



Skills Time

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RSDC Annual Awards 2020

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Vocational Programs in Rubber to get a fillip

With a view to fulfill the rising demand for rubber technology professionals in the country, Rubber Skill Development Council, the sector skill council for rubber in the country...

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First Award for Best Assessment Agency to Trendsetters Skill Assessors Pvt Ltd



First Award for Best Trainer to Mr Rajib Loson Basumatary

From COO desk:

The digital learning platform: eSkill-Acharya

The rise of advanced technologies has led to economic systems evolving rapidly. Along with these changes, skill sets are being disrupted and modes of training & delivery are evolving rapidly. To address the challenges posed by these changes and the rising expectations for innovative skills training by stakeholders and end-beneficiaries, there is an increased demand for online and blended learning. Therefore RSDC is happy to announce the launch of eSkill-Acharya, the digital learning platform for accessing digital learning content in Rubber and Plastic sector.

This platform is a one stop solution for providing training and imparting theoretical knowledge as well as various skills required to work in Rubber and Plastic industry in addition to giving live demonstration of practical scenarios and handling machines. Each module is followed by formative assessments which will help the instructor and the students to analyse the progress. All the e-courses are hosted on our portal e Skill-Acharya. The courses are paid courses and the student/instructor can access the course by paying the amount through online Payment Gateway. The eligibility criteria for each course is determined as per the Qualification Packs (Job roles) listed on RSDC website.

Rubber is a workforce intensive sector with manufacturing clusters spread all across the country. The skilling requirements for the sector are also diverse ranging from manufacturing to plantation. ESkill Acharya will help envisage the rapidly changing nature of work in the sector and the same is important for restructuring the skilling ecosystem as a New Normal.

Ms Shewani Nagpal



RSDC Celebrates Annual Award ceremony



Against all odds, Rubber Skill Development Council (RSDC), the sector skill council for Rubber in the country, celebrated its annual awards ceremony, 5th in the series, in a virtual mode. The RSDC awards ceremony which has come to attain a special place on the calendar of the Rubber & Tyre Industry in India gave the feel of a live show as all the elements of the awards ceremony were string together with high technical precision. The event witnessed large participation from Rubber & Tyre Industry captains, officials from the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), trainers, assessors, academia and other stakeholders.

Mr Anshuman Singhania, Vice Chairman, Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA) and Mr V T Chandhrasekharan, President, All India Rubber Industries Association (AIRIA) graced the occasion as Guests of Honour.

Recounting the achievements of RSDC in its 8-year journey, Chairman of RSDC, Mr Vinod Simon in his welcome note stated, "RSDC has trained over 2.5 lakh trainees across Rubber plantations, Rubber manufacturing and Tyre repair & service verticals apart from creating qualification packs (QPs) and National Occupation Standards (NOS) for different job roles in the Rubber sector. Skill gap analysis has been undertaken by RSDC across all major states in the country. RSDC is currently engaged in creating e-learning simulated content and different models of training. Saamarth project being run under the mentorship of MSDE has been a trailblazer of sorts".

"Besides training in plantations and manufacturing, a fleet of 40 well-equipped mobile skill vans, the first of-its-kind in India, are running the length & breadth of the country, training the tyre fitters and converting many of them into entrepreneurs".

Mr Vinod Simon, Chairman RSDC

"During the pandemic, a large number of people have been equipped with skills which will be in good demand as the economy is gradually but certainly opening up. Additionally, renewed efforts have been made for training in plantations in the Northeast. The Northeast of the country holds a lot of potential for increasing the output of Natural Rubber through skill development and skill training in rubber tapping and processing. Tyre industry is all for NR plantations in the country and will support every move that makes domestic NR competitive".

Mr Anshuman Singhania



Best Trainee Natural Rubber

- 1 Charanpati Chakma
- 2 Sebati Beshra
- 3 Sulochana Singh

Special Category

Best Government Skill Development

National Backward Classes Finance
 & Development Corporation

Best Industry

Bridgestone India Pvt Ltd

Best University & College

 Dr MGR Educational & Research Institute, Chennai



Mr V T Chandhrasekharan, President AIRIA said, "The disruption due to Covid pandemic has caused wide-spread chaos. However, during my several interactions with the Government officials in recent months, it was evident that the Rubber industry has a large potential to grow. Internationally, manufacturers have started looking for alternative manufacturing bases. India fits the bill well. There is a large opportunity for Indian rubber industry to grow. We need to invest in R&D, improve manufacturing capacities by using low cost automation and artificial intelligence (AI) and improve the efficiencies of the work force. RSDC is doing a meaningful job along with the partners in skilling up the sector. Rubber Industry needs support from all the stakeholders in making the industry competitive".



Two veterans of the industry, Mr Vijay Pahwa, NSDC's nominee director at RSDC and Mr Rajiv Budhraja, Director General Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association announced the awards in their best capacity as the jury members of the Award Ceremony.

Excellence achieved in different facets of the skilling ecosystem in the Rubber sector was recognised at RSDC Annual Awards 2020. The first prize for the Best Training Partner went to LabourNet Services India Pvt Ltd, Mr Rajib Loson Basumatary and Samir Debnath were adjudged as the Best Trainers. Trendsetters Skill Assessors Pvt Ltd received the first prize as Best Assessment Agency.

Gurdev Singh from Chandigarh and P C Simon of Kerala from Mettle Mercer, received recognition as best assessors. Rajesh T K certified and trained in the tyre fitter job Role was conferred the best trainee award in manufacturing, whereas in Plantation the

best trainee award went to Charanpati Chakma in Latex Harvest Technician Job role.

Under Special Category awards, National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) received the award as Best Government skill department. Bridgestone India bagged the award as Best industry for its CSR project centered on tyre services. Dr MGR Educational & Research Institute, Chennai received recognition as the Best Academic Institution for successfully implementing a dual degree programme.

Ms Shewani Nagpal, COO of RSDC while thanking the guests committed to continue working towards making the Rubber sector competitive through skill training and unlock the job potential in the sector.



Vocational programs in Rubber to get a fillip

Intending to fulfill the rising demand for rubber technology professionals in the country, Rubber Skill Development Council, the sector skill council for rubber in the country, is collaborating with a clutch of colleges in Kerala for the commencement of Bachelor of Vocation (B Voc) and Masters of Vocation (M Voc) in Rubber Technology.

"Rubber is one of the emerging sectors of the economy. However so far there was a paucity of study programs exclusively dedicated to Rubber technology. Introduction of these programs will not only bridge the skill gap in the Rubber sector but will make the sector more competitive by making skilled manpower available in adequate numbers", said Mr Vinod Simon, Chairman RSDC.

RSDC has already developed curriculum for these courses in collaboration with leading industry players so that students passing out are industry ready in all respects. RSDC has also facilitated these colleges in securing approval from the University Grants Commission (UGC). An MoU is on the anvil between RSDC and these colleges for the commencement of courses. RSDC will be assessing the quality of the training delivered and also certify the students. Rubber Board of India is also a partner as a provider of internships to the students.

Marian College - Kuttikanam has been approved by UGC to offer MVoc in Rubber Technology. This is the first time MVoc in Rubber & Polymer technology has been introduced in the country. St.Theresa's College & St. Dominic College have been approved by UGC to conduct BVoc in Rubber Technology.

"Imaginatively designed courses by RSDC will help increase the availability of trained and specialized rubber technologists in the country. Currently, there is an urgent need to build a skilled workforce equipped with the required skillsets to meet the demand of Industry 4.0. It is important that the training program is job oriented and geared to equip the trainees with the latest knowledge and know-how", added Mr Simon.

A unique highlight of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is its emphasis on vocational education. The launch of BVoc and MVoc courses fits in well with the spirit of NEP 2020, said Ms Shewani Nagpal, COO, RSDC.

RSDC and Kerala Government have already joined hands to introduce Rubber Technology Courses across schools and colleges of Kerala. For this RSDC has tied up with the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP), a part of the State Skill Development Project under Govt. of Kerala. This initiative has introduced Junior Rubber Technician and Lab Chemist programs in schools and colleges of Kerala across various districts.

BVoc in Rubber Technology is a 3-year modular program and provides flexibility to students, to exit at the end of each year. Students exiting at the end of 1st year are certified with Diploma, those exiting after 2nd year, become an Advanced Diploma holder. And on completion of the 3-year program, the students graduate as Bachelor in Vocational Education with specialization in Rubber Technology.

Mr Vinod Simon Chairman, RSDC

Mr Vijay Pahwa Nominee Director, NSDC

Mr Rajiv Budhraja Director General, ATMA

Ms Shewani Nagpal Editor, COO, RSDC

Ms Deepmala Moorjani Asst Editor, Manager, RSDC

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