



SKILLING BIHAR



Capacity Building, Digital Literacy, Entrepreneurship & Innovation

“Skill Development” is the buzzword for almost the entire country in the past few years as we all are aware that in 2025 India shall be the country with the youngest population worldwide. Almost 45% of the young population of the world originating from India that all states have formulated a Skill Development Mission under their Department of Labor Resources and nationally taken under the 12th 5 Year plan is a target to skill about **73,42,720 persons** in 2013-14 alone distributed among 20 ministries (<http://www.skilldevelopment.gov.in/resources/mini-stry-wise-targets>). Each state has also set their own target like the state in discussion Bihar a backward state has taken an ambitious target of **16,00,000** persons in 2013-14 distributed among 13 line departments.

Much before it all began in Bihar in the year 2010 we signed a MoU with the nodal agency for Department of Information Technology- BELTRON for training and capacity building of government staff for all line departments on one hand. On the other hand we signed a MoU with Ministry of MSME-NIESBUD to build capacity of those underprivileged students who could not complete their education due to multiple reasons, backward class people within the age bar of 18-35 years on those skills which had market demand but supply was scarce. We also have signed MoU with NIELIT (earlier DOAECC) for training in IT courses under Ministry of IT, Government of India. We are a small player in this domain and we are as young as 4 years only but we could manage to train about 2000 persons in last 1 year and thanks to initiative we could manage to train them for free as almost all courses were sponsored by government.

So what is new in this almost few hundred of such training institutions exist in the country? Well we are the only one in our state who run IT/ICT courses in a fully air-conditioned atmosphere. So what is new in it? Well we have low power consuming desktops, hmmm... we run two of the 5 labs on Solar cum Wind energy. What? That is exciting to know please continue.



We have been awarded with International Award by a US based organisation to own the Greenest Lab on Earth in January 2012, almost after 2 years of being setup. We have a setup run by a “complete women wing” who share their entrepreneur skills with all. WOW! Please continue. We have approximately 15000 sq. ft. of space in Patna alone dedicated to training and capacity building for the age group of 18-35 and other for government staff, in parallel to this we also are in the process to train about 35,000 ex-servicemen and their dependents in Bihar alone. We know the target is tough to achieve but are leaving no stone unturned in fact you may be surprised to learn that we publish our own course materials as well as we have published one book with the leading IT/Computer Publication house BPB Publication for Office Application Suite trainees.



Our focus as an IT company established in 1992 we conduct training only on IT courses from basic of software, hardware, networking, mobile, laptop repair to electric and electronic gadget repair and are upgrading to courses on Analytics, Animation, and Accounting on Tally ERP etc. We are beginning courses for office automation, BPO, KPO shortly along with all course we take care to value add by training the trainees on English communication, body language, soft skills, interview skills, and presentation skills and help them repair and prepare better resume without any charges. Handhold and train them on Entrepreneur Development, guide them to start their own enterprise.

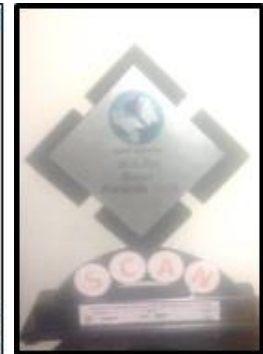


Now coming to the people who began the fire our Directors began Astric Computer (I) Pvt. Ltd. in 1992. Mr.Prabhat Kumar Sinha B.E (CS) in 1991 and Mr.Pravin Kumar B.E (ECE) and decided to start their own enterprise knowing nothing much about business and being the first generation businessmen. It took 18 long years to come to point where they thought to diversify.

In 2011 and Astric Solutions was born. The vision was to commence software development and cater to e-governance solutions for the state departments. We wanted to create an avenue where students and neo professionals would be nurtured under a single roof on latest technologies in software development projects and programmes. We also decided to use this facility for summer training for technical students and help them in parallel.



Astric Solutions unlike Astric Computers (I) Pvt. Ltd. is into providing solutions and training activities in fact on the very first solution developed by Astric Solutions we were awarded “Shiksha Ratna Award-2013” in Punjab for providing an asset tracking solution for ICT@School project in Bihar for 832 Schools spread across 33 districts.



Through the ongoing training and capacity building programmes taking place in Astric Group of companies in Patna we ensure two things Quality and Interactivity, our faculties are mostly Post Graduates with Technical expertise in Computer Science and IT with exposure in the IT domain for more than a decade.

Many of the readers are feeling that this is where it ends not really the story has just started in 2013 we took the first step towards “Digital Literacy” as per the national census done in 2011 for Bihar is 63.82% (73.39% for male and 53.33% for female) and that of national is 74.04%. If we look at a growth in the literacy rate we have to make rural population literate where in we have tried and proved that the best way out is “digital literacy”.



We took illiterate women folk from rural Bihar and trained them to use “TABLET-PC” with video content which caters to Health, Education and Livelihood issues of the rural population on completion of day 1 we concluded it with huge success so much so that Hon’ble Chief Minister – Government of Bihar said on the eve of e-Bihar on 19th February 2014 that this is the e-way to digital literacy at an affordable the price of 45\$ for mass. We are based out of Patna and can be reached on www.astric.in/www.coe.in and our directors on prabhat.sinha@astric.in & pravin.kumar@astric.in.