). ASCI discussed on available job roles and the mode of operation to the officials.
- ▲ Discussions held with Secretary, Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Assam for the ongoing scheme i.e. Matshya Mitra, Ghare Ghare Pukhuri, Ghare Ghare which focuses on providing nutritional and livelihood support to Fishers by employment generation, enhancing fish production and making the State self-sufficient in fish production by 2020-21 and empowering the rural women through fisheries. The secretary suggested ASDM for STT and RPL proposal submission for Matshya Mitra.
- ▲ Discussions with Tripura Skill Development Mission Director, Ms. Smita Mol IAS, stressed over Industry alignment, development of Poultry value chain and aggregation of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Agriculture, Horticulture sectors. Mission proposed for new job roles which are suitable for Tripura like Brooder House Manager, Pineapple Farmer, Pack House Technician and Post-Harvest Technician.
- ▲ Presentation to Fisheries Department, Assam in presence of District Fisheries Development Officers, Joint Director-Fisheries and Director for inclusion of Short Term Training and RPL in the ongoing scheme like Matshya Mitra, "Ghare Ghare Pukhuri, Ghare Ghare Mass". The same has been considered and would enhance self-employability among trained people.



Meeting at Fisheries Department, Assam



Tripura Bamboo Mission workshop

- ▲ ASCI participated at workshop on Bamboo Planting Stock Certification and Nursery Accreditation organized by Tripura Bamboo Mission. Participants were made aware about ASCI's skill development programs available. Tripura Bamboo Mission is considering training of 1,500 farmers in Bamboo Cultivation course.

- ▲ Society for Employment Generation and Enterprise Development in Andhra Pradesh organized CxO meet on 7th Jun'19 at Vijayawada for building partnership with sector skill councils. Agriculture Skill Council of India participated and represented Agriculture Sector.



CxO meet at SEEDAP, Andhra Pradesh

- ▲ Participated in Stake Holders meet for Implementation of CSR Program on Dairy Farmer at NSDC office Karnataka on 25th Jun'19. Stake holders like Sankalp (NGO), Orange Tech Solutions (PIA), UTC (Funding Agency), Agriculture SSC (Certification and Assessment Body) were present.



Stakeholder Meeting, Karnataka

- ▲ ASCI had a detailed discussion with the Manipur Mission Director Mr. Malemnganba Chenglei, IAS who stressed upon the need of Industry alignment & aggregation for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Agriculture, Horticulture & Sericulture. He also suggested few job roles which are more suitable for the state viz. Micro Irrigation Technician, Small Poultry Farmer, Green House operator, Mushroom Grower, Pack House Technician and agreed to include Mushroom Grower & Small Poultry Farmer job roles under current project for Person with disability(PWD) under state funded scheme.



Meeting at Manipur State Skill Mission

- ▲ Meeting was held with Mr Manoj Kumar Dash, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Odisha regarding introduction of NSQF approved job roles at their proposed skill training centres at different location of Odisha. Odisha Farm Machinery Research and Development Centre under Agriculture department has also floated tender for setting up skill centre at different districts of state.
- ▲ A tripartite meeting consisting Nagaland Skill Mission (SDED) SPOC, ASCI and Jt. Director Fisheries was held on 19th Jun'19. Major outcome was the approval for initiating Special projects for Fisheries job roles which can be undertaken by Nagaland Fishery Department through their Fishery training centre. RPL for Matsya Mitra can be conducted with NSDC's necessary support.
- ▲ Meeting with Department of ST & SC Development, Govt. of Odisha concerning inclusion of NSQF approved job roles at their ongoing capacity building and value chain linking programs under RPL with Bridge course.
- ▲ Meeting was held with Chairman of Seacom Skill University, Mr. Anish Chakravarty for initiating STT and B.Voc, Diploma and Diploma advance at their skill university situated near Shanti Niketan, West Bengal.

Apprenticeship

- ASCI has attended Apprenticeship Consultative Meeting organized by FICCI on 16th Apr'19. The meeting was organized under chairmanship of Asst. Secretary General, FICCI, Ms. Shobha Mishra Ghosh and attended by different Sector Skill Councils.

The meeting was organised to know the Apprenticeship implementation status. The SSCs discussed about the optional and designated trades, duration for the Apprenticeship training and the status of the companies to absorb apprentices within the organization. The recommendations and suggestions were noted down by the panel members and will be presenting to the government.



Apprenticeship Meeting by FICCI

- ASCI participated in Apprenticeship Capacity Building Workshop, organised by NSDC on 30th May'19. The meeting headed by Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Joint Secretary, MSDE & was joined by Ms. Anita Gupta, Head of Department for International Development (DFID), UK Government and Mr. Surajit Roy, Sr. Head-Apprenticeship, NSDC. The workshop was organised to know the status of Apprenticeship in market, Training Partners concerns, Implementations challenges etc. & to strengthen skills in ecosystem through industry and stakeholders.
- One-day workshop on National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) was organized at Guwahati on 29th May under the aegis of ASDM and FICCI. The workshop saw participation from various industry houses, Agri entrepreneurs and SSCs. ASCI was invited to share its view and way forward on NAPS.



Apprenticeship workshop at New Delhi



Apprenticeship workshop at Assam

Engagement at School Level

ASCI's few Qualification Packs have been accepted and introduced for school students from class 9th to 12th in collaboration with State Government under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan. ASCI in collaboration with state education boards conducts assessments and certification of students in addition to extending other related supports.

State	No. of Schools
Himachal Pradesh	169
Haryana	107
Punjab	185
Maharashtra	258
Chhattisgarh	109
Mizoram	1
Assam	78
West Bengal	28
Telangana	12

State	No. of Schools
Andhra Pradesh	28
Rajasthan	50
Goa	15
Uttarakhand	10
Odisha	55
Jammu & Kashmir	23
Gujarat Private School	10
Maharashtra Private School	11
Total	1148

Training of Trainer & Master Trainer

Total 236 Trainers participated in 10 ToT/ToMT Program during Apr to Jun'19

1. Sakal International Learning Centre, Pune, Maharashtra on 8th Apr'19
2. Aakash Agri Solutions Private Limited, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 28th Apr'19
3. Krishi Gram Vikas Kendra, Ranchi, Jharkhand on 13th May'19
4. Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 28th May'19
5. Horticulture Research Centre Baruasagar, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh on 4th Jun'19
6. Bharat Swabhimana Karyalaya, Patna, Bihar on 18th Jun'19
7. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, G.B Nagar, Uttar Pradesh on 20th Jun'19
8. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, Karnataka on 24th Jun'19
9. Aakash Agri Solutions Private Limited, Aurangabad, Maharashtra on 24th Jun'19
10. Central Tool Room & Training Centre, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 25th Jun'19



ToT at Jharkhand



ToT at Maharashtra

Training of Assessors (ToA)

- ▲ Training of New Assessors program organized for the assessors of Maharashtra State Council of Vocational Training (MSCVT) in Regional Office, Directorate of Vocational Education and Training, Nagpur. The program was scheduled from 28th Mar'19 to 1st Apr'19. 72 assessors have registered their presence for Group Farming Practitioner job role.
- ▲ Training of Assessors program for the assessors of Maharashtra State Council of Vocational Training (MSCVT) in Government Industrial Training Institute, Kolhapur was conducted from 24th Jun to 29th Jun'19 and 62 assessors in 2 batches have registered their presence. ToA conducted on job role of Group Farming Practitioner, combined of orientation on domain and platform skills /soft skills pedagogy training Post successful qualification of assessment, these assessors would be called as certified assessors for Group Farming Practitioner.



ToA at Kolhapur



ToA at Nagpur

RPL Program

- IL & FS organized RPL training at various locations of Odisha viz. Arakhakuda, Gabakunda, Baxipalli, Gundalba, Anakana, etc. for the job roles like Marine Capture Fisherman cum Primary Processor, Inland Capture Fisherman cum Primary Processor and Shrimp Farmer.
- Suguna Institute of Poultry Management conducted RPL training at various districts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh viz. Wanaparthy, Mehaboobnagar, Rangareddy, Suryapet, Visakapattinam, Srikakulam, Chittoor on Small Poultry Farmer and Broiler Farm Worker job roles.
- Spices Board conducted PMKVY RPL training program for Organic Grower, Vermicompost Producer, Tissue Culture Technician job roles for the farmers from various districts of Kerala, Sikkim, Assam, Karnataka, etc.



RPL at Puri



RPL at Ganjam



RPL at Guwahati



RPL at Puri

Governing Council Meeting

The 25th Meeting of the Board of Governing Council was held on 20th May'19. The Governing Council members were apprised about the new initiatives and collaborations viz. Train the Trainer (ToT) /Training of Master Trainers (ToMT) program, Universities MoUs, Skilling under Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM), WorldSkills 2019 and Rozgar Mela/Placements.



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