

## **Honorable Governor of UP Smt. Anandiben Patel addresses EDII's Annual V.G. Patel Memorial Lecture**

- *The lecture, third in series, was conducted virtually and the Distinguished speaker was Smt. Anandiben Patel, Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh*
- *and the topic was 'importance of entrepreneurship education in higher learning institutions'*
- *The guest of honour at the lecture was Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, Hon'ble Education Minister, Gujarat State, who spoke about the importance of start-up ecosystem*

**Monday, Sept 6, 2021:** The Honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh, **Smt. Anandiben Patel**, delivered the Dr. VG Patel Memorial Lecture that was organized by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad today. The lecture, third in series, was held virtually and focused on 'Importance of entrepreneurship education in higher learning institutions.' Also present on the occasion were Guest of Honour **Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama**, Hon'ble Education Minister, Gujarat State; and **Dr. Sunil Shukla**, Director General, EDII.

Dr. V. G. Patel (Padma Shri Awardee), who had committed himself to propagating entrepreneurship was recognized by the entrepreneurship fraternity as the 'Father of Entrepreneurship Movement'. The great leader and proponent of the entrepreneurship movement left for heavenly abode in 2019. Not only did he succeed in establishing the credibility of his belief across India, but also went on to establish the National Resource Institute, EDII, in 1983.

Addressing the virtual audience on the need to strengthen entrepreneurship education in higher learning institutions, **Smt. Anandiben Patel, Hon'ble Governor of UP**, said, *"Higher learning institutions can play a critical role in shaping student- mindset. They need to design and offer courses that are at the intersection of innovation, business skills and entrepreneurial mindset. It is important to equip students with knowledge on business skills and entrepreneurial competencies. Such a blend will escalate their confidence and knowledge, yielding in impact-making businesses. It is also desirable to expose students to business ideas and help them identify as to which ideas can primarily go through the incubation process. Such mentoring and hand-holding can ready the entrepreneurs for the incubation phase by providing the required skills and knowledge that help them validate and assess their ideas and define their business model vividly."*

Placing emphasis on pre incubation and incubation support, Smt. Anandiben Patel said, *"It is desirable to expose students to business ideas and help them identify as to which ideas can primarily go through the incubation process. Such mentoring and hand-holding can ready the entrepreneurs for the incubation phase by providing the required skills and knowledge that help them validate and assess their ideas and define their business model vividly."*

Hon'ble Governor mentioned that she had recently attended a Vice Chancellors' Meet in Lucknow organised by EDII to discuss the significance of introducing entrepreneurship education in higher learning institutions that had received encouraging feedback. She

further added that the country needs to orient more students towards choosing entrepreneurship as a career.

Congratulating EDII on organizing the annual lecture series to promote entrepreneurship education and further the legacy of Dr. V G Patel, **Guest of Honour, Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, Hon'ble Education Minister, Gujarat State**, underscored the importance of nurturing an enabling start-up ecosystem to foster entrepreneurship. He said, *"Gujarat is one of the first states to come up with Student Start-up Innovation Policy to spur the entrepreneurship at institutional level. We are also conducting two hackathons every year where participating students are encouraged to find solutions for important issues through their ideas. The state has created a conducive ecosystem by establishing a Gujarat Startup Innovation Hub, I-Hub, where startups are provided with networking, co-working, lab, mentorship, and funding facilities. In addition, the state is facilitating collaboration between government, industry and youth to address start-up concerns through innovative and sustainable solutions. Gujarat has also been at the forefront of promoting women entrepreneurship by starting women centric startup policies."*

**Dr. Sunil Shukla** paid tribute to Late Dr. V.G. Patel recalling Dr. Patel's exceptional contribution to economic development of the nation through the concept of entrepreneurship. He stressed on the importance of entrepreneurship in skilling youths and said, *"The youth has to be skilled and equipped to anticipate, exploit and lead the change. With entrepreneurship education, youths will be able to dispel their doubts and develop the confidence to drive the nation forward. Our institutions of higher learning can become centers of excellence where new ideas commensurate with the changing times. These could be cultivated into centers that train young minds to create a new India that has ideas and innovations galore."*

**Dr. Shukla** also announced the winners of **Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor 2021**.

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#### **Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor 2021**

Dr. Patel also envisioned creating a cadre of entrepreneur trainer-motivators which he believed would impart sustainability to the entrepreneurship development movement. He was right in thinking so as today Entrepreneur Trainer-Motivators have come to play a major role in propagating entrepreneurship and sustaining its results. To pay tribute to the late legendry, EDII has instituted 'Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor'. The Award consists of a citation and a cash prize of **Rs. 100,000/-** to a professional for his/her outstanding performance/contribution in Entrepreneurship Training/Education/Mentoring/Knowledge Creation, leading to setting up of enterprises. For 'Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/ Educator/Mentor' 2021, EDII received 77 nominations from across India. The Institute followed a three tier procedure of evaluation and selection. This year the esteemed jury declared joint winners. They are:

**Mr. Sunil Chandak, President, Udyogwardini Shiksha Sansthan, Nashik, Maharashtra**

Devoted 36 years to ensuring propagation of entrepreneurship in society across target groups including women, disadvantaged communities including SCs/STs, VRS employees, socially & economically deprived sections, technologists and many others. Some of his primary achievements include; creation of 2 Women Industrial zone in MIDC in Nashik. Maharashtra. (67 ladies have established their ventures), Women Industrial Premises Society in MIDC in Nashik. Maharashtra. (Where 16 ladies have started their ventures and creation of women Entrepreneurs Association of Nashik (WEAN). Mr. Chandak established the First Industrial Premises Society in MIDC in Nashik, a Mini Mall (Business Square) comprising shops by 60 EDP Participants, "Buddhist Entrepreneurs' Association Comprising 300+ Trained SC/ST Entrepreneurs, Dalit Industries Chamber of Commerce of India's (Nashik chapter) where 30 SC/ST Members are EDP participants and First ever Food Cluster in Nashik where more than 70 Entrepreneurs will put their units. Mr. Chandak also promoted more than 1500+ Agropreneurs in post harvesting value addition process for which "Govt of Maharashtra" recognized him by giving "Shetimitra" award.

**Dr. Venkatesh Babu, Dean, Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research, Selaiyur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu**

Dr. Babu who hails from humble background, has successfully nurtured entrepreneurship excellence in academics. He has trained 258 trainees and has ensured creation of 156 enterprises. He has also ensured creation of enterprises in science and technology domain. He worked towards enhancing the quality of technical education in India, set up the Bharath Technology Business Incubator with DST's support, contributed to formulation of the draft Outcome Based Accreditation regulations of the National Board of Accreditation instrumental in making India, a full signatory of the prestigious Washington Accord.

The results of his efforts reflect in the success of various segments of society, especially the rural youth.