

## NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE

Approved in 16th NSQC Meeting – NCVET - Dated- 24th February 2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

### CONTACT DETAILS OF THE BODY SUBMITTING THE QUALIFICATION FILE

#### Name and address of submitting body:

Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)  
6<sup>th</sup> floor, GNG Building, Plot No - 10, Sector- 44,  
Gurugram, Haryana - 122004

#### Qualification Code

QG-04-AG-00273-2023-V1.1-ASCI

#### Name and contact details of individual dealing with the submission

**Name:** Ms Priyanka Prakash

**Position in the organisation:** Senior Manager - Standards & QA

**Address, if different from above**

**Tel number(s):** 0124 - 4670029/ 4814673/ 4814659

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#### List of documents submitted in support of the Qualifications File

1. Qualifications Pack - Annexure 1
2. Model Curriculum - Annexure 2
3. Affiliation Protocol- Annexure 3
4. Industry Validations- Annexure 4

#### Model Curriculum to be added which will include the following:

- Indicative list of tools/equipment to conduct the training
- Trainers qualification
- Lesson Plan
- Distribution of training duration into theory/practical/OJT component

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**• SUMMARY**

1	<b>Qualification Title</b>	Aquarium Technician
2	<b>Qualification Code, if any</b>	AGR/Q5108, v3.0
3	<b>NCO code and occupation</b>	NCO-2015/NIL
4	<b>Nature and purpose of the qualification (Please specify whether qualification is short term or long term)</b>	<p>Nature of the qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- a Qualification Pack (QP)</li></ul> <p>The main purpose of the qualification is -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- to train the incumbent for providing service for maintenance of aquarium and accessories and fish keeping which is aesthetically pleasing and sound for the fish and customers</li></ul>
5	<b>Body/bodies which will award the qualification</b>	Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)
6	<b>Body which will accredit providers to offer courses leading to the qualification</b>	Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)
7	<b>Whether accreditation/affiliation norms are already in place or not , if applicable (if yes, attach a copy)</b>	Yes (Annexure 3)
8	<b>Occupation(s) to which the qualification gives access</b>	Assistance (Fisheries)
9	<b>Job description of the occupation</b>	An Aquarium Technician is responsible for providing service for maintenance of aquarium and accessories and fish keeping which is aesthetically pleasing and sound for the fish and customers.
10	<b>Licensing requirements</b>	NA
11	<b>Statutory and Regulatory requirement of the relevant sector (documentary evidence to be provided)</b>	NA
12	<b>Level of the qualification in the NSQF</b>	Level 4

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<b>13</b>	<b>Anticipated volume of training/learning required to complete the qualification</b>	Total: 390 (Theory: 90 Practical: 120 ES: 90, OJT: 90)
<b>14</b>	<b>Indicative list of training tools required to deliver this qualification</b>	Attached herewith
<b>15</b>	<b>Entry requirements and/or recommendations and minimum age</b>	Minimum Educational Qualification: 12th grade pass OR Completed 2nd year of 3-year diploma (after 10th) and pursuing regular diploma OR 10th grade pass plus 2-year NTC OR 10th grade pass plus 1-year NTC plus 1 year NAC OR 8th pass plus 2-year NTC plus 1-Year NAC plus CITS OR 10th grade pass and pursuing continuous schooling OR 10th Grade Pass with 2-year relevant experience OR Previous relevant Qualification of NSQF Level 3.0 with minimum education as 8th Grade pass with 3-year relevant experience OR Previous relevant Qualification of NSQF Level 3.5 with 1.5- year relevant experience Min Age: 18 years
<b>16</b>	<b>Progression from the qualification (Please show Professional and academic progression)</b>	Aquaculture Technical Supervisor (L5)

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<b>17</b>	<b>Arrangements for the Recognition of Prior learning (RPL)</b>	<p>RPL assessment will be as per normal ASCI assessment process.</p> <p>(ASCI recognizes that there may be candidates who have prior learning experience in the Agriculture Sector and are desirous of being certified. Such candidates can apply to ASCI for testing and certification of their skills. Training Partners will be responsible for identifying and counselling candidates for RPL through mobilization camps and advertisements. The details of the RPL process have been defined by ASCI under the document- Guidelines for Recognition of Prior Learning under PMKVY).</p>			
<b>18</b>	<b>International comparability</b>	Not done as yet			
	<b>where known (research evidence to be provided)</b>				
<b>19</b>	<b>Date of planned review of the qualification.</b>	24-02-2025			
<b>20</b>	<b>Formal structure of the qualification</b>				
	<b>Mandatory components</b>				
	<b>Title of component and identification code/NOSs/Learning outcomes</b>	<b>Estimated size (learning hours)</b>			<b>Level</b>
		<b>Theory</b>	<b>Practical</b>		
<b>(i)</b>	Introduction (Bridge Module)	5			
<b>(ii)</b>	AGR/N5115: Set up and manage marine aquarium	35	50		<b>4</b>
<b>(iii)</b>	AGR/N5116: Set up and manage freshwater aquarium (including planted aquarium and garden ponds)	35	55		
<b>(iv)</b>	AGR/N5117: Ensure safety, hygiene and sanitation practices in aquascaping	15	15		

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(v)	DGT/VSQ/N0103    Employability Skills (90 Hours) v1.0	90		
	Total	180	120	
	OJT	90 Hours		
21	<b>Body/Bodies which will carry out assessment:</b> ASCI affiliated assessment bodies. 1. SHL India (Pvt.) Ltd 2. Trendsetters Skill Assessors Pvt Ltd 3. Mercer-Mettl 4. SP Institute of Workforce Development (SPIWD) 5. MSAG SI LLP  More Assessment Agencies are being empanelled to cover wider geographical area			
22	<b>How will RPL assessment be managed and who will carry it out?</b> RPL will be based on the same approved Qualification Pack and Assessment Criteria mentioned in the Qualification Pack and will be carried out as per normal ASCI assessment process. The Training Partner or any other authority as prescribed by the Steering Committee will identify and counsel candidates eligible for RPL through mobilization camps and advertisements. The mobilized candidates can be counselled, oriented about the standardized NSQF framework and basis their existing competency will be mapped against the suitable level of the concerned Job role for assessments. The candidates enrolled will be assessed by the Assessment Agency affiliated with the Sector Skill Council on the basis of assessment criteria decided by Sector Skill Council (SSC). The candidate will need to pass in the minimum assessment criteria of a particular QP decided by the SSC. Successfully assessed candidates with a valid Aadhaar or alternate ID (as per process) will be eligible for QP-NOS based Certification.			

23	<p><b>Describe the overall assessment strategy and specific arrangements which have been put in place to ensure that assessment is always valid, reliable and fair and show that these are in line with the requirements of the NSQF.</b></p> <p>A robust technology enabled assessment methodology has been designed keeping in mind the geographical/Physical constraints and target segment which assess a trainee's knowledge and skill set through three methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An offline Tablet based test through the use of Multiple Choice Text and Picture based questions in vernacular languages</li><li>• Actual demonstration on the field</li><li>• Viva</li></ul> <p><b>ASCI's assessment strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Question sets are developed as per the weightage of each NOS of the Qualification Pack.</li><li>• Assessment criteria for each Qualification Pack developed, in which each Performance criteria (PC) assigned marks based on NOS</li><li>• Question Bank is developed to assess the theoretical and practical knowledge. To ensure the quality, each trainees get different set of question</li><li>• Empanelment of subject matter expert as assessor primarily from the Industry to assess trainee specifically on practical skills as per Industry demands</li></ul> <p>Assessments are preferably conducted on tablets or pen or papers in regional languages according to the requirement.</p>
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Please attach most relevant and recent documents giving further information about assessment and/or RPL.

Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.

## **ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE**

**Complete a grid for each component as listed in “Formal structure of the qualification” in the Summary.**

*NOTE: this grid can be replaced by any part of the qualification documentation which shows the same information – i.e. Learning Outcomes to be assessed, assessment criteria and the means of assessment.*

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<b>Outcomes to be assessed/ NOSs to be assessed</b>	<b>Assessment criteria for the outcome</b>
<b>Means of assessment 1</b>	
<b>Pass/Fail</b>	

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**Job Role:** Aquarium Technician

**Qualification Pack:** AGR/Q5108, v3.0

**Sector Skill Council:** Agriculture Skill Council of India

### **Assessment Guidelines:**

1. Criteria for assessment for each Qualification Pack will be created by the Sector Skill Council. Each Performance Criteria (PC) will be assigned marks proportional to its importance in NOS. SSC will also lay down proportion of marks for Theory and Skills Practical for each PC.
2. The assessment for the theory part will be based on knowledge bank of questions created by the SSC.
3. Assessment will be conducted for all compulsory NOS, and where applicable, on the selected elective/option NOS/set of NOS.
4. Individual assessment agencies will create unique question papers for theory part for each candidate at each examination/training center (as per assessment criteria below).
5. Individual assessment agencies will create unique evaluations for skill practical for every student at each examination/training center based on this criterion.
6. To pass the Qualification Pack, every trainee should score a minimum of 70% of aggregate marks to successfully clear the assessment
7. In case of unsuccessful completion, the trainee may seek reassessment on the Qualification Pack.

### **AGR/N5115: Set up and manage marine aquarium**

<b>Assessment Criteria for Outcomes</b>	<b>Theory Marks</b>	<b>Practical Marks</b>	<b>Project Marks</b>	<b>Viva Marks</b>
<i>Set up and maintain marine aquarium</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24</b>



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<b>PC1.</b> arrange the necessary resources to set up themarine aquarium such as aquarium tank, air pump, protein skimmer, heater and thermometer, sand/substrate, live rocks, equipment, artificial seawater, marine organisms, filter system, powerhead.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b> Identify commercially important marine ornamental fishes and invertebrates kept in a marine aquarium set up	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b> sanitise and acclimatise the relevant items before setting up in the aquarium to avoid contamination	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b> set up the aquarium structure by assembling and installing the required components such as reef, rocks, pebbles, air inlets, lighting, filtration etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b> ensure appropriate water quality required formarine organisms for aquarium keeping	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b> ensure provision of nutritionally balanced fishfeed, optimal feeding method and frequency	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b> follow the national laws on keeping of marine organisms in captivity	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b> prepare the artificial sea water using synthetic salts	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b> setup and maintain different equipment including protein skimmer, UV sterilisers, filters,lights etc, appropriately	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b> set up various types of marine aquarium viz;only fish tank, FOWLR aquarium or a reeftank	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b> decide and introduce the compatible speciesof marine organism in aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b> stock the selected varieties of aquarium fish maintaining the recommended stocking density	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC13.</b> mature appropriately an aquarium tank before introduction of fishes	-	-	-	-
<b>PC14.</b> maintain the reef system in a sustainable condition	-	-	-	-
<b>PC15.</b> monitor the reef system for any Undesirable growth, parasites or any substance that may threaten the balance of the reef system	-	-	-	-
<b>PC16.</b> check the aquarium water for important parameters viz, salinity, pH, ammonia, nitrate, nitrite etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC17.</b> operate and set up various timers for operating lighting, filtration pumps and heating if any	-	-	-	-
<b>PC18.</b> introduce organisms that help clean the reef system by removing ecto-parasites	-	-	-	-
<b>PC19.</b> monitor and identify symptoms of common illnesses and ailments and take timely corrective action	-	-	-	-
<b>PC20.</b> carry out short term and long-term maintenance activities for a marine aquarium.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC21.</b> maintain successfully all types of marine aquarium	-	-	-	-
<i>Ensure proper health management of fish in marine aquarium</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	-	<b>6</b>
<b>PC22.</b> monitor and identify symptoms of Common illnesses and ailments and take timely corrective action	-	-	-	-
<b>PC23.</b> separate the diseased fish from the healthy fish and put them in a hospital tank, in case of disease outbreak	-	-	-	-
<b>PC24.</b> diagnose the problem/disease and treat appropriately	-	-	-	-
<b>PC25.</b> monitor the condition of fish in the hospital tank for signs of improvement	-	-	-	-

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<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N5116: Set up and manage freshwater aquarium (including planted aquarium and garden ponds)</b>				
<b>Assessment Criteria for Outcomes</b>	<b>Theory Marks</b>	<b>Practical Marks</b>	<b>Project Marks</b>	<b>Viva Marks</b>
<i>Set up and maintain freshwater aquarium, planted aquarium and garden ponds</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>PC1.</b> source all the components required for the aquarium as per the specifications	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b> clean each piece of equipment, acclimatize and prepare it for immersion into the aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b> set up the complete aquarium structure with air inlets, lighting, filtration system	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b> identify different types of commercially important freshwater ornamental fishes.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b> identify the prohibited varieties of freshwater ornamental fishes that cannot be traded	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b> provide nutritionally balanced feed to fishes, decide the type of feed and feeding frequency	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b> follow the method, frequency and percentage of water exchange within aquarium,	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b> fabricate an aquarium tank and select compatible species for a community tank.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b> apply appropriate methods of water quality testing and monitoring for a freshwater aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b> Install suitable type of water quality monitoring, life support systems and decorative items in aquarium.	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC11.</b> install and maintain successfully a freshwater aquarium.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b> ensure proper working of pick-up filters for removing waste matter	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b> monitor for any undesirable growth, parasites or anything that may threaten the balance of the aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC14.</b> use water conditioners to remove traces of chlorine etc. from the water to be used in the aquariums	-	-	-	-
<b>PC15.</b> operate and set up various timers for operating lighting and heating systems, if any	-	-	-	-
<b>PC16.</b> ensure filtration is being done on a continuous basis	-	-	-	-
<b>PC17.</b> fill in the aquarium with the recommended quantity of treated water for the selected species	-	-	-	-
<b>PC18.</b> stock the selected varieties of aquarium fish maintaining the recommended stocking density	-	-	-	-
<b>PC19.</b> acclimatize the fish before stocking in the aquarium and take appropriate measures to protect them from new tank syndrome	-	-	-	-
<b>PC20.</b> introduce organisms that will help clean the aquarium of waste residues	-	-	-	-
<b>PC21.</b> monitor and identify symptoms of common illnesses and ailments and take timely corrective action	-	-	-	-
<b>PC22.</b> quarantine the newly purchased fish to aquarium conditions before it is introduced to aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC23.</b> identify different types of aquatic plants used in a planted aquarium	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC24.</b> select suitable substrate for a planted tank and ensure supply of nutrients for the growth of plants	-	-	-	-
<b>PC25.</b> select compatible species of fishes for a planted tank and successfully maintain a planted aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC26.</b> plan, design, construct and maintain a garden pond	-	-	-	-
<b>PC27.</b> introduce suitable varieties of plants, fish and other animals for decorating and keeping in a garden pond	-	-	-	-
<i>Ensure proper health management of fish in freshwater aquarium, planted tank and garden pond</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	-	<b>6</b>
<b>PC28.</b> identify the symptoms of stress and common diseases among the aquarium fish	-	-	-	-
<b>PC29.</b> check for diseased or dying fish	-	-	-	-
<b>PC30.</b> identify and quarantine the diseased or dying fish	-	-	-	-
<b>PC31.</b> separate the diseased fish from the health and put them in a hospital tank, in case of disease outbreak	-	-	-	-
<b>PC32.</b> diagnose the problem/disease and treat appropriately	-	-	-	-
<b>PC33.</b> monitor the quarantined fish for signs of improvement and restock them with the aquariums once cured	-	-	-	-
<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>	-	<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N5117: Ensure safety, hygiene and sanitation practices in aquascaping</b>				
<b>Assessment Criteria for Outcomes</b>	<b>Theory Marks</b>	<b>Practical Marks</b>	<b>Project Marks</b>	<b>Viva Marks</b>

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<i>Follow biosecurity protocols and ensure safety, hygiene in marine and freshwater aquariums (including garden ponds)</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>PC1.</b> carry out procedures in place to protect ornamental aquatic organisms (fish, invertebrate or plant) from contracting, carrying or spreading disease	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b> identify the associated hazards by pathogen that might arrive or get transferred in the system and their appropriate method of management or elimination and critical control points associated with them	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b> plan and set up the structure of aquarium system and its electrical connections keeping in mind guidelines of safety	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b> ensure each artefact planned for the marine or freshwater aquarium system is acclimatized and cured to specifications that support and sustain the ecosystem	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b> ensure the proper introduction of artefacts, at appropriate times so the ecosystem gradually acclimatizes to each of them	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b> conduct tests to check water quality pH, ammonium, nitrite levels and salinity	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b> exchange appropriate percentages of the water at regular intervals	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b> ensure routine cleaning and inspections of the entire system	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b> Check regularly the signs to look for that might indicate a disease issue viz. Loss of appetite, and loss of body weight, Skin ulcers and eroded fins, Loss of bright colours, Bloated belly, Loss of buoyancy control, Abnormal swimming behaviour, Bulged out eyes etc.	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC10.</b> monitor the accretion of waste at the bottom of tank and establish a routine to remove them	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b> ensure all filters and fittings camouflaged by artefacts are routinely checked and kept in good working order	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b> establish a feeding routine and choice of feed for all types of aquatic life in the aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b> ensure the introduction of beneficial organisms that help maintain the sustainability of the aquarium	-	-	-	-
<b>PC14.</b> quarantine and condition any new fish before introducing in tanks for better biosecurity	-	-	-	-
<b>PC15.</b> ensure maturation of the tanks before introducing new fishes to prevent new tank syndrome	-	-	-	-
<b>PC16.</b> follow the recommended practices to protect the aquarium from different types of threats, contamination and diseases	-	-	-	-
<b>PC17.</b> apply the necessary disinfectants or preventive treatment in the aquarium to prevent disease outbreak and the growth of harmful organisms	-	-	-	-
<b>PC18.</b> sample the water quality and fishes grown in aquarium regularly to identify the signs of stress/ disease/ phenotypic disorders and the presence of parasites and pathogens	-	-	-	-
<b>PC19.</b> identify, quarantine and treat the unhealthy organisms following the recommended practices	-	-	-	-
<b>PC20.</b> monitor the quarantined organisms for signs of improvement and restock them in aquarium on complete recovery	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC21.</b> remove the dead and moribund organisms and dispose them in an environment-friendly manner and do not release aquarium fish into waterways or stormwater drains	-	-	-	-
<b>PC22.</b> maintain records of water quality, fish health, feed supplied etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC23.</b> maintain the health of the fish's own immune system by appropriate husbandry including resting/acclimatization periods	-	-	-	-
<b>PC24.</b> avoid unnecessary stressing of fish eg over or under stocking depending on species, using correct transport and handling methods	-	-	-	-
<b>PC25.</b> sterilize the systems regularly as per requirements	-	-	-	-
<b>PC26.</b> follow the biosecurity protocols correctly at all stages	-	-	-	-
<i>Maintain personal hygiene and safety</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	-	<b>10</b>
<b>PC27.</b> be aware of the possibilities of bacterial and other contamination from human handling of fish	-	-	-	-
<b>PC28.</b> use the recommended soap or sanitiser to keep hands sanitised	-	-	-	-
<b>PC29.</b> undertake basic safety checks before operation of any equipment's	-	-	-	-
<b>PC30.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• check the relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) before use and repair or replace it,</li><li>• as required</li></ul>	-	-	-	-
<b>PC31.</b> use the relevant PPE during various aquaculture operations such as the application of hazardous chemicals	-	-	-	-
<b>PC32.</b> exercise caution when handling electrical/lighting equipment in the tank	-	-	-	-



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<b>PC33.</b> report potential hazards to the supervisor immediately	-	-	-	-
<b>PC34.</b> follow standard procedures to deal with accidents and emergency situations	-	-	-	-
<b>PC35.</b> administer first-aid to the injured personnel and co-ordinate with the emergency services for further medical attention	-	-	-	-
<b>PC36.</b> store hazardous chemicals, tools and equipment in the safe storage area to avoid personal harm or injury	-	-	-	-
<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>DGT/VSQ/N0103: Employability Skills (90 Hours)</b>				
<i>Introduction to Employability Skills</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-
<b>PC1.</b> understand the significance of employability skills in meeting the current job market requirement and future of work	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b> identify and explore learning and employability relevant portals	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b> research about the different industries, job market trends, latest skills required and the available opportunities	-	-	-	-
<i>Constitutional values – Citizenship</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-
<b>PC4.</b> recognize the significance of constitutional values, including civic rights and duties, citizenship, responsibility towards society etc. and personal values and ethics such as honesty, integrity, caring and respecting others, etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b> follow environmentally sustainable practices	-	-	-	-
<i>Becoming a Professional in the 21st Century</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
<b>PC6.</b> recognize the significance of 21st Century Skills for employment	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b> practice the 21st Century Skills such as Self-Awareness, Behaviour Skills, time management, critical and adaptive thinking, problem-solving, creative thinking, social and cultural awareness, emotional awareness, learning to learn for continuous learning etc. in personal and professional life	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC8.</b> adopt a continuous learning mindset for personal and professional development	-	-	-	-
<i>Basic English Skills</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	-	-
<b>PC9.</b> use basic English for everyday conversation in different contexts, in person and over the telephone	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b> read and understand routine information, notes, instructions, mails, letters etc. written in English	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b> write short messages, notes, letters, e-mails etc. in English	-	-	-	-
<i>Career Development &amp; Goal Setting</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	-	-
<b>PC12.</b> identify career goals based on the skills, interests, knowledge, and personal attributes	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b> prepare a career development plan with short- and long-term goals	-	-	-	-
<i>Communication Skills</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	-	-
<b>PC14.</b> follow verbal and non-verbal communication etiquette while communicating in professional and public settings	-	-	-	-
<b>PC15.</b> use active listening techniques for effective communication	-	-	-	-
<b>PC16.</b> communicate in writing using appropriate style and format based on formal or informal requirements	-	-	-	-
<b>PC17.</b> work collaboratively with others in a team	-	-	-	-
<i>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-
<b>PC18.</b> communicate and behave appropriately with all genders and PwD	-	-	-	-
<b>PC19.</b> escalate any issues related to sexual harassment at workplace according to POSH Act	-	-	-	-
<i>Financial and Legal Literacy</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
<b>PC20.</b> identify and select reliable institutions for various financial products and services such as bank account, debit and credit cards, loans, insurance etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC21.</b> carry out offline and online financial transactions, safely and securely, using various methods and check the entries in the passbook	-	-	-	-
<b>PC22.</b> identify common components of salary and compute income, expenses, taxes, investments etc	-	-	-	-
<b>PC23.</b> identify relevant rights and laws and use legal aids to fight against legal exploitation	-	-	-	-

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<i>Essential Digital Skills</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	-	-
<b>PC24.</b> operate digital devices and use their features and applications securely and safely	-	-	-	-
<b>PC25.</b> carry out basic internet operations by connecting to the internet safely and securely, using the mobile data or other available networks through Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC26.</b> display responsible online behaviour while using various social media platforms	-	-	-	-
<b>PC27.</b> create a personal email account, send and process received messages as per requirement	-	-	-	-
<b>PC28.</b> carry out basic procedures in documents, spreadsheets and presentations using respective and appropriate applications	-	-	-	-
<b>PC29.</b> utilize virtual collaboration tools to work effectively	-	-	-	-
<i>Entrepreneurship</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
<b>PC30.</b> identify different types of Entrepreneurship and Enterprises and assess opportunities for potential business through research	-	-	-	-
<b>PC31.</b> develop a business plan and a work model, considering the 4Ps of Marketing Product, Price, Place and Promotion	-	-	-	-
<b>PC32.</b> identify sources of funding, anticipate, and mitigate any financial/ legal hurdles for the potential business opportunity	-	-	-	-
<i>Customer Service</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	-	-
<b>PC33.</b> identify different types of customers and ways to communicate with them	-	-	-	-
<b>PC34.</b> identify and respond to customer requests and needs in a professional manner	-	-	-	-
<b>PC35.</b> use appropriate tools to collect customer feedback	-	-	-	-
<b>PC36.</b> follow appropriate hygiene and grooming standards	-	-	-	-
<i>Getting ready for apprenticeship &amp; Jobs</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
<b>PC37.</b> create a professional Curriculum vitae (Résumé)	-	-	-	-
<b>PC38.</b> search for suitable jobs using reliable offline and online sources such as Employment exchange, recruitment agencies, newspapers etc. and job portals, respectively	-	-	-	-

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<b>PC39.</b> apply to identified job openings using offline /online methods as per requirement	-	-	-	-
<b>PC40.</b> answer questions politely, with clarity and confidence, during recruitment and selection	-	-	-	-
<b>PC41.</b> identify apprenticeship opportunities and register for it as per guidelines and requirements	-	-	-	-
<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	-	-

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Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Ornamental Fish Farmer			Level: 4
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up and manage marine aquarium</li><li>• Set up and manage freshwater aquarium (including garden ponds)</li><li>• Undertake basic entrepreneurial activities for small enterprise</li><li>• Follow the relevant employability and entrepreneurial practices</li><li>• Communicate effectively at the workplace</li><li>• Ensure safety, hygiene and sanitation practices in aqua scaping</li></ul>	An Aquarium Technician is responsible for providing service for maintenance of aquarium and accessories and fish keeping which is aesthetically pleasing and sound for the fish and customers.	4

## NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE

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Professional knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up and maintain marine aquarium</li><li>• Set up and maintain freshwater aquarium, planted aquarium and garden ponds</li><li>• Ensure proper health management of fish in marine aquarium freshwater aquarium, planted tank and garden pond</li></ul>	<p>The job holder is expected to have knowledge of -various resources required to set up a marine/freshwater aquarium; the importance of sanitising the aquarium and the relevant components before assembling;the process of acclimatising the fish and reef before being placed in the</p>	4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communicate effectively at the workplace</li><li>• Follow the employability and entrepreneurial practices</li></ul>	<p>aquarium; the recommended quantity of treated water to be maintained in an aquarium for varieties of aquarium fish;the recommended stocking density to be maintained for varieties of aquarium fish;the nutrition and feed requirements of different types of aquarium fish and the recommended feeding schedule;the importance of maintaining the recommended percentage and frequency of water exchange in the aquarium;the benefits and process of stocking organisms in the aquarium that consume ectoparasites and feed residues; the appropriate measures to prevent the growth of parasites and undesirable growth in the aquarium; the importance of using protein skimmers and filtration equipment to ensure the removal of waste matter and optimum water quality in the aquarium;various health and disease management practices.</p>	

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Professional skill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Optimize resource utilization</li><li>• Practice inclusion at work</li><li>• Maintain personal health and safety</li><li>• Maintain the aquarium and water quality</li></ul>	The job holder is expected to recall and demonstrate practical skill, routine and repetitive in narrow range of application, using appropriate rule and tool, using quality concepts. • For instance, the job holder has to- sanitise and acclimatise the relevant items before setting up in the aquarium to avoid contamination;set up the aquarium structure by assembling and installing the required components such as reef, rocks, pebbles, etc.; fill the aquarium with the recommended quantity of treated water for the selected species.; acclimatise the fish before stocking in the aquarium; feed the aquarium fish with nutritionally balanced feed as per the feeding schedule;carry out a regular sampling of the water to ensure the recommended levels of pH, ammonia, nitrite and salinity; carry out cleaning of the aquarium to remove feed residue and any waste material from the aquarium; treat the quarantined fish with the prescribed treatment.	4

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Core Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up and manage marine aquarium</li><li>• Set up and manage freshwater aquarium (including garden ponds)</li><li>• Undertake basic entrepreneurial activities for small enterprise</li><li>• Follow the relevant employability and entrepreneurial practices</li><li>• Communicate effectively at the workplace</li><li>• Ensure safety, hygiene and sanitation practices in aquascaping</li></ul>	<p>For setting up the marine/ freshwater aquarium, individual on the job must be able to: 1. arrange the necessary resources to set up the marine/ freshwater aquarium such as aquarium tank, air pump, protein skimmer, heater and thermometer, etc.; 2. sanitise and acclimatise the relevant items before setting up in the aquarium to avoid contamination; 3. set up the aquarium structure by assembling and installing the required components such as reef, rocks, pebbles, etc.; 4. install timers to automate the functioning of lights, filtration pumps and heating system; 5. follow the safety guidelines in setting up the marine and freshwater aquariums including electrical connections</p> <p>For stocking and feeding the fish, individual on</p>	4
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		<p>the job must be able to : 1. fill in the aquarium with the recommended quantity of treated water for the selected species; 2. stock the selected varieties of aquarium fish maintaining the recommended stocking density; 3. acclimatise the fish before stocking in the aquarium and take appropriate measures to protect them from new tank syndrome;4. feed the aquarium fish with nutritionally-balanced feed in the recommended quantity as per the feeding schedule</p> <p>For maintaining the aquarium and water quality, individual on the job must be able to :1. maintain the recommended percentage and frequency of water exchange/ replacement in the aquarium;2. stock organisms in the aquarium that help in cleaning the reef system by consuming ectoparasites and feed residues;3. carry out regular sampling of the water to ensure the recommended levels of pH, ammonia,nitrite and salinity;4. monitor the reef system in the aquarium for parasites and any undesirable growth that may threaten the balance of the reef system;5. check the protein skimmers and filtration equipment for correct functioning to ensure efficient removal of waste matters and optimum water quality in the aquarium;6. carry</p>	
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		out regular cleaning of the aquarium to remove feed residue and any waste materials	
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		For carrying out health and disease management, individual on the job must be able to: 1. identify the symptoms of stress and common diseases among the aquarium fish; 2. identify and quarantine the diseased or dying fish; 3. treat the quarantined fish with the prescribed treatment; 4. monitor the quarantined fish for signs of improvement and restock them with the aquarium fish once cured	
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Setting up and Maintaining marine and freshwater aquariums</li><li>• Communicate effectively at the workplace</li><li>• Follow the relevant employability and entrepreneurial practices</li></ul>	The individual is responsible for - setting up, managing and maintaining marine aquariums; setting up, managing and maintaining freshwater aquariums including planted aquarium and garden ponds; undertaking basic entrepreneurial or business activities ;.following the relevant employability and entrepreneurial practices. It also covers the use of the computer, banking, insurance and various electronic services; communicating effectively with stakeholders at the workplace; following biosecurity protocols, safety, hygiene and sanitation practices in marine and freshwater aquariums, includinggarden ponds.	4

### SECTION 3

#### EVIDENCE OF NEED

26	What evidence is there that the qualification is needed? What is the estimated uptake of this qualification and what is the basis of this estimate?
<b>Basis</b>	
Need of the qualification	<p>While collecting data from the companies for the occupational map, we also took feedback from industry, training institutions which was collected with respect to roles for which qualification packs development, was to be prioritized. This was largely based on volume of people required, quantitative and qualitative shortfall which the industry feels they face. Governing council of ASCI and Occupational Standards Committee which comprises of experts &amp; senior leaders gave final approval and endorsement for the same.</p> <p>Fisheries and aquaculture contribute to 0.79 percent to the National GDP and 4.39 percent to agriculture and allied activities. Marine Fisheries contributes to food security and provides direct employment to over 1.5 million fishermen besides others indirectly dependent on this sector. Fisheries and allied sector is transforming into an industry at a fast pace and hence there is a demand for skilled human resource for the development of standard products and services within this sector. The existing potential for production within this sector is expected to rise with increased contribution of the fisheries sector to food and nutritional security.</p>
Industry Relevance	Validations received have are attached herewith.
Usage of the qualification	<p>An NSQF aligned training to the persons involved in grooming of <b>Aquarium Technicians</b> shall provide opportunities to the incumbents for horizontal and vertical career progression. Competency-based training shall imbibe professionalism in the job-role. Being an important and ever-expanding job, the job-role of Aquarium Technician may well be included in the vocational education stream of school education.</p> <p>For employers, the <b>Aquarium Technician</b> Qualification standards offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a means of assessing occupational competence objectively, including knowledge and understanding of the subject</li> <li>• a guide for job descriptions and recruitment requirements</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a basis for staff appraisals</li> <li>• a systematic approach to analyzing training needs</li> <li>• an opportunity to improve overall company performance by developing a better-trained, better-equipped and more effective workforce.</li> </ul> <p>To employees and freelancers, the <b>Aquarium Technician</b> Qualification standards provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a means for recognizing ability</li> <li>• a means for determining gaps in knowledge, experience and skills</li> <li>• an objective process for identifying training needs</li> <li>• performance indicators and a guide to effectiveness and efficiency.</li> </ul> <p>One of the most valuable uses of the occupational standards is in the assessment of a person's performance within a particular job. Because the standards are based on the industry's requirements for ability, skills and knowledge, they provide an objective and directly relevant measure for employers and employees alike.</p> <p>The Qualification Pack shall also be helpful in conducting Recognition of Prior Learning of the <b>Aquarium Technician</b></p>			
Estimated uptake	QP/Job Role Name	"States where Demand exist	"District where Demand exist	Projections for the next 3 years
	Aquarium Technician	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Maharashtra, Goa, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand,	Various district of mentioned States	2000

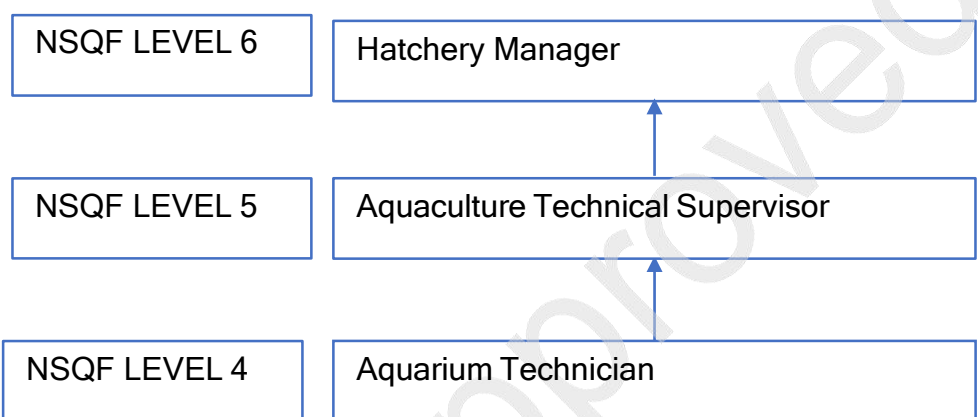
		Chhattisgarh & Uttarakhand		
27	<b>Recommendation from the concerned Line Ministry of the Government/Regulatory Body. To be supported by documentary evidences</b> Have received concurrence from the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying			
28	<b>What steps were taken to ensure that the qualification(s) does (do) not duplicate already existing or planned qualifications in the NSQF? Give justification for presenting a duplicate qualification</b>  This is the revised version of the already NSQC approved QP. The revision has been undertaken as the QP is going to expire soon.			
29	<b>What arrangements are in place to monitor and review the qualification(s)? What data will be used and at what point will the qualification(s) be revised or updated? Specify the review process here</b>  Any institution or individual is welcome to send the feedback, which is recorded and considered during next review cycle. Communication will be sent for any feedback to all the main stakeholders/users one month prior to the review of the qualifications pack. A formal review is scheduled in three years.			

Please attach most relevant and recent documents giving further information about any of the topics above.

Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.

#### **SECTION 4**

#### **EVIDENCE OF PROGRESSION**

30	<p><b>What steps have been taken in the design of this or other qualifications to ensure that there is a clear path to other qualifications in this sector?</b>  <b><i>Show the career map here to reflect the clear progression</i></b></p> <p>Career path in the agriculture sector is generally in terms of activities done &amp; ownership of responsibility because they are primarily self-wage employment/ entrepreneurship roles.</p> <p><b>Annexure 1: Career Map of Aquarium Technician</b></p>  <pre> graph BT     A[NSQF LEVEL 4 Aquarium Technician] --&gt; B[NSQF LEVEL 5 Aquaculture Technical Supervisor]     B --&gt; C[NSQF LEVEL 6 Hatchery Manager] </pre> <p>The diagram illustrates a career progression path for an Aquarium Technician. It consists of three horizontal boxes arranged vertically. The bottom box is labeled 'NSQF LEVEL 4' and 'Aquarium Technician'. An upward-pointing arrow connects this box to the middle box, which is labeled 'NSQF LEVEL 5' and 'Aquaculture Technical Supervisor'. Another upward-pointing arrow connects the middle box to the top box, which is labeled 'NSQF LEVEL 6' and 'Hatchery Manager'.</p>
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Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.