

GOVERNMENT POLICY REPORT




01 | SUSTAINABILITY


Sustainability Perception Index by SIDBI to Promote Sustainability among MSMEs

In today's world sustainability has become a prime business objective globally. In this regard, Indian MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) are no exception. To label these challenges, SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) and D&B (Dun and Bradstreet) signed an MoU for launching a quarterly Sustainability Perception Index (SIDBI–D&B SPeX) Survey that was announced last year (October – December 2022). In its latest report, the **SPeX score for April-June 2023 stands at 46 witnessing a decline from 54 in the previous quarter i.e. January-March 2023.**


Objectives of SPeX




D&B and SIDBI's Sustainability Perception Index (SIDBI - D&B SPEX), the green pulse indicator is the first index globally, measuring perception of MSMEs on sustainability measures across three dimensions of sustainability adoption (willingness, awareness, and implementation).



SPeX aims to provide valuable insights into how industry stakeholders perceive sustainability, identify key areas for improvement, and foster a culture of sustainable practices.



The index report would provide valuable insight for policymakers, sustainability enablers, and businesses towards improving adoption of sustainability measures by Indian MSMEs.

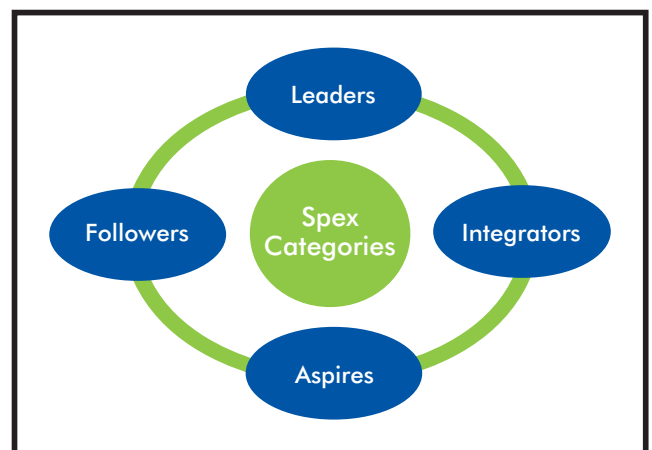


A quantitative measurement for policymakers, enablers, and businesses measuring:

- Trend and level of awareness, willingness, and implementation of sustainability measures
- Implementation of sustainability factors across value/supply chain
- Role and impact of internal drivers - strategy, resources and culture
- Impact of regulations and policies
- Factors impeding/enabling implementation of sustainable practices by MSMEs

The SPeX Index differentiates various MSMEs into four categories as per their performance towards achieving ambitious targets through sustainable processes.

It is important to understand the current situation of sustainability perception for MSMEs in India and act on it using SPeX to proactively support the green mission to address environmental issues, minimize the variety of losses, and counter climate change as they might affect business development across sectors.



Major Highlights of Apr-June 2023 SPeX Index

8 in 10 MSMEs feel need to improve awareness of sustainability measures, policies, procedures for adoption of sustainable practices.

1 in 10 MSMEs are recycling more than 75% of water consumption.

MSMEs face a pressing requirement for technical support and capital to embrace sustainability initiatives and these are among their top three challenges.

SPEX category "SPeX Leaders" view sustainability initiatives as a requirement when it comes to collaborating with clients. Whereas for "SPeX Integrators", "SPeX Aspirers", and "SPeX Followers" categories, sustainability measures serve as valuable guidance for responsible governance.

Cost reductions via efficiency gains and external factors are major drivers of MSME's sustainability actions.

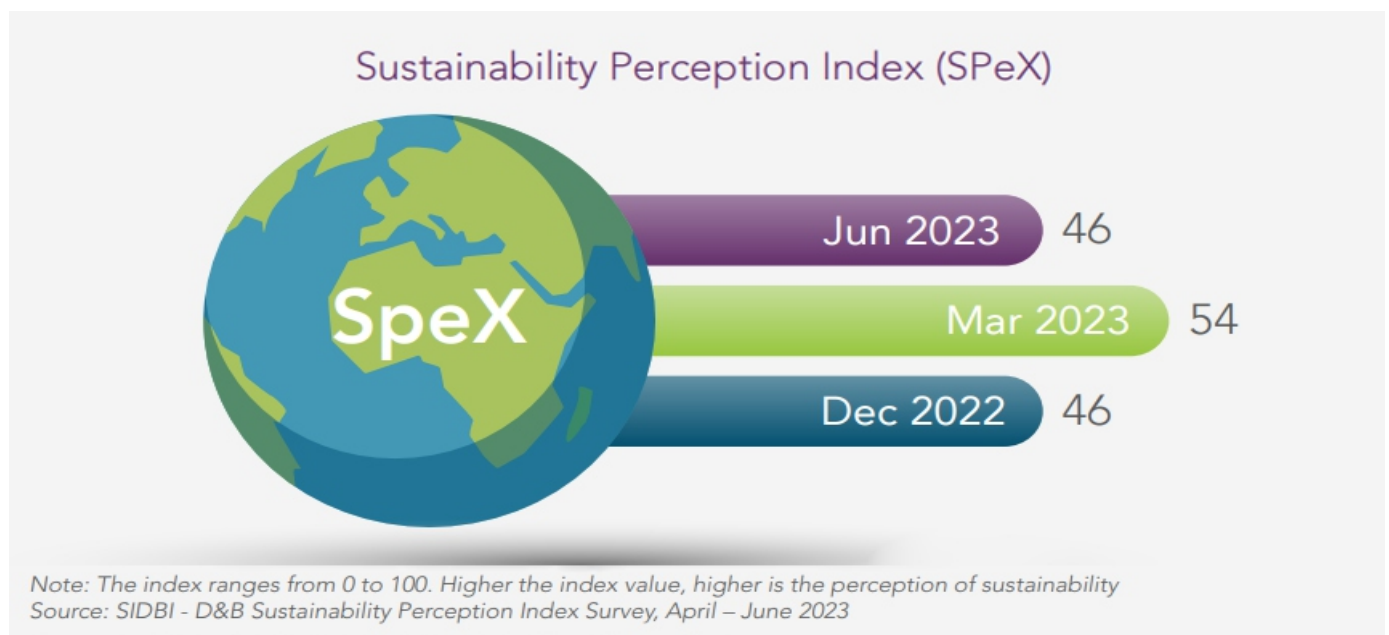
Positive impact on revenue and employee morale are the top expected positive outcomes of their sustainability actions.

Environment-related initiatives such as reducing, reusing, and recycling; and employee welfare, training and retention remain in top three sustainability priorities.

Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>

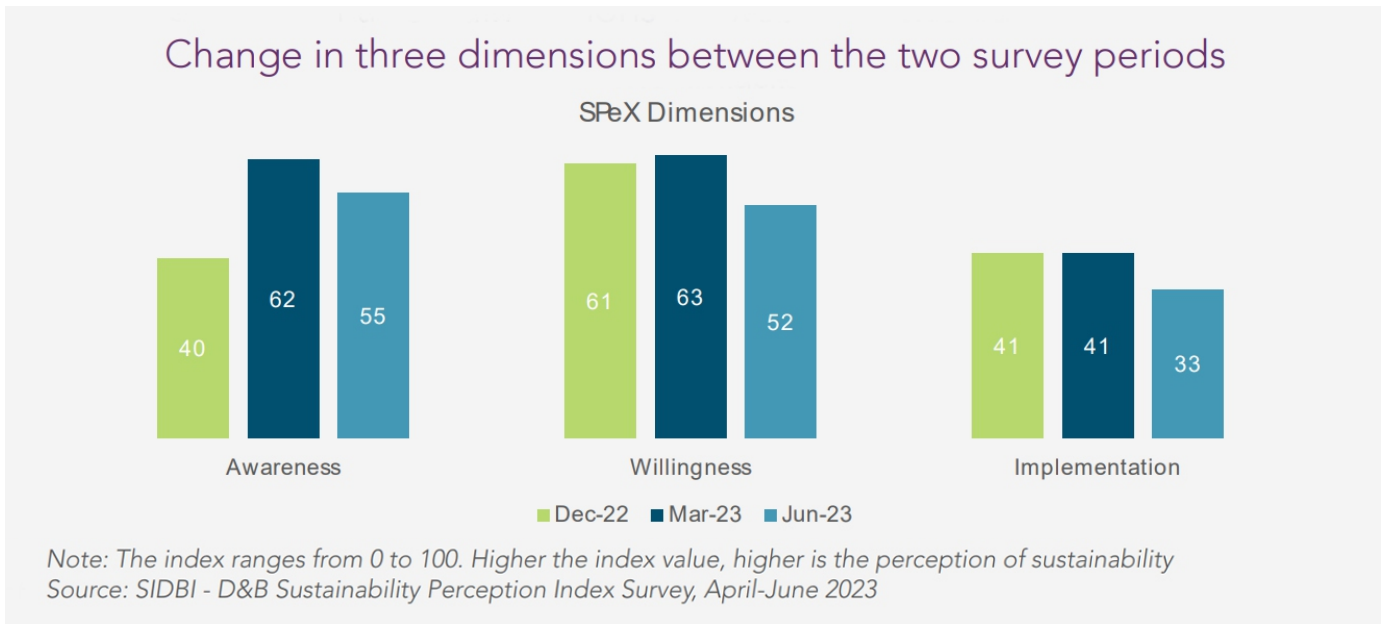
The latest report explains that **there is a 20% decline in implementation, a 17% decline in willingness, and an 11% decline in awareness scores** achieved by MSMEs. SIDBI-D&B SPeX index is mastered to assess the sustainability perception of Indian MSMEs across different industries and locations. The ESG (Environmental Regulations, Social Responsibility, and Governance Practices) framework plays a vital role in maintaining Sustainability Perception to benefit overall growth.

Quarterly Performance of the SPeX Index



Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>

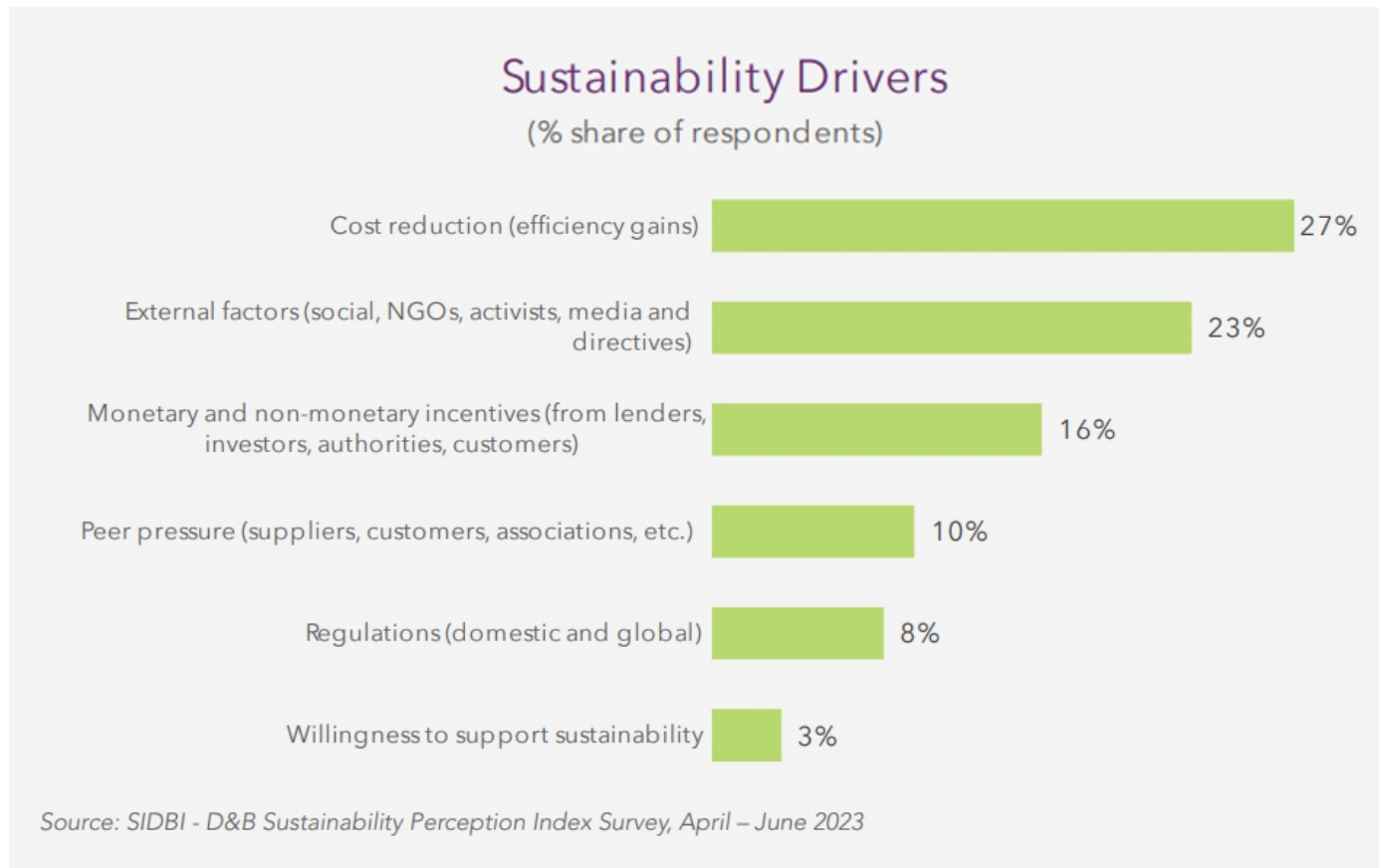
Three dimensions of the SPeX Index



Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>

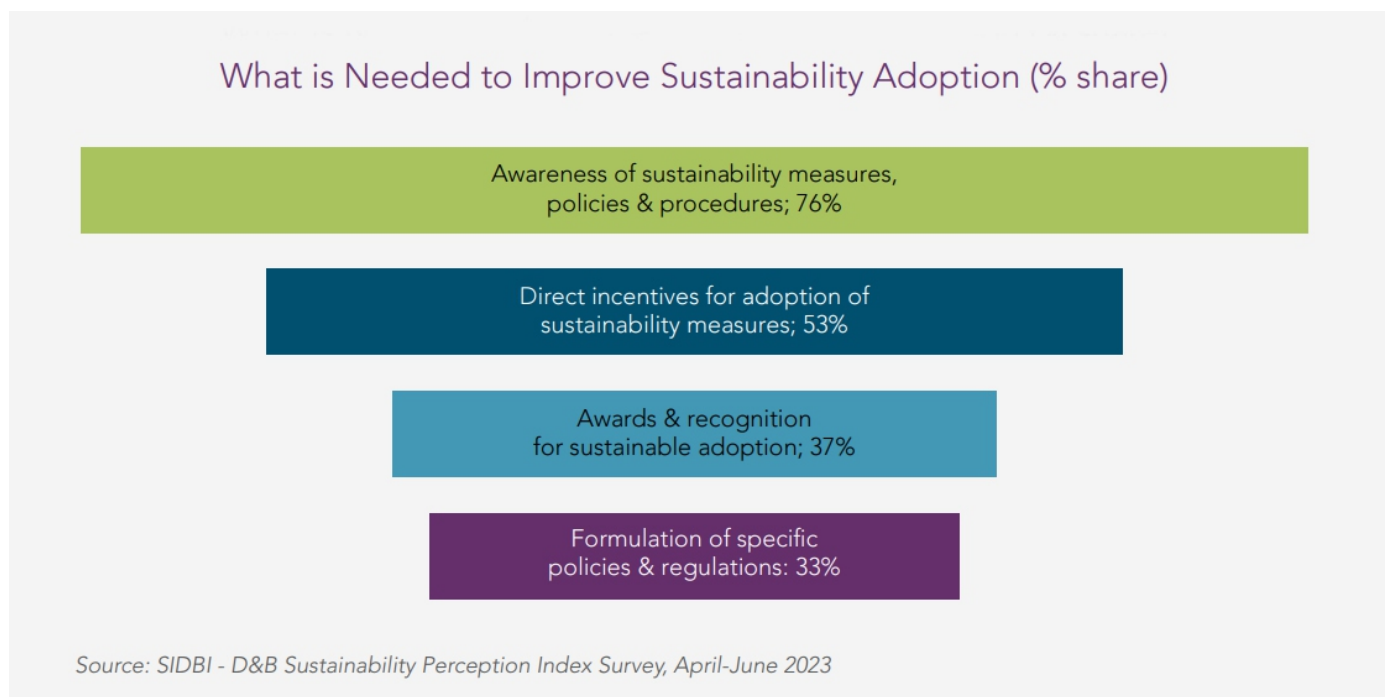


Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>



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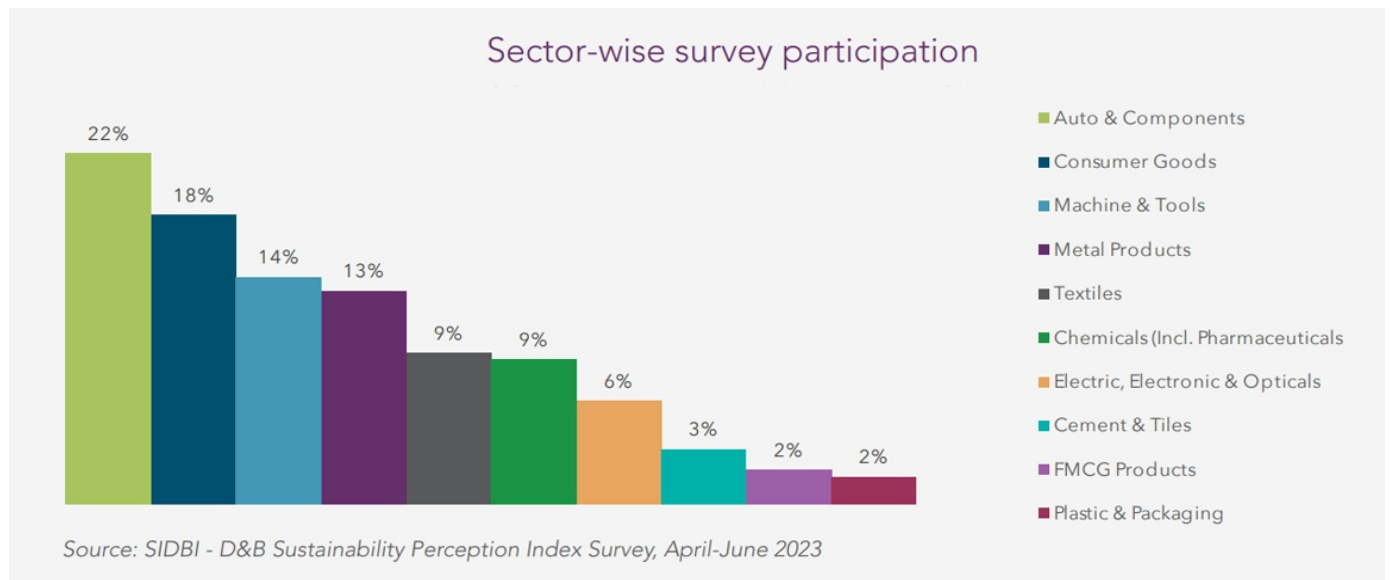
Identified Key Areas to Improve Sustainability



Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>

With a continuous push from the Government of India, through various initiatives to strengthen sustainability adoption measures such as Solar mission, Energy Efficiency Mission, as well as Spex among many others. It has proactively encouraged MSMEs to work towards the greening of their operations through various financial or non-financial engagements among stakeholders and benefit the environment along with business growth.

SPeX Index: Sector-wise participation



Source: <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>

SPeX is a quantitative measurement of the sustainability perception of MSMEs in India. It aims to identify key areas for improvement and implementation of sustainability practices for a smooth transition through sustainable practices. It is pioneered to raise awareness, motivate MSMEs to adopt sustainability eco-conscious choices, and contribute to the overall green growth and development of the Indian economy.



02 | TECHNOLOGY 4.0

KAVACH Hackathon to Foster Innovation in Indian Cyber Security Space

In the present digital age, the internet and technology play a vital role in day-to-day life. Any technology that is in sync with the internet can be hacked. To minimize these frauds **the Ministry of Education, Government of India launched the KAVACH-2023 hackathon** program at the national level which ended on 10-Aug-2023. A lifelong reputation comes at stake in a few minutes of cyber-incident and thus it is important to devise robust cyber security solutions to make the internet use safe for its users.

KAVACH-2023: CYBER SECURITY HACKATHON



Source: <https://indiaeducationdiary.in/cyber-security-hackathon-concludes-kavach-2023-winners-walk-away-with-rs-20-lakhs-in-prizes/#:~:text=KAVACH%2D2023%20Cyber%20Security%20Hackathon,Affairs%20successfully%20concluded%20on%2010th>

The rapid advancement of technology has opened up new avenues and areas to bring security to online users but with the lack of awareness regarding cybersecurity measures these technological advancements attract frequent cyber crimes/ frauds.

Thus to address these rising concerns, the **KAVACH-2023 hackathon** was launched in joint association with **AICTE, Ministry of Education (MoE), MoE's Innovation Cell (MIC), Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), Govt. of India & Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)** to focus on Identifying the innovative ideas and technology solutions to tackle cyber-crime challenges and provide security to all the internet users in the country.

World of Cybersecurity



Source: <https://www.bbvaopenmind.com/en/technology/digital-world/future-of-cybersecurity-predictions-trends/>

Organizers of KAVACH-2023



Source: <https://kavach.mic.gov.in/letters/PROBLEM-STATEMENT-ALLOCATION.pdf>

The KAVACH-2023 is a special program giving opportunities to high-level educational institutions and registered start-ups through submission of their unique ideas against a given list of problem statements. The selected participants have to produce stable and powerful digital solutions using the **latest technologies like AI/ML, Deep learning, etc.** and can win **20 Lakh** worth of prize money.



List of Problem Statement

New Age Women Safety App	Obscenity Blocker Solution	Advanced Fake News Detection System	Phishing Detection Solution
Advanced Anpr & Frs Solution	Dark Web Crawler	Spam Alert System	Malware Analysis Tool
Advanced CCTV Analytics Solution	Ram Dump Collection Tool	Citizen Safety App For Protection Against Cyber Crimes	Fund Trail Analysis Tool
Tool For Monitoring Ground Personnel	Chat Messenger Decryption Tool	Mesh Network App Detection	Detecting Usage Of Lora
Hardware Forensic Suite	Plug & Play System Security Audit Tool	Solution For Auditing Propriety Cellular/Portable Electronic Device Hardware	Indigenous Crypto Currency Investigation Tool

Thus the hackathon can help in keeping a close watch on cybercrimes and fraud with the help of these unique technological solutions and will be able to address the core issues of cybersecurity concern to make technology and the internet useful and effective for all its users in this digital era.

How AG Group Can Help You

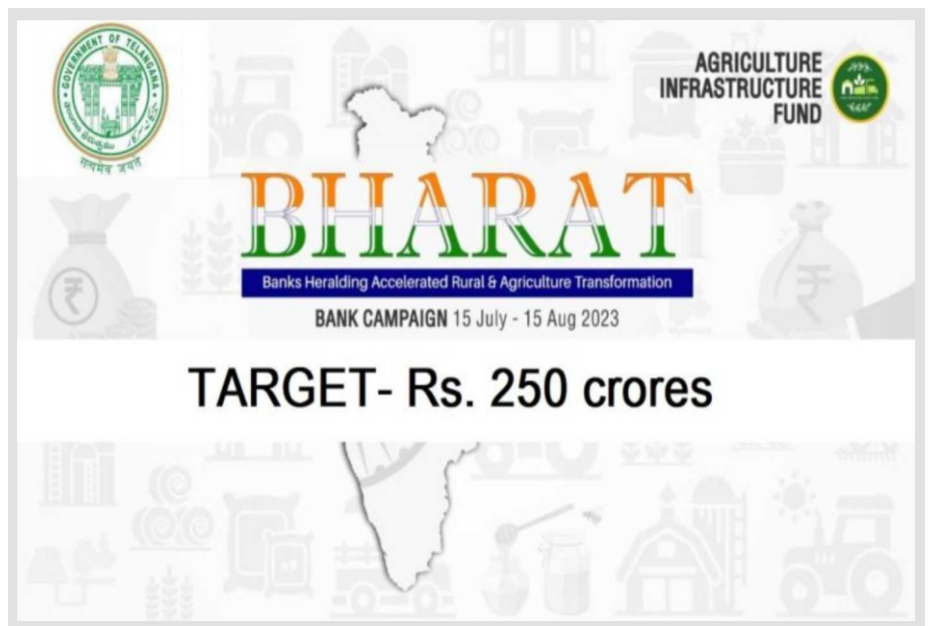
To achieve sustianability in your business processes and identify environmental innovation areas [Click Here](#)

03 | AGRICULTURE

Bharat Campaign under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund to Address Infrastructure Gaps and Credit Linking

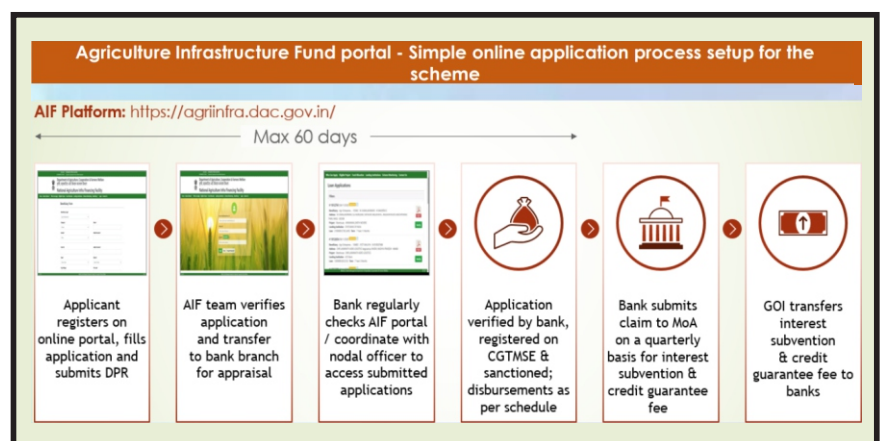
A new campaign named 'BHARAT' (Banks Heralding Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation) was launched on 12 July 2023 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Government of India under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF). It was a month-long campaign from 15 July to 15 August 2023 and will address the infrastructure funding gaps and credit links in the Indian agriculture sector.

BHARAT Campaign

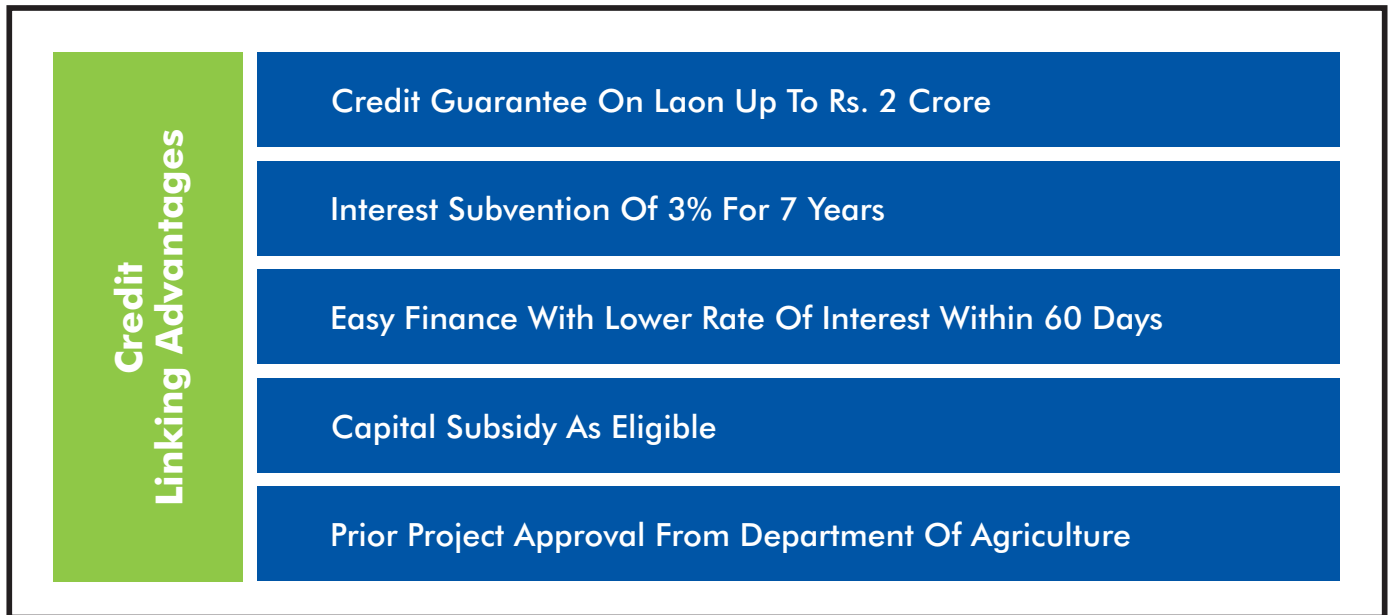


The objective was to benefit people through credit linking and to create an encouraging environment among the public/private banks and lending institutions to assist agriculture infrastructure project loans at a turbo pace to streamline credit linking in the Indian agriculture landscape.

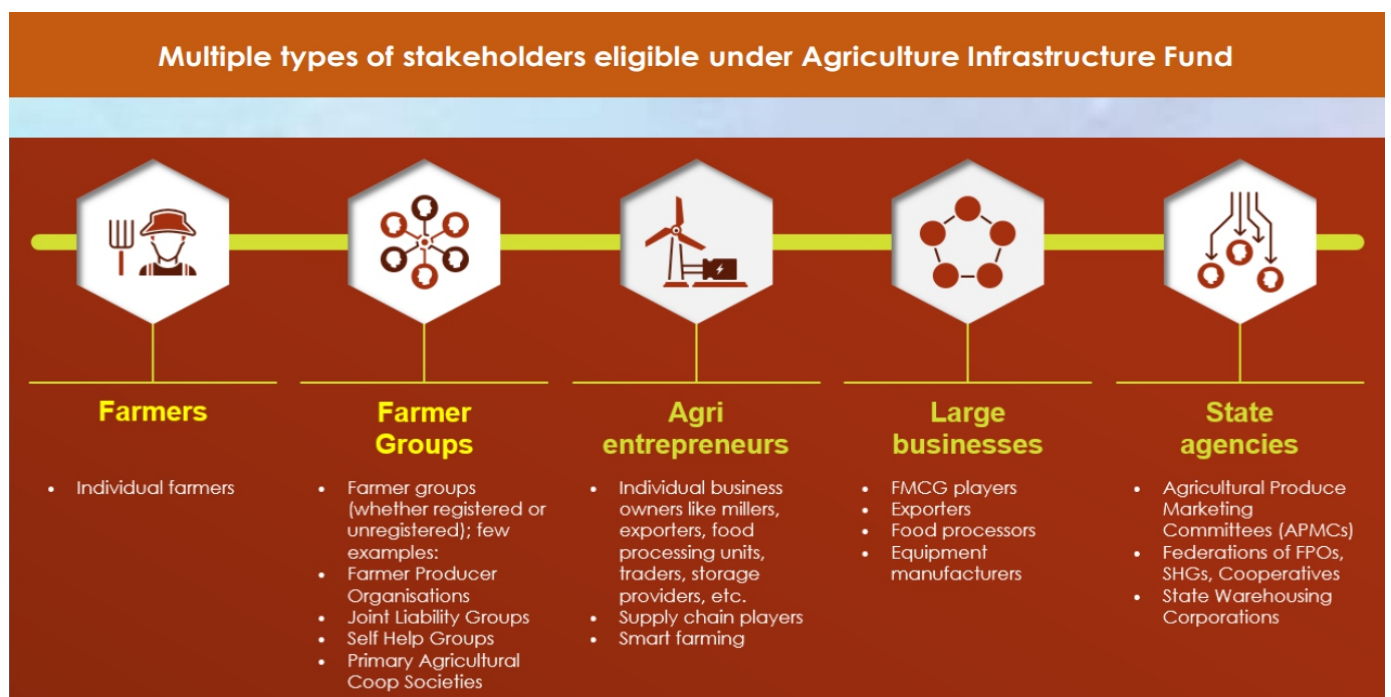
In this campaign, the top-performing banks will be selected and their special contribution will be recognized and awarded based on the target achieved as requested by the ministry considering the potential of AIF projects. To keep the competitive spirit and enthusiasm high daily performance/updates were reported and capacity-building programmes were conducted under the campaign. Credit linking was primarily focused on farmer's benefit and a portal was launched to make this process easy.



Source: <https://www.manage.gov.in/aif/AIF%20Brochure.pdf>



The **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)** was announced by the Government of India in May 2020. AIF is a financial sector scheme introduced to reshape traditional agriculture infrastructure into the most modern, economically driven, and versatile system by providing financial help for the progress of post-harvest infrastructure and community farming assets.



Source: <https://www.manage.gov.in/aif/AIF%20Brochure.pdf>

The BHARAT campaign under AIF will play a vital role in strengthening the Indian agriculture sector by improving infrastructure, the welfare of farmers/Agri-entrepreneurs, and economic growth. It will support the development of robust and sustainable food production and supply chain reducing the losses for the growth of the sector soon.

04 | SKILL DEVELOPMENT

GOI Launched Special Skill Initiative for Northeast Region to Make India World's Skill Capital

To address the problem of unemployment in the youth of the North-Eastern Region (NER), the Government of India has launched a **special initiative 'Transforming Lives, Building Futures: Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in North-East'** on **08 August 2023 in New Delhi**. With a vision to build a strong ecosystem with skill-equipped youth for national and international markets, India aims to become the skill capital of the world.

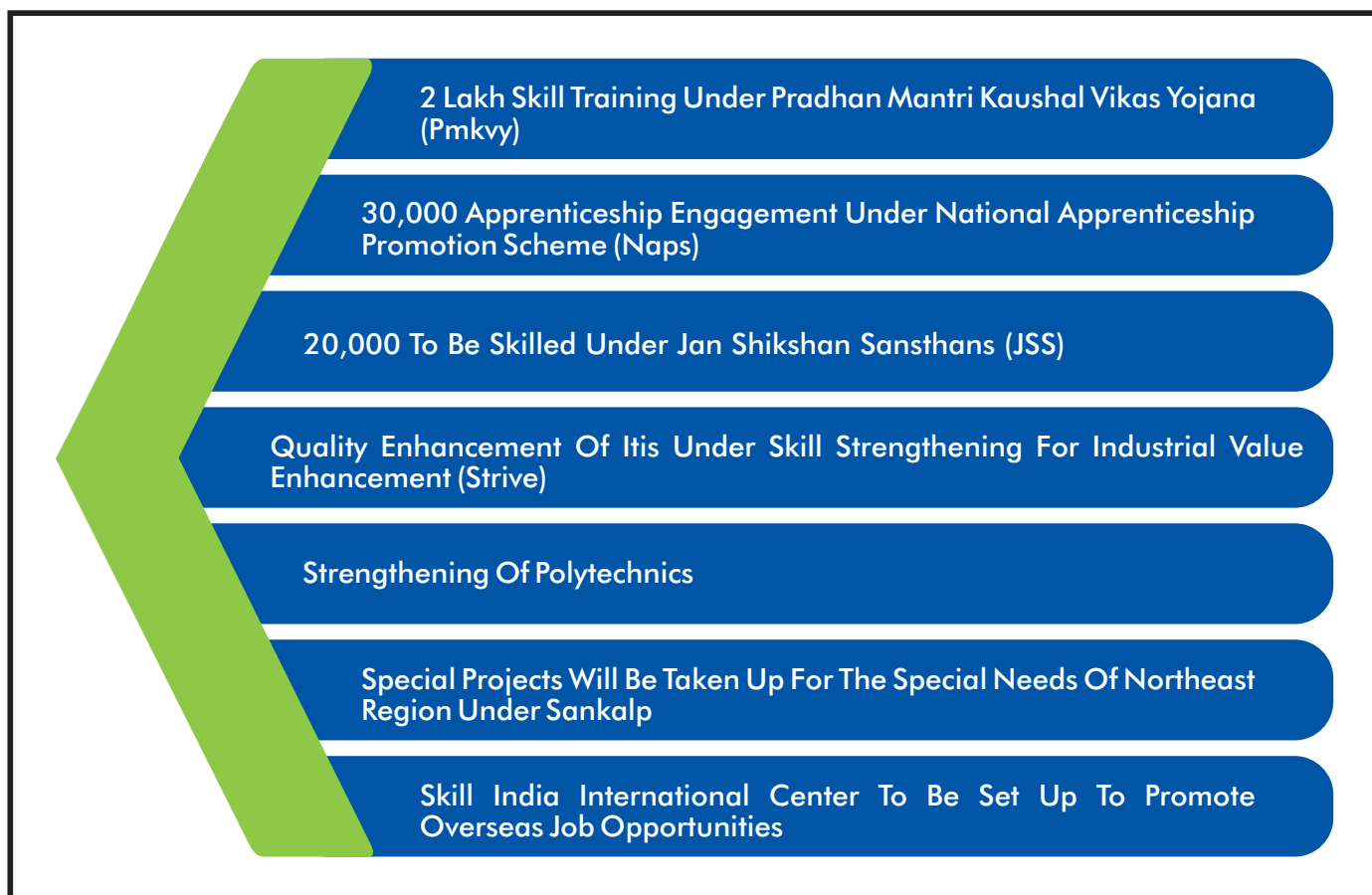
Special Skill Initiative for North-Easter Region (NER)



Source: <https://pibindia.wordpress.com/2018/12/19/government-initiatives-in-north-eastern-region-during-2018/>

As a part of the special initiative, the **Government has allocated Rs. 360 crores to benefit 2.5 Lakh youth in the NER region by providing industry-based skill training programs and vocational courses** through different initiatives and schemes like National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), etc. It will help to fulfill the demand for skilled professionals across sectors such as Information Technology, Agriculture, Handicrafts, Tourism, etc. along with facilitating overall development, raising entrepreneurship traits, and fuelling the socio-economic growth of the region.

Key Areas To Benefit NE Region



The MSDE through the Skill India mission and other initiatives, trying to develop a robust skill ecosystem in the region that can benefit the economic progress and provide the required support for the growth of the industry and livelihood in the northeastern states.



सत्यमेव जयते

**MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**For the first time in 68 years of India's independence,
Ministry for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has
been formed to focus on enhancing employability of the youth
of the nation, through skill development**



Skill India
कौशल भारत - कुशल भारत

Skill India is an initiative of the Government of India. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15th July 2015 with an aim to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022. The initiatives include National Skill Development Mission, National Policy for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship 2015, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) scheme and the Skill Loan scheme.

Source: <https://www.msde.gov.in/sites/default/files/2020-01/Skill-India-Brochure.pdf>

Statistical Progress under Various Schemes and Initiatives

MSDE Increased It is Counted To 106 In The Past 9 Years.

MSDE Trained 12 Lakh Candidates Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) Trained 38240 Candidates In The Past 7 Years.

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Trained 98000 Beneficiaries, 72% Being Women.

Indian Institute Of Entrepreneurship (IIE) Trained Over 3 Lakh Beneficiaries and Helped 1000 Entrepreneurs

In the continuous efforts to make the Northeastern region skillful and well-trained, the effort of the Government of India is evident. It has the power to transform the lives and future of the youth of this strategically important region of the country. Statistics show that these efforts will produce skilled professionals in the NER region and will add up the count to India becoming the skill capital of the world by nurturing the industry-ready workforce at the regional level.



How AG Group Can Be a Help

To find customized acquisition strategy for your business expansion [Click Here](#)

05 | ELECTRIC MOBILITY

India Launched World's First BS6 (Stage II) Prototype of 'Electrified Flex Fuel Vehicle'

The BS 6 Stage II 'Electrified Flex fuel vehicle' was launched in India on 29 August 2023 by Toyota Kirloskar Motor based on the Innova Hycross technology. It will be the world's first electrified flex fuel vehicle engineered by Toyota to follow India's emission standard norms and revolutionize the domestic as well as global automobile industry.

First Look Of BS6 Stage VI Prototype Car

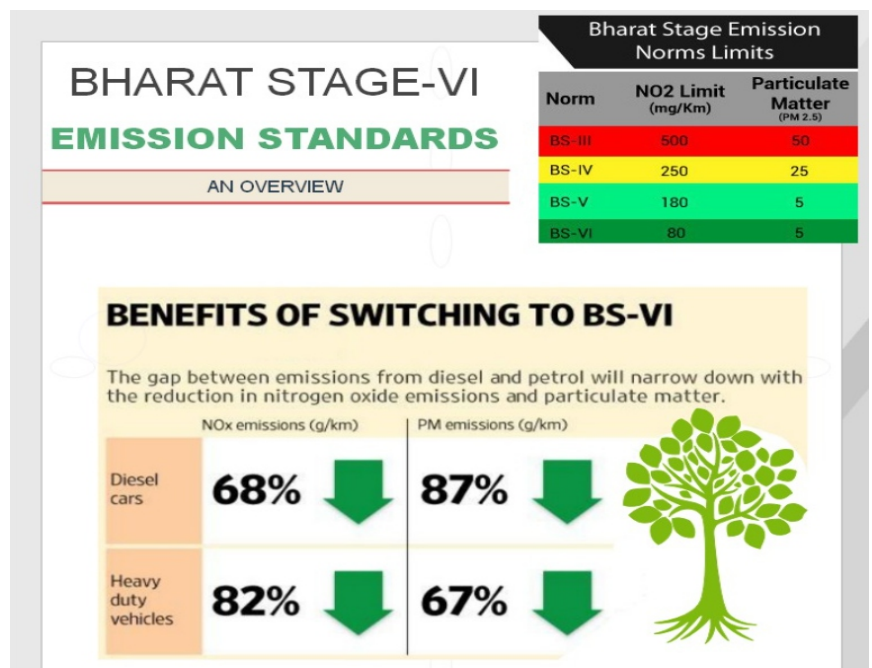


Source: <https://www.zeebiz.com/automobile/news-nitin-gadkari-unveils-prototype-of-bs6-stage-2-electrified-flex-fuel-vehicle-251067>

The acronym 'BS' stands for 'Bharat Stage', the emission norms instituted by the Government of India to regulate air pollution from internal combustion engines. India has advanced its BS6 norms rollout in 2020, which was earlier scheduled in 2022.

The rolling out of BS VI norms along with advances of targets set for ethanol blending to 2025 from early 2030 target, has set the right and ambitious path for India's 'Atmnirbharta' in clean energy and reduce air pollution significantly to achieve net zero emission targets with the set timelines.

Details Regarding Bharat Stage VI



Source: <https://diyguru.org/course/bharat-stage-6/>

This vehicle has a dual system of a flex fuel engine and an electric powertrain. **Flex fuel is an alternative made by mixing petrol with ethanol (@20%) called E20 fuel** and thus the electric power train generates and delivers power to electric vehicles while the engine is off. Resulting in faster decarbonization and fighting against climate change with the **ability to run 40-60% on EV mode at engine shut-off conditions and provide 30-50% fuel efficiency.**

Emission Norms: BS VI

PETROL EMISSION NORMS					
Norm	CO	HC	NOx	HC+NOx	PM
BS-III	2.30	0.20	0.15	—	—
BS-IV	1.00	0.10	0.08	—	—
Euro-VI	1.00	0.10	0.06	—	0.005
DIESEL EMISSION NORMS					
Norm	CO	HC	NOx	HC+NOx	PM
BS-III	0.64	—	0.50	0.56	0.05
BS-IV	0.50	—	0.25	0.30	0.025
Euro-VI	0.50	—	0.06	0.17	0.005

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/10-things-you-should-know-about-bharat-stage-vi/listshow/50572077.cms>

Launch of the World's 1st BS6 Stage II prototype of Electrified FFV



Source: <https://www.news18.com/auto/worlds-first-electric-flex-fuel-vehicle-launch-on-aug-29-by-nitin-gadkari-could-be-toyota-innova-8552372.html>

In recent times, the collaboration between industry and government has made India a global place encompassing clean technologies and targeting self-reliance on the clean energy landscape as **High-level bodies like the Energy Transition Advisory Committee (ETAC) and National Green Tribunal (NGT) support green technologies like Flex-fuel Vehicle (FFV) and FFV-SHEVs (Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles)**, etc to fulfill India's global commitments towards climate change and green technology. The ministry view for the upcoming stages of this prototype under careful changes, approval, and certification processes is also promising to make it more reliable as per the Indian emission norms over time.

RESOURCES

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2. <https://www.sidbi.in/files/article/articlefiles/SIDBI-DNB-SPeX-Apr-June-2023.pdf>
3. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1946373>
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19. <https://www.indiatoday.in/auto/cars/story/worlds-first-bs6-electrified-flex-fuel-prototype-vehicle-unveiled-its-a-toyota-2428152-2023-08-29>

AG GROUP



We expand your Horizon

AG was established in the year 1998. In the due course of time AG has become multi-functional, multi-disciplinary organization offering a wide range of consultancy services to multiple sectors for implementation of projects under one roof from "Concept to Commissioning" AG shareholders has track record in the development of mega projects in country & overseas in field of sports, hospitality, tourism, flood management, turf farms, F&B, real estate, fashion & clothing, import & exports, chemical & fertilizers.

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Power & Renewable Energy
Infrastructure: Highway/Tunnels

Environmental

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Irrigation
Agriculture
Animal Husbandry
Horticulture & Forestry

Social & Public Sector

Sports
Tourism
Education
Healthcare

Sustainability

ESG
SDG
Carbon Credit
Climate Change



Chennai



Delhi



Gurugram



Guwahati



Hyderabad



Imphal