

## Anandiben Patel calls for strengthening entrepreneurship education among kids

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UTTAR PRADESH Governor Anandiben Patel on Monday emphasised strengthening entrepreneurship education which will help achieve self-sufficiency, economic development, job creation and growth.

Virtually delivering the third Dr VG Patel Memorial Lecture, organised by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) at Ahmedabad, Patel said, "Children need to be imbibed with winning traits and values quite early in life so that they get oriented towards considering entrepreneurship as a natural career option. Curriculum framework need to be designed keeping in mind innovation, business skills and entrepreneurial mindset."

Speaking on the topic 'Importance of entrepreneurship education in higher learning institutions', she said, "Students who are at the brink of making a career decision need to be trained to explore the enormous potential of entrepreneurship. Strengthening entrepreneurship education is the way to achieving self-sufficiency, economic development, job creation and growth."

She noted that entrepreneurship education will not be easy in a country like India, where job security is celebrated, but said

that a strong beginning has been made, pointing out that professional institutions and regulatory bodies such as CBSE are focussing on introducing entrepreneurship as a mainstream subject to familiarize students with the discipline.

"The recently announced National Education Policy 2020 also emphasizes on the importance of vocational education, skill building and developing entrepreneurial competencies. The policy stresses on inclusive, interdisciplinary and outcome-based education," Patel said.

Stressing on entrepreneurial skills that can be acquired, she stated that though students from technical universities have come forward and done well as entrepreneurs, these numbers need to increase. "This necessitates relevant training to the youths in higher learning institutions," she said.

Also present during the lecture were Gujarat Education Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama and EDII director general Dr Sunil Shukla.

Chudasama underscored the importance of nurturing an enabling start-up ecosystem to foster entrepreneurship and pointed out that Gujarat is one of the first states to come up with a Student Start-up Innovation Policy (SSIP), among other initiatives.