

IITGN to promote entrepreneurial development at the grassroots level in its neighbourhood

Bilkul News, Ahmedabad, March 19: : Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN) is gearing up to promote entrepreneurship at the grassroots level in its neighbourhood by cultivating a social entrepreneurial ecosystem among its faculty staff and students.

To develop its outreach entrepreneurship programme, the institute today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Create India, a non profit organization that has been offering entrepreneurship programmes to disadvantaged youth and women since 1999.

The MoU was signed by Prof Sudhir K Jain, IITGN director, and Ujhas Kamat, CEO of I Create India, at IIT Gandhinagar today.

Following the MoU, I Create India and IIT Gandhinagar conducted an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) for the faculty and staff of IIT Gandhinagar, as well as Vishwakarma Government Engineering College and the Saffrony Institute of Technology. The primary objective of the EAP was to make participants aware of I Create India's mission and model of grassroots level entrepreneurship development. The participants of the EAP who choose to volunteer and become trainers will undergo further training by I Create India and they in turn will offer entrepreneurship training to underprivileged youth and women in the neighborhood.

Prof Jain said: "IIT Gandhinagar believes in being an involved member of the community and a good neighbor. We are constantly looking for ways to engage with and contribute to the local community. We are excited about our partnership with I Create India, which will help us in expanding our outreach efforts in the neighborhood by empowering street vendors and cleaning staff and small providers of goods and services with basic business and entrepreneurship skills."

Mr Kamat said: "I Create's mission is economic empowerment of the disadvantaged through entrepreneurship training. For this we has partnered with many like-minded organizations in the country. IIT Gandhinagar is the latest one. We are mighty pleased and excited with this association and hope to make a difference in the region".

The EAP programme gave participants first-hand experience of the highly participatory and interactive methodology of I Create India. Over the next few weeks, I Create India and IIT Gandhinagar will offer training to staff and faculty to conduct entrepreneurship programmes in the neighborhood.