

NO GUIDING HAND

'No takers for thesis on entrepreneurship'

A team of two from EDI also found that only 177 studies have been conducted on the topic in past 15 years

dna correspondent
@dnaahmedabad

Ahmedabad: Although the entrepreneurship movement started in the state, it is unfortunate that the universities of Gujarat have contributed only nine PhD theses in entrepreneurship, claims a research conducted by a team of two from the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI), which studied the contribution of universities in the field of entrepreneurship.

The research conducted by associate faculty Dr Kavita Saxena and Librarian B Ganapathi on 'Study of Entrepreneurial Research and Doctoral Dissertations in Indian Universities' suggests that in the span of 15 years, only 177 research papers have got published in the field of entrepreneurship which is too low in comparison to 20,271 research papers published in social sciences during the same span.

The paper not only aimed at identifying the nature and direction of entrepreneurship research from 2000 to 2015 but also the quantitative growth of entrepreneurship research as compared to social sciences, contribution of universities in awarding doctoral degrees and to find the state, gender and language wise distribution of research in entrepreneurship.

For the same purpose, data was collected from a weekly official publication of the Association of Indian University, New Delhi which publishes the list of doctoral thesis accepted by Indian universities in different disciplines.

Out of 470 recognised universities, only 66 universities



Dr Kavita Saxena

B Ganapathi

GENDER-WISE DISTRIBUTION

Researcher	No of thesis
Male	104
Female	73
Total	177

SCENARIO IN GUJARAT

Bhavnagar University	Gandhigram Rural University	South Gujarat University
3	3	1
MSU	Total	Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University
1	9	1

SUGGESTIONS

- Indian universities should encourage availability of PhD programs
- Faculty development programmes on entrepreneurship should be conducted to impart faculties with requisite skills and knowledge
- Entrepreneurship should be taught as core subject in PG programmes of various disciplines so that students can be geared up for taking entrepreneurship as a career option
- Collaborative industry-academia mentorship should be arranged for scholars in absence of experts or PhD guides

have awarded PhD in entrepreneurship. The highest number of thesis, 16 was awarded in 2007 while the lowest being 6 was awarded in 2000. The Universities of Maharashtra have awarded highest number of PhDs in entrepreneurship while universities of Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal have awarded one PhD each which is the lowest. The percentage of PhD thesis in entrepreneurship as compared to social science disciplines is very discouraging. Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad

has awarded highest PhD thesis (13) followed by Osmania University, Hyderabad (10).

Elaborating more on the same, Kavita said, "Even today, entrepreneurship is not part of the main stream. But with our Prime Minister initiating start-up policy, suddenly everyone has started talking about the same. Entrepreneurship cells are being initiated in colleges and people's approach has also changed. This was the main reason for us to do a reality check on how much work has been done in field of research."

The reason behind less re-

search is the dearth of experts to guide PhD scholars. No academic organisation can progress without sufficient advancement in terms of latest research activities, she said.