



“ We are working towards making lifelong learning a fundamental necessity for young talent and exposing individuals to diverse skill sets from the school level, which is a vital step in this direction aligning with the new National Education Policy. ”

Shri Jayant Chaudhary

Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State, Ministry of Education, Government of India



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One Year of PM Vishwakarma: Empowering Artisans Across India

On September 20, 2024, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji attended the event organised on the occasion of one year of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme at Swawlambi Ground in Wardha, Maharashtra. The scheme aimed at supporting traditional artisans and craftsmen has achieved remarkable milestones since its inception. Over 20 lakh artisans have registered under the scheme, signifying its extensive reach and impact. Beneficiaries from various trades have seen substantial advantages from initiatives focusing on skill development, financial support and the modernisation of traditional crafts.

Skill training has been a critical focus of the scheme with 8 lakh training sessions imparted to artisans across the country as yet. These programs under the PMVK Yojana have helped artisans hone their skills and adapt to modern demands, enhancing their productivity and market competitiveness. The emphasis on improving the technical capabilities of artisans is instrumental in uplifting the craft sector and creating sustainable employment opportunities.

Financial assistance has also played a crucial role in the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, with loans worth ₹1,400 crore approved for 1.6 lakh artisans. This financial support allows artisans to invest in their craft and expand their businesses, providing essential resources to scale operations and integrate new technologies. The introduction of a digital platform has facilitated smoother access to financial benefits, with 75,000 artisans receiving loan approvals digitally, ensuring a more streamlined and transparent process.

During the event, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji interacted with Fishing Net Makers, gaining valuable insights into their specific challenges and needs. This engagement exemplifies the PM Vishwakarma commitment to addressing the diverse requirements of artisans across India. The Hon'ble Prime Minister also distributed identity cards and certificates to one lakh PM Vishwakarmas, reaffirming the government's dedication to fostering the growth and development of artisans, thereby ensuring a brighter future for India's traditional craftsmen.



Hon'ble PM interacting with Fishing Net Makers

Inauguration of Skill India Centre at Rashtrapati Bhavan: A Motivating step for Skill Development

The Skill India Centre at Rashtrapati Bhavan was inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, marking an important step in advancing skill development in agriculture. The centre, established under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) aims to equip permanent and contractual gardeners with modern techniques and knowledge through skill-based programmes.



Inauguration of Skill India Centre, Rashtrapati Bhavan by Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India

A notable highlight of this initiative would be ASCI's effort to upskill 245 gardeners of Amrit Udyan, Rashtrapati Bhavan's iconic gardens. Through this programme these gardeners will receive targeted training enabling them to blend their existing knowledge with new & innovative practices in horticulture. This training is expected to elevate their skills, contributing to the sustainability and upkeep of one of India's most prestigious landscapes.

The Skill India Centre is a key addition to the broader Skill India Mission, which focuses on creating a skilled workforce for various industries across India. By including agriculture in its portfolio, the centre aims to help individuals develop specialised skills.



Training of Amrit Udyan Gardeners, Rashtrapati Bhavan

This initiative reflects the government's commitment to advancing skill development in Agriculture sector. It also highlights the role of public-private partnerships, with ASCI playing a pivotal role in shaping programmes tailored to the needs of specific industries.

CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative Phase-II: 2020-25

On July 19, 2024, CSIR-Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) in Ghaziabad convened the Third Meeting of the Monitoring Committee for the "CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative" (Phase-II: 2020-2025) at CSIR Science Centre in New Delhi. CEO-ASCI participated in the meeting, delivering key insights on the importance of collaboration in advancing skill development within the agricultural sector. He highlighted ASCI's commitment to enhancing workforce capabilities and emphasised the significance of the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASCI and CSIR-HRDC. This partnership aims to combine resources and expertise to drive meaningful progress in skill initiatives, ultimately contributing to the growth and sustainability of the agricultural industry.



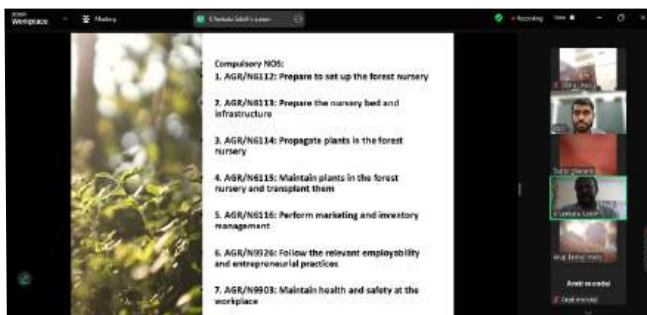
CEO-ASCI delivering Key Insights during the meeting

Affiliation and Accreditation Milestones

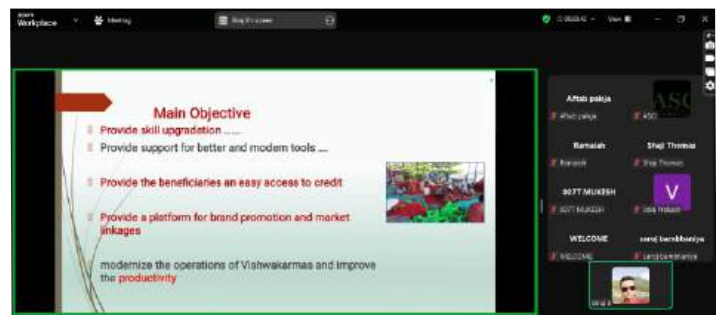
In the 2nd quarter, a total of 520 training centres, including 308 private and 212 government centres, were conditionally accredited across 33 specialized job roles. These centres, aligned with key schemes such as PMKVY, RKVY and Industry-funded programs, are supported by 168 dedicated Training Partners, providing a strong foundation for skill development across various sectors. This progress strengthens the agricultural workforce and supports the ongoing development of vocational skills.

Training of Trainers (ToT) Programs

ASCI has successfully organized 19 training of trainers (ToT) programs, encompassing 20 job roles and engaging 146 trainers. This extensive series of programs highlights a significant effort to enhance trainer skills and broaden the scope of vocational training.



ToT/ToA (2nd August 2024) – Forest Nursery Raiser



ToT/ToA (11th September 2024) – PM Vishwakarma

Swachhata Hi Seva Initiative: Making a Positive Impact

ASCI Team has actively participated in the Swachhata Hi Seva initiative, started from 17th September 2024, by conducting cleaning drives as part of the Swachhata Lakshit Ekayi (CTU). This engagement reflects ASCI's commitment to promoting cleanliness and environmental sustainability within the community. The cleaning drives not only aimed at enhancing the local environment but also encouraged community involvement in maintaining a cleaner, greener space. Through these efforts, ASCI continues to contribute to the broader mission of fostering a culture of cleanliness and responsibility in society.



ASCI Team participating in Swachhata Hi Seva Initiative

WorldSkills Competition 2024: India Shines Bright

The WorldSkills Competition 2024, held in Lyon, France, was a remarkable showcase of talent and skill, with India making a significant impact. Over 1,000 competitors from 65 countries participated, demonstrating exceptional prowess across various skill areas. The presence of the Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship underscored the government's commitment to vocational education and skill development, providing invaluable encouragement to Team India. Their impressive performances not only reflect the dedication and hard work of our young professionals but also highlight the critical role of vocational training in fostering a skilled workforce. India earned 4 Bronze Medals and 11 Medallions for Excellence, further showcasing the nation's growing strength and potential on the global stage.



Major Initiatives under Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI)

Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI) have recently rolled out several initiatives to boost agricultural skills and promote sustainable practices across various regions. Through these efforts, farmers, entrepreneurs, and agricultural stakeholders have gained vital knowledge and tools to improve their livelihoods and contribute to eco-friendly farming.

In Haryana, CEASI has focused on educating farmers on the benefits of Direct Seeded Rice (DSR), an environmentally responsible farming method. A series of workshops and field days have engaged farmers in discussions around the method's advantages, such as water conservation and reduced methane emissions. These efforts are paving the way for more sustainable rice farming practices in the state.



CEASI organised a Smart Nutrition Garden demonstration at Karnal, promoting kitchen gardening for sustainable nutrition

In collaboration with local stakeholders, CEASI has also organized a range of training programs. A recent workshop in Karnal provided valuable insights into horticulture entrepreneurship, equipping over 120 participants with practical knowledge on business planning and financial opportunities. This initiative was particularly beneficial for women from self-help groups and aspiring young farmers.

The Kargil region has become an important focus for CEASI, with dedicated training programs designed to enhance skills in livestock management and horticulture. A three-day training session on animal husbandry was conducted with the support of the District Administration, helping local farmers adopt improved livestock practices. Additionally, a specialized program for apricot farmers in Kargil provided key insights into sustainable crop management, further boosting the region's agricultural productivity.

In Uttar Pradesh, CEASI hosted a residential program for Board of Directors of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). This training aimed at strengthening leadership skills within the FPOs and promoting the adoption of innovative agricultural practices, ensuring long-term growth and sustainability for farming communities.



CEASI and Nuziveedu Seeds hosted Farmers Field Day Program in Sonapat, Haryana

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