

### **EDII celebrates International MSME Day**

**Tuesday, June 27, 2023:**

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad celebrated International MSME Day on June 27, 2023 at EDII Campus. The celebration marked the significance of MSMEs in the growth of an economy. The aim was also to bring forth concerns and issues surrounding the growth and sustainability of MSMEs, and the solutions that could be implemented to address the same. While Shri B. M. Prajapati, IAS, Additional Industries Commissioner (Extension), Industries Commissionerate, Govt. of Gujarat graced the event as Chief Guest, the distinguished guests at the event included; Shri Shailesh Patwari Former President, GCCI & Director, Nexus Group of Industries and Shri Akash Pawar Deputy General Manager Incharge SIDBI, Ahmedabad. Shri D.M. Jadeja, Dy. Commissioner of Industries, MSME Commissionerate, Govt. of Gujarat was invited to throw light on the initiatives of the Government towards spurring the growth of the MSME sector.

Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII in his opening remarks said, “The entire entrepreneurial movement is being led by MSMEs. The sector’s contribution is enormous. MSMEs help maintain regional balance by addressing the issues of unemployment, poverty and varied disparities. Industry, policy makers and institutions have to join hands in erecting a conducive ecosystem for MSME growth. EDII has been working closely with the state and central government towards uplifting the sector and bolstering its growth.”

Shri B. M. Prajapati, IAS, Additional Industries Commissioner (Extension), Industries Commissionerate, Government of Gujarat expressed, “There is a lot of scope for interventions in the MSME sector, which is the backbone of our economy. The MSME sector needs to be fortified to solve the problem of unemployment for youths. During COVID, MSMEs suffered the most. So, there are several areas that need to be worked on, to strengthen the sector and restore the faith of our youth in the potential of MSMEs. We have begun a diagnostic study to identify the gaps. Cluster wise data is mandatory to understand the sector and thus devise the right policies. So, there are efforts going in and the results will be heartening. “

Shri Shailesh Patwari, Former President, GCCI & Director, Nexus Group of Industries opined, “The need of strengthening the MSME sector is tremendous and a lot of handholding has to be facilitated. A system has to be instituted to ensure that the benefits crafted for MSMEs, reach the sector. There are several sectors which need to be promoted; for instance the MSME textile sector depends largely on exports for several items. This sector therefore holds a huge potential and must be suitably promoted. So, emphasis needs to be placed on market research, so that MSMEs are promoted in the areas where there is potential.”

Shri Akash Pawar, Deputy General Manager, Incharge SIDBI, Ahmedabad said, “SIDBI was formulated to focus of MSME growth, and with several well-meaning policies, we are seeking to encourage people, especially youth to set up MSMEs. SIDBI has adopted the mode of maximising its outreach

by following the objectives of 'Promotion', 'Finance' and Development of MSMEs.' I urge all upcoming entrepreneurs to benefits from SIDBI's ambitious and entrepreneur-friendly schemes."

Shri D. M. Jadeja, Dy. Commissioner of Industries, MSME Commissionerate, Govt. of Gujarat made a presentation focusing on various schemes of the Government of Gujarat undertaken for MSME growth. Shri Jadeja emphasized that amidst widely evolving technologies, the Government's role becomes all the more significant in ensuring that MSMEs become technologically oriented and forward looking, instead of fearing growth and closure.