

Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence

Introduction:

Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence (KASE) was established as the nodal agency for facilitating and coordinating various skill development initiatives of the state. KASE was incorporated with the objectives of promoting, establishing, setting up, monitoring, governing and regulating institutions and academies for skills excellence for development of core employability skills.

Several initiatives have been undertaken to promote skill development in the state such as setting up of Centres of Excellence, employment enhancement programs, Kaushal Kendras, employability centres, career development centres, job training centres as well as implementation of schemes in collaboration with ADB. Kerala's Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) is a pioneer project geared towards encouraging vocational education in schools

Initiatives:

The key initiatives of the state are described below:

- Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) Foundation and Skill program: The Programmes aims at equipping selected school/college students with skills in Communication, IT and selected areas of industry and service sectors.
- Centre of Excellence: In order to ensure highest training quality KASE has launched an international outreach initiative - iSTEP (International Skill Training and Employability Programme), a system envisaged for faster, simpler and efficient processing required for setting up of Centres of Excellence (CoE) in various sectors.
- Employment Enhancement Programs: KASE has taken several initiatives to create employment ready workforce and increasing the probability of a candidate to be recruited. Some of the noteworthy initiatives taken in this regard are Setting up of Kaushal Kendras, Converting Employment Exchanges into Employability Centres. Employment exchanges set up Career Development Centre/Mini Employability Centre (CDC/MEC)
- Summer Skill Program - ASAP has taken efforts to popularize the concept of Vocational training during summer and this experience has prompted ASAP to design a comprehensive Summer Skill Training programme named "Summer Skill Skool"
- Community Skill Parks - The aim of this project is to set up international level multiskilling center.
- Aspirational Survey for Students for designing curriculum and Partnership with British Council for English Language communication proposed
- Sixteen Community Skill Parks are planned all over Kerala in two phases. Nine Community Skill Parks are in first phase and seven are in second phase. All CSPs are operating in PPP Model through a concession agreement
- Kerala's first UN backed Career Development Center started functioning at Perambra . Such centers to be opened in all 14 districts. Center to also offer skill development courses including soft skill, computer skill and English language training

Outcomes/Impact:

- 6 Centres of Excellence established Nursing and Healthcare (2 CoEs), Oil & Rig, Security, Teaching, Water Technology. More than 900 candidates have been trained under these CoEs with a placement rate of around 46%
- More than 7,500 candidates have been trained and placed under Kaushal Kendras
- More than 1.43 Lakh candidates have registered at the recently developed Employment Exchanges out of which around 99,000 candidates have been trained and assessed with more than 44,000 candidates placed till date

Sources : Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence website and KPMG in India Analysis