



**Entrepreneurship
Development
Institute of India
Ahmedabad**

Media Release

Celebrating the values and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti

To honour the values and ideals of Mahatma Gandhiji, EDII alongwith India Think Council, New Delhi organized a special lecture on 'Global Sustainability and Peace' by Hon'ble **Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan**

Ahmedabad, October 02, 2022: Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad and India Think Council, New Delhi conducted a special lecture on 'Global Peace and Sustainability' on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The Distinguished Speaker on the occasion was **Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan**. Also present on the occasion were Prof. Ami Upadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Baba Saheb Ambedkar University; Dr. Sailendra Narain, Former Chairman & Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Mr. Saurabh Pandey, Director, India Think Council.

Commemorating the values of Gandhiji on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala said, "The greatest realization on the path of peace is that knowledge emanates belief, happiness and peace, and hence one must always be persistent about gaining knowledge." The distinguished speaker stressed on the significance of creating strong societies, which he said was possible only when we understood that "Diversity is the law of nature and if we wish to live in peace, we have to acknowledge that the foundational virtue of civilization is diversity. Unity in Diversity and serving mankind with all its diversity should be the primary goal." Stressing on the importance of 'SELF', the Hon'ble Governor said, "SELF could be your best friend and also your worst enemy so cultivate it accordingly."

Motivating the audience, Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General- EDII said that Gandhiji's ideals are so relevant to the modern day principles of global peace and sustainable development. He said, "Gandhiji's principles of self-belief, conviction and the spirit to explore uncharted paths inspire every person. Mahatma Gandhi's life acts as a guiding force for every fabric of society. Going Swadeshi and establishing cottage industries was something that Gandhiji preached. Today, the government is encouraging the Make in India movement and EDII is also working in line with it, training and skilling people to harness indigenous resources, employ their learnings and set up enterprises."

Dr. Sailendra Narain, Former Chairman & Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and EDII Governing Board Member, termed language and culture as integral in keeping a nation united. Dr. Narain appreciated Shri Arif Mohammad Khan's depth and knowledge on culture, and proficiency in Urdu, English, Hindi and Sanskrit. He added, "No wonder Shri Arif Mohammad Khan showcases how Language and Culture can come in sync to ultimately lead in the development of the country."

Prof. Ami Upadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Baba Saheb Ambedkar University proposing the Vote of Thanks, talked about the significance of inclusive society and hence the need to bring together diverse groups of people to ensure global peace and sustainability.

Shri Saurabh Pandey, Director, India Think Council talked about the ideals that Gandhiji professed with the ultimate aim of peace in view. Shri Pandey said that societies, the world over, remember and admire Gandhiji's principles of non-violence, truth and perseverance in achieving peace, happiness and freedom.

About EDII (www.ediindia.org)

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) is an acclaimed International Resource Centre facilitating all facets of Entrepreneurship Development. EDII's mission is to be a catalyst in facilitating emergence of competent first generation entrepreneurs and transition of existing SMEs into growth-oriented enterprises through entrepreneurship education, training, research & institution building.

EDII's mission has led to the emergence of several programmes under strategically planned centres to generate awareness, sensitise environment, strengthen institutional linkages and networking and impart training in specialised areas. EDII's focus areas are: 1) Entrepreneurship Education & Research; 2) Micro Enterprises, Micro Finance and Sustainable Livelihood; 3) SMEs & Business Development Services; 4) Cluster Competitiveness, Growth & Technology; 5) Social Entrepreneurship & CSR; 6) Women Entrepreneurship & Gender Studies.

EDII is an autonomous and not-for-profit institute, set up in 1983, and is sponsored by apex financial institutions - the IDBI Bank Ltd., IFCI Ltd., ICICI Bank Ltd. and the State Bank of India (SBI). The Government of Gujarat pledged twenty-three acres of land on which stands the majestic and sprawling EDI campus. To pursue its mission, EDII has helped set up twelve state-level exclusive entrepreneurship development centres and institutes. One of the satisfying achievements, however, was taking entrepreneurship to a large number of schools, colleges, science and technology institutions and management schools in several states by including entrepreneurship inputs in their curricula.

In the international arena, efforts to develop entrepreneurship by way of sharing resources and organising training programmes, have helped EDII earn accolades and support from the World Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat, UNIDO, ILO, British Council, Ford Foundation, European Union, ASEAN Secretariat and several other renowned agencies. EDII has also set up Entrepreneurship Development Centre at Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam and is in the process of setting up such centres at Uzbekistan and five African countries. In recognition of its international achievements, the United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UN-ESCAP), Bangkok, Thailand, has declared EDII as a 'Centre of Excellence'.

