

Invite for MoU Signing Event – 14 Oct 2022 **Skilling Centre to Support the Underwater Domain** **Awareness (UDA) Framework**

India has been a major Maritime Nation in the medieval era, both politically and economically. We were a trading nation with vast fleets of ships making voyages to Far East and Far West. Again in the 21st century we see a resurgence of our maritime capabilities and activities. The apex level announcement of the Security And Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) vision in 2015, clearly attempts to put India in a leadership role in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). To support the SAGAR vision, multiple mega projects have been announced namely the Sagarmala, Bharatmala, Gati Shakti, Deep Ocean Mission, Inland Water Transport (IWT) and many more. These projects have massive allocation of budgets by the Government and thus substantial infrastructure building is being supported by the government. India will need massive amount of skilled human resource to complement such mega projects. The Skill Development Ministry is also backing such skilling requirements with a budget allocation of Rs. 3 lakh crores.

The Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) Framework being progressed by the Maritime Research Centre (MRC), Pune is well placed to manage the challenges & opportunities, arising out of such massive strategic push by the Government of India. Even the global community has strategically shifted towards the maritime domain with the announcement of the Indo-Pacific Strategic Construct. The Indo-Pacific region defined as the tropical water of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean and remains a maritime construct. More and more nations, both within and the extra-regional powers are deploying their maritime assets in the region to maintain their strategic presence. Thus, there is opportunity to contribute towards the skill development requirements, not just for India but also the entire Indo-Pacific region. Given the demographic and the socio-economic & socio-political status in the region, the skilling can be a significant tool to bring economic growth, prosperity and political stability.

The MRC has also been recognized as a nodal agency driving the UDA framework comprehensively in the country and beyond. The Government of Sri Lanka and the Government of Bangladesh have recognized the importance of the UDA and the capacity building being offered by MRC. Other nations in the Indo-Pacific region will also be brought under this umbrella soon. Skilling is also being seen as a diplomatic tool under the SAGAR vision to reach out to the entire region to ensure a leadership status for India in the region.

The Indo-Swiss Centre of Excellence (ISCE), has been established as a not-for-profit entity to support skilling requirements in the country. ISCE has come forward to partner MRC and NDT for establishing a state-of-the-art Centre of Excellence for Skilling to progress the Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) framework across multiple sectors. The focus of the skilling will be to support the stakeholders and bring value for their on job deployment of human resources on site.

Proposal

It is proposed to host an event to bring the policy makers, stakeholders, practitioners and domain experts to discuss the structure of the Centre of Excellence and build strong connect with the real world requirement. The Centre of Excellence will build human resources for the future with abilities to solve problems of the new global order. Hands-on and state-of-the-art innovation will be the key focus of the new initiative. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will mark the beginning of a new concept of skilling in the country and the region. The skilling will encompass a comprehensive capacity & capability building initiative that will facilitate the participants to adapt to the changing contours of the work place dynamics. The center will not only skill the new entrants into the requirements of the new job opportunity, but also provide continuous upgrades to the already deployed professionals.

Program

1600 hrs-	Guests Arrive and Networking High Tea
1700 hrs-	Welcome Address by Mr. Mukesh Malhotra, Chief Functionary ISCE.
1710 hrs-	Introductory Remarks on the UDA framework and the New Initiative by Dr(Cdr) Arnab Das, Founder & Director, MRC Pune.
1730 hrs-	Remarks by the Dignitaries.
1800 hrs-	Closing Remarks by Shri Prakash Krishnaji Apte, Chairman ISCE.
1810 hrs-	Vote of Thanks

Guest List

1. Dr. R A Mashelkar
2. Dr. Vijay Kelkar
3. Shri Vijay Gokhale
4. Lt Gen D B Shekatkar
5. Amb Gautam Bambawale.
6. Vice Admiral DSP Varma.
7. Vice Admiral Suresh Bangara
8. Smt Vandana Chavan
9. Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Commandant NDA
10. Lt Gen Venugopal Menon, Commandant CME
11. Shri Pratap Govindrao Pawar
12. Dr. Ajit Ranade
13. Shri Jayant Patil, L&T Defence
14. Cdr Devendra Bhatnagar, Mahindra Defence Naval Systems
15. Shri Amit Kalyani, Bharat Forge
16. Cmde Ajay Sharma, Bharat Forge
17. Shri Sudhir Mehta, President MCCA
18. National Water Academy
19. Symbiosis
20. Shri Pradeep Rawat
21. Vice Admiral A R Karve
22. Shri Ashwin Shroff, Excel Enterprises.
23. Cmde Rajan Vir
24. Shri Praful Talera
25. Shri Pradeep Bhargava
26. Shri Prashant Girbane, DG MCCA
27. Shri Deepak Karandikar, Prsident MCCA
28. Shri Vikram Salunkhe, MD Accurate Gauging & Instruments Pvt Ltd
29. Shri Vikram Puri,
30. All Directors of ISCE.
31. Shri Sanjay Gandhi, Aspire Knowledge & Skilling Institute
32. Dr. Vijay Wadai, Astute Career Counseling Institute