



Government of Gujarat
Department of Education



PROCEEDINGS

OF

SSIP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ON

STUDENT INNOVATION, STARTUPS AND ECOSYSTEM-2019

6th & 7th
JUNE 2019

ORGANIZED BY: GUJARAT KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY



Entrepreneurship
Development
Institute of India



#startupindia



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Emerald Group Publishing (India) Private Limited

1001-1004, 10th Floor, Hemkunt Towers, 6, Rajendra Place, New Delhi - 110008

Title: Proceedings of SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Start-ups and Ecosystem – 2019

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Contact: Dr Satya R. Acharya (satya@ediindia.org)

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This edition can be exported from India by the publisher, Emerald Group Publishing (India) Private Limited.

ISBN: 978-1-78635-427-3



Vijay Rupani

Chief Minister, Gujarat State



Dt: 29-05-2019

Apro/Jm/2019/05/29/jp

MESSAGE

In the rising startup culture of India today, Gujarat has emerged as one of the most progressive startup destinations of the country. The state has instituted several proactive measures to create a conducive ecosystem for students-led startups and innovations. An able framework with a union of Government, industry and institutions and a strong network of mentors, angel investors and venture capitalists have erected a robust foundation in the state. Taking a lead in Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of '**Startup India**', it is a matter of pride that Gujarat has become the first state in the nation to formulate and implement a policy dedicated to startup and innovation-Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP). The policy aims at enhancing the startup propensity among students and facilities recognition in innovative opportunities by students, supports innovations, helps them create prototypes and file patents.

The SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Startups and Ecosystem organised by Gujarat Knowledge Society, Education department is a vibrant platform to deliberate on many aspects including challenges and opportunities of the startup phenomenon in Gujarat. I am sure this conference and proceedings documented here will constructively contribute in developing the roadmap for making Gujarat the innovation hub and a startup capital of India.

I take this opportunity to urge all startup enthusiasts and the facilitators of this movement to give their best. I congratulate everyone involved in making this conference a grand success.



(Vijay Rupani)

BHUPENDRASINH CHUDASAMA



No.Edu(P&S),H&T,L&J,L&P./ /2019

Minister,
Education(Primary, Secondary and Adult),
Higher and Technical Education,
Law and Justice,
Legislative & Parliamentary Affairs,
Salt Industry, Cow-Breeding and Civil Aviation
Government of Gujarat
Swarnim Sankul-1, 2nd Floor,
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382 010

Date: 29 / 5 / 2019

MESSAGE

With proactive policies undertaken by Government of Gujarat, the state is moving ahead in its journey towards innovation-led development. With initiatives from Education Department like Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP), Smart Gujarat for New India Hackathon and Gujarat Industrial Hackathon, the youth has found a startup-friendly cohesive environment and ecosystem to rise and shine. Because of which, in the past few years there has been a significant rise in the number of start-ups and patents filed.

The start-up initiatives of the state have paved the way for a stronger, technically-advanced and entrepreneurially-sound society. I urge all the students to step forward to benefit from a scenario where accelerators, innovators, incubators, policymakers, corporates and academia work in tandem to float a viable start-up-laden economy.

The deliberations, paper presentations, exhibits and talks from experts of this field during SSIP Annual Conference will surely lead to impactful output in cultivating a bright startup culture in our state. The well-documented proceedings collating research articles and paper presentations will indeed help in the direction of strengthening the startup regime in the state. I appreciate the efforts put in by Education Department in shaping up this conference.

I extend my best wishes for the grand success of the event.

(Bhupendrasinh Chudasama)

VIBHAVARI DAVE



No. : MOS/W.C.W.E.P./^{VIP}432/2018
Minister of State,
Women & Child Welfare, Education
(Primary and Higher Education) and
Pilgrimage
Government of Gujarat,
Swarnim Sankul-2, 2nd Floor,
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382 010.
Phone : 079-232 51940 Fax : 079 232 57966
Date : 29-05-2019

MESSAGE

Gujarat is rejoicing in its growing entrepreneurial fervour. Gujarat has ably instituted a vigorous structure comprising skill-training, incubation centres, funding solutions and receptive policies. Over the years, the state has adopted a pro-growth approach, encouraging and promoting an innovative start-up society. With holistic approach by Government of Gujarat in accelerating startup-centric growth, Gujarat is home to a progressive innovation and startup ecosystem today. The successful implementation of Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) by Education Department is a giant step in the same direction.

In this scenario, the future appears bright with several replicable growth models that would witness start-ups crossing milestones and achieving landmarks. The SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Startups and Ecosystem organised by Gujarat Knowledge Society, Education Department, is a great achievement in reflecting bright opportunities for the youth of Gujarat.

I appreciate the team efforts of Education Department in successfully collating and releasing the proceedings of reviewed papers in this document. I congratulate everyone who participated in this conference and in turn participating in Gujarat's vibrant journey of startups and innovations.


(Vibhavari Dave)

Resident Address: Bungalow No.15, Minister's Residency, Sector-20, Gandhinagar
Office Phone No.079-232-51940, Fax: 079-232-57966, Email: mos.vdave@gmail.com

FOREWORD

Over the years, Education Department of Government of Gujarat has undertaken several initiatives to support young startups, innovators and entrepreneurs of the state. One of the key milestones in this direction is Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) that has effectively bolstered the startup revolution in Gujarat.

As Gujarat strives to become a startup capital of India, incubators and accelerators play a major role by providing mentorship, nurturing ideas, guidance, technical support and help in generating funds. Initiatives like i-Hub promises all that it takes to build a robust startup framework for the state.

Gujarat Knowledge Society, under Education Department, Government of Gujarat has organised SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Startups and Ecosystem with comprehensively planned interactive and engaging sessions and discussions across two days. Papers were invited on subjects like Design Thinking/Prototype Testing, IPR, Entrepreneurial Ecosystem/Venture Financing and Best Practices in promoting Student Innovation. Out of total submissions of over 287 papers, after reviewing, 27 of these are incorporated in this document. These papers will indeed guide us to develop a cohesive and sustainable environment for student-startups and innovations in the state.

I am certain that the deliberations of this conference on student-startups, innovations and ecosystem will carve the way ahead for the rising startup culture of Gujarat and contribute in accelerating innovation-led development in the state.

Ms Anju Sharma
Principal Secretary
Higher and Technical Education
Education Department
Government of Gujarat

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Education Department, Government of Gujarat, has organised SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Startups and Ecosystem under which various interactive and networking sessions, round table discussions and paper presentations have been planned to set the roadmap ahead for the startup journey of Gujarat.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr Narendra Modi sir, for inspiring the youth of country and the state of Gujarat under his visionary initiatives like Startup India, Digital India and Skill India.

I am indebted to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Mr Vijay Rupani sir, for his exemplary leadership in taking ahead this vision in the state and for encouraging us in sowing seeds of SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Startups and Ecosystem.

I am thankful to Respected Education Minister Mr Bhupendrasinh Chudasama sir and Respected Minister of State, Education, Vibhavariben Dave ma'am for their directions in making this conference possible.

My earnest gratitude to Ms Anju Sharma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Education Department, for her prudent guidance and meticulous follow up at every step towards the success of this conference.

I appreciate the support from Dr Sunil Shukla, Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India and acknowledge the efforts put in by his team in shaping up this conference.

I express my gratitude to all the invited speakers, specially Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education and Mr Kris Gopalkrishnan, Chairman, Axilor Ventures, former Executive Co-Chairman, Infosys, for their thought-provoking reflections on the diverse aspects of startups and innovations and the way ahead.

I am thankful for the hard work put in by my team at Commissionerate of Technical Education and Gujarat Knowledge Society.

I thank all those who participated in this conference and all the various organising and coordinating teams associated with this conference.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt indebtedness in the honour of all the personnel who have contributed in making SSIP Annual Conference a grand success.

Ms Avantika Singh
Commissioner of Technical Education,
Government of Gujarat

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PREFACE

SSIP Annual Conference on Student Innovation, Start-Ups and Ecosystem – 2019

Education Department, Gujarat has done series of interventions to create end-to-end ecosystem for student innovation and start-ups. The interventions being attempted here have got attention from academia, industry and public policy makers at national and international level. Every year a lot of efforts are also being made in different academic innovation systems and incubators in Gujarat and whole nation. It's quite important that the learning from all such efforts at state, national and global level need to be codified so that best practices can emerge and benefit all.

This two-day Conference has been organized on Student Innovation, Start-ups and Ecosystem. In this Conference, researchers across India and abroad who are working on student innovation and entrepreneurship dimension in academia are invited to share their learning and present research papers. Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) grantee institutions and universities in Gujarat are also welcomed to present and share their research and insights. This Conference is hosting programs like academic paper/poster presentations, round table, plenary sessions and panel discussions, startup exhibition, pitch/ demo day boot camps, and allied things. The core idea of this endeavour is to give platform to academic researchers, practicing professionals and others to present their research and ideas around the broad themes of entrepreneurial ecosystem, venture financing, design thinking, product design and innovation, intellectual property right and best practices in promoting student innovation.

In total, 287 papers were received and after the thorough review process, 27 papers were selected for publication. We would like to extend thanks to the team for contributing in the development of the conference proceedings, Mr. Hiranmay Mahanta, Advisor, SSIP; Dr. Satya Ranjan Acharya, Acting Chairperson (PGPs), Dr. Naman Sharma and Dr. Yamini Chandra from Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad; Prof. Rajesh Thakkar and Prof. Mansukh Savaliya from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Ahmedabad and Prof. Manish Thakkar from L. D. College of Engineering, Ahmedabad. We are also thankful to the Emerald Group Publishing (India) Private Limited for timely publication of the proceedings.

Preface of Technical Papers

The technical track titled, “**Entrepreneurial Ecosystem/Venture Financing**” consists total of nine papers highlighting the various contemporary issues present in startup/entrepreneurial ecosystem of the country and issues related to venture financing. The paper titled, “*Survey of Pharmacy Students of Gujarat to envisage their Potential to Innovate*” by Seemran Maharana and her co-authors sheds light on the need of innovation-oriented pharma industry in the country. This empirical study based on 198 respondents discusses finding on issues like creative problem solving, forward thinking, design thinking etc.

Another paper titled “*Stakeholder Engagement for Development of Innovation Ecosystem: An India perspective*” by Rahul Wagh and his colleagues took up an exploratory study based on literature review of past studies in start-up ecosystems of the country. The paper summarizes the strengths and weakness of an ecosystem and the role of various stakeholders in building it.

“*Impact of SSIP Policy Implementation on Stake Holders of Tribal Areas*” by Umang S. Wani along with his co-workers is a sincere attempt to highlight the achievements of SSIP policy of Gujarat state in tribal areas. The study involves an exhaustive multi-level survey conducted at faculty, management, school and SSIP coordinators level.

The next paper, “*Strategies and Policies for promoting Students towards Innovations and Start-ups*”, by D. Indira and colleagues compares the strategies and policies related to student innovations and start-ups in India with that being practiced in various parts of the world. The paper in the end provides recommendations on what is needed to be done in this space.

“*Macro and Micro Level Strategy for Creating Innovation Ecosystem on Campuses*” by Rajul K. Gajjar and Amit Rathod elaborates on the strategies for effectively creating innovation ecosystem for higher education students. The paper recommends a three-stage mentoring to help students identify innovative ideas and to implement them.

The next paper titled “*Mapping of Indian University Based Incubation Ecosystem- Analysis of Gaps*” by Devanshi Mehrotra and Partha Sarathi Roy aims to identify the gaps in University based Incubation ecosystem in India. The study highlights the services provided by UBIs based in different zones of the country.

Dipan Kumar Sahu in his exploratory study titled “*Grassroots Innovation in Informal Economy and Inclusive Innovation System: Informing Phenomenon*” elaborates that pluralism also exists with grassroots innovation in informal sector and is different than what is observed in formal sector. The paper thoroughly describes the characteristics of grassroot innovations, development models, policy initiatives etc.

Satya Ranjan Acharya and Yamini Chandra in their study “*Fostering Entrepreneurship: An Analysis of General Enterprising Tendency and Pedagogical Intervention in Building Entrepreneurship Education*” highlights the students’ analysis based on their preferred stream during the entrepreneurship programme. The paper presents a connected model of nurturing the competencies of students, creating an individual learning environment while imparting an understanding and insights on the entrepreneurial propensity of the students.

Preface of Technical Papers

The next study in the track titled, “*Technology Entrepreneurship: Role of Government in Enabling Startup Support Ecosystem*” by Satya Acharya and Tonisha Dixit covers the role of nodal institutions in supporting growth of incubatee.

The technical track of “**Intellectual Property Right**” consists of two papers: “*Intellectual Property for Technology Startups: The Growth and Expansion via IP License*” and “*Startup Ecosystem: Bringing Financial Synergy by Effective Intellectual Property Utilization*”. While the former discusses the IP for technology startups in country, the latter elaborates the general IP strategies; startups must follow to increase their chance in dealing with the competitive environment prevalent today in this space.

Another key technical track for the conference is “**Best Practices in Promoting Student Innovation**”. It consists of four papers. “*ProjectSel: Web Base System for Selection of Project and Implement New Innovation*” by Alpesh A. Vaghela and colleagues elaborates the benefits of Web Base Application (ProjectSel) in capstone project of the students. The papers stress that a proper implementation of the same will result in more and better student innovations.

Another paper titled, “*Implementation of Problem Based Learning Concept in Engineering Academic Curriculum for Development of Entrepreneurial Attitude*” by Manan Y. Pathak and his co-workers stressed the importance of implementing Problem Based Learning (PBL) in academic curriculum for developing interest towards entrepreneurship. The study focus on findings obtained from the sample of Silver Oak Group of Institutes.

K. M. Makwana along with his colleagues in the study, “*CREATO: A Project Competition for Diploma Student Venture of Building Innovation Amongst Students through Competition*” shares how organizing competitions for students may develop an interest in them towards innovating. The paper highlights the achievement of CREATO project competition for diploma level students in Gujarat State.

The last paper in this track titled “*CTSE – A Case Study to Encourage Startups and Skill Development among Engineering Students*” by Mahendra Sethi and his co-workers is a case study discussing the performance and contribution of CTSE. It also discusses the future plan of CTSE towards promoting student innovations.

The biggest track for the conference “**Design Thinking, Product Design and Innovation**”, consists total of 12 papers discussing the breakthrough product designs/ ideas/ innovations and prototypes. In its paper titled “*Implementation of Triboelectric Charging on Chalkboard for Reduction of Chalk Dust Particles*”, Mrugesh J. Shah, discussed his idea that could benefit in making future chalkboard entirely dust less. The paper discusses the various health hazards of chalk-dust particles and summarizes how use of ionized chalkboard can help reducing these health hazards for the users.

Mansi P. Rajyaguru, Riddhi P. Govindiya and J. H. Markna in their paper titled “*Prickly Pear as a New Natural Dye for Dye-sensitized Solar Cells (DSSC) with Thin Films Composed of TiO_2/ZnO* ” elaborates on the potential of Dye-sensitized solar cells (DSSC) technology as a substitute for traditional silicon-based solar cells. The paper investigated the performance of dye-sensitized solar cells using a natural dye.

“Design and Construction of a Multipurpose Robot and their Military Applications” by Rabari Mayuri G. and co-authors presents a base for designing a multipurpose robot that can be used in future for its defense sector utilities.

Kaustubh A. Vyas and his colleagues in their study, *“Development of A New GUI Using MATLAB for Performance Evaluation of Power Transmission Lines”* provides user access for a 765 kV EHV AC Transmission line using MATLAB programming and offer insights for efficient handling of transmission lines.

The paper titled *“Feasibility of MBBR with Activated Carbon as Biofilm Carrier”*, by Priyanka Mehta and Rutvi Chavda focusses on the treatment of sewage water. The paper recommends that the MBBR technology could be used as an ideal and efficient option for the treatment of domestic and industrial waste water.

The next study titled *“Design of FPGA based Synchronized Power Supply Controller for Automation in Research Laboratory”*, by Mona Jani and co-authors discuss the design of in-house Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) based add-on board for automation of multi-channel analog power supply. The paper concludes on the development of LabVIEW based graphical user interface (GUI) for setting and monitoring of various parameters of the system.

The study, *“Exploring an Option to the “Conventional Canal Lining” by Evolving “Moulded Plastic Troughs”- as a Pragmatic Solution”*, elaborates on the advantages and disadvantages of conventional canal lining replacing with the concept of plastic trough including economic viability. The next paper by Jinal Patel and his co-authors, titled, *“Development of FPGA and DDR memory based Fast Event Recording and Data Storage System for Machine Vision Applications”* shares the development of FPGA based event recording system for monitoring of glass window fabricated for one of the vacuum chambers. The paper presents the details of hardware architecture, software development and subsequent results.

The study, *“A Survey on Capsule Networks”* by Anusha Mehta and Viral D. Parmar presents an extensive review on the concept of capsule networks. The various characteristics, advantages as well as limitations of capsule networks are discussed in the study.

In their study, *“Performance Analysis of Avalanche Photo-Diode Detector based Low Noise Optical Receiver”*, the authors Bhumika M Isarani, Vishnu Chaudhari, Usha Neelakantan, and H.C. Joshi, introduce the in-house proto-type circuit with APD for the detection of photons given from the fibre-optic with laser diode as optical source in laboratory.

The study, *“TCAD Calibration and Simulation of Mosfet Device”* by Krupa Kumbhani and Milind Shah presents the calibration of MOSFET device using a commercially accessible Technology Computer Aided Design (TCAD) device simulator.

The next research article titled, *“Design and Implementation of Packet Routing Algorithm with Packet Error Detection Logic for NOC and Verification in System Verilog”*, by Vicky Gheewala and colleagues focus on router input-output convention (protocol) structure. Proposed framework incorporates virtual slice through instrument for close loop communication.

Editorial Board

Prof. Rajeev Sharma is Associate Professor, Ravi J. Matthai Centre for Educational Innovation Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. He has obtained M.A. (Psychology) and Ph.D. from Allahabad University in Social Psychology of Education, and has conducted research in social psychology of education, including teacher expectations, attribution theory, and enhancing classroom performance of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. As a 'Visiting Scholar' at the University of Michigan, he has conducted research in the area of innovative teaching and learning methods and question asking behaviour of students. Prof. Sharma has published articles in international refereed journals and contributed chapters in books and monographs. He has developed and participated in management development programmes relating to colleges and other institutions of higher education, coordinated and participated in consulting assignments sponsored by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Department for International Development (DFID) and National Literacy Mission.

Prof. Bjørn Willy Åmo is Associate Professor at Nord University Business School, Bodø, Norway. He has teaching and research experience in the field of entrepreneurship and related subjects. He completed his doctorate in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial studies from Bodo Graduate School of Business.

Dr. K. Rangarajan is Professor and Head Centre for MSME Studies at Indian Institute of Foreign Trade. He has guided many doctoral theses and is actively involved in the research of global business strategy. He is an Accredited Management Teacher (AMT) conferred by All India Management Association and member of several professional bodies including AIMM (Australia). His expertise includes business strategy and strategic planning in general and internationalization of SMEs and management of trade support institutions, including trade promotion organizations. He is nominated as Independent Director into the board of State Trading Corporation, Government of India. He is also the member of the Steering Committee for promotion of exports, Government of West Bengal, Commerce & Industries Department.

He has been engaged as an expert by Dun & Bradstreet, Middle East and also invited by Global Innovation Forum as an expert for the Conference in Pujiang Innovation Forum at Shanghai, PRC. He is also nominated as the Vice President of Academy of International Business, India Chapter.

Prof. N.M. Khandelwal is a Senior Research Fellow cum Director at Global Centre for Indian Management, Department of Business Management. He is experienced academic advisor with a demonstrated history of working in the management consulting industry. He is skilled in e-learning, lecturing, academic advising, career counselling, and curriculum development. He holds doctorate in commerce, accounting and finance from Faculty of Commerce, University of Rajasthan Jaipur.

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About Authors (in alphabetical order)

Abhay Bhuva is serving as an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering Department at Vidhyadeep Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kim-Surat. He is a university gold medallist for course of post graduation in Construction Engineering and Management from Gujarat Technological University. He is a member and Reviewer of International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts. His area of interest lies in lean management, total quality management, value engineering and construction planning & scheduling.

Ajita More is a MBA-HR with eleven years of industry experience in organizations like Thermax and Future Group. She is currently working in S.K.N. Sinhgad School of Business Management as Assistant Professor from past one and half years. Her areas of interest are entrepreneurship, human resources management, employee relations and competency mapping. She is associated with National HRD as a Life Member.

Alpesh Vaghela is a research scholar in Gujarat Technological University with a focused main area of research into big data, blockchain and IPFS. He has the best working experience in DBMS and web-based technology which is developed using JAVA technology. He has more than twelve years of experience in the software development field.

Amit Rathod is Assistant Professor in Computer Engineering Department in Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda (VGEC). He is co-coordinator of SSIP in VGEC. He carries around five years of industry and six years of academic experience. His area of interest is startup ecosystem development, design and innovation thinking, and project based learning pedagogy. He has published and presented papers on design thinking, project based learning and ecosystem development.

Anilkumar Suthar is currently the Director at the LJ Institute of Engineering and Technology. He has wide research as well as academic and administrative experience of over nineteen years. He is a recognized research supervisor in three different universities in India and has published more than 50 research papers in various international/national journals and conferences.

Anusha Mehta holds Bachelor of Engineering in Information and Technology from Government Engineering College, Bhavnagar. She is currently pursuing Masters of Engineering in Information and Technology from Shantilal Shah Engineering College, Bhavnagar, affiliated with Gujarat Technological University. Her main research work focus is on deep learning, capsule networks, and convolutional neural networks. Her current research is going under the guidance of V.D. Parmar, Shantilal Shah Engineering College Bhavnagar, Gujarat.

Avinash Ganaptye is a retired executive engineer from SSNL Gujarat

Ayushi Tewari is a student of M.Pharm, and an active participants of several national and international conferences.

Bhumika M. Isarani received bachelor degree in Electronics and communication from GTU. She is pursuing her masters in the field of E.C. (communication system engineering) from LD College of Engineering, Ahmedabad. She is working on her project under Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar.

D. Indira is Professor and Dean of EDC in GRIET with over 22 years of experience in teaching. He has done Ph.D. (in 2013) in the area of Entrepreneurship. She has published 18 papers in national and international journals and conferences. Has undertaken two research projects out of which one is in the area of Entrepreneurship funded by UGC. She was instrumental in nurturing nine startups in a period of one year. She is a trained entrepreneurship educator of NEN and is a member and mentor of BYST.

D. Ravi Kiran is a student of GRIET pursuing his B.Tech in Electronics. He has won a first prize in the Hackathon conducted by JNTU, Sultanpur. He has been selected as Top 20 innovators by JNTU, Hyderabad. He participated in the CHAI Hackathon conducted by GRIET. He has developed 2 startups which are a) The book rental store which has served 60 people and b) event marketing through which he has served 4 colleges and sponsored 10 events.

Denish Ghodasara is a student of M.Pharm. She is an active participant of several National and International conferences.

Devanshi Mehrotra is a third year Bachelor of Management Studies student at the Shiv Nadar University, Greater Noida. Being part of the founding management discipline UG Batch in a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary and research focussed University, she has academic interests in the domain of finance & entrepreneurship. She works closely as a student volunteer at the Atal Incubation Center hosted by Shiv Nadar University and sponsored by the Niti Aayog, Govt. of India.

Dhruv B. Shah is pursuing Bachelors (Electrical Engineering) from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College.

Dinesh Kalola is currently working as Director in Electropower Consultancy, Ahmedabad. Through his industrial automation educational and training institute, Technomation, his organization intends to transfer extensive practical knowledge gained over the years to students and working professionals in the field of industrial automation.

Dipán Kumar Sahu is currently working as Executive Consultant All India Council for Technical Education and core team member of newly established MHRD's Innovation Cell under Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt., of India. He is into designing and implementation of innovation and start-up policy programs in academia across the country. He is a PhD research Scholar at Netaji Subash University of Technology, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. His research interest area is inclusive innovation ecosystem development in academics.

Falgun A. Mehta is HOD (QA), Babaria Institute of Pharmacy, has authored several papers in prominent journals and presented research papers in National and International conferences.

About Authors (in alphabetical order)

G. Pradeep Reddy received his M.Tech degree with specialization in Communication Engineering in Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Vellore. He is currently working as Assistant Professor in Gokaraju Rangaraju Institute of Engineering and Technology. His research areas include technology entrepreneurship, innovation, IoT, machine learning, deep learning and ultra wide-band technology applications. He has published several research papers in international journals and conferences. He is coordinator for J-Lab under J-Hub JNTUH and is instrumental in organizing and guiding students in participating in various Hackathons. He has been successful in getting several prizes for the participating students.

Harshal S. Wani completed his B.E. in Power Electronics Engineering from L.E. College Morbi in 2009 and M.Tech in Electrical (Power Electronics and Power Systems) from IIT Bombay in the year 2018. He joined as Assistant Professor in Power Electronics department in Vishwakarma Government Engineering College Chandkheda, Ahmedabad in 2011, and is currently working there. His major research during his masters was in the field of wide band gap semiconductors specifically in silicon carbide based power devices.

Hem Chandra Joshi is a physicist with expertise in photo-physics, lasers, plasma physics and atomic and molecular spectroscopy. Presently he is the head of the laser diagnostics section of Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar.

Himanshu N. Chaudhari completed his B.E. in Electrical Engineering from Government Engineering College Modasa in 2010 and Master of Engineering in Electrical (Industrial Electronics) from Maharaja Sayajirao university of Baroda, Vadodara in the year 2012. Presently he is a part time research scholar at Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, (SVNIT) Surat. He joined as Lecturer in Electrical Engineering Department in Government Polytechnic College Vyara, Gujarat in 2015, and is currently working there. His research interest is in power converters and power electronics.

J. Praveen is the Principal of GRIET and has done his Ph.D. from Osmania University in power electronics, Hyderabad. His research work carried out at BHEL Research and Development Center with support of University Grants Commission (UGC) junior research fellowship (JRF). He is contributing to a major research area in Power Electronics and has published more than 80 research papers in reputed International and National Journals and Conferences. He is Registered Ph.D. Guide at Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, J.N.T University, Hyderabad. He is presently guiding eight scholars of Ph.D.

Jayesh Diwan is currently working as an Assistant Professor at Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. He is pursuing Ph.D. from Nirma University and has completed post-graduation from Nirma University in 2009 and has completed graduation from Gujarat University in 2006. His area of interests is digital VLSI design, VLSI signal processing.

Jaynila Prajapati holds masters in engineering and is Assistant Professor working in Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. Her area of interest is electronics and communication, and VLSI and signal processing.

Jaysukh H. Markna is the Head of Department of nanotechnology, VVP Engineering College, Rajkot; holds Ph.D. in 2006 (DAEBRNS–JRF), DST-SERC Young Scientist and has Published 110 research papers; completed a sponsored research project on the Thin Film Devices.

Jinal N. Patel received B.E. degree in Electronics and communication from GTU. She is pursuing her master degree in the field of E.C. (VLSI and signal processing) from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. She is working on her project under Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar.

Jyoti Borde is a MBA-HR with 4 years of industry experience in organizations like Varroc and Nirlep. She is currently working in S.K.N. Sinhgad School of Business Management as Assistant Professor. Her areas of interest are human resources management, employee relations and advance MS-Excel techniques.

K.V.S. Raju is the Dean of Training and Sr. Administration Officer of GRIET. Is a post graduate in Physics and Business Administration. He served Bank of Baroda in various capacities and worked in many departments of the Bank. He had experience in cash management, credit management, recoveries, planning, asset liability management and information technology and data base management. During his tenure he computerized 15 branches. Due to his passion in teaching he joined GRIET. He has published several articles in reputed National and International journals. He has presented papers in various Conferences.

Kalpesh Bhailalbhai Chaudhary is working as an Assistant Professor in EC department of Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. He has completed his BE in 2009 from GEC, Modasa and ME in Communication System Engineering in 2012 from CHARUSAT University, Changa. His areas of interests are wireless and analog/digital communication.

Kamlesh Damdo is serving as an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering Department at Vidhyadeep Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kim-Surat. He is member as a Reviewer of International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts. He is also the active member for International Association of Engineers and Research Engineers and Doctors. His area of interest lies in construction management, six sigma, resilience planning and construction, sustainable construction, and value engineering.

Kaushal A. Gopani is pursuing Bachelors (Electrical Engineering) from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College.

Krupa Kumbhani is pursuing her master's degree in signal processing and VLSI at Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Gandhinagar. She has received B.E. degree in Electronics and Communication from Sabar Institute of Technology for Girls, Sabarkantha, Gujarat in 2016.

Maheswari Mayur Harishbhai holds masters in electrical engineering, is Assistant Professor in Dr. Jivraj Mehta Institute of Technology, Mogar-Anand and is interested in sports, reading and study.

About Authors (in alphabetical order)

Manan Pathak is currently working in the capacity of Assistant Professor in Department of Electrical Engineering at Aditya Silver Oak Institute of Technology, Ahmedabad. He had around 5 years of experience in research, planning and teaching in his current and earlier positions. His current research areas are smart grid technology, electric vehicle, reactive power management and renewable energy sources. He is also working on different teaching learning methodology like PBL, OBE, etc. He has published one design pattern and more than 10 research papers in international conference and journals.

Mansi Rajyaguru is a student of department of Nanotechnology, VVP Engineering College-Rajkot, Gujarat Technological University, and had Dissertation at CSIR-CSMCRI, Bhavnagar.

Megha Mehta is a student of B.Pharm.; University Rankers and won several competitions at Institute level.

Milind Shah is currently with Department of Technical Education, Gujarat as an Associate Professor. He received the B.E. in Electronics and Communication degree from the Gujarat University, India in 2001, M.Tech. degree from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Gandhinagar, India in 2010, and is Ph.D. from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Gandhinagar, India in 2017. He has authored and published/ presented more than fifteen publications in reputed National and International Journals and Conferences.

Mona A Jani received B.E. degree in Electronics and communication from GTU. She is pursuing her master degree in the field of E.C (VLSI and Signal processing) at Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. She is working on her project under the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar.

Mrugesh Shah is currently pursuing Bachelor's degree in Instrumentation and Control from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College. He is also a member of The Institute of Engineers, India (IEI). He has previously published and presented a peer-reviewed paper in an international conference at BVM, V.V. Nagar. He has interest in sensors designing and measurements, and PLCs. He is a loathe to discuss himself in the third person, but can be persuaded to do so.

Navin Ganeshan (M.Tech.) is an assistant professor at Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda. His area of interest is electronics and communication, VLSI and signal processing

Neha Vaghela has best experience to manage seminars, workshop and other events for student startup and innovation. She has also worked in the Innovation Council Department of GTU. She has more than 8 years of experience in student activity. She has also experience in ethical hacking and security. She has also worked in Vishawa Karma Yojna (Govt. of Gujarat) in GTU.

Partha Sarathi Roy is Fellow (IRMA), is a Faculty at Shiv Nadar University in the area of strategy, entrepreneurship, and international business. He has teaching and research interests

in design thinking, entrepreneurship & qualitative research. His research papers have been presented at leading global conferences like Strategic Management Society (USA), European Group of Organizational Studies (Italy), Macromarketing Conference (Ireland) and IIM Ahmedabad Doctoral Colloquium.

Priyanka Mehta is an Assistant Professor having experience more than 4 years in teaching.

Rabari Mayuri Gopalbhai is pursuing B.E. electrical engineering, from Dr. Jivraj Mehta Institute of Technology, Mogar-Anand. She is interested in study, drawing, sports, and reading.

Rahul Wagh is working as Assistant Professor in S.K.N. Sinhgad School of Business Management since August 2011 and has completed 8 years and 5 months of service in this institute; awarded Ph.D. by North Maharashtra University has successfully completed Orientation Programme of UGC-HRDC. He has presented research papers in national and international conferences including IIM Lucknow and participated in case study conference in IIM, Bangalore. He has also participated in the FDP on Data Analysis and Research Design organized by IIM, Kozikode and completed four months full time residential FDP at IIM Ahmedabad.

Rao Maitri Ashokbhai is pursuing B.E. electrical engineering, from Dr. Jivraj Mehta Institute of Technology, Mogar-Anand, is interested in dancing, sports and music.

Riddhi Govindiya is a student of Department of Nanotechnology, VVP Engineering College-Rajkot, Gujarat Technological University.

Rutvi Chavda is a Student pursuing 6th semester (engineering) in Sal Institute of Technology and Engineering Research, Ahmedabad.

Satya Ranjan Acharya is currently associated as Acting Chairperson (PGP programme) at Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad. He has extensively worked in the field of entrepreneurship teaching, training and research, has contributed in national and international conferences and has published papers to his credit. He has also developed cases on innovative entrepreneurs of Gujarat. He has received his Doctorate in Economics with a special focus on 'Commodity Futures Market' from Sambalpur University, Orissa.

Saurabh Pandey is an Aerospace Engineer presently pursuing Law with specialization in Intellectual property law from IIT Kharagpur. He has worked as summer law clerk with judge's of Supreme Court, Allahabad High Court and Delhi High Court, is actively helping students of IIT Kharagpur in successfully establishing their startups and protecting their IP specifically Trademark and design.

Seemran Maharana is a student of B. Pharm. (Semester IV); University Ranker and won several competitions at Institute level.

Shaunak Shah is pursuing Bachelors (Electrical Engineering) from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College.

About Authors (in alphabetical order)

Shivendra Kumar Jha is an Assistant Professor in Government Engineering College, Modasa, Gujarat, Civil Engineering Department.

Suresh Chandra Pandey is an advocate at High Court of Allahabad for the past 25 years practicing in the area of civil, criminal, corporate, banking and constitutional law. He also held the position of Honorary Secretary at High Court Bar Association, Allahabad during which he has suggested various reforms in appointment of judge's to Parliament's steering committee and is also working continuously towards the improvement of working condition of lawyer with special emphasis on women lawyers throughout the state of Uttar Pradesh.

Swapnil Patil is working as Assistant Professor in S.K.N. Sinhgad School of Business Management since January 2017 and has completed 2 years and 2 months of service in this institute, pursuing Ph.D. from Savitribai Phule Pune University, is currently handling the responsibility of Training and Placement Coordinator.

Thakor Nirali Budhabhai, holds B.E. (electrical engineering) from Dr. Jivraj Mehta Institute of Technology, Mogar-Anand, is interested in dancing, sports, and music.

Tonisha Dixit is a doctoral scholar in Management with 5 years of work experience in academic setup in varied capacities. With research interest in entrepreneurship, innovation and technology enabled businesses; she is part of the cohort of USASBE Teaching and Learning Scholar 2018/2019. She is currently coordinating state government startup support initiatives under EDII as Nodal institute.

Umang Sharad Wani completed his B.E. in Electrical Engineering from Government Engineering College, Surat and M.E. in Electrical (Power Systems) from BVM Vallabh Vidya Nagar in the year 2014. He was a gold medallist in M.E. and received his gold medal from Gujarat Technological University. He was working as Assistant Professor in Electrical Engineering department, CGPIT, Uka Tarsadia University, Bardoli from 2014 to 2016. He joined as Lecturer in Electrical Department, Government Polytechnic Vyara from 2016 and is currently working there.

Usha Neelakantan is currently Professor and Head of Electronics and Communication Department at LD College of Engineering, Ahmedabad. She has a total 38 years of teaching and professional experience. Her areas of interest include optical communication, digital signal processing, Microwave Engg and wireless communication. She has published research papers in IEEE and many international journals and conferences. She has been the reviewer of research papers, Advisory committee member and Session Chair in national and international conferences. She was involved with the conceptual design of TOKAMAK at Institute for Plasma Research before joining academics. She has contributed as an expert faculty for the Post Graduate Programme at ISRO, affiliated to the United Nations.

Utsav Yagnik is currently working in the capacity of Assistant Professor in Department of Electrical Engineering at Aditya Silver Oak Institute of Technology, Ahmedabad. He has around 2 years of experience in Research, Planning and Teaching in his current and earlier positions. His current research areas are finite element method, smart grid technology, electric

vehicle, reactive power management, power quality management and renewable energy sources. He has one IEEE conference paper entitled “Comparison of L, LC & LCL filter for grid connected converter.

Vahora Farhin Usmangani, B.E. (Electrical Engineering) from Dr. Jivraj Mehta Institute of Technology, Mogar-Anand, is interested in drawing and sports.

Vatsal S. Joshi is pursuing Bachelors (Electrical Engineering) from Vishwakarma Government Engineering College.

Vicky Gheewala is pursuing his master degree in signal processing and VLSI at Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Ahmedabad. He has received Bachelor of Engineering (Electronics Engineering) from Bhagwan Mahavir College of Engineering and Technology, Surat-Gujarat in 2016 and Diploma in Electronics & Communication Engineering from Bhagwan Mahavir College of Polytechnic, Surat-Gujarat in 2011. He has authored and published in International Conference in STEM.

Vimal N. Chaudhari completed his B.E. in Mechanical Engineering from Government Engineering College Modasa in 2009 and M. Tech. in Mechanical (thermal system design) from Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, (SVNIT) Surat in the year 2011. He joined as Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering Department in Government Polytechnic College Waghai, Gujarat in 2015, and is currently working there. His research interest is in Thermal Engineering.

Viral D. Parmar holds Masters in Information and Technology. He is currently working as Asst. Professor at Shantilal Shah Engineering College, Bhavnagar affiliated with Gujarat Technological University, Gujarat. His main research work focus is on artificial intelligence, machine learning, and deep learning.

Vishnukumar R. Chaudhari (M.Tech, SO-D) is working in laser diagnostics section of Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar. His area of interest is low noise fast analog electronics for Laser and Opto-electronic sensors, SoC (FPGA)-based signal acquisition, processing and control system, development of machine vision acquisition and processing system.

Vivek Navdiya is serving as an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering Department at Vidhyadeep Institute of Engineering and Technology, Kim-Surat. His area of interest lies in construction techniques, lean management, traffic studies and recommendation and construction valuation.

Y. Jeevan Nagendra Kumar obtained his Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering in 2017. He is working as Professor and Dean - Technology and Innovation Cell in GRIET since 2005. He has about 12 research papers in international/ national conferences and journals and also attended many FDP Programs to enhance his knowledge. With his technical knowledge he guided the students in developing useful web applications and data mining related products. Students are encouraged to work on research projects, engineering projects as well

About Authors (in alphabetical order)

as for industrial training. He is Coordinator for J-Lab under J-Hub JNTUH and Robotic Club. He is a Coordinator for NBA and NAAC at College Level.

Yamini Chandra is an Industrial Psychologist and has received doctorate in Psychology with a special focus on emotional and behavioural aspects, the knowledge, skills and attitude among women intrapreneurs/entrepreneurs. She has received awards for best research papers and case study and has presented and published papers and book chapter in reputed journals and conferences. Currently she is associated with Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad as corporate interface and is a visiting faculty to few institutions in Ahmedabad.

The Student Startup and Innovation Policy: The Robust Driver of Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Gujarat

Extending Entrepreneurship in Gujarat's DNA

It is universally acclaimed that innovation and entrepreneurship are the two key tools essential not only for the prosperity of a nation but also for its sustainable growth. India's consistent endeavor in this respect is proved by its rising rank in the global innovation index, now at 51, a steady increase from the 81 in 2015. Striving to escalate the same spirit Gujarat's Student Start-up & Innovation Policy (SSIP) is one such initiative that has been at forefront in the province of student innovation start-up ecosystem development.

Upholding the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship that is embedded in the DNA of Gujarat, the state government pioneered policies and institutions to promote innovation and entrepreneurship at several layers, especially at the grassroots of the society in synchronization with various central initiatives and agencies, such as Make In India, Startup India, Atal Innovation Mission, National Innovation Council etc. Notably, Gujarat has been one among the few states in India to have scouted and recognized innovations even in informal sectors since as early as the year of 2000. This includes engagement of public systems, private sector stakeholders and the civil society at large, collaborating in nurturing a holistic innovation ecosystem in the state. The state's innovation strategy has been inclusive of all target groups and domains.

Tapping the Youth for Nation Building

With about 65% of India's population under 35 years of age, India has to leverage on this most dynamic segment of the population for future growth. In Gujarat, a large number of projects and innovative ideas emerge every year from over 1.4 million students spread across 65+ universities in Gujarat. This source of innovations and startups catering to new products and services formed the foundation requiring an ecosystem of innovation policy in the state. Having witnessed dozens of talent-mavericks across campuses in recent times, the Education Department of the state has taken bold measures to create an end-to-end innovation support ecosystem through the Student Start-up & Innovation Policy (SSIP), with resource commitment of INR 200 crores.

Supporting the Innovation Life-cycle

In order to facilitate and pre-incubate innovative ideas to go through a stage of proof of concept, prototype, product, testing & trial, redesign and development of utility, the Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) forms a framework to institutionalize innovation and pre-incubation processes across the higher education ecosystem of the state.

The Student Startup and Innovation Policy

During five-year period of the policy, it aims to nurture 500 student-led startups. Through this policy, grants are being made available to institutions and innovators across the state. While institutes can avail up to INR 40 lakh and universities up to INR 1 crore each year for developing ecosystem in respective campuses, student innovators are able to secure grants of up to INR 2 lakh for creating proofs-of-concept. The policy is unique among state-led interventions, supporting early stage student innovators and start-ups by across colleges and schools.

Through the policy, universities and institutions are also being given resources to establish internal innovation and startup ecosystems through initiatives such as setting up fabrication labs, co-working spaces, start-up MOOCs, hackathons, etc.

The Key Beneficiaries of Student Innovation Support programmes are:

- Universities: State and private universities including affiliated universities, sector-specific universities, and deemed universities in Gujarat.
- Educational /academic institutes: Public and private academic /educational institutes affiliated to any university in Gujarat.
- Student / innovators / pre-incubation start-ups: Students, student innovators and pre-incubation start-ups run by students belonging to eligible universities and educational institutes shall be supported under this scheme.

Key goals of Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) are:

- All universities and institutes to execute innovation and pre incubation agenda by 2021.
- Aims to create 1% graduates as job creators by innovation and allied means.
- Support at least 1,000 student-led innovations per year and aim to file 1,000 IPRs from universities in the state every year.
- Harness 500 student start-ups in the next 5 years, and upscale.
- Build capacity for at least 200 educational institutes in the state to have a robust pre-incubation support.
- All universities and institutes in the state to develop full-fledged incubators in the next 5 years.

Reaching Out to 2,50,000 Students: Impact of SSIP

As of September 2018, a total of 74 academic institutes comprising 23 universities and 43 institutions have been sanctioned a financial support amounting to INR 19.5 crore. This financial support has translated into 3075 student innovations supported through collective efforts of all the grantee institutions. A total of 791 student teams working on innovative ideas have been given financial support for developing prototypes and taking their ideas to the next stage, while over 365 patents have been filed through support of this pioneering policy.

Notably, over 2,50,000 students were imparted basic awareness about innovation process across the state, making SSIP one of the largest efforts to reach out to young minds across disciplines in order to harness their creative potential.

SSIP Summary

Sr. No.	Overall	Actual data
1	Total no of student outreached under awareness Activities	2,78,639
2	Total no of student project supported	3,541
3	Total no of student POC supported	1,109
4	Total no of IPR filed	402
5	Startup registered	183

Sr. No.	Type (count)	Total no of student project supported	Total no of student project supported	Total no of student POC supported	Total no of IPR filed
1	Institute (43)	91,024	1,460	627	315
2	Polytechnic (8)	3,444	4	7	0
3	University (23)	1,84,171	2,077	475	87
	Total	2,78,639	3,541	1,109	402

Tools of Engagement

Under the policy, the state government has also rolled out several flagship initiatives such as the Summer Innovation Challenge, Smart Gujarat for New India Hackathon, Student Open Innovation Challenge and allied interventions, in which thousands of students have actively taken part. The aim was to nurture startup entrepreneurs who eventually will be job creators.

- To leverage creative potential of young innovators in Gujarat, the state has developed a unique program to engage youth in problem solving and innovation through the “Gujarat Hackathon”. At this unique initiative, over 200 problem statements were shared by over a dozen and a half government departments with a total of 1450 teams registered to solve these problems.
- Earlier in 2018, the SSIP team organized the Gujarat Industrial Hackathon, with participation by 1874 teams, solving over 154 challenges.
- The state government designed the ‘Summer Innovation Challenge’ program in which both school and college students participate to develop solutions in given themes. During the Summer Innovation Challenge 2017, 329 teams participated to solve challenges across sectors, and 8 winning teams had the opportunity to be recognized by the Chief Minister of the state, whereas the 2018 edition of the pro-

The Student Startup and Innovation Policy

gram saw participation by 355 teams, with 16 teams winning and being recognized by the CM.

- The state government has also unveiled the Student Open Innovation Challenge (SOIC), which is the first such program that aims to attract student innovators from across boundaries, intended to promote collaboration among stakeholders. Shortlisted teams under this challenge shall be offered support of up to INR 2 lakhs under the policy. An additional financial support shall be offered for patents in addition to pre-incubation support at the State Innovation Hub.

Shielding Intellectual Property Rights

The education department, in its efforts to support startups, innovations and entrepreneurs, has also developed guidelines on Intellectual Property for academia in Gujarat, in order to introduce a comprehensive strategy to create, protect and exploit intellectual property of young innovators across academia. While student innovators are being supported through necessary grants for IP protection domestically and internationally, in tandem intellectual property facilitation centres at the state and university level are being established in order to create a single point of support for students, innovators and other stakeholders.

The Innovation Hub

To hand hold initiatives across universities and provide them with world class innovation support system, the state is also developing an Innovation Hub (i-Hub) for supporting student innovation and startups and taking them to the next stage. With a dedicated budget of INR 20 crore, the state government is in the process of developing a world-class integrated infrastructure in the heart of Ahmedabad city, the financial capital of the state, to establish end-to-end support systems to students, innovators and early, as well as, mature-stage startups. The Gujarat State Innovation Hub is also slated to house sectoral incubation facilities in diverse domains along with common facilities such as a fablab, in order to help innovators conduct rapid prototyping to validate their ideas. With an extended budget of INR 6 crore being provisioned, extension facilities of incubation, fablab and design centres shall be created in various regions of Gujarat, including Surat (South), Rajkot (West) and Vadodara (Centre).

It is only fitting that a state renowned for its entrepreneurial spirit is establishing new avenues through this pioneering policy, and enabling a paradigm shift in youth innovation and societal support.



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ISBN : 9781786354273



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