

# The Statesman

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## **MSMEs are growth accelerators; necessary to strengthen them: Narayan Rane**

*A special panel discussion has been lined up on 'People, planet, and profit in the light of MSME sector development'.*

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Union Minister for Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Narayan Rane, inaugurated a two-day mega summit on MSME competitiveness and growth being organised by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) in New Delhi today.

The two-day summit witness sessions and panel discussions on the enhancements, challenges and growth opportunities in the MSME sector and speakers and experts from India, Singapore, Peru, Lao PDR, Rwanda, Myanmar, Russia, Uzbekistan, Spain and Iran, will share their experiences at the summit.

The summit was also attended by entrepreneurs, academicians, policymakers, industry leaders, thought leaders, business chambers, industry associations, startups, social impact organizations, MSMEs and self-help groups from across the world.

Rane emphasised the significance of MSMEs in the GDP of the country. He said, “For a long time now, MSMEs have been working amidst minimum resources and yet making a significant contribution to the GDP of the country. It is, therefore, necessary that these growth accelerators are handheld and strengthened. In this direction, there has definitely been significant collective efforts to strengthen the sector. Various schemes of the government are directed towards opening up new avenues for MSMEs.” He further said, “The Government has well ensured that the MSME sector receives an unhindered credit flow from financial institutions, technology support for development and modernization, access to export markets, infrastructure facility, training and capacity building facility and welfare of the workforce.

On the occasion, Minister of State (MoS), MSME Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma said, “India, with its focus on entrepreneurship, start-ups, innovations and MSMEs, is well placed at a remarkable time on account of interesting economic decisions and strategies. The discernible economic growth is a testimony to MSME development and revival, especially post the most serious wave of the pandemic. I think I would be right in assuming, and announcing, that growth in the MSME sector is palpable, and is manifesting itself in many ways all across the country. The primary reason behind this, as I see, is progressive changes in the public policy.”

Dr Sunil Shukla, Director General, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) said, “EDII has been closely associated with the Ministry of MSME on several important programmes and projects under cluster development, training and capacity building, research and policy advocacy. We look forward to imparting yet more scalability and extensibility to the MSME sector with carefully curated strategies.”

During the summit, experts deliberated on subjects such as challenges and opportunities in the MSME sector amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, incubation/acceleration in MSME growth, the role of conducive policies and non-financial business development services in MSME competitiveness, and how MSMEs can work in consortia to achieve sustainability.

A special panel discussion has been lined up on ‘People, planet, and profit in the light of MSME sector development’. Discussions will also revolve around MSMEs’ competitiveness, internationalization of Indian MSMEs, technology and innovation, digital transformation of MSMEs, entrepreneurship ecosystem and emerging opportunities in the MSME sector, and gender and disadvantaged communities’ entrepreneurship.