

Involvement of Women in all spheres, especially leadership positions, is extremely important, and women must step forth to take charge at the peak of affairs, no matter how the circumstances are. It is high time that we see a fair representation in power and influence.

This year's theme was #EmbraceEquity#, and, rightly so, beyond giving women equal opportunities; we need to aim at ensuring fair inclusion and amalgamation of women in every field, sector and domain that a society can possibly be exposed to. It's great to notice that India has instituted several policy measures to encourage women to step forth and make decisions to give themselves a sustainable growth and livelihood opportunity. The New India is providing winning platforms to women through innovative schemes and networking opportunities.

A lot of confidence and decision making ability comes from being financially independent, just as the Chief Guest, Smt. Rekha Sharma also mentioned. And, given this, women entrepreneurship development has gained prominence in the recent times. Through its various programmes and projects focused on entrepreneurship & skill development, EDII has sought to enhance the incidence of women-owned enterprises.

I am happy to state that through its focussed work, EDII has been able to delve into strategic development and livelihood generation frameworks to ensure a positive impact on the ecosystem for women empowerment and entrepreneurship.

According to the largest survey report on entrepreneurship, the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Survey for 2021-2022, among female adults, Total Early Stage Entrepreneurship Activities has increased significantly as 12.3% of the total female population is engaged in entrepreneurship as compared to 16.3% of the male. The male female difference still exists and needs to be worked on to improve female representation in the overall of the Total Early Stage Entrepreneurship Activities country. I am happy that several efforts are being put in place to encourage women to step to the forefront.

In line with the way the perspectives are changing, this Conclave too, was very encouragingly represented by women from diverse sectors including policy making, education and business. The deliberations were fruitful and helped set a direction, promising a prosperous and peaceful world for the fairer gender.

My heartiest compliments to all the women out there and to all the crusaders who are working for the cause...

- Sunil Shukla

# Towards The Paradigm Where Equity, Solidarity and Empowerment Reign .....the Women in Leadership Conclave

omen as leaders and entrepreneurs are across occupations, and their incredible successes write stories of their mettle and determination. To mark the International Women's Day, EDII organized the 'Women in Entrepreneurship' Conclave on its campus. The conclave was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Smt. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW) in the presence of Guest of Honour Dr. Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities; and Special Guests, Ms. Mona Khandhar, Principal Secretary, Finance Dept (Economic Affairs), Govt. of Gujarat; Mr. Romit Sen, Vice President, Corporate Sustainability, HSBC India, & Dr. Rachana Gemawat, Chairperson, FICCI FLO.



(extreme R) Chief Guest, Smt. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW); (2nd from L) Guest of Honour Dr. Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities; (3rd from L to R) Special Guests, Mr. Romit Sen, Vice President, Corporate Sustainability, HSBC India, & Dr. Rachana Gemawat, Chairperson, FICCI FLO and (L) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII lighting the ceremonial lamp.

Experienced and young women leaders from academia, government and the world of business expressed their thoughts, as panelists, in the Panel Discussion, post inauguration, on topics like — Changing perspectives in the domain of Women Entrepreneurship, CSR initiatives on Empowering Women, Government Initiatives and Women Entrepreneurship, the Role of Education in Breaking Stereotypes, the Significance of Skilling for Women in Rural & Urban Locales, and Challenges Faced by Women Leaders. The discussions focused on understanding the gaps in the ecosystem for women empowerment and entrepreneurship, and deliberating on the ways of plugging gaps.



Addressing women entrepreneurs, students, and academicians as well as experts from different sectors, Smt Rekha Sharma in her inaugural speech said, "There has been a growing awareness about raising the social and economic status of women in society with increased focus on education, training and handholding. This is a great development as women continue to remain under represented on almost every platform that requires them to wield power and decision-making authority. We want more and more women to come to the fore and break stereotypes and barriers that hinder growth. We all want to witness an inclusive and equitable society. Women should take calculated risks, become economically independent, focus on business networking and avoid crumbling under peer pressure."



Guest of Honour, Dr. Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities, said, "Women do step out with big dreams but as they progress towards the top, their participation and representation decreases glaringly. Women should refrain from creating an invisible glass ceiling of contentment and continue to rise. The society also needs to stop stereotyping women and give them a more warm welcome for bigger, unconventional roles. Women need to hold hands of other women and encourage each other on the way."



In his address, Mr. Romit Sen, Sr. Vice President, Corporate Sustainability, HSBC India said, "Skill development has really played a big role in bringing women to the forefront. Along with women, the society as a whole also needs to be sensitized so that there is an encouraging systemic change. HSBC's HMI project has focused on skilling women and empowering them by ensuring sustainable livelihood options for them. Today these trained women beneficiaries are financially independent and are in a much better place to think creatively and implement winning business strategies for growth.



Dr. Sunil Shukla in his remarks on the occasion, said, "The economy can experience balanced growth only when women are encouraged to nurture their creativity and spirit of innovation. It is great to see how New India is providing winning platforms to women through innovative schemes and networking opportunities. Through its various programmes and projects focused on entrepreneurship & skill development, EDII has sought to enhance the incidence of women-owned enterprises. I am happy that at the national and state levels, several efforts are being put in place to encourage women to step to the forefront."

limpses of EDII trained women entrepreneurs being awarded by Shri Rakesh Sharma, President-EDII and MD & CEO, IDBI Bank Ltd. in the presence of esteemed Board Members (R-L) Shri Manoj Mittal, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, IFCI Ltd.; Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman (DICCI); Dr. Sunil Shukla, DG EDII; Dr. Sailendra Narain, Former Chairman & Managing Director (SIDBI) & Shri Anil Bhardwaj, Secretary General (FISME); during the mid-term review of the EDII Business Strategy (2019-2024) and 126th EDII Governing Board Meeting, at Goa on January 29th & 30th, 2023.



EDII trained women entrepreneurs being awarded by Shri Rakesh Sharma, President -EDII and MD & CEO, IDBI Bank Ltd.





Ms. Mona Khandar, Principal Secretary, Finance Dept (Economic Affairs), Govt. of Gujarat, "Gujarat has a significant presence of MSMEs and women play a major role in this. There are some immensely progressive government schemes and subsidies to encourage women to become entrepreneurs. Women-led startups are coming up now in various promising domains, and I see a future where women will establish their strong identities in the sphere of entrepreneurship."



Dr. Rachana Gemavat, Chairperson FICCI FLO Ahmedabad said, "We as a society need to support women in breaking barriers and handhold them in donning the role of enablers. This will lead to a significant growth for the economy. A conducive support system that instills confidence in women and encourages them to rise above the fear of failure will work wonders on helping women rise and shine."

As part of the conclave, an exhibition by EDII-trained women entrepreneurs under various projects, was also organised.

## When Women Weave Their own Entrepreneurial Trajectory....

#### HSBC - Project HandMade in India (HMI)

This unique project is aimed at reviving the rich legacy of Indian Handloom industry. HMI, an HSBC's CSR initiative, implemented by EDII, ensures capacity building of weavers to help them function as adept entrepreneurs. At EDII, on 6th March, 2023, 30 stalls were put up by weavers enrolled under the project HandMade in India, representing 6 Clusters from across the country. The clusters represented included, Kamrup, Bargarh, Bhuj, Surendranagar, Maheshwar, Salem.

The Mega Exhibition was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Smt. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission of Women in the presence of Special Guests, Dr. Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General Association of Indian Universities; Mr. Romit Sen, Sr. Vice President — Corporate Sustainability, HSBC; Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII and Dr. Raman Gujral, Director of Projects — Corporates. The dignitaries visited all the stalls and interacted with the weavers to learn as to how the intervention had improved their prospects. Mr. Romit Sen, who has been closely connected with the project, expressed his happiness over the elevated technical knowledge of the weavers. He also appreciated their presence on social media platforms for a better reach and their familiarisation with modern ways of doing business, including the online modes of payment.

The HandMade in India Corporate Film was also released on this event by Chief Guest Ms. Rekha Sharma.



Women artisans under the Project, HandMade in India, trained by EDII, were recognized for their exceptional growth



Ms. Shailaja Punit Soni, Subject Matter Expert and Master weaver from Bhuj Cluster demonstrated the making of Natural Dyes.

Given the nontoxic nature of Natural dyes EDII has promoted Natural dyeing or eco friendly colours in the Clusters. The weavers were initially hesitant to work with organic colours because of the time taking process involved to reach results. After rounds of trainings and exposure visits, weavers from Bhuj and Surendranagar have started working with natural colours. They also realised that the market for organic colours is huge, and have switched completely to this form of dyeing. In Kamrup cluster also, a few weavers have adopted the organic dyeing process. To promote and create awareness, a Natural Dyeing Catalogue has been created on the Bhuj Cluster.



Rajiben, from Kotay village, now based in Awadhnagar village, Kutch, hails from the traditional weavers' community. After her husband's untimely demise, she joined Khamir, an NGO devoted to plastic recycling and upcycling, started weaving textiles to generate income. She got trained in plastic weaving and floated her own unit. Rajiben grew from strength to strength and even travelled to London for exhibiting her plastic weaving skills and upcycled products which received a lot of praise. HMI, at

every stage, handheld Rajiben. For her marketing and promotion requirements, she was connected to the Kaarigar Clinic.

Today, Rajiben works with 30 women from Bhuj, Bhujodi, Kukma, Lakhond and Madhapar villages of Bhuj taluka to create upcycled plastic bags, pouches, trays, cases and other products. HMI is closely connected with Rajiben and has mentored her at every stage. Rajiben was recently awarded the President Award – 'Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023' for her outstanding work under Biodegradable and plastic waste management category. Rajiben, is one of the first weavers to switch from regular yarn to plastic. Her hard work and curiosity has generated commendable results.

#### Bayer - Project UNNATI

Fostering rural entrepreneurship has greatly improved the socio-economic conditions in the rural pockets of the country. Lately the domain of women rural entrepreneurship has also gathered attention, leading to incredible work that has brought skilled women entrepreneurs to the fore.

Given its experience in the field, EDII has been beckoned by the Bayer Foundation to implement project UNNATI for the women folk of Malegaon district of Maharashtra. The Project is being implemented in three phases, comprising;

organised a state level 'Mahalakshmi Saras Exhibition-2023' in Navi Mumbai, to help rural women through self-help groups. The exhibition was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Eknath Shinde, and Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis. A stall was setup by SHG women trained under UNNATI. Products like; Goat Milk Soap, Neem Oil and Cow Dung based Dhoop were displayed. The response was encouraging, with the exhibitors generating a revenue Rs. 92000. Women are gaining confidence to float their own



Vision Building & Leadership Training (VBLT) for empowering SHG Heads / Leaders; Micro Skillpreneurship Development Training (MSDP) to impart training in Entrepreneurship and specific trade skills to women members of SHGs and Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) to train and handhold independent women wishing to start their own business.

During March 8th to 19th 2023, Maharashtra State Rural Development Mission (UMED), had

enterprises and this finds testimony in the fact that, under the project, in the last three months, 132 individual women and 34 SHGs have been registered under Udhyam Aadhar. Till now, the project has trained 103 SHG Heads through 2 Vision Building and Leadership Training (VBLT), completed training of 672 women SHG members through 14 Micro Skillpreneurship Development Training Programme and handheld 65 women through 2 Entrepreneurship Development Programmes for Urban women Entrepreneurs.

#### TATA Communication Ltd. - Project UDAYA

To promote entrepreneurship among women from the marginalised community and Person with Disability (PwD), project UDAYA, supported by Tata Communications Ltd. & TATA Communication Collaboration Services Pvt. Ltd. is being implemented in Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra. As Programme Director, Dr. Prakash Solanki informs, "1185 women have been sensitized through 32 entrepreneurship awareness camps and 362 potential women entrepreneurs including 46 PwD have been trained under specially designed women entrepreneurship development programmes." Hearteningly, 127 women/PwD have started their enterprises. Their average income per month is Rs. 12,228/-. They have generated employment for 159 people. Towards the cause, over the last three months, the following significant activities had been undertaken:

'Swayamsiddha' Exhibition-Cum-Sale: To provide a launching pad and marketing support to trained women/PwD entrepreneurs, an exhibition-cum-sale was organized at Alibaug in Raigad district. 50 entrepreneurs participated in the exhibition including 7 PwD entrepreneurs. Some of the business opportunities seized by the

entrepreneurs include; Ice cube manufacturing, edible oil making, spice manufacturing, tea processing & packaging, garments manufacturing, leather products, handicrafts & Ganesh idol making, imitation jewelry manufacturing, food processing etc. response was encouraging, with the exhibitors generating a revenue Rs. 92000. Women are gaining confidence to float their own enterprises and this finds testimony in the fact that, under the project, in the last three months, 132 individual women and 34 SHGs have been registered under Udhyam Aadhar. Till now, the project has trained 103 SHG Heads through 2 Vision Building and Leadership Training (VBLT), completed training of 672 women SHG members through 14 Micro Skillpreneurship Development Training Programme and handheld 65 women through 2 Entrepreneurship Development Programmes for Urban women Entrepreneurs.

"I am delighted to see such thoughtful initiatives seeing the light of the day. UDAYA Project is indeed doing good and I wish it all the success. I am sure it will train and motivate several women to realize their dreams."

- **Dr. Padmashri Bainade** Resident Dy. Collector (RDC), Raigad district



Seen during the inauguration is (in the C) Dr. Padmashri Bainade, RDC, Raigad with (L to R) Mrs. Angai Salunkhe, CEO, Alibaug Municipal Corporation; Dr. Prakash Solanki, Project Director & Assoc. Prof. EDII; Ms. Pallavi Barua, Head CSR, TCL; Mrs. Sangeeta Padhye, Manager, CSR, TCL; Shri Vijay Kulkarni, LDM, Bank of India & Shri G S Harlayya, General Manager, DIC, Alibaug.

#### Women Entrepreneurship Development Programmes:

During the quarter, three women entrepreneurship development programmes were conducted at Kokrud, Ratnagiri and Mandangad. 112 women entrepreneurs are trained under these programmes.



WEDP Participants at Kokrud, with (7th from L) Chief Guest, Shri Anandrao Patil, IAS, Principal Secretary to Governor, Tamil Nadu, (5th from L) Guest of Honour, Ms. Rajashree Paatil, Executive Director (Business Development), Surya Group & esteemed EDII Board Member & (8th from L) Dr. Prakash Solanki, Project Director and Associate Prof., EDII.

#### Suresh Persisted...

Despite 52% disability, Suresh from Alibaug did not compromise with his dream of becoming a successful entrepreneur. As he sought clarity, he came to know about the UDAYA Project. He underwent a one-month training programme on Entrepreneurship Development for PwD. He was exposed to the various aspects of entrepreneurship but most importantly, as he says, he identified a business opportunity of his interest and in consonance with his



skill base. He also undertook Market Survey for the identified business opportunity of chocolate making. The challenges were many, given his physical condition but as Suresh says, "EDII trainers and TCL made it all like a cakewalk for me. Challenges were there but I enjoyed the journey as I was waiting to reach the peak which I was certain about reaching."

EDII team helped him to prepare a business plan and he also applied for funding support under CMEGP scheme. Suresh identified his site for business also with the help of his mentors, and started with business with all hopes and enthusiasm. Today, Suresh is into a viable business and is living his dream. He is gradually expanding his business and its reach.

#### GWEDC - Project Women Entrepreneurship Development

With women showcasing unparalleled abilities in trail blazing business and



innovation, EDII, in association with Gujarat Women Economic Development Corporation Ltd., Government of Gujarat, has launched a mega project to propel this process. The primary objective of the project is to develop entrepreneurial capacity and business resources among women for sustainable income through enterprise creation. Under the project, all 33 districts are covered. Over the last three months,

1062 potential women were selected and trained under 35 one-week 'Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme' (WEDP). The curriculum focussed on the finer nuances of entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial soft skills, identification & selection of business opportunities, preparation of detailed business plan and new venture establishment & management. The participants also visited relevant industries to understand the to understand the nitty gritty of operations in a business.

#### HCL - Project SATTVA

EDII has partnered with HCL Foundation under Project SATTVA to train urban poor women from Bangalore, Hyderabad and Madurai, as a part of Urban CSR programme 'HCL Uday'. Project SATTVA focuses on building the inner strength of community institutions such as SHGs, Cluster/Block/District level Federations. This initiative is aimed at training and thus ensuring new opportunities for urban poor women. The objective is to ensure sustainable sources of income for women so that they get empowered and self-reliant.

Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Department of Projects – Corporate, EDII visited HCL Foundation My Community Initiative Project location, Keerathurai to review the Millet processing and Cotton Bags manufacturing Common Facility Centers. Dr. Gujral appreciated the entrepreneurs for their efforts and gave useful insights into new market trends and attractive packaging. He also visited Hyderabad Asifnagar location on 23rd February, 2023 to discuss the way forward and to interact with the beneficiaries on product development.



Beneficiaries at a tie and dye training workshop at Jigani, Bangalore. The participants practically witnessed the finer technicalities of the process of tie and dye, including the material and tools used, techniques employed, latest designs and safety precautions to be observed. The participants were appreciative of the inputs shared and stated that the workshop had triggered their creativity, in addition to giving them knowledge.



Every year from 1st January to 15th February, All India Industrial Exhibition is organized at Hyderabad at Nampally Exhibition ground. This is the largest Industrial Exhibition with around 1700 stalls with a footfall of approx. 25 lakh people. Two project beneficiaries; Mrs. B. Sangeetha and Mrs. K. Laxmi, got an opportunity to exhibit Jute and Cotton bags in the exhibition

On the occasion of International Women's Day on 8th March, EDII and HCL Foundation celebrated with women entrepreneurs. At Jigani, 15 women entrepreneurs and 15 volunteers from HCL Technologies participated in the event which was organized by EDII with the support of HCL Foundation. Ms. Sreelakshmi Menon HCL SPOC from HCL Foundation inaugurated the event. An Exhibition was also conducted at HCL Technologies, Jigani, where 4 WSDP entrepreneurs exhibited their products and notched appreciable sales.



For Women's Day Celebrations at The Dindigul District HR Foundation (DDHRF) Hyderabad, dynamic Police Personnel, Ms. Hyma, Sub Inspector (Asif Nagar Police Station) was invited as Chief Guest to inaugurate the event.



Thalavi Awards 2023 were organised by Tamil Nadu Govt. on 10th March, 2023. 15 women entrepreneurs were nominated for the awards, out of which 4 WSDP women entrepreneurs were awarded as Sheroes of the Year.



Mr. C. N. Ashwath Narayan, Minister of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Govt. of Karnataka, at the Sthree Samarthya exhibition held in Bangalore.



Smt. Uma Chandrika, Assistant Director (Chemical), MSME Development Institute, Govt. of India, organized an award ceremony cum Entrepreneurship Workshop on the occasion of International Women's Day at Madurai. 40 successful women entrepreneurs were selected for the MSME awards across 9 districts of South Tamil Nadu. While 5 WSDP entrepreneurs received 'Women Achiever Award, one entrepreneur received 'Innovative Entrepreneur Award', and Project Skill Trainer, Mrs. Thenmozhi received 'Best Trainer cum Achievement Award'. Mrs Kavitha Balaraman, Sr. Project Coordinator, HCL Sattva Project Madurai was honored as 'Inspirational Super Women Award' at the event.

#### Project WeACT

Women Entrepreneurs - Access Connect Transform (WeACT) supports women entrepreneurs in building sustainable and profitable businesses. EDII and Accenture Pvt. Ltd have joined hands to implement this one-stop forum for women entrepreneurs. Over the last three months, some notable initiatives opened promising avenues for many women.

#### **Required Registrations:**

With the support of WeAct, several enterprises have formalised their set up. For instance; Samrudhi Mutual Market Enterprise has successfully registered their company, designed their logo, obtained GST number, procured product development support, market access, and finally, FSSAI licensing under manufacturing & retail of the products.

#### Marketing to Enhance Prospects:

Products of the members registered under WeAct were displayed in Accenture offices. Accenture clients like Specsavers & Devon Energy appreciated how rural women entrepreneurs were being mentored, assisted and handheld under aegis of WeAct.

Alongside this, WeAct members were also invited to Accenture premises to showcase & sell their products. The event was held on the 24th of February 2023 at the North American Carnival, organized by Accenture at Hyderabad, Chennai & Bangalore, with each location having over 1000 Accenture employees. The sale by each social enterprise was commendable.

WeCare Carnival was organized by Accenture at Ahmedabad on 24th of February, 2023 to bring awareness about women empowerment and to exhibit how some women had braved the odds to become successful entrepreneurs. The carnival also raised funds of  $\stackrel{?}{\sim}$  13,000/- for social enterprises to support technology enrichment.



Ms. Sainaj Begum, a WeAct member, wished to explore the possibility of expanding her business online. The promoter aimed at widening the market reach, thus increasing the profitability of the business. WeAct, with the support of Accenture Technology, volunteered to develop a website and replicate it for other members. The website provided the much-needed support for the social enterprise to catch the pulse of the market, introduce necessary changes and expand the reach.



Women Entrepreneurs - Access Connect Transform (WeAct) members participated in a government tie up exhibition Panch Mahaboot Mahotsav in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, with 60 social enterprises showcasing their products. In the 7-day exhibition, the enterprises recorded a turnover of 10 lakhs. This exhibition had a footfall of over 25,000.

#### **WeAct Energizer workshop**

WeAct has completed over 3000 energizer workshops PAN India. The sessions focus on statuary compliances to start a business, product development, market access & digital literacy. At the recent such workshops, the sessions were conducted in regional languages to connect with rural women entrepreneurs.

WeAct works extensively towards generating awareness & mobilizing women entrepreneurs for enrolling at various levels. Ten such sessions PAN India, with a target of enrolling over 3000 rural women entrepreneur members were completed.



#### **Towards Newer Horizons**

WeAct is escalating to the next phase of developing premium products under the three major categories of food & agro, handloom & handicraft, and household supplies. PAN India Training Programme, 'Enhancing WeAct' was organised for EDII/WeAct team to deliberate on the future plan that promises growth. Over 80 participants were reached out to, in the presence of Chief Guest, Ms. Antoinette Lopez, Corporate Volunteering, Accenture. WeAct released 10 Standard Operating Procedure & 10 Premium Product Catalogues at the event.

#### Accenture - Project MSDP

Entrepreneurship and skill training has proven to be an impact-driven strategy for creating sustainable livelihood options. EDII, under the aegis of the Accenture Foundation has been implementing Micro Skillpreneurship Development Programme since November 2019 at 11 locations across India. The states covered under the programme include; Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Assam, Karnataka, Goa, Bihar and 1 Union Territory, i.e. Puducherry. The programme is aimed at developing skilled microentrepreneurs from among rural youth/ women and urban youth/ women through sustainable technologies and trade skills. In the financial year 2022-23, 20 green and environment friendly trades were selected for skill training. Some of these included; Products from cow waste, aquaculture (seedling and net upcycling), low-cost sanitary napkins, urban terrace gardening kit and leaf and paper plates.

The year witnessed training of 7251 women & 249 men entrepreneurs, including 1336 SCs, 346 STs & 369 minorities. As a major landmark, in the last quarter, 5419 trained beneficiaries started their initiatives. Let's take a look into some of the achievements in various states, in the last three months:

- 54 Group Enterprises have been set up, engaging 540 employers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The USP of the units include use of natural products like; banana fibre for product packaging. Banana Fibre sanitary napkins and pouches have been in demand for their characteristics of being natural and environment friendly.
- Odisha witnessed training of 508 beneficiaries, with 384 setting up new business.
   Two leaf and paper plate machines were installed in Puri & Kenjhor Districts of Odisha.
   Till date 11250 packets of Leaf and Paper plates have been sold in the local market, generating a profit of Rs. 2.25 Lakh. A product catalogue was also developed.
- In Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry, 3808 people were trained, with 2779 starting their own business. In consonance with their training in horticulture and related area, two hundred fifty tree saplings were distributed among beneficiaries with the support of Forest & Wild Life Department, Government of Puducherry. The Horticulture Department even approved participation of ten MSDP beneficiaries at a one-day exhibition on honey processing to showcase and sell their products. The participants also got an opportunity to network with industry professionals and received official recognition and certificates for their efforts. The training programme on Nursery Garden programme in the location Rameswaram, district-Ramanathapuram was very well received. The Valediction was graced by Thiru K. J. Praveen Kumar, I.A.S., Additional Collector-cum-Project Director, District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), as Chief Guest. Along with the certificates, the participants also received Nursery Garden Kits worth Rs. 750 per kit, as a mark of support by the horticulture department. At the Valediction of another MSDP programme,

focussed on Bee Keeping and Honey Processing, 16 honey boxes, worth Rs. 1500 each were distributed to beneficiaries with the support of the Horticulture Department and local support agencies in the location Thirparappu, District-Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. Also under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, for MSDP Beekeeping and Honey Processing trade in Nagercoil, District-Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. Canara Bank extended loan sanctions of Rs. 1,50,000 to three beneficiaries.

- An awareness programme was also successfully conducted on menstrual hygiene and sanitary napkin usage, for the students of Mahalakshmi Girls Higher Secondary School in Batlagundu, Dindigul district. With the collaboration of Primary Health Centre (PHCs) and implementation partner, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Institute - (ESDI), 1000 sanitary napkins were distributed free of cost.
- 36 MSDP beneficiaries successfully applied for loan under the PMEGP scheme and Mr. S.Raman, DIC Manager in Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, promptly recommended the loan applications to the bank for further processing.



Chief Guest Thiru K. J. Praveen Kumar, I.A.S., Additional Collector-cum-Project Director, District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) at the Nursery Garden training at Ramanathapuram District.

 In Uttarakhand, while 603 beneficiaries have been trained, 435 have started their new enterprise. The beneficiaries sold handicraft products, such as Jute bags, Moonj Grass Products etc at the Lucknow Exhibition with the support of NABARD, generating a profit of Rs. 34000. Similarly, handicraft and other unique products were sold in Uttarayani Exhibition at Haldwani, Nainital with the support of District Industries Centre (DIC), generating a profit of Rs. 39000.



In Karnataka, while 383 beneficiaries were trained, 328 set up their own business. A Buyer Seller Meet (BSM) was organized by the Vikasana Institute for Rural and Urban Development to provide a platform to promote networking. The sellers also got to know about the emerging demands of the market through their interaction with the buyers, thus working out avenues for procurement of products and commodities.





#### Kamalaveni's Entrepreneurial Resolve...

In November 2022, 32-year-old Kamalaveni came across a banner in her village announcing a free one-month Handmade soap making training programme, to be conducted by EDII and Accenture. Believing her instincts, she joined the programme. Very soon, not only was she an adept in making soaps, but was also determined to float her own enterprise, given the knowledge that she had gained. Kamalaveni was assisted in applying for Udyam registration. With the help of EDII, Kamalaveni connected with suppliers in the neighbouring town, which made the sourcing of raw materials easier and more costeffective. She started making small units of phenol and natural soaps, and began selling them to nearby shops.

As Kamalaveni's business expanded, her husband, developed faith in her venture and started extending his support. Currently, Kamalaveni is supplying 25 phenol bottles per week and earns a monthly income of up to Rs. 4000 to 5000. Kamalaveni's soap-making business is also doing well. Her business has helped her become financially independent. Today, she is an inspiration to several women in her village.

Kamalaveni's decision was becoming self-reliant and her efforts towards making her dream a reality has paid off. She plans like an entrepreneur today. She is optimistic and looks forward to learn continuously so that she can take her enterprise to newer heights.

## The Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Survey

he Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Survey is the world's largest annual survey of entrepreneurial dynamics. GEM was started in 1999 and has since gained a reputation for the credibility and coverage of its research. The GEM-India Consortium is playing an important role in probing the rapidly evolving nature and level of entrepreneurship in India, as the Indian Entrepreneurial Eco-system grows stronger by the day. The GEM-India Consortium is also broadening its scope to include regional and state-level entrepreneurship institutions in order to maximise its reach in researching the many facets of Indian entrepreneurship. EDII leads the India chapter of the GEM survey.

Since 2011, till now, EDII has brought out 9 GEM Reports. The GEM India Report is an outcome of collective efforts of GEM India consortium that strives to capture and understand the current state of affairs in Indian entrepreneurship. The GEM India study is conducted using a well-established research methodology that provides harmonised measures about individuals' attributes and their activities in different phases of entrepreneurship.

The GEM India study is conducted using a well-established GEM research methodology that is consistent across all participating countries and generates a variety of relevant primary information on different aspects of entrepreneurship, providing harmonised measures about individual's attributes and their activities in different phases of entrepreneurship. The key outcomes of research reported in the book are relevant to researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs and corporate houses.

#### Release of GEM India Report 2021-22

Global Entrepreneurship Monitor India Report 2021-22 was released on Jan 11, 2023 during the 19th Meeting of National MSME Board held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.



The GEM Report 21-22 was released by (in the centre) Shri Narayan Rane, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, MSME in the presence of (3rd from L) Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Hon'ble Minister of State, MSME; (R - L) Shri S Raman, Chairman & Managing Director, SIDBI, EDII Governing Board Member; Shri Anil Bhardwaj, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Micro & Small and Medium Enterprises (FISME), EDII Governing Board Member; Shri B. B. Swain, Secretary, MSME & EDII Governing Board Member; Shri Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII & Smt. Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary, MSME.

#### Global GEM Report released in Switzerland



Director General, EDII during interactions with Senior Officials of the Embassy of India to Switzerland, in Berne, including; Mr. Rakesh Sharma, Second Secretary, (Trade & Economy) / PPS, Mr. Kaushlendra Kumar, Marketing Officer, (Bilateral Trade, Economy & Commerce) and other senior officials.

Global GEM Report was released on 16th - 17th February, 2023 at School of Management Fribourg (HEG-FR), University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (HES-SO) in Delémont Switzerland. The launch event highlighted the changing entrepreneurial dynamics across the world, post COVID pandemic. The report findings were deliberated upon by noted researchers and academicians who attended the event. The event was also attended by Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII. During the visit, Director General also interacted with Prof. Philippe Regnier, Dean, School of Management Fribourn.

The GEM Report 2021-22

covers the trend of growth in entrepreneurial activities as well as required individual attributes for starting business. The Total Earlystage Entrepreneurial Activity rate (TEA) in India has increased from 9.3% in 2017-18 to 14.4% in 2021–22. Along with TEA, nascent entrepreneurship and new business ownership have increased significantly in the same period of time. The increase in nascent entrepreneurship is 4.9% in 2017–18 to 7.2% in 2021–22. Similarly, in the case of New Business Ownership it is from 4.4% to 7.1% for the same period of time. On the similar line, the established entrepreneurship rate has also increased from 6.2% to 8.5% from 2017-18 to 2021-22.

The findings of this report show that 83.4% of the population perceives that there is a good opportunity to start a business in their area. Out of the 47 economies that participated, India has been ranked second for perceived opportunities.

The GEM report revelation that India is ranked 4th among 51 countries in terms of quality entrepreneurship ecosystem, was highlighted in the Economic Times. The same was tweeted from the account of **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.



### Entrepreneurship Research, Enterprise Creation and Policy Advocacy ...The 15th Biennial Conference



(3rd from L) Chief Guest, Dr. Kavil Ramachandran, Professor of Entrepreneurship (Practice), Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad; (R to L) Dr. Ajit K. Mohanty, Emeritus Fellow, Utkal University & Former Professor, ICSSR National Fellow Chief Advisor, NMRC, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Prof. (Dr.) Gabriel Dwomoh, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kumasi Technical University, Ghana; Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII & Prof. (Dr.) Ramakrishna Velamuri, Dean & Professor of Entrepreneurship, School of Management, Mahindra University, Hyderabad, releasing Abstracts' compilation of the papers selected for presentation at the 15th Biennial Conference.

ntrepreneurship has come a long way from family businesses to aspirational start-ups and social businesses. The growth of the discipline of entrepreneurship rests on a knowledge infrastructure, which needs to be continuously reinforced for prudent insights. Meaningful research can spark notable developments.

EDII, the pioneer in entrepreneurship education and research, has been organizing Biennial Conferences on Entrepreneurship, since 1994 to explore the different facets of the discipline and to provide a platform to scholars from across the nation and the world, to share their findings. The fifteenth Biennial Conference was held in the Institute during February 22- 24, 2023. The three-day conference on 'Entrepreneurship' provided a platform to researchers, educationists, and practitioners to share their research studies and findings in different areas of entrepreneurship development.

During the conference, over 125 papers and studies by scholars from more than 10 countries on the themes of social, green, women, agricultural, digital, MSME, and inclusive entrepreneurship, were presented.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr Kavil Ramachandran, Professor of Entrepreneurship (Practice), Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad, in the presence of Dr Gabriel Dwomoh, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kumasi Technical University; Dr Ajit K Mohanty, Emeritus Fellow, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar; Dr Ramakrishna Velamuri, Dean & Professor of Entrepreneurship, School of Management, Mahindra University, Hyderabad; and Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, FDII.

As part of the conference, a Vice Chancellors' / Directors' Conclave was also held to discuss the Importance of Entrepreneurship Education in the Context of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Universities from across the country, were represented.

Another important event of the Conference was the Doctoral Colloquium where the PhD. scholars and FPM students from across the country, were mentored and guided on their research work. The doctoral students of EDII and other institutes/universities presented and discussed their research ideas, proposals, and empirical work. The platform led to generation and exchange of ideas related to the broad areas of Entrepreneurship Theory, Entrepreneurship Policy, Entrepreneurship Education & Capacity Building, Manifestations of Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship Context, MSME Entrepreneurship, Functional Areas of Entrepreneurship, and developmental studies.



"Entrepreneurship is today at the core of researches and policy making. It has become a global phenomenon. The environ, today, across the nation, is conducive to entrepreneurship. Success of a business depends on the resources available, which also includes the competence and merit of the owners and others involved in business. Family Business is an area, where I believe the dynamics need to be researched more to ensure smooth sail across generations."

- Dr. Kavil Ramachandran Professor of Entrepreneurship (Practice), Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad





"The process of social development and entrepreneurship is bound to undergo a transformation given the inclination of society towards knowledge and wisdom. In such a society, the process of development will be more inclined towards a collaborative and cooperative process, with focus on including wellbeing of the lesser developed nations as well."

- Dr. Ajit K. Mohanty

Emeritus Fellow, Utkal University & Former Professor, ICSSR National Fellow Chief Adviser, NMRC, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi



"Entrepreneurs emerge and blossom in a social context, so when we want entrepreneurship to blossom in India, it is important to focus on educating the parents, teachers, bankers, policy makers, and other similar stakeholders in a decision making level so that the different beneficiaries could be encouraged to be creative and take the plunge as entrepreneurs."

- **Prof. (Dr.) Ramakrishna Velamuri** Dean & Professor of Entrepreneurship, School of Management, Mahindra University, Hyderabad



"Entrepreneurship and enterprise development is viewed with great significance in Ghana. Amidst a time when finding jobs in formal and informal sectors are difficult in Ghana, we are focussing on developing job creators."

- **Prof. (Dr.) Gabriel Dwomoh** Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kumasi Technical University, Ghana



"The Biennial Conference continues to be a forum for researchers and educators across the globe to exchange ideas and valuable feedback in various fields of entrepreneurship. Research in entrepreneurship is key to identifying solutions, and pursuing newer opportunities, and innovations. The research findings and papers presented in the conference bring forth fresh perspectives and emerging trends in entrepreneurship."

- Dr. Sunil Shukla Director General, EDII



## Annual Startup Summit - 'Empresario' 2023 to Mark the National Startup Day



Chief Guest, Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Minister of State, Home, Industries, Cultural Activities (State Minister), Sports, Youth Service, (Independent Charge), Govt. of Gujarat; (R-L) Prof. Deepak Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director, Department of Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand; Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Co-Chair, FICCI, Gujarat State Council; & Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII inaugurating the Annual Startup Summit, 'EMPRESARIO'.

startups, new age entrepreneurs, industry mentors, investors, and the student community to come together and share their entrepreneurial experiences, gain new insights, and commit to becoming an indispensable part of India's ever-expanding startup ecosystem. The goal of 11th Empresario 2023 Summit was to bring innovative entrepreneurial minds under one roof to promote deliberations and interactions on newer markets, trends, issues and innovations. The platform gave a unique opportunity to the startup community to come together to connect, collaborate and celebrate the spirit of entrepreneurship. In 2023, EDII organized its 11th Empresario, on the occasion of National Startup Day. The event was inaugurated by Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Industries, Cultural Activities (State Minister); Sports, Youth Service (Independent Charge), Government of Gujarat. Other dignitaries at the inauguration included Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Co-Chair, FICCI, Gujarat State Council and Prof. Deepak Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director, Department of Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand.

The two-day festival hosted on 16th and 17th January, 2023 included master classes by industry veterans, talks by successful startup founders, workshops, discussions and startup awards. The Summit also included a Big Pitch Event, where over 30 startups pitched their products and services to a panel of 15 investors with an aim to garner funding. The theme for this year's celebration was entrepreneurship and sustainability. Notably, startups featured in the popular reality show 'Shark Tank India' also participated in the two-day event.



"Gujarat is on the road to becoming one of the most progressive startup destinations in the country through a merger of proactive policies, strong institutional setup, and dynamic participation of the private sector. The 'Stand Up India' and' Start Up India' Schemes were launched in 2016 and since then, more than 80,000 startups have been registered and about 100 unicorns have come into being. It is heartening to note that more than 48% startups are by Women. We see an active collaboration between government, industry and institutions, association of startup hubs of India with startups in the state and creation of intrastate regional centres for startups."

- Shri Harsh Sanghvi

Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Industries, Cultural Activities (State Minister); Sports, Youth Service (Independent Charge), Government of Gujarat



"Empresario is a big networking platform, and networking makes a huge difference in enhancing boundaries, curating opportunities and developing knowledge. For the potential and the existing startups, there couldn't be a bigger platform."

- Shri Rajiv Gandhi

Co-Chair, FICCI, Gujarat State Council



"The concept of entrepreneurship and startups is picking up in the country. I believe a conducive ecosystem and thrust on entrepreneur-friendly policies are playing a big role in ensuring that youth and other sections of society opt for entrepreneurship as a career. As academicians, we are placing accent of developing an entrepreneurial mindset among our students."

- Prof. Deepak Kumar Pandey

Assistant Director, Department of Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand



"EDII's startup summit is one of the most unique entrepreneurial festivals held in India. Since its inception in 2012, Empresario has witnessed participation from over 1,000 startups. This year, we have participation from over 60 startups. There is idea generation, opportunity creation and exceptional learning. I also congratulate Gujrat, and the country, for successfully addressing the concerns of startups through innovative and sustainable solutions, and through setting up of incubators and accelerators."

- **Dr. Sunil Shukla** Director General, EDII Some of the notable speakers over the two days were: Dr. Anil K. Gupta – Founder, Honey Bee Network; Shri Deepak Gadhia - Chairman & Managing Director, Sunrise CSP India; Shri Paresh Gupta, Neos Angles, Network LLP; Shri Dipan Sahu, Asst. Innovation Director, Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell & AICTE, Gol; Shri Sanjay Maury –Urban Air Labs; Shri Mansukh Prajapati - Founder, Miticool; Shri Snehal Desai- Motivational Speaker; Ms. Anushree Maloo, Co-Founder, Nuutjob; Shri Sulay Lavsi - Founder, Bummer; Shri Bhupendra Madaan, Founder, Theka Coffee; Shri Rutvij Dasadia - Founder, Booz Mobility; Shri Kuldeep Singh Kaler, Motivational Speaker; Shri Himanshu Ghosh - Founder, Knownsense Studio; Shri Deepak Makwana, Founder, Biztea; Shri Saurabh Jain, Ex-Vice President, Paytm; Mr. Lou Van Noorden, Senior Expert, PUM Netherlands; Shri Mihir Joshi, CEO, GVFL and Shri Jeet V., CEO, MEITY Startup Hub.

The event also witnessed The Startup Award 2023, in which 4 startups were selected for awards out of 28 nominations.

Profile of the winners of 'The Startup Award 2023':

Startup Name: Lymbedge LLP

Name of Founder: Ms Sarika Chitrodiya

They have developed a device to improve walking movement after knee, hip, ligament surgery.

**Startup Name:** Imagine Powertree Private Limited

Name of Founder: Mr. Shani Pandya

They are a Sustainable Technology Innovation Venture in a mission to make our cities more sustainable using innovative products mentioned like Solar Tree, Solar Powered EV Charging and Others.

**Startup Name :** Redicine Medsol **Name of Founder :** Mr. Raj Shah

Redicine Medsol is a mission-driven, high-impact health-tech startup that involved in the manufacture of IoT-based pill-box that support the user in their medication journey.

**Startup Name :** HyLyt by SocioRAC **Name of Founder :** Mr. Rajat Singhania

HyLyt saves you more than three hours every week with smarter management of your notes, chats, media and files. It gives you options to restrict what

people can do with your sensitive information giving you total peace of mind.







# Towards Making Entrepreneurship a Globally Accepted Development Tool



On 6th Jan, 2023, (5th from R) Prof. (Dr.) Sadanand Shahi, Vice Chancellor of Shri Shankaracharya Professional University, Bhilai visited EDII and interacted with ITEC participants

DII has been rendering a helping hand to many a developing nation through entrepreneurship training and skill development under the aegis of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India. Over the last there months, the Institute has made a notable difference through several relevant interventions. Here's a glimpse:

#### Youths from Bhutan Get Oriented to New Enterprise Creation

Bhutan, a picturesque country with a high happiness index, depends primarily on small businesses and cottage industries. Given the availability of natural resources and emphasis on entrepreneurship, the Bhutan Government has particularly started placing accent on instilling entrepreneurial competencies and skills among the youths of Bhutan.

EDII has been roped in to prepare youths from Bhutan for careers in initiating and managing business. The objective is to foster a culture of entrepreneurship by imparting relevant exposure and knowledge alongside developing motivation to help youths step forth as entrepreneurs. The 4th in the series 4-week programme commenced on 2nd January and concluded on 27th January. 25 Bhutanese youths and management professionals participated in the training programme on EDII Campus.

The participants were exposed to untapped entrepreneurial opportunities and markets, and were imparted information on identifying such promising opportunities and converting them

into viable commercial propositions. Incorporating technology in venture planning was also emphasized upon. Business Opportunity Guidance, Market Survey, Accounting & Book Keeping for Small Businesses, Business Plan Preparation, Managerial Inputs, Marketing Management, and other domains such as taxation and product pricing were a part of the curriculum.

It was indeed heartening to see EDII reaching out to the neighbouring country and helping it strengthen its entrepreneurship ecosystem.



"Setting up a business was always an enigma for me but this programme gave me all the necessary knowledge that broke several myths about entrepreneurship. Bhutan is a resourceful country with several untapped domains. I am so glad I got exposed to this. I feel ready to start my journey as an entrepreneur."

- Mr. Dal Bahadur Bhujel

Participant of 'New Enterprise Creation & Skill Upgradation Programme for Bhutanese Youth on Impact Enterprises'

## Easing Entry into the Emerging Domain of Agri-Entrepreneurship and Supply Chain Management

Agriculture, food production and processing, supply chain management and marketing, offer excellent potential for business and growth. Given that a major proportion of the world's population is dependent on agriculture and need support, it becomes all the more significant to streamline the processes in the sector. To impart learning on the same, EDII conducted a Programme on Agri-Entrepreneurship and Supply Chain Management during 16 January — 24 February, 2023.

26 officials from agri supply chain firms and related Government Ministry / Department / agencies engaged in agro-product storage / post-harvest and officials from agri-commodities market and agri supply chain firms; resource people working in agro / food processing / fishery / animal husbandry / agri services; employees from financial institutions catering to funding requirements of agriculture and agro product-based industries, attended the six — week programme.

Participants from 12 countries got insight into cultivating an 'entrepreneurial attitude' to smoothen the process and develop innovative solutions. The participants also learnt about emerging opportunities in agri-businesses, developing a comprehensive business plan / project report and cultivating understanding on Commodity Market & Supply Chain Management.

"Agriculture is the bread earner for many across the world, and given this, the curriculum was developed accordingly to showcase best practices and impart valuable learnings and winning solutions.", said Dr. Dinesh Jain, Programme Director.



"Agriculture and its Supply Chain Management is one of the crucial domains as it involves agri products which are mostly perishable. The entire process becomes critical and excessively expensive. But this programme gave us insights into enhancing efficiency and minimizing costs through overall supply chain and logistic operations."

- Mrs. Betty Poni Cosmas Abulou (South Sudan)
Participant of 'Agri-Entrepreneurship and Supply Chain
Management' programme

### Promoting Innovations & Entrepreneurship through Incubation

Incubators and accelerators have come to play a major role in nurturing innovations into successful start-ups through a range of resources and services.

An effective incubation ecosystem is a must, and given the growing accent on start ups, it is important to strengthen it. Preparing and equipping Incubation Managers in all the functional areas of the business incubation process could noticeably enhance incubation services and contribute to building a strong growth environ.

EDII conducted a Programme on 'Promoting Innovations & Entrepreneurship through Incubation', during 16 January — 24 February, 2023 for 31 Incubation Managers, Professionals intending to set up / get engaged with Incubation Centres, Business Counsellors/Advisors, Entrepreneurship Trainer-Motivators, Business Promotion Officers and Government officials involved in Investment / Business Promotion from 19 different countries.

The curriculum focussed on imparting learning on setting up and managing incubation centers, role of Business Incubators in Emerging Economies, and ways to sustain and grow a business incubator. The participants also looked at best practices, and delved into the areas that are the hallmarks of a successful incubator. Based on the conditions prevalent in their respective countries, the participants drafted a strategy paper on success of incubators. The document listed the need for adaptability to local requirements, the role of an incubator manager and the guiding framework within which an incubator can function effectively.



"An entrepreneurially inclined society will have proactive incubators and accelerators. Like in every other field, this area too requires hands-on professionals who can understand the technicalities and contribute effectively. For this well planned and highly relevant programme, I am happy that I was chosen. I will be able to make a useful contribution to the growth of entrepreneurship in my country."

- Mr. Daniel Mayrena Espinales (Nicaragua)
Participant of 'Promoting Innovations & Entrepreneurship
through Incubation programme

# Curating Sustainable Livelihood Models... The StartUp Village Entrepreneurship Programme

ecreasing landholdings, increasing population, lack of awareness, isolation from the mainland and several similar reasons are no longer grounds for the rural populace not securing sustainable livelihoods. Rural India has potential galore that needs to be channelled appropriately.

The Startup Village Entrepreneurship Programme [SVEP] is the largest village entrepreneurship programme that fosters economic growth through sustainable livelihood opportunities. SVEP has been envisioned by the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India.

The project covering 82 blocks in 15 States is helping members of Self Help Groups (SHG) set up small enterprises in rural areas under non-farm sector. SVEP is the sub-scheme under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). EDII has been functioning as the National Resource Organisation (NRO) for this programme and is enabling economic growth through sustainable livelihood options.

As a result of various trainings, mentoring support and opportunity sourcing, 81641 enterprises have been promoted, training has been imparted to 83464 entrepreneurs as well as 1267 community resource persons. Through a dedicated fund known as the Community Enterprise Fund (CEF) accessible under this project, these enterprises have been provided ₹ 209.47 crores as credit to help them start and grow their businesses. 51410 women entrepreneurs under this project, have written their success stories.

With every passing day, a new chapter is added to the SVEP initiatives. Over the last three months training modules have been developed so that the methodology is documented and the initiative gets replicated, where needed. Support has been extended towards developing viable business plans that get accepted by banks. The banks and financial institutions are also being sensitized to extend funding support to enterprises. While initially, the funding for entrepreneurs was sought from the Community Enterprise Fund (CEF) available under the project, with sustained efforts for credit linkages, 3,357 enterprises have been given loans worth ₹ 14.89 crores by different financial institutions. 1,267 Community Resource Persons − Enterprise Promotions (CRP-EP) have been identified and trained to support setting up and handhold the microenterprises under the SVEP. The following are the activities which were undertaken during last three months:

Capacity Building of Entrepreneurs, Community Based Organisations (CBOs) & Community Resource Persons-Enterprise Promotion (CRP-EPs) were some of the programmes conducted across blocks, training 448 entrepreneur, 929 CBOs and 99 CRP-EPs.

Awareness camp on Mudra loan and registration drive conducted for availing schemes in Pub Mangaldai Block of Assam: Awareness camp on Mudra loan was conducted at different Gram Panchayats in Pub Mangaldai block of Assam for those who had completed their CEF repayment under SVEP and were looking for additional financial support to grow their existing businesses.



62

Udyam registrations



24

FSSAI registrations



12

registrations under Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme

## "This is a unique livelihood intervention," says Karri

Karri Narshi babu was born in a poor family in Chunchupally village, Mangapet Mandal of Eturnagaram. He could not complete his education due to poverty and remained unemployed for several years. Marriage brought in familial responsibility. Karri started working as a daily wage worker and earned a meagre amount of Rs. 300 per day. For 15 long years, he strived hard for a better living but failed in all his attempts. Poverty and drudgery were just not ready to move away from him till one day, a simple piece of information from his wife changed his life. Karri Narshi babu's wife who was an SHG member of Sri Rajeshwar SHG, heard about the SVEP Programme through CRP-EP in one of their regular SHG meetings. She discussed it with her husband, and the two were enthused with the desire to try their hands at entrepreneurship. Karri has skills in fishing and after must consultation with the mentors, he stepped forth to commence fishing commercially. Ms. Swapna, the CRP-EP, supported him in preparing the business



plan and the same was put forth in BRC. After scrutiny, BRC approved an amount of Rs. 50,000. Adding all his savings along with CEF amount Karri purchased a boat and started work enthusiastically. He repaid his loan is a short span and arrived at break-even within the first six months of the fishing business. His average monthly profit is between Rs. 40,000 to 45,000. As Karri says, "I feel happy that I am able to give my family a good life. Not just that, I have employed four people who are running their families on this income. I feel blessed."

# The Terracotta Cluster.... Exploring a New Trajectory Under the Off-Farm Producer Organization Scheme

DII has been called upon to implement the 'Off-Farm Producer Organization' (OFPO) scheme for Gorakhpur Terracotta Cluster sponsored by NABARD. The project is focused on elevating the socio-economic status of artisans of Gorakhpur Terracotta cluster through several trainings and market-oriented initiatives. The main aim of OFPO is to ensure better income for the producers through an organization of their own. In this regard many initiatives are being undertaken by EDII under OFPO project:



#### **Milestones**

- Participated in Gorakhpur Mahotsav; Hastshilp Mela & Utarayani Mela, Lucknow; NABARD Sahyog Mela, Ahmedabad.
- One Day Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme was organised for 86 OFPO members.
- Selected members where deputed to attend One-Day Workshop In Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD) Lucknow.
- Total members in the OFPO are 215, with 5 new members added in the last three months.
- Total share capital as on March 2023, is Rs. 1.52 Lakh.
- Cumulative turnover in the last three months of OFPO stands at Rs. 6.94 Lakh.
- Marketing initiatives undertaken through social media platforms and e-commerce platforms have been explored for marketing terracotta products.
- New product designs have been developed.

### Let's see how Jitendra, a beneficiary of the Project transformed his life...

There was a time when Jitendra Madheshiya lived on the footpaths of Mumbai. Today he owns his unit of terracotta items. His journey has been arduous but all the hardships led Jitendra into a happy space.

Jitendra moved to Mumbai in search of work in 2005; he toiled hard; did menial jobs; barely survived on one inadequate meal a day, only to realize that he needs to identify his basic skills and improve in that area, rather than struggling in unknown territories. He returned to his native village "Gulhariya", Gorakhpur in 2010 and started exploring different area. It is here



Mr. P.N. Srivastava, Faculty, EDII and Project Director, guiding project beneficiary, Mr. Jitendra Madheshiya

that he came in contact with EDII experts, who guided him on identifying a business opportunity in the domain of terracotta. Jitendra received training and counselling and commenced working on making fancy decorative pieces from terracotta. He strengthened his skills day by day, learnt about the market requirements, networking etc. With EDII's assistance, he participated in Karigar Haat Kolkata, Surajkund Mela, and Saras Mela, where he met art connoisseurs and buyers. As he says, "Networking and exposure through exhibitions made a huge difference to my skills and understanding of the market. I am thankful to EDII for holding my hand and bringing me this far."

Today, Jitendra is the proud owner of Bhathat Artisan Producer Company under the Off-Farm Producer Organization scheme.



Dr. Sunil Shukla addressing the gathering on 'Startup Ecosystem' at the launch of DICCI Next Gen event on 4th January, 2023.

DICCI NextGen (DNG) is a Movement for SC-ST Youth to converge ideas, lead, co-create and influence India's future. Ms. Maitreyee Kamble, MD and CEO, Svara Sanitech is the Convener of DICCI Next Gen.



## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS...



State-level Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Hackathon 2022 was organized by Education Department (Higher & Technical), Government of Gujarat. **Mr. Atharva Patil,** PGDM-IEV (2022-24) student was awarded for his idea on "Reduction in Cost of Construction For The Houses / Projects Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)". He received Rs. 50,000 as award money.



**Ms. Shruti Mehata,** PGDM-E (2021-23) student bagged 2nd position in Ahmedabad Ideathon 2022 by VentureStudio and received Rs. 25,000 as award money.



**Mr. Rahul Vats,** PGDM-E (2021-23) student bagged 3rd position in Ahmedabad Ideathon 2022 by VentureStudio and received Rs. 15,000 as award money.



Ms. Ruchika Khetarpal, FPM scholar (2021-25) secured Gold Medal in M.B.A. (2021) from Gurukula Space Kangri (Deemed to be University).



Mr. Ronik Patel, PG Alumnus (2017-19) featured in Shark Tank Season 2, to pitch for his startup 'Makino'. Makino, founded in 2018, makes healthy snacks, including Nachos, Corn chips, and Corn Twists, using non-GMO based ingredients, and are free of MSG, Transfat, and Cholesterol.

# Of Techies & Technology... The Centre for Advancing & Launching Enterprises





Initiated in 2016, the Centre for Advancing and Launching Enterprises (CrAdLE) is a technology business incubator hosted by EDII, Ahmedabad. CrAdLE extends technical expertise, advice on intellectual property, mentoring and assistance in business plan, networking, sources of financing and working space to innovative business ideas.

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

#### Digital Innovation Alliance, a G20 India Initiative

The event aimed at showcasing innovative solutions and creating an alliance of innovation ecosystem players for the betterment of economies.

Dr. Neha Sharma, CEO, CrAdLE, sharing her thoughts on how to develop efficient, scalable, and long-lasting digital solutions for improvement of economies and the advancement of societies at the Panel Discussion on 'Digital Innovation For One India'. The Panel Discussion was a part of Digital



Innovation Alliance, a G20 India initiative, organised by Dholakia Ventures in association with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). Other panellists included: Mr. H. K. Mittal, Senior Adviser, EDII; Mr. M. S. Rao, CEO, T-HUB; Mr. Jeet Vijay, CEO, MeitY Startup Hub (MSH); Ms. Padmaja Ruparel, President, Indian Angel Network, Mr. Kamal Bansal, Managing Director, GVFL Ltd.; Mr. Dhruv Nath, Director, Lead Angels Network and Dr. U.T. Rao, Associate Professor, MICA. More than 100 startups, over 1000 potential entrepreneurs and professionals, and 50 plus venture capitalists attended the event at Surat.

#### Practice Pitching Session for the Big Pitch Empresario 2023

The annual flagship event EMPRESARIO of EDII was organised on the 16th & 17th of January 2023. EMPRESARIO is an exclusive platform for the startup ecosystem stakeholders including entrepreneurs, investors, government officials, industry leaders, and investors to come together and deliberate on the ways and means of strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem in India. Chief Guest, Shri Harsh Sanghvi, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Industries, Transport, Youth,

Sports (Government of Gujarat) inaugurated the startup exhibition and interacted with them about their ground-breaking products and innovations. Out of the 4 winners of Startup Award 2023, CrAdLE incubated startup, Redicine Medsol, was also awarded.

Industry leaders of the like of Mr. Lou Van Noorden, Senior Expert, PUM (Programma Uitzending Managers) Netherlands, and Mr. Mihir Joshi, President, GVFL, delivered inputs on topics, like; Virtual Management Systems (VMS), valuation, startup sustainability, and similar areas. Participants also learnt from the stories of successful entrepreneurs and industry experts during panel discussions and a fireside chat with eChai Ventures. In The Big Pitch, which was a part of the event, more than 40 startups pitched their innovative businesses and products to investors. The event was attended by 500 participants including students, startups, ecosystem enablers, industry leaders, and government officials from more than 14 countries.



In the ITEC, Ministry of External Affairs supported programme, 'Promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship through Incubation' CrAdLE Incubated start-ups, such as; Iota Diagnostic Private Limited, NowoChat, Minkoos Services, WebEarl Technologies, and Ardent Sport demonstrated their innovative solutions and discussed in detail their business model and the vicissitudes of their business. Similarly 25 participants from Bhutan of New Enterprise Creation and Skill Upgradation Programme on Impact Enterprises, gained information on the growth of the startup ecosystem in India, the key challenges and the role played by CrAdLE towards ensuring a wholesome start up ecosystem.

On 2nd Feb, 10 officials of Directorate of Employment & Training, Patna, Bihar visited CrAdLE and interacted with the team to understand the functioning of the Technology Business Incubator and how it engages with various stakeholders in the ecosystem.

# Workshop on Entrepreneurship Skills, Attitude and Behaviour Development



On 15th Feb, 2023 Gandhinagar University organised a 'Workshop on Entrepreneurship Skills, Attitude and Behaviour Development' with the support of IIC. CrAdLE experts conducted a workshop for around 60 students on the significance of entrepreneurial competencies and mindset in spotting viable opportunities.

## A proud moment for EDII...

**NeerX,** an incubatee of CrAdLE gets featured in Forbes India 30 Under 30 (2023) in the Agritech category.

NEERX, an agritech startup was founded in 2019 with the mission to solve climate challenges in agriculture and lessen the financial burden of farmers. The startup develops sensors called 'SHOOL: Smart sensor for Hydrology and Land application', which provides an accurate and real-time farm microclimate information using dielectric technology.





# Towards a Responsible, Progressive, Sustainable & Equitable India

t is a matter of pride that India holds the Presidency of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023. G20 encompasses a range of issues including; trade, sustainable development, health, agriculture, energy, environment, climate change etc. EDII proactively participated in some of the activities organized under the aegis of G20.

EDII organised a Handicraft Exhibition under the aegis of G20 at Dhordo, Kachchh. At the exhibition, artisans trained by EDII under the HastKala Setu Project showcased their unique handmade creations.



At the exhibition, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Culture and DoNER, Govt. of India, being felicitated by Mr. Brijesh Dave, Sr. Manager, EDII and Hastkala Project Coordinator.



Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala, Union Cabinet Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India, taking a look at the unique products in the exhibition.



EDII is implementing the Hastkala Setu project in 33 districts of Gujarat under the aegis of the Gujarat Government's Commissionerate of Cottage Industries. One of the crafts being actively supported by EDII is 'MATA NI PACHHEDI'. EDII has facilitated the formation of cooperative for artisans working on this craft, and has also helped them expand their outreach through various innovative models and measures. EDII project team also rendered support in easing out legal formalities towards procuring Geographical Indication (GI) registration for 'MATA NI PACHHEDI'.



(L) Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman, DICCI and EDII Governing Board Member and (R) Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII during their visit to the Hastkala Stall at the G20 Summit at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar.



Shri Bhupendra Patel, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat taking a look at the products by EDII trained artisans at Hastkala Stall in the Expo organized by Vadodara Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Several corporates visited the pavilion and appreciated the new designs and products, exploring options for Corporate gifting. Nearly, 13000 people visited the pavilion in the 2-day exhibition.



Shri Jagdish Panchal, Hon'ble Minister, Cottage & Rural Industries, Gujarat, inaugurated a 3-day exhibition held under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative, at Ahmedabad Haat. The exhibition was organized by Govt. of Gujarat in association with EDII.



Smt. Seema Latkar, Superintendent of Police, Mysore and Smt. K. M. Gayathri, CEO, Mysore Zilla Panchayat at the Gujarat Handicrafts Utsav organized by JSS Mysore Urban Haat. EDII trained artisans participated in the Utsav.



# Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



On March 8, 2023, on the occasion of International Women's Day, EDII signed an MoU with Sanjeevini–Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS) with the objective of empowering more than 2000 SHG women of Karnataka in the Terracotta and Home Decor sector. The MoU was signed in the presence of the Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka; Dr. Ashwanth Narayan, Minister of Higher Education, Information Technology & Biotechnology and Science & Technology; Smt. Ragapriya, IAS, Mission Director, KSRLM;

Dr. S. Selva Kumar, IAS, Chairman and Secretary, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Govt. of Kerala and Smt. Anupama K., Chief Operating Officer (Operations) KSRLM; and other notable dignitaries from the Government. Dr. Raman Gujral, Director-Dept. of Projects, Corporates, represented EDII.

EDII signed an MoU on 15th February, with North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) 2023 chaired by Dr. Krishna Kumar, Advisor (Technical), NECTAR to promote Skill Development among the people of the North Eastern Region.



EDII entered into an MoU with the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati for strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem in North East Region. Seen here is Dr. Lalit Sharma, Director, Indian Institute of Guwahati with Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII and other senior officials of EDII.



Shri Amit Mohan Prasad, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, MSME & Export Promotion, UP during his visit to EDII.



On 3rd Feb, 2023 - EDII signed an MoU with National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHDFC) led by (2nd from L) Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Gol to support and empower the differently abled potential entrepreneurs trained under the GoG supported Centre for Differently Abled, set up at EDII.



Sr. Officials from Higher Education Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand, (L) Dr. Chaman Kumar & (R) Dr. Deepak Kumar Pandey, during their visit to EDII for deliberating on the ways of promoting entrepreneurship among the youths of Uttarakhand.



EDII signed an MoU with State Planning Commission, Government of Chhattisgarh to conduct a research study on Assessment of the Status of Anaemia and Malnutrition among Women and Children of select Districts in Chhattisgarh.



# Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...

Dr. Sunil Shukla, visited Uttar Pradesh Global Investor Summit - 2023, Lucknow, were he had insightful deliberations with noted dignitaries:



In discussion with Shri J. P. S. Rathod, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Co-operative, Govt. of U.P.

In conversation with Shri Asim Arun, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Social Welfare, Secheduled Caste & Tribal Welfare Govt. of U.P.





Briefing Dr. Hari Om, IAS, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, on EDII interventions.



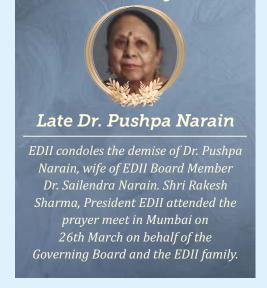
A team of senior officers of J & K Entrepreneurship Development Institute led by (2nd from L) Shri Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, IAS, Director, JKEDI visited the Institute to explore collaborative programmes for development of entrepreneurship ecosystem in J&K. Dr. Sunil Shukla, Mr. H.K. Mittal, Sr. Advisor & other EDII faculty members interacted with the high-level team.



On 3rd Feb, 2023, a team of Smart Village Movement (SVM) led by (2nd from L) Dr. Anil Shah, Executive Chairman, SVM visited EDII for discussion on rural entrepreneurship promotion. Other senior officials included (L-R) Ms. Rebeca Hernandez, E.A. to Chairman, SVM; Dr. Jitendra Adhia, Sr. Director, SVM; Mr. Mahesh Doshi, State Director - Gujarat, SVM. Dr. Sunil Shukla and (1st, R) Dr. Rajesh Gupta, Project Director, SVEP, deliberated with the team.



On 10th March, 2023, DG, EDII interacted with the team of Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute, Dept. of MSME, Govt. of Tamil Nadu. Seen here are (L-R) Mrs. K. Pechiammal, Deputy Director; Mr. N. Dinesh Babu, Programme officer; Mr. K. P. S. Thillai Nayagam, State Program Manager and Mrs. V. Saranya, Programme officer.



Obituary



# Collaborations, Associations & Deliberations...



Director General Dr. Sunil Shukla, Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Dept. of Projects (Corporates) and Dr. Rinku Das, Faculty, EDII in discussion with Shri K. Moses Chalai, IAS, Secretary North Eastern Council, to explore the possibilities of entrepreneurship development in the North Eastern Region.

On 2nd of March, 2023 EDII team met Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Manta, ACS, Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Department of Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Assam for discussions on initiatives under Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE).





EDII also offers Fellow Programme in Management

## Observance...



Participants of the ITEC Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Gol, celebrating Republic Day



Chief Guest: Dr. Bhushan Punani,
General Secretary, Blind People's
Association, Ahmedabad &
Distinguished Speakers:
Mrs. Mittal Patel, Founder &
Secretary, Vicharta Samuday
Samarthan Manch &
Dr. Jharna Pathak, Secretary,
Ahmedabad Women's Action Group
at the commemoration of the
World Day of Social Justice at EDII.



Mr. S. B. Sareen who had joined the Institute on January 30, 1984 retired on Feb 28, 2023, as Director - Dept. of Projects (Government). In his career spanning over 35 years, Mr. Sareen undertook several prestigious assignments within the country and abroad in the areas of New Enterprise Creation, Startup growth and MSME development. EDII family wishes him wonderful second innings!!!



# Overwhelming...







Harsh Sanghavi 💸 @sanghaviharsh - Jan 16

On the occasion of #NationalStartupDay, attended a fabulous event organised by Entrepreneurship Development Institute India.

Empresario - Annual Startup Summit 2023, provides an exclusive piatform for start-ups, new age entrepreneurs, industry mentors ++



Narendra Modi and Startup India





Ministry of MSME . eminmsme - Jan 11

Hon'ble Union Minister of MSME Shri Narayan Rane along with Hon'ble MoS Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma Released the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) India Report for the year 2021-22. #entrepreneurship #INDIA #MSME #MSMEs #MSMEINDIA #KVIC #NSIC #SCSTHUB #COIRBOARD







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EDII Affliliates in Rwanda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia & Lao-PDR



