



“ We need to bring momentum to Skill India campaign and I would encourage more and more youth to come forward and participate in these opportunities being extended to them”

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
Hon'ble Minister,
Ministry of Skill Development &
Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



“ Skill India is one of the most inspiring missions. It remains a very active, well-funded, and solidly supported program of the Govt of India. Skilling should be a collaborative effort between Government & industry that requires skilled talent.

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar
Hon'ble Minister of State,
Ministry of Skill Development &
Entrepreneurship (MSDE)



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



- PM Vishwakarma Scheme
- Ministry of Education Programs
- Capacity Building of Himachali Youth: A New Initiative
- Training of Trainers (ToT) Programs
- Standards and Quality Assurance
- Strategic Engagements during the Quarter
- Events and Key Meetings
- Training of SC/ST Farmers in Andhra Pradesh under Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)
- Major Initiatives under Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India

PM Vishwakarma Scheme



The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched on September 17th, 2023, by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to offer comprehensive support to artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools. This scheme covers 18 trades.

Under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, launched to support artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools, Agriculture Skill Council of India actively contributes to the

objectives of PM Vishwakarma Scheme by promoting the fish net making job role. This initiative, aimed at supporting artisans and craftspeople, focuses on enhancing the skills and livelihoods of those involved in fish net making. By doing so, ASCI ensures that fish net makers produce high-quality nets and improve their employability. This effort not only empowers traditional artisans but also supports the sustainable development of coastal communities, aligning with the broader objectives of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme. The initiative not only empowers traditional artisans but also aligns with the broader goals of sustainable fisheries management and rural development, positioning fish net making as a viable and respected profession.



Hon'ble Prime Minister interacting with ASCI "Fishing Net Maker" Trade Mentor and Artisan during PM Vishwakarma exhibition on 17th September 2023

Ministry of Education Programs

Higher Education (UGC Program)

Under the UGC initiative, a comprehensive assessment was conducted for 403 candidates across 10 colleges. The evaluation encompassed a range of courses including Organic Farming, Agriculture, Tea Plantation Management, Fisheries, Agri Business Management, Dairy Technology, and Sericulture. Given the ongoing challenges posed by the pandemic, stringent protective measures were implemented to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants. This assessment aims to uphold the quality of education and adapt to evolving educational needs within the sector.



UGC Program

Capacity Building of Himachali Youth: A New Initiative

Approval has been secured from the Himachal Pradesh Kaushal Vikas Nigam (HPKVN) for a major capacity-building program aimed at empowering Himachali youth. This initiative includes comprehensive residential training facilities designed to enhance local skills and provide valuable opportunities.

Training programs have been launched in the districts of Mandi, Sirmaur, and Bilaspur, with approximately 200 candidates currently enrolled. These programs cover a range of critical areas, including Horticulturist (Protected Cultivation), Floriculturist, Dairy Farmer Entrepreneur, and Aquaculture Worker. Each program is tailored to address specific regional needs and to prepare participants for success in various agricultural and allied sectors.



Training Program on the Dairy Farmer Entrepreneur Job Role-Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh)

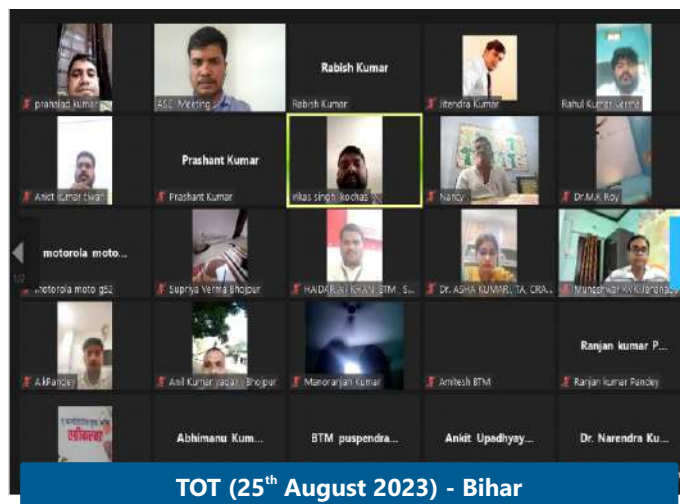
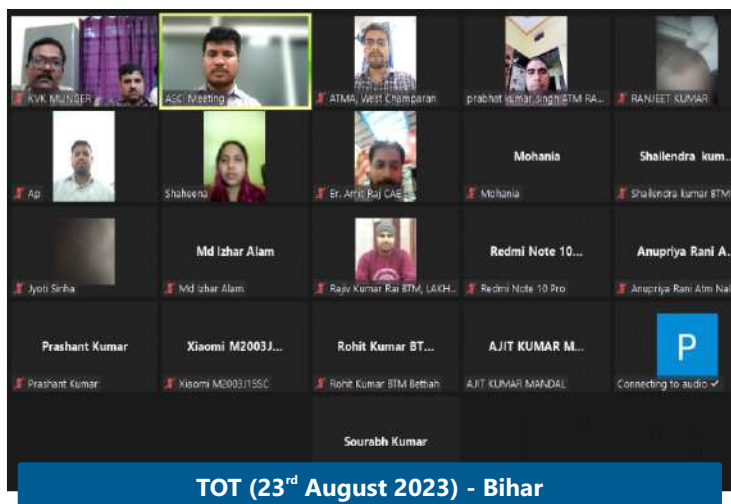


Training Program for the Protected Horticulturist Job Role - Mandi (Himachal Pradesh)

The initiative reflects a concerted effort to address local skill gaps, improve employment opportunities, and support the sustainable development of the region. By providing high-quality training and resources, this program aims to create a skilled workforce capable of driving economic growth and innovation within Himachal Pradesh.

Training of Trainers (ToT) Programs

A series of Training of Trainers (ToT) programs have been successfully organized to enhance the capabilities of trainers across the country. A total of 35 online and 4 offline sessions have been conducted in the 2nd quarter, covering 26 distinct job roles. These initiatives have involved 270 trainers, ensuring they are well-equipped with the latest knowledge and skills. This comprehensive effort underscores a commitment to maintaining high standards in training and improving the quality of education in various sectors.



Standards and Quality Assurance

In an effort to address the evolving needs of the agricultural sector, nineteen new shortened Qualification Frameworks (QFs) have been developed, focusing on practical skills across various disciplines. These frameworks are designed to deliver comprehensive training within a span of 210 hours, providing targeted, efficient education for small-scale farmers and agricultural workers.

S.No.	Shortened QP Name	S.No.	Shortened QP Name
1	Organic Cultivator (Small Unit)	11	Silkworm Rearer
2	Mushroom Grower (Small Unit)	12	Vermicompost Producer (Small Unit)
3	Honey bee Farmer (Small Unit)	13	Flower Grower
4	Backyard-Poultry Farmer	14	Assistant Tractor operator
5	Dairy Farmer (Small Holding)	15	Plant Nursery Assistant
6	Garden-Keeper	16	Seed Grower
7	Assistant Developer- Microforest	17	Herb Grower
8	Plant Health Assistant	18	Greenhouse Assistant Operator
9	Piggery Farmer (Small Unit)	19	Micro- Irrigation Field Assistant
10	Assistant Harvest & Post-harvest Machine Technician		

Strategic Engagements during the Quarter

- ▲ Key discussions took place with Mr. Mathew Johnston, Education Counsellor at the Australian High Commission, and Mr. Sudhir Rajpal, Additional Chief Secretary for Agriculture in Haryana, focusing on the Centre of Excellence Project aimed at enhancing agricultural training and innovation. Further engagements involved talks with Ms. Monique Tran, Agriculture Counsellor from France, and Ms. Alka Upadhyay, IAS, Secretary of Animal Husbandry, addressing skill initiatives with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- ▲ Meetings with the National Fisheries Development Board during Fish Farmers Day, and discussions with Dr. Abhijeet Mitra, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, and Mr. Priya Ranjan, Joint Secretary of MIDH, furthered efforts in skill development and agricultural initiatives.
- ▲ Notable interactions included meetings with TAFE Chennai, the Selco Foundation for Post Harvest Loss Management, and Kudremukh Iron Ore Company. Workshops on AI and MS Office emphasized the integration of technology into skill development.
- ▲ Discussions with GIZ India, the Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation, Azim Premji Foundation, and PLAN India Centred on disaster management and rural development. Recent collaborations with NESARA AGRIZ Private Limited and ArcelorMittal underscored a commitment to CSR and sustainable farming practices.

Events and Key Meetings

- ▲ At the recent G20 and W20 events hosted at NDDDB Anand, a significant step was taken to strengthen the Indian dairy sector. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between NDDDB and ASCI, marking a collaborative effort to elevate the skills and knowledge of stakeholders within the industry. The MoU was signed by Dr. Satender Arya, CEO of ASCI, and Shri Lalit Prasad Karan, Senior General Manager of NDDDB, in the presence of Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman of NDDDB. The partnership aims to identify critical skill gaps, develop capacity-building initiatives, and implement comprehensive training programs that will contribute to the sustainable growth and efficiency of India's dairy sector.



MoU signed between ASCI & NDDDB for a strategic partnership for skill development in the dairy sector on 18th July 2023



Meeting with Dr Satbir Singh Gosal Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Punjab Agriculture University Ludhiana on 27th July 2023

- ▲ On 26th September 2023, a crucial partnership was established with the formalization of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ASCI-CEASI and the Government of Assam. This MoU outlines the creation of a dedicated Centre for Excellence in Dairy Skill Development and Innovation in Assam. The new centre is poised to serve as a pivotal hub for the dairy industry across the North Eastern states of India, focusing on enhancing skills and fostering innovation within the sector. By catering specifically to the unique needs of this region, the centre aims to drive growth, improve dairy practices, and contribute to the overall development of the dairy industry in the North East.

Training of SC/ST Farmers in Andhra Pradesh under Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)

Funded by SEEDAP, ASCI organized 8 to 10-day training programs focused on Zero Budget Natural Farming and Non-Timber Forest Produce, specifically tailored for tribal youth. These initiatives aim to promote sustainable agricultural practices while creating new livelihood opportunities within tribal communities. By emphasizing natural farming techniques, the programs help reduce reliance on chemical inputs, leading to lower costs and improved soil health. Additionally, training in Non-Timber Forest Produce opens up alternative income streams, contributing to economic independence and strengthening community resilience.



Training Session – Andhra Pradesh

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

Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India (CEASI) has been pivotal in advancing the dairy sector through its diverse training initiatives and strategic collaborations. Recently, CEASI's dairy division, CEDSI, organized a highly successful webinar on carbon-neutral dairy farming, attracting over 460 participants. This event highlighted the necessity of collaboration among farmers, businesses, policymakers, and researchers to address greenhouse gas emissions and work towards a more sustainable dairy industry.

CEASI has also focused on on-ground training programs to enhance the skills of dairy professionals. Collaborations with organizations such as Lactalis - Prabhat Dairy and Reliance Foundation have led to training sessions that improve efficiency, milk quality, and procurement techniques. These programs, conducted in regions like Maharashtra, Telangana, and Karnataka, provided participants with practical knowledge and hands-on experience crucial for refining dairy farming practices.



CEDSI organised a training program for Mahila Milk Producer Company in Rajasthan, Supported by WWF



CEDSI and Reliance Foundation Collaborate to Empower Dairy Farmer Entrepreneurs through extensive training

CEASI's efforts extend to empowering rural communities and women entrepreneurs within the dairy sector. Training programs supported by WWF and local dairy cooperatives have addressed key areas such as advanced dairy farming practices, milk quality assurance, and financial management. Held in regions like Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh, these initiatives aim to boost productivity and profitability, fostering sustainable development and growth within the dairy industry.

Agriculture Skill Council of India

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