



**Entrepreneurship
Development
Institute of India
Ahmedabad**



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From the Director General's Desk

Does Entrepreneurship Correspond with Innovation and Growth

Introduction of a new method of production naturally embodies innovation. Indian industry has visibly embraced a host of new methods of production in the recent years. Also, new markets are being targeted and tapped with innovations in marketing approaches and techniques. Additionally, exploring new sources for supply of raw materials, also involves innovation. Worth mentioning that innovations in products and services correspond with innovations in the financial sector.

With multiple changes taking place in the economic environment, we are witnessing new forms, segments and categories of industrial organizations, on a regular basis; all of which points towards the fact that the pace of innovation has lately been quite healthy in India.

Innovation is the life blood of a growing economy. Innovations in business model, marketing, product design, product pricing etc. have been visibly pursued by ambitious entrepreneurs and startups. And, for this phenomena to continue on a regular and efficient basis, it is important to have a continuous supply of entrepreneurs who can take calculated risks based on their understanding and competencies.

Entrepreneurship means constantly competing with oneself, constantly raising of the bar to achieve the highest levels of performance, stretching and sweating, venturing into areas which very few can spot, take calculated risks, never give up and be passionate about creating 'something' new. I am happy to state that year after year, EDII has been reaching out to trainees including students, professionals and also the marginalized, to train and mentor them to rise above barriers and 'create'. These trained entrepreneurs have the ability to marshal resources to achieve end objectives, innovatively. The success stories of our trainees affirm the power of entrepreneurship training. And, truly speaking such inventiveness and ingenuity in approaches is mandatory to achieve the objectives that the country has set before itself.

Entrepreneurship curriculum and training has the element of inducing such traits in students at a young age. While EDII has been advocating this and doing its bit in orienting students towards the 'winning' discipline of entrepreneurship, it is good to see that regulatory bodies have also been prioritising it through supportive policies and schemes.

So, let's celebrate the spirit of entrepreneurship as the new and innovative Nation beckons us all to do our bit !!!

- Sunil Shukla



Awards & Recognition...

Congratulations!!!



Hon'ble President **Smt. Droupadi Murmu** conferring the award on **Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya**.

Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya, Professor & Director Dept. of Entrepreneurship Education, EDII honoured with the **National Teachers' Award 2023** in the award category for HEIs & Polytechnic Institutes.



Hon'ble Prime Minister, **Shri Narendra Modi** with the award winners. (2nd Row, 3rd from R) **Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya**, becomes a part of this landmark moment.



Awards & Recognition..

Hastkala Setu Yojana, has been awarded the prestigious SKOCH Award

The **SKOCH Award**, India's highest independent civilian honor, is a testament to the exceptional achievements of individuals, projects, and institutions in their contribution to society. HastKala Setu Yojana, which falls under the State Government Category, underwent rigorous evaluation and scrutiny over a four-month period, culminating in a final panel discussion and questionnaire session. Out of 42 shortlisted State Government projects, project Hastkala Setu emerged as a *Gold winner in 'Ease of Doing Business' category.*



Receiving the award on behalf of EDII and the Government are; (R-L) Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya, Project Director, Hastkala Setu & Shri D. M. Shukla, GAS, Executive Director, Industrial Extension Cottage (Index-C), Gujarat



EDII- UTKAL Alumina CSR 'Project Udyamee' conferred with 10th CSR Times Silver Award under the category of 'Sustainable Livelihood Project'.

EDII felicitated employees who completed 10 years of service with the Institute



Shri Rakesh Sharma, President, EDII & Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, IDBI Bank Ltd. Mumbai, felicitating Ms. Payal Patel, Admin Assistant cum Telephone Operator and Mr. Hiral Bhatt, Manager, Administration.



22nd Convocation Showcased Entrepreneurial Aspirations

The Institute marked yet another milestone in its journey towards nurturing entrepreneurial talent among youth. The 22nd Convocation on 4th August, 2023 reaffirmed the growing faith in entrepreneurship. The event was graced by Chief Guest, Shri R. N. Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu. Shri Rakesh Sharma, President of EDII and Managing Director & CEO of IDBI Bank Limited presided over the convocation ceremony.

Diplomas and fellows were conferred upon 54 ambitious students.

Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General of EDII, extended a warm welcome to the Hon'ble Governor, the Governing Body of EDII and all the distinguished guests.

Shri R.N. Ravi, in his address, congratulated the graduates and emphasized the abundant opportunities available to them in the current transformative era. He stated, "You are graduating at an opportune time when the country is undergoing comprehensive revolutionary transformation. This era is unfolding infinite opportunities for each one of us. So, you explore your destiny and soar high. Today, the entire country is one big family and every problem of the country is being dealt with, as a whole. The diversity of the country is special and imparts an identity to India. The country is encouraging its youth to tap their energies and potential; it



is creating an ecosystem where the youth can step forth. India today is the fastest growing economy of the world, with more than a lakh of startups. This is only because of the enterprising spirit of our youth. I am sure this creative power of youth will make India the foremost economy of the world. India is on the path of sustainable development; so you all become a part of this unique India and lead the change." Advising the students, the Chief Guest said, "You are national assets so remain healthy, dream big and never lose your confidence. You will conquer the world and build the nation."



Shri Rakesh Sharma, President of EDII and Managing Director & CEO of IDBI Bank Limited, delivered the Presidential Address. He highlighted the advantages of pursuing entrepreneurship and the remarkable achievements of EDII alumni. He remarked, “The institute's alumni have set up enterprises that are garnering praise and attention for the successful pathways that these have created. Some of these enterprises have gone on to be listed entities. The institute's alumni are fortunate to receive advice from the Hon'ble Prime Minister, State Chief Minister, and other noted stalwarts. I wish that more people come forward to explore the benefits of being an entrepreneur and discover how they could learn to establish their enterprises and succeed with rewarding decisions and judgments.”



Dr. Shukla highlighted EDII's four-decade journey across various domains, including education, research, training, policy advocacy, MSME growth, innovations and start ups. Dr. Shukla also shed light on EDII's notable achievements towards development and institutionalization of replicable development models for inclusive growth, in collaboration with government ministries, departments, and prominent corporates. These efforts, he highlighted, were noticeably leading to the establishment of sustainable enterprises, revenue generation, and creation of employment opportunities.



President Alumnus Awards to a Business Entrepreneur and a Social Entrepreneur, in addition to meritorious awards were the major highlights of the Convocation.

President Alumnus Awards:

EDII President's Alumnus Award 2023-Business Entrepreneur – Mr Vivek Kataruka, Director, Chemshel, Purulia, West Bengal - world's leading manufacturers of Seedlac and Aleuritic acid.

Vivek is the Director of Chemshel, Purulia, West Bengal, world's leading manufacturers of Seedlac and Aleuritic acid. Under Vivek's leadership, Chemshel ventured into the manufacturing of Ambrettolide, a perfumery chemical used widely in fine fragrance, detergents, body care and home care products, which is a replacement to the traditional Musk from animals. Vivek is the recipient of 'Entrepreneur of the Year Award, 2022 by South Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Chemshel is providing support to more than 1500 tribal families in Chota Nagpur region by procuring LAC from them.





EDII President's Alumnus Award 2023-Social Entrepreneur – Mr Tapan Kumar Ghosh, Managing Director of Kutch Agrotech Pvt Ltd, Bhuj and Managing Partner of Ecozell (into trading of Date Palm Plants & Products).

Tapan is the Managing Director of Kutch Agrotech Pvt. Ltd., Bhuj and Managing Partner of Ecozell, A Catalyst for Change, which is into trading of Date Palm Plants & Products. Started his career from Kutch, Gujarat, he focussed on Date Palm cultivation. He has tie-ups with renowned tissue culture laboratories of UK,

UAE, France and Iran working specially in Date Palm propagation. He started importing quality planting material from 2007 onwards. In due course he expanded his area of operation out of Gujarat to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. He has covered more than 10000 acres of Date Palm plantation in low rainfall areas of India. Committed to transforming the status of farmer in becoming agripreneur, his initiative is not only helping farmers in their livelihood but also improving their financial stake in the society.

Meritorious Awards presented at the 22nd Convocation:

Dahyabhai Chhotalal Charity Foundation (Remik) sponsored Medals:

- Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance in New Enterprise Creation – Nishtha Agarwaal
- Silver Medal for Scholastic Performance in New Enterprise Creation – Shruti Mehata
- Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance in Family Business Management – Ishan Bhatnagar
- Silver Medal for Scholastic Performance in Family Business Management – Roman Gangwani

EDII sponsored Gold Medal for Scholastic Performance in PGDM-IEV – Kartik Kashyap



Sports Awards:

- Best Sports Person in Women's Category - Mrinalini Upadhyay
- Best Sports Person in Men's Category - Harish Negi





We Celebrate the Ideals of Dr. V. G. Patel

In honor of its esteemed founder, Late Padma Shri Dr. V. G. Patel, EDII initiated an annual lecture series in 2019. Dr. V. G. Patel recognised by the entrepreneurship fraternity as the 'Pioneer of Entrepreneurship Movement,' dedicated his life to promoting entrepreneurship, both within India and outside. His enduring faith in entrepreneurship touched many lives and gave them a purpose. His belief led to the establishment of the National Resource Institute-EDII-in 1983. This ongoing lecture series, now in its fifth year, stands as a testament to Dr. Patel's extraordinary contributions to the field of entrepreneurship.

On September 6th, Chief Guest, Shri Piruz Khambatta, a distinguished entrepreneur and the driving force behind the Rasna brand, delivered a talk on the theme, 'Entrepreneur: The Nation Builder,' during the Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Lecture- 5th in the series. The lecture's theme encapsulated the essence of Dr. Patel's vision and commitment to fostering entrepreneurship as a cornerstone of national development.

Shri Shailesh Modi, Sr. Visiting Faculty, EDII commenced the session by acknowledging Dr. Patel's pivotal role as the architect of the entrepreneurship movement in India. He underscored Dr. Patel's systematic approach to entrepreneurship education, research, and training, which aimed to elevate these domains to the status of recognized and indispensable development strategies for the economy.



(L-R) Shri Piruz Khambatta, Chairman, Rasna Group; Founder Trustee - Areez Khambatta Benevolent Trust and Chairman- Rasna Foundation; Ambassador - Make In India initiative and NITI Aayog; Honorary Consul General, Republic of Korea and Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII paying homage to Late Dr. V.G. Patel.

Addressing the audience, Shri Piruz Khambatta, said, "It is my honour to come and speak on the momentous occasion as EDII hosts their 5th lecture in Dr. V.G Patel Memorial Lecture series. Dr. Patel, a legendary figure, was a true visionary who not only introduced entrepreneurship to our nation but also instilled the values of self-reliance through it. He talked about Start Up India and Atmanirbhar Bharat even before the ideas became popular. I give my best wishes to EDII for all their future initiatives."



Dr. Sunil Shukla paid tribute to late Dr V.G. Patel recalling Dr. Patel's exceptional contribution to the economic development of the nation by introducing and promoting the concept of entrepreneurship. He said, "Entrepreneurship has traversed a long journey from being doubted upon as a career option to being accepted as a wholesome development tool. I am happy to be mentored by Dr. V. G. Patel and be a part of this movement. Today the country is emphasizing on entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship in view of the advantages that come about to the economy, nation and its people. I am glad this recognition to the discipline has come about and EDII is making a meaningful contribution to this process of growth by widespreading entrepreneurship."

Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor 2023

EDII has instituted the 'Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer / Educator / Mentor' to honor the late legendary who emphasized on the significance of instituting a cadre of entrepreneur trainer-motivators to sustain the entrepreneurship movement. The Award is presented to an entrepreneurship professional for his / her outstanding performance / contribution in Entrepreneurship Training / Education / Mentoring / Knowledge Creation, leading to the setting up of enterprises. For 'Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor' 2023, EDII received 378 nominations from 147 institutions across 26 states in India.



Dr. Satyajit Majumdar is a leading expert on entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship. He is the dean of the School of Management and Labour Studies at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, India.

Over the past two decades, Dr. Majumdar has played an important role in the development of entrepreneurship, especially in the social sector. He has mentored more than 350 startups, including 40 in Jammu and Kashmir and group startups in Jhabua, West Bengal. He has also helped to build an ecosystem for entrepreneurship at TISS, including the establishment of a separate entrepreneurship cell in 2012.



*Dr. Satyajit Majumdar
Professor and Dean
Tata Institute of Social Sciences,
Mumbai.*

Glimpses from the 77th Independence Day celebration





Partnering with Corporates to Empower Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to Secure Promising Livelihood Opportunities

...Project SABAL

In a groundbreaking effort to foster inclusion and empowerment, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) and EDII, have explored partnering with leading corporate entities to create promising livelihood opportunities for 3000 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). This initiative, known as 'Support, Activate and Build Assured Livelihoods (SABAL) for Persons with Disabilities under CSR Actions,' is set to change the landscape of opportunities for PwDs in India.

A Roundtable Meet held at Delhi on 21st September, 2023, brought together key stakeholders in this mission. Notable attendees included Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS Secretary, DEPwD; Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General of EDII; and Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Department of Projects (Corporate), EDII, among others. Corporate leaders from PNB, XIAOMI, NTPC, Delhi Metro, BHEL, and several other prestigious organizations actively participated in discussions.

The objective of the Roundtable Meet was to explore possibilities of mounting result-oriented interventions to facilitate establishment of 3000 new enterprises led by PwDs. These enterprises are envisioned to be a mix of 1500 technology-driven and 1500 general enterprises, offering a wide array of opportunities for PwDs.

The discussions revolved around various facets of empowering PwDs, including sustainable enterprise creation, infrastructure enhancement, changing societal perceptions, creating inclusive environments, and identifying business opportunities for PwDs. Importantly, SABAL seeks to align its interventions with sustainable development goals and break down barriers that have long relegated PwDs to lower-paying jobs.



Seen during the Roundtable meet are (in the centre) Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS Secretary – DEPwD; (6th from R) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII; (5th from L) Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Department of Projects (Corporate), EDII; (4th from R) Mr. Nikhilesh Desai, Advisor, EDII with representatives from corporates.

Participating corporates identified key areas of cooperation to realize the goal of creating 3000 PwD-led enterprises. These areas include awareness campaigns for community integration, life skills development for adolescents with disabilities, business opportunity sourcing, sensitization workshops, credit linkage support, entrepreneur growth and counselling programmes, and micro skillpreneurship development programmes.

Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary of DEPwD, Govt. of India highlighted the challenges that PwDs face in India today and emphasized the need for inclusive infrastructure, approach and attitudes. He called upon corporates to support PwDs through initiatives such as upskilling, loans, mentorship, and inclusivity in their distribution networks and hiring practices.

Shri Kishor B. Surwade, Deputy Director General of DEPwD, Govt. of India elaborated on the department's various initiatives and schemes, including skill development, assistive devices, scholarships, and rehabilitation services. A significant development during the event was the launch of the DEPwD PM Daksh portal, aimed at skilling and employing Divyangjan.

Dr. Sunil Shukla stressed the importance of inclusive development and the need to curate sustainable business opportunities for PwDs while ensuring that they receive necessary training and support. He also emphasized on establishing best practices for equality and inclusivity.

Dr. Raman Gujral highlighted EDII's contributions to empowering PwDs through skill training programmes and enterprise establishment, underlining the institute's commitment to this cause.

A productive brainstorming session between officials and corporate leaders tackled various critical aspects. The meeting symbolized the unity of purpose and commitment to the SABAL initiative's noble cause. As the initiative gains momentum, it promises to pave the way for a more inclusive and equitable society where Persons with Disabilities can live upto their abilities.



(3rd from L) Chief Guest, Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS Secretary – DEPwD, GoI addressing the gathering. Other dignitaries on the dais include; (R-L) Shri Naveen Shah, National Divyangjan Development Finance Corporation; Shri Kishor B. Surwade, Deputy Director General of DEPwD; Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII; Shri Nachiketa Rout, Director, National Institute of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Dept. Projects (Corporates), EDII.



Reaching Out to International Stakeholders

**under the aegis of Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation,
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India**

In an era defined by innovation and technology, technopreneurs stand at the forefront, leveraging their creativity, technological prowess, and business acumen to address real-world challenges and pioneer groundbreaking ventures. India, a rising force in the world of technopreneurship, boasts of the third-largest startup ecosystem globally. Powered by demographic dividend, favourable policies, and robust entrepreneurial ecosystem, India is pacing fast on the entrepreneurship pathway, with emphasis on technopreneurship.

To foster technopreneurs globally and to equip them with the knowledge skills, and mindset needed to excel, EDII conducted an international training programme on technopreneurship from August 14, 2023 to September 1, 2023. This intensive three-week course aimed to empower participants from diverse backgrounds, including government institutions, R&D professionals, business experts, and development organizations. These participants represented 12 countries, including Bhutan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.



Participants of the ITEC Technopreneurship Programme seen with (4th from R) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII; (3rd from R) Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya, Programme Director and Director, Dept. of Entrepreneurship Education, EDII and (5th from R) Ms. Harmeet Kaur Dawar, Manager (Plan Coordination), EDII

All 21 participants imbibed deeper learnings related to entrepreneurship and innovation. They gained valuable insights into technology transfer and collaborative expansion opportunities. Additionally, they acquired

- The ability to create thriving startup ecosystems within their own regions,
- Proficiency in commercializing novel products and technologies
- Mastery in securing funding and mentorship for technology-driven startups.

Dr. Satya Acharya, the Programme Director, summed up the course's impact stating, "Technopreneurship serves as the bridge between innovation and economic progress. This course empowers individuals to construct that bridge, opening doors to boundless possibilities. In a world increasingly shaped by technology and entrepreneurship, initiatives like these are pivotal in nurturing the next generation of innovators and problem-solvers."

Participants Opine...

"The course was a game-changer for me. It was well-organized and informative, and I learned a great deal about the different aspects of starting and growing a technology-enabled startup. This was great exposure for me. The curriculum was highly contemporary. We got to interact with the best of experts in the field. I look forward to making a meaningful contribution."



Mrs. Oluwatosin Abajo from Nigeria

"I am grateful to EDII for this valuable experience. I learned a great deal about the startup ecosystem and the different ways to support technopreneurs. I also had the opportunity to network with experienced technopreneurs. I am confident that the knowledge and skills I gained in the course will help me to contribute to the development of the startup ecosystem in my country."



Mr. Abdulbori Saydaliyev from Uzbekistan



EDII Southern Regional Office:

A Decade of Empowering One Million Entrepreneurs

EDII, established in 1983, has evolved into a pioneering institution in entrepreneurship education, training, research, and incubation. Since its inception, EDII has transformed entrepreneurship into a preferred career choice. Today, EDII functions across the country and abroad through seven regional offices, six international affiliates, and Pan India branch offices.

EDII's Southern Regional Centre has been a driving force in promoting entrepreneurship across 18 states and 2 union territories in Southern India. With a mission to foster new enterprise creation, the centre has executed over 25 CSR projects and 10 government livelihood generation projects. These initiatives have been made possible through partnerships with esteemed organizations such as HAL, ONGC, ICICI Foundation, Accenture, and many more. Notable government collaborations include the Sandhya Suraksha Yojana (Government of Karnataka) and the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (Government of Kerala).

On August 31, 2023, EDII's Southern Regional office reached a significant milestone with the inauguration of its new mega office in Bangalore. Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII, inaugurated the office, marking a new chapter in the Institute's journey towards entrepreneurial empowerment.

EDII's collaborations with corporates have resulted in transformative projects. These initiatives encompass skill building and new enterprise creation in sectors such as agro and food processing, handicrafts, non-farm entrepreneurship, rural entrepreneurship, and tourism. These activities have led to the creation of numerous new enterprises, livelihood opportunities, and employment.



Seen during the inauguration of the Southern Regional Office: Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII with Dr. Raman Gujral, Director- Dept. of Projects (Corporates) and Regional Director-Southern Regional Office, EDII and team EDII, Southern Region.

EDII's CSR collaborations have touched the lives of 68,950 individuals, including over 10,000 women, across 23 states, 138 districts, and 741 villages. Noteworthy corporate partnerships include Vedanta Alumina Limited (VAL), Accenture, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), HSBC Bank, Tata Communications Ltd., Bayer Foundation, HCL Foundation, SBI Foundaton, HP, Walmar, Amazon, IFCI Limited and many more. These collaborations have driven projects focused on micro-enterprise development, skill building, and empowerment.

The Institute has also spearheaded pioneering government projects. As a National Resource Organization under the Ministry of Rural Development's StartUp Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP), EDII has generated rural livelihood and employment opportunities in 82 blocks across 15 states. In Southern India, EDII's presence has led to the establishment of 3,906 enterprises.



Opining at the expanse of activities, Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII, said, "EDII has been successfully recognising opportunities and offering entrepreneurship and skill development training to artisans, weavers, women, startups and unemployed, leading to sustainable livelihood / micro enterprise options for them. The Institute has been training and orienting those at the grassroots to set up new enterprises for material and social well-being. I am glad, that with corporates and the government endorsing the power of entrepreneurship, we will continue to progress with remarkable results".



Dr. Raman Gujral, EDII's Southern Regional Director, opined, "Eco-friendly income generation opportunities are the need-of-the-hour. So, with this objective, we train a diverse section of people, with special focus on women to help them identify opportunities, harness indigenous resources, align their skills with identified opportunities, and establish sustainable, eco-friendly micro and small enterprises."

As the Institute paces on its remarkable journey, bringing about inclusive growth, let's take a look at some of its projects with corporates, over the last three months:

HSBC supported Project HandMade in India (HMI)

Project HandMade in India aims to facilitate sustainable development of the handloom clusters by building solutions for value chain improvement, resolving operational challenges, and improving the capacity of weavers and artisans in six districts spread across 5 states in India.



2 weavers of HMI Bhuj cluster participated in a 3-day International Folk-Art Market exhibition held at Santa Fe - New Mexico, USA. The weavers made a sale of Rs. 8,35,000/-

During the last quarter following activities were undertaken:

- Exposure Visit of Maheshwari handloom weavers to the Salem handloom cluster in Tamil Nadu to promote collaboration and exchange of knowledge within the handloom weaving community of India. Both the cluster weavers shared their experiences and working methods with each other to help them new skills, techniques and best practices that they can adapt.
- As a part of Capacity Building Product Improvement Training in Salem Cluster, Natural Dyeing workshop was conducted to make weavers aware of the Natural colours derived from roots and stems of plants, bark, leaves, flowers woods, vegetables etc. The weavers would be able to add value to their products through the addition of natural colors.

Accenture supported Project Skills to Succeed

Launched in September 2015, the project has been instrumental in empowering youth across 14 states and union territories of India through Micro Skillpreneurship Development Programmes. The project's primary objective is to equip individuals in rural and urban areas with sustainable skills and eco-friendly business models, fostering entrepreneurship and environmental sustainability.

Following activities have been undertaken during the quarter, July to September:

- A total of 38 group enterprises (22 Women SHGs and 16 Producer Groups) and 2 individual enterprises were established. Ongoing support was provided to address technical and machinery related issues, thereby resolving operational challenges, and enhancing production.

Innovative initiatives have been incorporated via hiring looms for banana fiber weaving; promoting cross-selling among beneficiaries through a B2B marketing WhatsApp group, and technical and skill training programmes.

- Awareness campaigns were conducted in collaboration with implementing partners to motivate SHGs and Producer Group members to apply for PMEGP loans. In Gajapati District in Odisha, 21 beneficiaries applied for PMEGP loans, with 15 units approved, and 2 units in Honey processing cleared for the first phase of PMEGP Loan Disbursal.
- Enrollment of 10 SHGs (300 members) from MSDP, onto the WeAct platform was accomplished and support was extended for packaging initiatives, such as Cow Dung Agarbatti Packaging.
- Training was conducted for 150 rural women in Baranga village through MSDP. These women established the CIWANI Mushroom Producer Company, which was registered under the Societies Registration Act with the support of Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR CIWA) and Agricultural Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha (APICOL). An inaugural function was held in August 2023 with Dr. Mridula Devi, Director, ICAR-CIWA as the Chief Guest and in the presence of dignitaries including, Mrs. Anjana Panda, Additional Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha and Dr. Sabita Mishra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIWA.
 
 An inaugural ceremony for the CIWANI Women Farmers Producer Company Limited. The event took place on August 18, 2023, in Balanga, Puri. The stage is decorated with a purple and orange tablecloth. A banner in the background reads "INAUGURAL CEREMONY Dt. 18th Aug. 2023 CIWANI WOMEN FARMERS PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED Balanga, Puri - 752105". Several women are seated at the table, and a man in a pink shirt is standing on the right.
- A one-day street exhibition in Kanyakumari featured participation from 110 MSDP beneficiaries, generating revenue worth Rs. 3,000. Also, the UNNATI exhibition at the Accenture office in Chennai attracted around 1,000 visitors and resulted in significant sales.
 
 A street exhibition for UNNATI Progression. A woman in a wheelchair is seated at a table, interacting with visitors. A banner in the background reads "UNNATI PROGRESSION". The table is covered with various items, and a woman in a blue sari is standing behind the table.
- A workshop on Goods and Service Tax (GST) was conducted in Kanyakumari, with 30 beneficiaries participating to learn about GST registration, benefits, implications and tax regulations.
- A five-day National Training of Trainers' Programme was held at EDII Ahmedabad. It was attended by 51 participants from 32 NGOs and 10 EDII Coordinators. The programme focused on enhancing training capabilities for effective programme delivery.
 
 A National Training of Trainers' Programme. Two men are standing in front of a banner. One man in a red shirt is presenting a certificate or document to another man in a light blue shirt. The banner in the background reads "NATIONAL TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT)".

WeACT (Access Connect & Transform) Chamber of Commerce for Women Entrepreneurs- CoC

WeACT is a one-stop platform for women entrepreneurs that provides them with handholding assistance to render their business competitive sustainable. It is an initiative conceptualized by Accenture and EDII. The platform has been able to make significant strides in empowering rural women entrepreneurs through its various initiatives. The last quarter noted the following activities:

- In a bid to empower rural women entrepreneurs, WeAct organized GST training sessions in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. 30 enthusiastic women participated in the training to enhance their business acumen. The sessions were skillfully led by Shri K. Sridhar, Deputy Commissioner of State Taxes, providing valuable insights and knowledge on GST compliance. The initiative aimed to foster financial independence and growth opportunities for the participating women, empowering them to succeed in their entrepreneurial ventures.
- 4 new websites have been launched for its members, 'A Star Tailoring'; 'Alummaymatha'; 'Wellness Enterprise' and 'Common Livelihood.' These platforms aim to elevate entrepreneurs' online presence and brand visibility, ultimately translating into increased sales and sustainable business growth.



During the quarter, WeAct achieved an impressive total sales of over Rs. 1,36,000, including:

- Rs. 45,000 generated by the WeAct's Corporate Hamper Kit, highlighting the growing demand for sustainable products.
- Rs. 10,000 generated by Chetan Group and Yashodhara, showcasing innovative eco-friendly products at the Accenture's 'Corporate Friends' Exhibition.
- More than Rs. 30,000 generated by the 'Tri-City Accenture Exhibition' across Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Chennai.
- Rs. 51,000 generated by the WeAct Emporium in Ahmedabad, featuring products from rural women entrepreneurs.



Entrepreneurs exhibiting their products at various exhibitions.

Kone Elevators and Escalators supported Project AASHRAY

EDII in collaboration with KONE Elevators & Escalators has embarked on a transformative journey through its project, 'AASHRAY'. Launched in March 2023 AASHRAY is set to make a meaningful impact on Persons with Disabilities (PwD) over the course of one year. The project is set to empower 157 PwDs through enterprise creation and growth programmes. EDII serves as implementing and technical agency.

During the quarter, the project implemented following activities to empower PwDs through skill development and entrepreneurship training in the Pune and Nashik districts of Maharashtra:

- Awareness and sensitization workshop was held at Shelgaon village in Pune to sensitize and promote the programme among the community members. The programme engaged 33 community members, inspiring the mobilization of beneficiaries for upcoming training batches.
- An inaugural programme for Micro Skill Development Programme MSDP at Shelgaon village in Pune was organized on 22nd August 2023. The event was graced by KONE CSR and Pune regional teams to kickstart the programme. In addition to EDII and KONE teams, various stakeholders, including the Sarpanch, Trainer and local government officials, extended their support.

A 4-week MSDP training continued till 18th of September. 27 beneficiaries were trained in manufacturing candles, dhoop and incense sticks. Along with this, they were motivated to start their enterprise and sell their homemade products in the local market.



Beneficiaries at the inauguration of Micro Skill Development Programme at Shelgaon village in Pune.

SBI Foundation supported Project Swavlamban

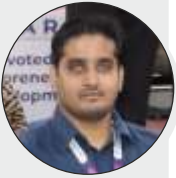
EDII has partnered with SBI Foundation for skill development and training of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) under SBI's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project – Swavlamban. EDII is implementing the project in Anand, Kheda, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad and Arvali districts of Gujarat with the objective of helping PwD entrepreneurs expand their market reach, thus leading to an increase in their incomes.

As part of this initiative, the Institute recently concluded seven successful 'Business Scale-Up Trainings for Existing PwD Entrepreneurs'. The programmes were conducted across 4 districts of Gujarat including, Ahmedabad, Arvali, Kheda and Anand. 183 determined entrepreneurs who were ready to improve their business skills and succeed in the competitive business landscape enthusiastically participated in these programmes. The training courses covered important topics including team development, business scale-up techniques and efficient business planning, giving participants all-comprehensive information and abilities needed to succeed.

Under the Swavlamban project, EDII is committed to providing enterprise promotion training to 750 differently-abled individuals, comprising 500 individual entrepreneurs and 250 entrepreneurs from Member Based Organizations (MBOs). To further strengthen the ecosystem for PwD entrepreneurs, ten MBOs will be formed, each comprising 25 differently-abled entrepreneurs. These MBOs will receive mentoring and support to enhance their networking capabilities, expand market reach and gain access to financial resources.



Participants of the training programme seen with (3rd from L-R) Shri Rakesh Jha, Manager Operations, SBI Foundation and Dr. Amit Dwivedi, Project Director & Incharge-Dept. of Projects (Govt.), EDII.



Shri Rakesh Jha, Manager Operations, SBI Foundation opining on this noble initiative said, "This project is aimed at making the socio-economic environment congenial for PwDs. Advancing and empowering PwDs is the motto."



Dr. Amit Kumar Dwivedi, Project Director, emphasizing on the importance of inclusivity and empowerment for individuals with disabilities, said "Every individual, regardless of their abilities, deserves the chance to shine. Inclusivity isn't just a virtue; it's the essence of a compassionate society. Through this project, EDII is not only opening doors but is also building bridges towards a brighter future."

TATA Communications Ltd supported Project Udaya

Project UDAYA has been making significant strides towards promoting entrepreneurship among women and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). Currently, the project is making a difference in the Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra, where it has ignited the entrepreneurial spirit within the affirmative action community.

One of the primary activities of Project UDAYA has been, Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps (EACs). These camps aim to sensitize individuals about entrepreneurship and offer them new avenues for growth and self-reliance. To date, the project has conducted 66 EACs, thus reaching out to 2961 women.

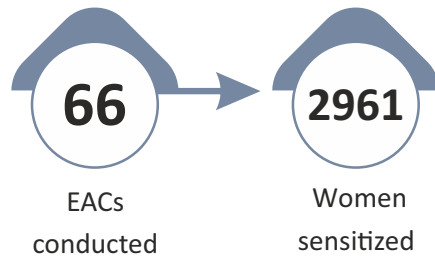
Taking a step further, the project has tailored its approach to meet the specific needs of women and PwDs. Through Women Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (WEDPs), 762 potential women entrepreneurs, including 46 PwDs, have received specialized training. This comprehensive programme covers a wide span of skills, including project selection, resource consolidation, business planning, management, market strategy, and government schemes for entrepreneurs.

Out of the trained participants, 327 women and PwDs have set up their enterprises. These businesses are contributing not only to the economic upliftment of the entrepreneurs themselves but also to their communities.

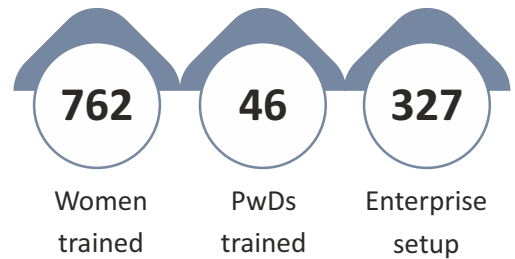


One of the most noteworthy achievements of Project UDAYA is the improvement in the average monthly income of trained entrepreneurs, which now stands at Rs. 12,300. This impressive feat demonstrates the potential of entrepreneurship in uplifting individuals and communities, especially in regions like Raigad and Ratnagiri, where agriculture is the primary occupation.

Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps



Women Entrepreneurship
Development Programme



During the quarter, July to September 2023, 12 EACs were conducted with participation of 631 women and PwDs.

Additionally, the project conducted one WEDP at Karanjade, Panvel (Dist. Raigad), where 32 potential women entrepreneurs were trained under a customized program, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to embark on their entrepreneurial journey.



Participants of the Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme with the certificate of programme completion at Karanjade, Panvel in Dist. Raigad.



“Project UDAYA is a beacon of hope, showing the path to entrepreneurship for women and PwDs in Raigad and Ratnagiri. It is incredibly heartening to witness the transformation in these individuals as they evolve from aspiring entrepreneurs to successful business owners.”

Dr. Prakash Solanki, Project Director

An Inspiring Story...



Jyotsana ben Navinchandra Leuva, beneficiary of Project HMI, hails from the weaving-renowned village of Jamthada in Kutch, a region revered for multi-generational weaving legacy.

Jyotsana had always been passionate about weaving. She expanded her range of crafts to incorporate Kutch's celebrated hand embroidery techniques, including Ahir embroidery, Rabari embroidery and Mirror work. Her childhood passion had evolved into her profession and identity.

In 2020, she joined the HSBC-supported Project HandMade in India (HMI) and participated in various training sessions, including New Design Color Combination and Exhibition Awareness Training. Diligently crafting numerous new design samples, her dedication bore fruit when her Marino woollen shawl won first place in the Handloom-Handicraft State Award 2021 competition, following its submission to the Department of Cottage and Village Industries in Gujarat State, Gandhinagar.

Jyotsana ben Leuva is a successful artpreneur today.



Shri Jagdish Panchal, Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Industries, Cottage, Khadi and Rural Industries, Civil Aviation, Government of Gujarat presenting the State Award to Jyotsana ben Navinchandra Leuva on National Handloom Day 2023

Sheeba's Entrepreneurial Journey Inspires Us...

Small steps lead to mega leaps. The story of Mrs. Sheeba, a beneficiary of Accenture's CSR programme, hailing from Manvilagam, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, exemplifies this. Her journey from being a housewife to becoming a successful entrepreneur is a testament to her indomitable will and determination.

Mrs. Sheeba, a qualified nurse, worked at a hospital in Nagercoil until she decided to resign after the birth of her child. With her husband working as a mason in Saudi Arabia, she found herself facing financial hardships as the sole caregiver for their four-year-old child. Despite the challenges, Mrs. Sheeba remained resilient and sought opportunities to improve her family's income.

It was during this difficult period that Mrs. Sheeba learned about an opportunity that would change her life. She discovered that EDII was conducting a one-month free training programme on the making low-cost sanitary napkins and hygiene products under Accenture CSR.

As a former nurse, Mrs. Sheeba was acutely aware of the issues surrounding menstrual hygiene among women. She was fuelled with the desire to make a difference. Mrs. Sheeba enrolled for the training programme and learned the art of crafting low-cost sanitary napkins and hygiene products with emphasis on sustainability and eco-friendliness. She created cloth pads as an alternative to synthetic, non-biodegradable sanitary napkins, reducing environmental pollution.

After the training, Mrs. Sheeba and six of her fellow trainees formed a group. Each member invested Rs. 10,000, and they established 'Abi Enterprises'. Their business focused on producing low-cost sanitary napkins and marketing them in nearby schools, colleges and retail cloth stores. The venture proved to be profitable, with each member earning a monthly income of Rs. 3,000-4000.

Mrs. Sheeba is a motivated entrepreneur today, brainstorming on ways to diversify.





The Story of Much Revered Artisans

...Project HastKala Setu

HastKala Setu Yojana, initiated in September 2020, has made significant strides in transforming the lives of handicraft and handloom artisans in Gujarat. Under the guidance of EDII, the project's primary objective is to bolster rural and cottage industries, bridging the knowledge and skill gaps among artisans while introducing modern practices to enhance their business prospects.

Since its inception, the project has expanded its reach to cover all 33 districts of Gujarat, sensitizing an impressive 32,423 artisans. Of these, 17,882 artisans have been enrolled and have received advanced skill training, need-based domain training, facilitation in promotion and marketing linkages, and valuable mentorship support. As a result, these artisans have collectively generated sales of Rs. 36.87 crores.

Across Gujarat, the HastKala Setu Project is revitalizing the traditional art and craft that were once on the brink of extinction. During the quarter, the project has observed significant achievements:

Amazon India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with EDII and the Cottage and Rural Industries Department, Government of Gujarat, to help drive e-commerce exports from the state. This collaboration holds tremendous potential for artisans and entrepreneurs associated with HastKala Setu Yojana, providing them access to a global marketplace and further expanding their reach.





One of the artisans, Padma Shri Abdul Gafur Khatri received a certificate from the World Book of Records London for creating the longest Rogan Art on Fabric, for the G20 Summit. He received this prestigious award at the hands of Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Gujarat. The ceremony was also graced by Smt. Smriti Irani, Hon'ble Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minister for Minority Affairs of India.



On National Handloom Day 2023, Shri Balvantsinh Rajput, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of State, Commissioner of Cottage and Rural Industries, Government of Gujarat and Shri Jagdish Panchal, Hon'ble Minister of State, Commissioner of Cottage and Rural Industries, Government of Gujarat honored 30 talented Artisans with State Award for their exceptional work in the domain of Handloom & Handicraft.



Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII felicitated Padma Shri Awardees, (4th from R) Dr. Rajani Kant (GI Technical Expert); (3rd from L) Shri Bhanubhai Chitara (Mata ni Pachedi) and (4th from L) Shri Paresh Rathwa (Pithora Painting) for their outstanding contribution in the field of handicraft, traditional craft and art.



Shaping the Future of Work and Innovation

...Y20 India Brainstorming Session

In the ever-evolving global economy, the role of young minds and the transformative power of technology are critical in shaping the future of work. Recognizing this, EDII and the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) came together to host the Y20 India Brainstorming Session. The event took place on July 24, 2023, at the EDII campus with focus on the topic - Exploring the Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21st Century Skills.

The Y20 India Brainstorming Session served as a dynamic platform for the youth of India to convene and delve into the challenges and opportunities brought about by technology in the realm of work. In an era marked by Industry 4.0 and the rapid advancement of digitalization, understanding how to effectively leverage technologies is paramount for the development of any nation. This event sought to engage young minds in discussions and brainstorming sessions, aiming to chart a path towards harnessing these technologies for the betterment of India's workforce and industries.



Distinguished Guests of the event- (1st Row, 7th from R) Chief Guest, Shri Hitesh Makwana, Mayor, Gandhinagar, Municipal Corporation; (2nd Row, 6th from L) Dr. Pankaj Vashisht, Associate Professor, RIS, and (1st Row, 8th from R) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII with the participants.



“I beckon the youth to play a significant role in the sphere of development. They must come up with thoughts, plans, and strategies that help build a rewarding structure and system. I urge the youth to fix a goal and carve a path towards it in a responsible way.”

Shri Hitesh Makwana, Mayor, Gandhinagar Municipal Corporation



“This year focus has been placed on the role of various engagement groups in the G20 Summit. Y20 is one of the engagement groups which provide a platform for youth to voice their opinions and brainstorm ideas on the future of work.”

Dr. Pankaj Vashisht, Associate Professor, RIS



“We must encourage abilities and capacities in our youth, and involve them in development. EDII is privileged to be a part of the process where youths are guided towards entrepreneurship, ensuring balanced growth.”

Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII

The event was a milestone on the trajectory of empowering youth, fostering innovations, and steering the nation towards a brighter future.



Shri Jagdish Vishwakarma, Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Industries, Cottage, Khadi and Rural Industries, Civil Aviation, Govt. of Gujarat was invited as the Chief Guest for a seminar on 'Driving Women Entrepreneurship & Global Strategy in G20' conducted by EDII in association with Consortium of Empowered Women Entrepreneurs (CEWE) on 28th July.



Nurturing the New Age Agro Entrepreneurs

Agriculture in India continues to be a significant sector, providing sustenance to a vast portion of the population and serving as a foundation of the nation's economic growth. EDII executed an Institutional Development Programme on 'Agro-based Entrepreneurship' in collaboration with Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat, under the aegis of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project-World Bank. This programme was attended by 36 participants from various colleges affiliated with Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat and aimed to empower students with essential skills, to help them identify and analyze agribusiness opportunities and formulate action plans for agricultural ventures. The programme featured a dynamic blend of classroom sessions, practical exercises, industry visits, and study tours, providing a comprehensive learning experience.

To provide exposure of real-world, the programme included visits to established enterprises in the agribusiness sector like AMULFED Dairy, Rise Hydroponics, Venture Studio and IFFCO Kalol.



Participants of the 'Agro-based Entrepreneurship' Programme with the certificate of programme completion.



Empowering Rural Micro Entrepreneurs:

Adani and EDII Join Forces to Equip Facilitators for Success

Microenterprise facilitators can provide micro entrepreneurs with the support and guidance they need to start, grow, and sustain their businesses. EDII in collaboration with Adani Enterprises Ltd. offered 'Training Programme on Micro Enterprise Promotion and Handholding Women Entrepreneurs' with a vision to empower and equip microenterprise facilitators with the knowledge and skills to foster entrepreneurial initiatives.

The collaboration between Adani Natural Resources and EDII aimed to strengthen the technical competencies of CSR professionals who were part of the company's existing efforts to transform rural lives and bring sustenance to their livelihoods, particularly women.

The training programme helped the CSR team understand the dynamics of rural areas, the target markets and mindsets. facilitate the necessary groundwork before launching or scaling up enterprises in their intervention area. The training programme also touched upon the topics of the concept of entrepreneurship and the charms of being an entrepreneur.



Participants of 'Training Programme on Micro Enterprise Promotion and Handholding Women Entrepreneurs' seen with (in the centre) Dr. Sunil Shukla, DG, EDII; (7th from R) Dr. Rajesh Gupta, Programme Director and (3rd from R) Dr. Prakash Solanki, Faculty, EDII.

This three-day training programme trained 23 participants, among these, nine women facilitators were committed to promoting farm-based livelihoods in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, while 14 male facilitators focused on establishing and supporting women-owned enterprises across various rural areas, including Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra.



"I am delighted to be here today to celebrate the successful completion of this training programme. Microenterprise facilitators can play a crucial role in bridging this gap and providing micro entrepreneurs with the support and guidance they need to succeed. I am confident that the participants of this training programme will now be better equipped to empower entrepreneurs in their respective communities."

-Mr. Pawan Somani
Chief of Mine Development - Adani Enterprise
Chief Guest at the Valediction



"This training programme was conducted to support microenterprise development and empower rural communities. We are grateful to Adani Enterprises Ltd. for their partnership in this initiative. The participants of this training programme were a diverse group of individuals, passionate about making a difference in the lives of micro entrepreneurs. I urge them to leverage the knowledge and skills they have gained to make a noticeable impact in their communities."

-Dr. Rajesh Gupta, Programme Director

Trainers Learn the Intricacies of Micro Enterprise Development

Trained NGO and CSR professionals, with right technical competencies are a pre condition for new enterprise creation, especially in rural areas. EDII collaborated with Reliance Foundations Rural Transformation Program to build technical competencies of CSR and NGO professionals. The primary objective of the programme was to equip field staff of the Reliance Foundation with necessary skills, knowledge and mindset to promote entrepreneurial behavior within rural communities effectively.

Two training programmes of four-day each were conducted during September 5-8, 2023 and September 12-15, 2023. In all over 50 professionals participated from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The professionals represented diverse domains including micro-enterprises, social development, women's empowerment, livelihood development and various aspects of community development.

The programmes enabled the participants to further gain as well as hone skills in effectively ideating, promoting, and strengthening microenterprises across farm and nonfarm sectors.



Creating Pathways for Rural Entreprises

...Startup Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP)

Startup Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) is a sub-scheme of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). It aims to help members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) set up small enterprises in the non-farm sector. EDII has been functioning as the National Resource Organisation (NRO) for this programme and has been implementing SVEP in 82 blocks across 15 States.



Highlights in brief

- 88,477 enterprises have been supported under the program and have been given loan worth ₹ 216.39 crores from the Community Enterprise Fund (CEF), a dedicated revolving fund available under the project. Out of the total, 3,206 enterprises were supported under the program with a Community Enterprise Fund (CEF) loan worth ₹ 1.1 crores.
- 4,844 enterprises have been given loans worth ₹ 23.65 crores through various financial institutions.
- 1,426 Community Resource Persons – Enterprise Promotions (CRP-EP) have been identified and trained. These CRP-EPs support SHG members to set up microenterprises; monitor and provide handholding support to micro entrepreneurs.



Visit of Governor of Uttarakhand in Sahaspur Block

On 25 July 2023, Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt. General Gurmeet Singh visited Anand Vann of village Jhajhra in Sahaspur Block. Jhajhra is an adopted village of Hon'ble Governor. During his visit, Hon'ble Governor interacted with SVEP supported entrepreneurs at the four stalls that were set up. The Hon'ble Governor highly appreciated the project and its outcomes.

SVEP Orientation conducted for the officials of Jammu & Kashmir SRLM

An orientation programme spanning two days was conducted for the members of the Jammu and Kashmir State Rural Livelihood Mission team. During this program, 18 officials from SRLM were introduced to SVEP and its implementation.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi interacted with Ms. Meera Yadav, CRP-EP during his visit to Sohagpur block - Madhya Pradesh on July 1, 2023. During their interaction, Hon'ble Prime Minister was impressed by the inspiring narratives of community achievers. Ms. Meera led the audience through the journey that made her a community leader, providing micro enterprise services.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacting with Mr. Baijnath Prajapati, a master trainer from the Nizamabad Black pottery cluster in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, during the launch of the PM Vishwakarma Yojana in New Delhi. EDII is the technical agency for the Nizamabad Pottery Cluster under SFURTI Scheme, Ministry of MSME, Government of India. The Yojana aims to provide support to traditional artisans and craftsmen.

Inducing Growth in Clusters

...National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP)

To encourage the growth of clusters in the agricultural and nonagricultural sectors, the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, launched National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP). The project is being carried out across Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Karnataka and Rajasthan among some other places. EDII has been engaged as the Technical Support Agency (TSA) for extending technical assistance to the artisan clusters. EDII has been engaged with various State Rural Livelihood Missions to function as TSA, particularly for artisan clusters. Dr. Rajesh Gupta is the Project Director.

- 11 Artisan Identity Cards have been issued in the Dahod Pottery Cluster and 60 artisan cards have been issued in Jacket Cluster in Badarwas, Madhya Pradesh.
- Skill Upgradation training with NIFT has been provided to 20 artisans, and 70 artisans have been mobilized to become the members of the Producer Company in Jacket Cluster in Badarwas, Madhya Pradesh.
- Producer Company had been incorporated in September, 2023, as Kolhapuri Leather & Chappal Works Producer Company Limited. 46 artisans have been mobilized so far in this cluster.



Artisan Mobilisation activity in Kolhapuri Footwear cluster in Maharashtra.



Fostering Entrepreneurship in Uttarakhand

...Consultative Workshop on Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana

Uttarakhand, with its picturesque landscapes and a burgeoning young population, is poised at the cusp of economic growth. Recognizing the potential for harnessing the demographic dividend and promoting entrepreneurship, the state has launched the 'Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana'. This visionary initiative aims to foster entrepreneurship and startup creation among the youth in educational institutions, rural areas, and marginalized communities. To support this endeavour, EDII is playing a central role in this initiative, working in close collaboration with the Higher Education Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand.

EDII, with its extensive experience in the domain of entrepreneurship, is a partner in realizing the Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana's objectives. Through a series of interventions, EDII aims to transform young students into successful entrepreneurs. These interventions include boot camps for business plan creation, sensitization workshops for academic leaders and government officials, faculty mentor development programmes, and supporting student startups through multiple ways. Additionally, the institute will establish Centers of Excellence in Entrepreneurship, offer vocational and entrepreneurship courses aligned with the New Education Policy 2020, and actively engage in policy advocacy to create a conducive environment for startups and entrepreneurship.

On September 13, 2023, at the Nityanand Himalayan Study and Research Centre, Doon University, Dehradun, EDII organized a consultative workshop in collaboration with the Uttarakhand Higher Education Department.



Stakeholders at the consultative workshop, organised in collaboration with the Uttarakhand Higher Education Department, in Dehradun.

The workshop brought together key stakeholders including, Shri Byomkesh Dubey, Dy. Secretary, Higher Education Dept, Govt. of Uttarakhand; Dr. Deepak Pandey, Nodal Officer of Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana and Assistant Director, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand; Shri. Govind Pathak, Assistant Director, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand; Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII; Dr. Amit Kr. Dwivedi, Programme Director & Associate Prof. & In-charge- Dept. of Projects (Government), EDII; academic representatives and officials from EDII.

The workshop commenced with the remarks of Dr. Deepak Pandey, Nodal Officer of Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana, who provided an overview of the programme. Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII shared the Institute's journey thus far and its commitment to fostering entrepreneurship across diverse sectors.

Dr. Amit Kumar Dwivedi, Programme Director, presented a detailed action plan for the Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana, seeking valuable feedback from the participants. The attendees offered insightful inputs, highlighting opportunities such as separate industrial policies for hilly and plain areas, the need for packaging facilitation centers, and database creation for traditional products. They also discussed possibilities in tourism, adventure sports, and skill development.

The workshop concluded with vote of thanks of Mr. Govind Pathak, Assistant Director, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Uttarakhand, emphasizing on the collective commitment to drive entrepreneurship and economic growth in the state.



(5th from R) Dr. Ashish Srivastava, IAS, Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand; (5th from L) Shri Byomkesh Dubey, Deputy Secretary, Higher Education Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand; (3rd from L) Dr. Deepak Pandey, Assistant Director, Higher Education Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand with Director General, EDII and EDII senior officials, during discussions on the action plan of Devbhoomi Udyamita Yojana at EDII campus.



Empowering Communities and Fostering Entrepreneurship in Uttar Pradesh...

Sankalp Scheme Awareness Workshops in Gorakhpur:

Under the Sankalp Scheme of the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission (UPSDM), 15 Entrepreneurship Awareness Programs (EAPs) across various villages in the Gorakhpur district has been conducted. The project, launched in July 2023, is set to continue until the end of December 2023. Its core objective is to raise awareness about entrepreneurship as a viable career option, particularly among youth, women, and disadvantaged individuals.



SIDBI-Sponsored Training Programmes in Gorakhpur and Kushinagar:



Collaborating with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), 39 three-day training programmes as part of the Livelihood Outreach Project were conducted across eastern Uttar Pradesh. These played a pivotal role in empowering communities. The main thrust of the Livelihood Outreach Programme is on bringing about a positive change in 10 districts of Eastern UP through

comprehensive skill development. This includes imparting financial and digital literacy to 3,000 individuals. Additionally, the programme extends training, handholding, and mentoring to 1,500 artisans, micro-entrepreneurs, and livelihood entrepreneurs, equipping them with the necessary skills for successful onboarding onto e-marketplaces.



Propelling Women Entrepreneurship

...NCW and EDII join hands

In a bid to promote women entrepreneurship in India, National Commission for Women (NCW) and EDII are organizing 100 Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAPs) across India, to enlighten and empower women by demonstrating the myriad benefits of choosing entrepreneurship as a career path. The programmes delve into essential entrepreneurial skills, offering participants the knowledge, abilities, and motivation necessary to establish and nurture their own businesses.

The EAPs include expert led discussion on topics like the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, identifying business opportunities, cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset, strategies to overcome challenges commonly faced by women, understanding gender specific issues and challenges, and information on government schemes and policies for women business owners.



During the last 3 months, **60 EAPs** have been conducted sensitizing **3541 participants** covering **60 cities** across **26 states**.

Progress till date...

No. of Programmes

No. of Participants



States



PG Corner



On 20th July, the Institute warmly welcomed the 2023-2025 batch of students to its Post Graduate Academic Programmes at the induction session, graced by Chief Guest, Shri Banchha Niddhi Pani, IAS, Commissioner of Technical Education, GoG & Guest of Honour, Shri Hiranmay Mahanta, CEO of i-Hub Gujarat.

PG Corner



Shri Anil Pratham, IPS, DGP, Police Reform, Govt. of Gujarat interacted with students during a session on Public Private Partnership under Suraksha Setu Society on September 20, 2023. Shri Pratham informed, “Suraksha Setu Society is a state-wide public outreach programme of the State’s Home department aimed at taking the role of Police beyond solving crimes by bridging the gap between the police and society. I urge all to become responsible citizens and be aware of your rights.”



EDII observes strict anti ragging measures. The members on the Committee during a meeting.



PGP Alumni come together for a meet up on campus.

PG Corner

Brainstorming...

On 29 and 30th July, EDII participated in the NEP 2020 exhibition, Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2023 organised by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India at New Delhi. Seen here at the exhibition are (in the center) Dr. Milind Kamble, EDII Governing Board Member and Founder Chairman, DICCI and (2nd from R) Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, (2nd from L) Prof. Muqbil Burhan, Asso. Professor, IIM Jammu and Senior officials from EDII- Ms. T. A. Nikita and Mr. Pankaj Sharma.



Times of India, 5th August, 2023

EDII grads shift focus to startup turnovers

Parth Shastri
@timesgroup.com

Ahmedabad: The 22nd convocation of the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) showcased a unique focus among graduating students. Instead of competing for higher pay packages, the students were vying to showcase the impressive turnovers of their startups and ventures.

Among the 54 graduating students, more than 30 had established their own ventures, said EDII officials. These entrepreneurial endeavours spanned various sectors, ranging from car customization to warehouse management, sustainable fashion, and chemical production. Some have completed a year with a sizeable turnover, some have got seed funding, some have got investors and some are registered with the state and government-run incubation programmes.

Yashovardhan Kothari founded Build Well Infrastructure in Ratlam, focusing on the construction supply chain. Within a year, the venture achieved a turnover of around Rs 50 lakh. "My family business is diversified from power distribution to financing. But I decided to chart my own path supplying raw material to workers



Yashovardhan Kothari



Nandini Agarwal

needed for construction," he said.

Nandini Agarwal, based in the city, established Bindi, a sustainable fashion label that employs a factory-to-customer model, resulting in a turnover of about Rs 40 lakh in a year. She branched away from her father's garment manufacturing business. "We use the factory-to-customer model to cut cost and provide affordable formal apparels for women. I identified the idea while brainstorming during classroom sessions, identified the market needs and ecosystem," she said.

R N Ravi, the governor of Tamil Nadu, was the chief guest at the event. In his address, he mentioned that it is a time of comprehensive revolutionary transformation. "This era is unfolding infinity

opportunities for each one of us. So, you explore your destiny and soar high... The country is encouraging its youth to tap their energies and potential; it is creating an ecosystem where the youth can step forth. Today, India is the fastest growing economy in the world, with more than 1 lakh startups. This is only because of the enterprising spirit of our youth," he said.

EDII's president and MD of IDBI Bank Ltd, Rakesh Sharma, and Milind Kamble, founder of DICCI, were also present at the event.

Dr Sunil Shukla, director general of EDII, in his address outlined the 40 years of the institute and elaborated on initiatives for MSMEs and startups in close collaboration with various stakeholders.

Brothers in forties go back to school

Parth Shastri
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Ahmedabad: The new batch of PG Diploma in Entrepreneurship at EDII has two brothers — aged 44 and 46 years — who have decided to come back to academics after two decades. The brothers — Harjit Singh Bagga, 44, and Jaspal Singh Bagga, 46 — run an academic publishing house in Vastrapur. "The purpose to come to EDII was to apply our practical knowledge to theory and expand the scope of our venture. Born and brought up in Gujarat, it is likely that we are bitten by the 'dhandho' bug" said Harjit Singh. Jaspal Singh, in true Gujarati spirit, said that as they both have enrolled in the course, it would be wrong if it results in only one venture. "We will also explore other business opportunities," he said.

The eclectic class also has Sumangala Bafna from Maharashtra. "I had secured admission in IIM Sambalpur and Ranchi. But I was always interested in entrepreneurship rather than seeking a job. Thus, I decided to get admis-



sion here. I wish to establish a luxury brand," she said. For Bharti Kshirsagar, a gazetted officer in Government of Gujarat, it was about learning the ropes of theory and practice of entrepreneurship that she can apply to her work in the government sector. "The mindset of an entrepreneur can also help in problem solving from areas ranging from climate change to malnutrition," she said.



The Centre for Advancing and Launching Enterprises

EDII hosted a technology business incubator: The Centre for Advancing and Launching Enterprises (CrAdLE) in 2016. Till now, 103 startups have been incubated by CrAdLE.

Some of the key activities over the last three months include:

- CrAdLE hosted Vigyan Gurjari Student Innovation Fest (SIF) 2023 to bridge the gap between industry and academia. Dr. Hemant Shah from Space Applications Centre (ISRO) talked about innovation in Space Technology and the emerging opportunities in this domain. Over 40 students and startups participated in the event.
- An a4X Connect session was organized by CrAdLE in association with GVFL Limited (formerly Gujarat Venture Finance Limited) for Students and Startups. a4X Connect is a dynamic and interactive seed-stage startup knowledge enhancement series organized by GVFL and a4X, in collaboration with incubators. The series aims to foster connections between experienced mentors, venture capitalists, and aspiring startups, creating an ecosystem where knowledge, expertise and opportunities are shared. The closed-door pitching sessions were organized in which more than 45 students and startups participated. Participants also learnt about various fund raising opportunities.



Students of Pandit Deendayal Energy University attending Entrepreneurship Orientation Programme at the Institute.



Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...

On July 21, 2023, EDII entered into an MoU with NIFT, Gandhinagar to encourage collaboration and exchange between the two institutions at national and international levels to benefit from mutual strengths and provide scope for wider learning to the students of both the Institutes.



(6th from L) Prof. (Dr.) Sameer Sood, Campus Director, NIFT Gandhinagar with Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII alongwith senior officials from EDII and NIFT, Gandhinagar.



Commodore Rajiv Ashok (Retd.), Managing Director, NERMAC with Dr. Sunil Shukla.

EDII signed an MoU with North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERMAC) on August 22, 2023 to support North Eastern states in creating a strong ecosystem for entrepreneurship in the domain of agriculture and horticulture, with focus on women led enterprises.



Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



On August 29, (extreme L) Shri Ganeswar Nayak, OES, District Employment Officer, Keonjhar, Odisha signed and exchanged MoA with Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII in the presence of (2nd from L) Shri Ashish Thakre, District Magistrate-cum-Collector, District Administration, Keonjhar, Odisha and senior officials of EDII to initiate the Project 'UDYAMI' in the district. The project will promote rural entrepreneurs in 7 mining-affected blocks of Keonjhar and support more than 10,000 young individuals in fostering 3,200 enterprises within the non-farm and Agri-allied sectors. EDII senior officials (R-L) Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Dept. of Projects (Corporates) & Dr. Subrata Kr. Biswal, Asst. Prof. & Incharge Eastern Regional Office were also Present.



(2nd from R) Mrs. Anurita Manohar, AGM-CSR, NTPC and (2nd from L) Dr. Anjani Kumar Singh, Faculty, EDII signed the MoA in the presence of Mr. Neeraj Kapoor, GM(CSR/R&R/LA), NTPC.

As a part of its MoA with National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) Corporate CSR Division, EDII will facilitate New Enterprise Creation among the under privileged women in the vicinity of NTPC Noida and will ensure setting up of a Cold Compressed Oil Unit for the benefit of the under-privileged women. In all, 30 women from self-help groups will be rendered independent and empowered over a period of 1 year.



Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



EDII entered into an MoU with Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute, Tamil Nadu (EDII-Tamil Nadu) on September 6 for fostering entrepreneurship education, training and research across the state. Seen here is (4th from L) Shri C Umashankar, IAS, ACS / Director, EDII-Tamil Nadu with Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII along with senior officials of EDII- Tamil Nadu.

On September 15, Dr. K. Prakasan, Principal, PSG College of Technology visited EDII to sign an MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence in StartUps/ Entrepreneurship. The students will benefit through an Entrepreneurship-Lab which will offer collaborative training programmes, mentoring and guidance in diverse areas of Entrepreneurship and Startups.





Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



26th July: Dr. Sunil Sukla, Director General, EDII in conversation with Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Minister of State- Home, Industries, Transport, Youth & Sports (I/C), Govt. of Gujarat about EDIIs' initiatives.



(6th from L) Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Govt. of India; (in the Centre) Smt. Sonal Mishra, Joint Secretary, MSDE, Govt. of India seen with (5th from L) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII and officials from MSDE and EDII during their visit to explore opportunities on entrepreneurship development and skill training.



Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



A team of senior officials from NITI Aayog led by (Right Row, 1st from R) Ms. Anna Roy, Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog visited EDII to explore opportunities with the institute.

Dr. Sunil Shukla felicitating Dr. Paresha Sinha, Associate Professor, School of Management & Marketing, Waikato Management School, University of Waikato, New Zealand during her visit to EDII on 22nd September to deliver a research talk on 'Mastering Entrepreneurship Research.'





Overwhelming

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU @rajbhavan_tn
 In his convocation address at Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad, Governor Ravi urged the youth to make best use of entrepreneurship opportunities created... (1/2)

Bhupendra Patel @Bhupendrapb
 મેઈનમાં મહિલાઓ દ્વારા હસ્તકલા, આહાર અને ન્યૂટ્રીશન, આરોગ્ય, શિક્ષણ અને સ્ત્રીલ સક્રિયતા વિષયો પર લગભગ ૫૦૦ જેટલા સ્ટોલની મુલાકાત લઈને તેમની કામગીરી અને જાણકારી મેળવી.
 ફલશ્ી લઈને કૌશલ્ય વિકાસ સુધીના વિવિધ ક્ષેત્રે મહિલાઓ દ્વારા વર્ક ડેલે કામગીરી ખરેખર પ્રારંભીય છે.

DD News @DDNewsLive
 #EconomyToday | "Three things that are essential for entrepreneurship are Knowledge, Skill, and Attitude", says @DRsunilshukla2, Director of EDII, Gujarat.
 #Watch here:
 @ajaydnews

Y20 India @IndiaY20 · 24/07/23
 The #Y20India Brainstorming Session at EDII Ahmedabad on was a resounding success, igniting discussions on Industry 4.0 & 21st Century Skills. Stay tuned for more such youth empowering events.
 #G20India #Y20BrainstormingSession

Hastkala setu Yojana, Gujarat - 31/08/23
 #Thrilled & #Honored to share #Incredible #news! #HastkalaSetuYojana #wins the SKOCH #Gold #Award for #empowering #Artisans. Shri D M Shukla & Dr. Satya R Acharya received the award in New Delhi on behalf of Hastkala Setu Yojana. Let's keep empowering lives & preserving #Heritage

Ministry of Education · 06/09/23
 Congratulations to the dedicated and passionate National Awardee Teachers 2023 from the Higher Education Institutions! Your commitment to shaping the future through education is truly inspiring. @rashtrapatiibhn #OurTeachersOurPrena #GuruVandana #NTA2023 @PSG_Polytechnic_ Show more

PMO India and 31 others

PMO Gujarat and 7 others

Winners of National Awards to Teachers, 2023 from HEIs

NCW @NCWIndia

The @NCWIndia in collaboration with @EDIIAhmedabad conducted an **Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme** in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 28th June 2023 to strengthen and build entrepreneurial capabilities among women entrepreneurs of the region. Hon'ble Member, @NCWIndia @DKhongdupr attended the program and addressed the aspiring women entrepreneurs.

India in Lebanon @IndiaInL... · 13/07/23

Ms. Abir Fakih from Lebanon attended the Course on Entrepreneurial Management at Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad under #ITEC programme of Government of India. She shared her experience of India 🇮🇳

Director General Office of EDII reposted **PIB India** @PIB_India · 6d

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) & Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) Ahmedabad, collaborate to empower 3000 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

Roundtable Meet brainstormed on creating a better world for PwDs through an effective... Show more

Divyang Empowerment and 5 others

Hastkala setu Yojana, Gujarat · 08/08/23

Celebrating #NationalHandloomDay2023! Ministers Shri Balwantsinh Rajput & Shri Jagdish Panchal honored our #talented #artisans with #State #Awards for their exceptional #work in #handlooms & #handicrafts. 30 Hastkala Setu artisans shine bright with State Awards! Congrats to all!

Jagdish Vishwakarma and 31 others

Jagdish Vishwakarma @MLAJagdish

'Driving Women Entrepreneurship & Global Strategy in G20' विषय उपर आयोजित कार्यक्रमां उपस्थित रही महिला उद्योग सावसिडोने प्रोत्साहित करायें.

#mlajagdishvishwakarma #bjp4gujarat #bjpforindia #india #women #entrepreneurs #business #success

6:27 PM · 29/07/23 · 516 Views

26 Reposts 2 Quotes 51 Likes

Higher Education Uttarakhand @... · 20h

सतत प्रगति पथ पर उच्च शिक्षा अवर सचिव, उच्च शिक्षा डॉ. आशीष कुमार श्रीवास्तव ने EDII के छात्रों के साथ संवाद कर उत्तराखण्ड में उद्यमिता के संभावनाओं के बारे में उनके विचारों को जाना। महानिदेशक EDII डॉ. सुनील शुक्ला, उप सचिव श्री ब्योमकेश दुबे, डॉ. दीपक कुमार पाण्डेय भी उपस्थित रहे।

Pushkar Singh Dhani and 15 others



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