CBSE Looks to Open a Fresh Chapter on Entrepreneurship

Education board ties up with Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India to come up with entrepreneurial programme for students

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Ahmedabad: Flipkart, Ola, Big-Basket, OYO Rooms, CarDekho and ShopClues are just some of the successful Indian startup case studies that may soon enter classrooms as the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) authorities emphasise on creating an entrepreneurial aptitude among secondary and higher secondary students in all CBSE schools.

CBSE had tied up with Gandhinagar-based Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), a national premier entrepreneurial training institute, to create a working group to come up with an educational module and a teacher training programme in the entrepreneurship space for students as a vocational course. The working group will submit its report in the next 2-3months.

"We will provide hand-holding support to schools on curriculum, content, pedagogy of teaching and evaluation besides sub-

stantial focus on live business projects. The emphasis will be on institutionalisation of entrepreneurship education in CBSE schools," said Dr Sunil Shukla, director, EDII. Currently, the secondary (class 10) and higher secondary (class 11th and 12) have a system of five-plus-one subjects, where one subject is an elective, as per CBSE officials.

CBSE provides 28 vocational courses and the entrepreneur vocational course is one of them, but out of the 19,000 CBSE schools, only 512 schools are able to provide the entrepreneurial course. "Mainly due to a lack of readily available educational modules and trained teaching staff,

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the schools are not able to provide the entrepreneurial vocational course to students, which in recent years, has high demand among students as well as their parents," said RK Chaturvedi, chairman, CBSE. According to Shukla, the purpose is to rejuvenate the entrepreneurship course at CBSE by inculcating innovational temperament, entrepreneurial values and inspire students to explore opportunities in the entrepreneurship and technology domain to create startups. He added that EDII will provide teacher training programmes, an instructor handbook, resource materials and cases on young entrepreneurs.

On Saturday, about 250 principals across CBSE schools participated in an entrepreneurship workshop at the Gandhinagar EDII campus from four states — Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The closed-door workshop was organised for the first time for CBSE schools in India.

DR SUNIL SHUKLA Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India

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