



ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025

ENHANCING INDIA'S SKILLING ECOSYSTEM

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Message from CEO



“ NSFI team is innovating various ways and means of driving change and delivering impact.

The year 2024–25 has been a significant step forward in the journey of the National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI). Guided by our charitable purpose of supporting rural and low-income communities, we continued to focus on building dignified livelihoods through education, skill development, and enterprise support for farmers, youth, and women across India.

During the year, NSFI deepened its work across three pillars – agriculture and livelihoods, rural entrepreneurship, and climate-responsive development. In partnership with government agencies, community institutions, and CSR partners, we helped farmers and extension workers adopt improved agricultural practices, develop future-ready skill standards, and access better market opportunities. These efforts strengthened food and income security for smallholder farmers while promoting sustainable use of natural resources.

Promoting green and inclusive enterprises remained a core priority. We worked with rural youth and women entrepreneurs to convert locally available resources – such as agricultural byproducts and other eco-friendly materials – into value-added products and services. By combining skill training, enterprise incubation, and market linkages, NSFI supported community members to start or grow small businesses that generate additional income for their families while contributing positively to the local environment.

We also invested in continued mentoring and handholding through our mentRE (Mentoring Rural Entrepreneurs) initiative. This platform provides rural entrepreneurs with ongoing business guidance, exposure to digital tools, and peer learning. For many first-generation entrepreneurs, sustained mentoring has been essential in turning short-term training into long-term, viable enterprises.

Across all our programmes, NSFI's approach remains rooted in inclusiveness, transparency, and accountability. Our projects are designed to benefit the public at large, with special attention to rural youth, women, and smallholder farmers who face barriers to skills, markets, and finance. We work closely with government schemes and policies, complementing public systems rather than duplicating them, and we follow all applicable laws and regulations in the use of funds.

As we look ahead, NSFI will continue to strengthen the link between skills, sustainability, and entrepreneurship. With the support of our CSR partners, social impact investors, government institutions, and community organisations, we remain committed to scaling up programmes that relieve poverty, expand livelihood opportunities, and build climate-resilient rural economies. We are grateful to everyone who has placed their trust in NSFI and joined us in serving communities in need.

Sai Krishan Nanduri
CEO, National Skills Foundation of India



Introduction

National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI) is a not-for-profit organization engaged in building sustainable livelihoods for rural men & women through programme implementation, research and evidence building, policy advocacy and incubation of enterprises for scaled impact.

Incorporated in 2009 under India Trusts Act 1882 with the understanding that India's growing youth population was resulting in 'Demographic Dividend', if harnessed it could contribute to the country's economic development; and if unaddressed potentially impact society's socio-economic balance. NSFI was established with a focus on skill building and developing vocational opportunities for India's large but relatively unskilled, semi-skilled workforce, rural youth, farmers, and women entrepreneurs.

Over the past six years, NSFI has actively worked at the grassroots level to address diverse development priorities — from promoting climate-resilient agricultural technologies and strengthening FPOs to empowering women through entrepreneurship and enhancing complementary livelihood opportunities across India. This year, NSFI's focus has been on fostering green enterprises among rural youth — initiatives that not only generate income and create sustainable livelihoods but also contribute positively to the environment.

Since its inception, NSFI has worked in over seven countries and 27 states of India.



NSFI's focus has been on fostering green enterprises among rural youth — initiatives that not only generate income and create sustainable livelihoods but also contribute positively to the environment.

A group of men are seated in a conference room, facing a large screen that displays a presentation. The room has wood-paneled walls, a white ceiling with recessed lighting, and a white air conditioner. A black speaker is mounted on the wall to the left of the screen. The men are dressed in a mix of traditional Indian attire (kurta, dhoti, and a white turban) and modern shirts. They are all looking towards the screen, which shows a slide with text and a diagram. The room is well-lit, and the atmosphere appears to be professional and focused.

MISSION

To be an organization of excellence that empowers people through entrepreneurship and skill development toward achieving enhanced and sustainable incomes.

VISION

Build capacities and capabilities of people and increase their access to information, technologies & innovations through market and value chain integration.





NSFI works with SDGs

NSFI's strategy and work is ensured to align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to contribute to the global agenda and address the challenges and opportunities related to social, environmental, and economic issues.



SDG 05: Gender
Equality



SDG 13: Climate
Action



SDG 1, 8 & 9:
Agriculture &
Livelihoods



SDG 4, 8 & 9: Digital
& Financial Literacy



SDG 17: Incubation
& Entrepreneurship
Development

Thematic areas



Agriculture &
Livelihoods



Enterprise Promotion



Climate Action



Gender Equality



Nutritional Security



The year that was

In 2024–25, the National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI) continued to strengthen its mission of building sustainable livelihoods through innovation, partnerships, and on-ground impact. The year marked significant milestones across its core pillars – Agriculture & Livelihoods, Green Enterprise Promotion, and Climate Action.

NSFI's commitment to promoting climate-smart agricultural practices and mitigating the risks of climate change gained further momentum this year. From advancing sustainable technologies in sugarcane cultivation, apple farming, and tea production to nurturing agri-entrepreneurs who champion their adoption, NSFI has continued to drive innovation at the grassroots. The organisation also expanded awareness on agri-photovoltaic farming — an emerging solution that enables farmers to generate solar energy while cultivating crops. In collaboration with our partners we initiated a critical national study on agro-ecological (AE) farming to support natural-farming start-ups in scaling sustainably. Through partnerships with both national and international entities, we remain committed to addressing the sector's needs and contributing to the future of agriculture in India.

Entrepreneurship and livelihood generation continue to be among NSFI's core focus areas. In Himachal Pradesh and Telangana, NSFI has been working closely with rural women entrepreneurs who were previously trained and supported to establish their own enterprises. Building on this foundation, NSFI launched mentRE (Mentoring Rural Entrepreneurs) — an innovative online platform offering personalized coaching, mentoring, and upskilling support. The platform addresses entrepreneurs' evolving business needs through expert-led sessions on social media marketing, product diversification, and enterprise growth strategies, ensuring that these women continue to strengthen and expand their businesses sustainably.

Understanding the evolving needs of the times and the changing environmental context, NSFI has expanded its focus towards promoting the creation of Green Enterprises — ventures that not only generate sustainable livelihoods but also address pressing environmental challenges. These enterprises transform locally available natural and biodegradable resources into marketable products, offering both economic and ecological benefits. Examples include making banana fibre that convert agricultural waste into value-added products, cow dung-based manufacturing for eco-friendly utilities, and bamboo craft enterprises that reduce dependence on plastic materials. Through such initiatives, NSFI is fostering a new generation of rural entrepreneurs who combine innovation with environmental stewardship, contributing to a circular and climate-resilient rural economy.

The year 2024–25 reaffirmed NSFI's commitment to driving inclusive, sustainable, and climate-resilient growth across rural India. Through its focus on skills, entrepreneurship, and climate-smart innovation, NSFI continued to empower communities, strengthen partnerships, and create meaningful livelihood opportunities. Moving forward, NSFI remains dedicated to scaling these initiatives for greater impact — nurturing a generation of skilled, environmentally conscious, and self-reliant rural entrepreneurs.



Highlights

Empowering Communities • Enabling Green Enterprises • Advancing Climate Action

Advancing Agriculture & Livelihoods

- ☺ Developed 5 new Qualification Packs and 20 micro-credentials addressing emerging agri-skills for the next decade.
- ☺ Conducted Training-of-Trainers programs on Apple GAP and Post-Harvest Loss Management across 5 states, engaging 400+ trainers and farmers.
- ☺ Launched a national scoping study with NABARD & GIZ under the JIVA Programme, analysing 30 agro-ecological start-ups across 24 pilot locations in 11 states to strengthen natural-farming value chains.

Promoting Green Enterprises & Rural Entrepreneurship

- ☺ Rolled out mentRE – Mentoring Rural Entrepreneurs, a digital-physical platform connecting rural entrepreneurs with mentors for upskilling in various issues like marketing, finance for business growth and sustainability.
- ☺ Trained and incubated 25 rural entrepreneurs (including 5 green enterprises) in Anand, Gujarat; focus on banana fibre extraction, cow-dung products, tailoring, khakhra making, and jewellery design.

Driving Climate Action & Sustainability

- ☺ Under GIZ-MNRE AgriPV & PM-KUSUM campaign, organized 100 participatory farmer workshops across 27 states, reaching 3,796 farmers.
- ☺ Produced multi-level synthesis reports for MNRE and GIZ, highlighting barriers, financial models, and policy recommendations.
- ☺ Through the Trustea Sustainable Tea Programme, certified 20.01 million kg and recertified 34.1 million kg of tea, introduced TraceTea digital traceability in 5 units, and trained 231 women workers on POSH and workplace safety.



Agriculture & Livelihoods

The National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI) is shaping a new, integrated approach to agriculture and rural livelihoods. Across three complementary initiatives, NSFI is helping farmers, entrepreneurs, and training institutions move toward climate-resilient, skill-rich, and market-ready futures.

Developing Critical Skills for Agriculture in India to Meet the Future Needs

This initiative, funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, brought together leading agricultural education and training institutions from Australia and India, including the University of Adelaide, Skills Impact (Australia), the Agricultural Skills Council of India (ASCI), and the National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI). Its objective was to identify critical and emerging agricultural jobs aligned with India's National Education Policy 2020, codify skills into occupational standards while creating unique training opportunities for Australian providers, design pathways for specialist training delivery in India through partnerships with Indian institutions and industry, and develop as well as deliver pilot short courses to bridge critical skills gaps and address emerging technology needs. Agriculture job roles and micro-credentials were developed that are both globally informed and locally relevant. Following extensive consultations with Indian agribusiness stakeholders, the project jointly developed course content through Australian RTOs and Indian training organisations, and successfully co-delivered pilot training at identified sites in India, blending best practices from the Australian skilling ecosystem with the realities of Indian agriculture.

With ASCI guiding compliance, 25 new standards (5 QPs + 20 NOS/MCs) have already been approved by NCVET and listed on the National Qualification Register, paving the way for large-scale adoption across Indian institutions and schemes.

The five Qualification Packs (QPs) developed were:

- Carbon Farming Practitioner
- Livestock Green Management Promoter
- Integrated Farming Practitioner
- Organic Farm & Business Facilitator
- Digital Agriculture Extension Promoter

During the sixteen-month project there were plenty of challenges faced such as aligning two national systems, tailoring content for India's diverse agro-ecologies, and building trainer depth which were met through joint analysis, collaborative content localisation, and strengthened Training-of-Trainers plans.



Training-of-Trainers for Apple Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) & Post-Harvest Loss Management

To strengthen India's horticulture value chain and reduce food-system emissions, NSFI worked with ASCI with support from GIZ – designed and delivered a two-track capacity-building programme that addressed both climate-resilient apple cultivation and post-harvest loss (PHL) management. The initiative was designed to equip agriculture extension workers, farmer-group leaders, and civil-society partners to cascade high-quality training to farmers while tailoring state-specific PHL modules for Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. In Himachal Pradesh – India's "fruit basket," where climate variability threatens apple yields, the project finalised and translated four Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) modules covering canopy management, soil health, integrated pest and disease management, and pollination. Trainers were carefully shortlisted from the Department of Horticulture, Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and NGOs, and guided by expert resource persons from horticulture universities. Field-day demonstrations anchored practical learning, ensuring that master trainers can pass on climate-smart techniques to orchardists across the state. Parallel efforts customised and translated PHL training to local crop priorities in five states, with certification programmes delivered through KVKs and NGOs to around 400 farmers, targeting India's annual post-harvest losses estimated at over ₹1.5 lakh crore.

A Scoping Study to Identify Start-Ups and Key Interventions supporting the agroecological value chains nom NABARD's JIVA Programme

Building on that skills foundation, NSFI and the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA) are leading a GIZ supported national scoping study NABARD's JIVA Programme. Our shared goal is to mainstream agro-ecological (AE) farming and help natural-farming start-ups scale sustainably across 24 pilot locations in 11 states, representing five agro-ecological zones.

Indian agriculture has drifted from diversified, low-input systems toward chemical-intensive monocropping—depleting soil health, biodiversity, and local input networks. JIVA seeks to reverse this trend by strengthening value chains, demonstrating landscape-based planning, and supporting start-ups that can make agro-ecological practices profitable.

The study has been undertaken to identify and analyses 30 promising start-ups, maps critical value-chain gaps, and prepares actionable business plans and market-linkage models. An Advisory Committee of NABARD, GIZ, NSFI & CSA aim to complete the study by end of 2025.

The challenges of this massive study are many such as a fragmented start-up ecosystem, unorganised markets, and the pressure of competing chemical-input enterprises that are being addressed through rigorous enterprise diagnostics, standards and market mapping, and a hands-on demonstration with one start-up during Kharif 2025.



Promotion of Green Enterprises

Over the years, NSFI has made entrepreneurship the cornerstone of its mission to build resilient and sustainable livelihoods. Recognising the untapped potential of rural youth — particularly women — who often lack access to structured opportunities, NSFI has implemented focused initiatives that blend skill development, enterprise incubation, business mentoring, and market linkage support. Through the continuous coaching and mentoring of women entrepreneurs under Project Sabal Sakhi in Himachal Pradesh and Project Sabala in Telangana, NSFI remains committed to empowering rural communities and enabling them to thrive as creators of change and enterprise.

Another initiative was launched to empower rural youth — both men and women with the entrepreneurial mindset and practical skills needed to create and scale their own enterprises, with a special emphasis on green, environmentally sustainable businesses. Anchored in Anand district, Gujarat, the pilot phase (October 2024 to March 2025) set out to train and mentor 25 entrepreneurs, including five focused on green enterprises. The project will be expanded to cover more youth in the district in the next two years.

A field office and dedicated team were established in Anand, and partnerships were forged with local NGOs, SHGs, and training providers to identify promising trades and viable entrepreneurs. After extensive field surveys and consultations, the project pinpointed banana fibre extraction, cow dung product making, organic fertilisers, tailoring, food processing (khakhra), jewellery making, embroidery, laundry services, and traditional Kutchi work as high-potential trades for the region. Twenty-five entrepreneurs many of them women were carefully selected based on clear criteria of business intent, financial readiness, and community impact.

The project provided a two-phase Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) and technical training tailored to each trade, blending classroom instruction with practical, hands-on learning. Training highlights ranged from crafting eco-friendly cow dung products and extracting banana fibre to mastering traditional khakhra recipes and high-quality handmade jewellery. Entrepreneurs also received machinery, tools, and equipment to ensure production quality and market readiness.

Beyond technical skills, the project will emphasize market linkages, branding, and digital outreach. Participants will be mentored through NSFI's mentRE initiative and sessions will be organized on e-commerce, social media marketing, and packaging design etc. for business growth and sustainability.

Despite challenges — such as delays in partnerships, limited local exposure, and social restrictions on women's mobility the project demonstrated how targeted mentoring, practical training, and access to resources can transform rural youth into confident entrepreneurs. With its combination of green enterprise focus, strong community partnerships, and technology-enabled learning, this initiative is laying the foundation for sustainable rural livelihoods and a vibrant ecosystem of job creators rather than job seekers.



Innovation at NSFI

– mentRE

The mentRE (Mentoring Rural Entrepreneurs) initiative by NSFI (National Skills Foundation of India) aims to bridge the critical mentoring gap faced by rural entrepreneurs. While many rural youth and women receive training and financial support, few have access to ongoing business coaching or market guidance. mentRE addresses this through a blended “phygital” mentoring platform that combines digital tools (mobile, WhatsApp, virtual sessions) with in-person coaching. It matches entrepreneurs with subject-matter experts based on their needs, enabling continuous learning in marketing, finance, and business management.

Since 2017, NSFI has supported over 2,600 women entrepreneurs and incubated 950 enterprises nationwide. Building on this experience, the mentRE pilot, implemented across Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, and Gujarat with 60 entrepreneurs, has already shown success in improving confidence, sales, and product quality. By institutionalizing mentoring within livelihood and skilling programs, NSFI’s mentRE model offers a scalable, data-driven approach that transforms training into sustained entrepreneurship — empowering rural communities to become resilient job creators and contributors to green, inclusive growth.



Since 2017, NSFI has supported over 2,600 women entrepreneurs and incubated 950 enterprises nationwide.



Climate Action

– Our Efforts

Under the IGSP IN-Solar Project supported by GIZ and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the ASCI-NSFI consortium implemented a nationwide campaign to advance India's renewable-energy target of 500 GW by 2030 through large-scale promotion of Agri-Photovoltaics (AgriPV) and government of India's PM KUSUM scheme. AgriPV integrates solar power generation with crop cultivation, allowing farmers to earn additional income while maintaining agricultural production. The project organised 100 awareness-building workshops across 27 states and Union Territories through the ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) network, directly engaging farmers, FPOs, cooperatives, Panchayati Raj institutions, financial institutions, and state implementing agencies. The initiative tackled multiple on-ground barriers: limited farmer awareness of AgriPV technologies and PM-KUSUM Component A procedures; farmers' financial constraints and doubts about the viability of solar generation on farmland; regulatory and land-availability issues; and the need for locally adapted training materials and strong multi-stakeholder coordination. A consolidated report on the farmer's response to the PM KUSUM schemes and their feedback was submitted.

All training materials were reviewed that resulted in updated modules that were translated and vetted in local languages for wider accessibility among diverse farming communities. Coordinated with ATARI and KVK levels for organizing the workshops. This facilitated farmer mobilization and efficient programme execution. A total of 100 participatory farmer workshops were successfully organized, featuring expert presentations, farmer-led discussions, live demonstrations, and interactive sessions that identified challenges, solutions, and actionable pathways for PM-KUSUM Component A adoption. The initiative reached 3,796 farmers, exceeding the 3,000-farmer target, focusing on lead farmers, FPOs, and cooperative members. Comprehensive knowledge products, including KVK-level, state-level, and national synthesis reports, captured valuable lessons, stakeholder feedback, financial models, and regulatory insights.



All training materials were reviewed that resulted in updated modules that were translated and vetted in local languages for wider accessibility among diverse farming communities.



Under the Trustea Sustainable Tea Program, NSFI continued its climate-responsive and socially responsible work in the tea gardens of Assam and West Bengal, focusing on reducing the environmental footprint of small tea growers while improving livelihoods and workplace standards. By promoting better agricultural practices, controlling water pollution, and preventing soil erosion, the project directly addresses the adverse effects of climate change on tea production. In 2023 alone, 20.01 million kilograms of tea were certified across 19 units – exceeding the revised annual target of 15 million kg and 34.1 million kilograms were recertified across 26 units, reinforcing sustainable cultivation practices. To strengthen supply-chain transparency and reduce waste, the Tracetea digital traceability app was introduced and is now live in five units (two in Assam and three in West Bengal), enabling end-to-end monitoring from garden to cup. The initiative also embedded strong social safeguards: 231 women workers across 21 units received Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) training, including guidance on forming Internal Complaints Committees, food safety and hygiene, and equal-pay awareness. Together, these actions – climate-smart farming, digital traceability, and gender-inclusive capacity building demonstrate NSFI's commitment to climate action that protects ecosystems, ensures ethical supply chains, and builds resilience for small tea growers and their communities.

In partnership with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), NSFI is driving an initiative to mainstream Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Tamil Nadu's sugarcane belt. The project targets smallholder farmers, including women, to adopt practices that reduce the carbon footprint of sugarcane cultivation while improving yields and incomes. Dedicated agronomists and entomologists are working to introduce bio-control agents, single-bud chip seedlings, soil-health management, automated irrigation, and drone-based spraying and surveys. These interventions lower chemical fertiliser and pesticide use, curb land degradation, and protect biodiversity, building farmers' resilience to climate variability. At the same time, the project promotes agri-entrepreneurship, enabling local service providers, many of them women to supply quality seedlings, bio-pesticides, and mechanisation services, ensuring that climate-smart practices can scale sustainably across the region.



The project targets smallholder farmers, including women, to adopt practices that reduce the carbon footprint of sugarcane cultivation while improving yields and incomes.

Financials

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2025

(Amount in INR)

PARTICULARS	NOTE	31 MARCH 2025	31 MARCH 2024
I Sources of Funds			
1 NPO Funds	3		
(a) Reserve Funds		1,53,15,061	1,10,53,506
(b) Corpus Funds		1,000	1,000
(c) Assets Funds		7,61,593	6,40,022
		1,60,77,654	1,16,94,528
2 Non-current liabilities			
(a) Long-term borrowings	4	-	17,65,000
(b) Other long-term liabilities		-	-
(c) Long-term provisions		-	-
		-	17,65,000
3 Current liabilities			
(a) Short-term borrowings		-	-
(b) Unspent Grant Balance		-	-
(c) Other current liabilities	5	9,08,714.00	13,03,804.00
(d) Short-term provisions		-	-
		9,08,714.00	13,03,804.00
Total		1,69,86,368.00	1,47,63,331.97
II Application of Funds			
1 Non-current assets			
(a) Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible assets	6	9,48,829.63	8,57,954.34
(i) Property, Plant and Equipment			
(ii) Intangible assets			
(iii) Capital work in progress			
(iv) Intangible asset under development			
(b) Non-current investments		-	-
(c) Long Term Loans and Advances		-	-
(d) Other non-current assets		-	-
		9,48,829.63	8,57,954.34
2 Current assets			
(a) Current investments		-	-
(b) Inventories		-	-
(c) Receivables		-	-
(d) Cash and bank balances	7	1,36,40,604.87	1,09,52,203.82
(e) Short Term Loans and Advances	8	23,96,932.45	29,53,173.75
(f) Other current assets		-	-
		1,60,37,537.32	1,39,05,377.57
Total		1,69,86,368.00	1,47,63,331.97
Brief about the Entity & Summary of significant accounting policies	1&2	-	-
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.			

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

(Amount in INR)

PARTICULARS	NOTE	31 MARCH 2025	31 MARCH 2024
I Income			
(a) Donations and Grants	9	3,13,87,617.75	3,08,99,065.80
(b) Other Income	10	18,03,615.00	7,28,409.10
II Total		3,31,91,232.75	3,16,27,474.90
III Expenses:			
(a) Expenditure on Objects of Organization-Program Expenses	11	2,88,77,696.00	2,67,70,516.00
(b) Donations/Contributions Paid- Amount Sub Grant	12	-	-
(c) Establishment Expenses	13	21,286.70	6,577.58
(f) Depreciation and amortization expense	14	30,695.15	38,299.00
Total		2,89,29,677.85	2,68,15,392.58
IV Excess of Income over Expenditure before exceptional and extraordinary items (III- IV)		42,61,554.90	48,12,082.32
V Exceptional items		-	-
VI Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year before extraordinary items (V-VI)		42,61,554.90	48,12,082.32
VII Extraordinary Items		-	-
VIII Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year (VII-VIII)		42,61,554.90	48,12,082.32
Appropriations Transfer to funds:			
Transfer to/(from) Project fund:		-	-
Balance transferred to General Fund:		42,61,554.90	48,12,082.32
Brief about the Entity & Summary of significant accounting policies			
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.			

RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

(Amount in INR)

RECEIPTS	NOTE	31 MARCH 2025	31 MARCH 2024
Opening Balance :			
Cash and Bank Balances		1,09,52,204	33,08,364
Donation & Grants	15	3,13,87,618	3,08,99,066
Other Income	16	17,90,775	7,28,403
Investment Redeemed		-	8,94,840
Loan & Advances Received		9,63,277	18,98,625
		4,50,93,874	3,77,29,297
PAYMENT			
Expenditure on Objects of Organization-Program Expenses	11	2,88,77,696	2,67,70,516
Donations/Contributions Paid- Amount Sub Grant	12	-	-
Establishment Expenses	13	21,287	6,578
Repayment of Loan		17,65,000	-
Last Year Liability Paid		7,89,286.00	-
Closing Balance			
Cash and Bank Balances		1,36,40,605	1,09,52,204
Total		4,50,93,874	3,77,29,297
Brief about the Entity & Summary of significant accounting policies			
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.			

Governance at NSFI

N SFI's governance falls under the purview of its Board of Trustees, which ensures financial accountability and offers project guidance during quarterly sessions. The CEO assumes the pivotal role, serving as the primary decision-maker responsible for directing project planning, overseeing activities and execution, spearheading fundraising efforts, fostering new partnerships, and representing NSFI across various forums.

Board of Trustees

- * **Sanjeev Asthana, Chairman:** A business leader with 28 years of experience in agriculture, food & retail. Internationally, recognized as a thought leader in areas like Food Security & Nutrition, Sustainability, Agricultural Value Chains, etc. Has been invited by Governments and multilateral institutions to shape policy landscape in food & agriculture. In his corporate career, he ideated, conceptualized, and executed large-scale projects and built businesses and organizations of repute.
- * **Nilotpal Pathak:** An Impact Investment Professional with over 20 years of experience in micro-finance and the agriculture sectors. He has helped corporates and Government organizations raise finance resources through innovative structuring of financial products, financial restructuring of business models, business valuations, etc.
- * **Deepak Dogra:** Vice President – Asia Program Operations at Room to Read. He has a Master of Public Administration in Political Economy and Development from Harvard Kennedy School with experience of working in the development organizations like Pratham and ASER in programme management and implementation. For the last 10 years he has held different positions at Room to Read and managed its programme across several geographies.



The CEO assumes the pivotal role, serving as the primary decision-maker responsible for directing project planning, overseeing activities and execution, spearheading fundraising efforts, fostering new partnerships, and representing NSFI across various forums.

Management Team

- * **Sai Krishan Nanduri, CEO:** An experienced development professional with expertise in agriculture, renewable energy, skill development, and project management, he is a Fellow in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) and a Master of Agricultural Extension from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. He has been leading NSFI since 2015.
- * **KRC Pillai, Head HR:** in addition to this, he is also a Business Enabler at NSFI, providing legal advice and ensuring the safety and protection of all employees.
- * **Amina Kidwai, Lead Partnerships:** She has experience in program management, fundraising, and partnership management. She also drives business development initiatives and manages social media communications and operations.
- * **Abhijith, Operations Manager:** He has experience in managing projects for non-profits and specializes in programmes and operations. He brings expertise in designing and implementing impactful initiatives that address critical community needs. A strategic thinker with strong leadership and collaboration skills, he is committed to driving social innovation and meaningful change.
- * **Santosh Kumar Bhardwaj, Manager Compliance:** he is head of finance and accounting at NSFI, managing compliance requirements and overseeing administration work.

Future and Strategies

1

Going forward, NSFI will continue to advance large-scale development projects that build sustainable livelihoods and align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our focus will remain on strengthening the link between skills, sustainability, and enterprise, ensuring that rural youth and women are not only trained but also supported to thrive as climate action and green enterprise promotion, fostering eco-friendly business models that contribute to environmental stewardship and inclusive growth. Alongside this, enhancing skills training within the agriculture sector to make it future-ready and resilient—will remain a key priority.

2

The thematic area of Gender Equality will continue to guide our interventions, as we promote entrepreneurship as a powerful pathway for women's empowerment. Building on our experience in mentoring through the mentRE platform, and enterprise development models like Sabal Sakhi and Sabala, NSFI will expand its initiatives to integrate continuous mentoring, business viability support, and market linkage mechanisms. Our goal is to scale up successful innovations, extend our reach to new regions, and maximize impact creating a robust ecosystem for rural men & women led sustainable rural enterprises that drive local economies and long-term community resilience.

Partners & Supporters of NSFI



Check out our news & updates on our socials:



National Skill Foundation of India

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