Ahmedabad: Four students who recently graduated from Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) have got a seed fund of Rs 9 lakh cumulatively to pursue their dreams right at the outset of their professional journey. The Project Startup Facilitation Grant from EDII has been received by meritorious students who show proof of concept (POC) and market potential, said officials.

Dr Sunil Shukla, the DO of EDII, said that every year, two to three students are eligible for the grants, but 2020-21 was special due to the pandemic.

“Two of the four students who have received the grants had worked on Covid-related products. They have continued the work even after graduation,” said Dr Shukla.

Hetal Shah, a PGDM-Be student, had designed an N99 mask for Covid-19 that claims to block more than 99% of the virus and bacteria. She got Rs 2 lakh for product development. Eva Garg, a PGDM-B student, had developed modular hospitals from used containers which can be shifted to any location at short notice. She got Rs 2.5 lakh.

Anshul Multani, another student, received Rs 3 lakh to realize a project of technology-enabled tool for farmers that aims to improve productivity using geographic indication and other systems. Thanglihol Diengdoh got Rs 1.5 lakh to develop epoxy resin studio in the Northeast that utilizes scrap pieces of wood, marble, or any other solid materials.

Dr Satya Ranjan Acharya, director of EDII incubation centre Cradle, said that every year some students start their entrepreneurship journey from the institute itself, but the past couple of years saw advanced development of projects by some students that increased the funds.