

**Topic: India's 1st Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit**



Topic  
Introduction

Entrepreneurship on a mass scale is the key for rural development and sustainability. Development and its sustainability are possible if they are sought to be achieved through diversification in to non -farm and service sectors in a bigger way. The dispersal of economic activities with labor intensive nature present a field for all round sustainability notwithstanding the well meaning governmental interventions in the nature of subsidies, technical and marketing supports.

The major obstacles in the nature of illiteracy, inhibition, inactivity and the like that prevent rural enterprises to blossom can be effectively tackled through well designed training interventions in the rural spectrum. For instilling and promoting the entrepreneurial acumen and attitude, Entrepreneurial Development Programs (EDPs) are designed.

India's first Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit has been organized at Dantewada in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh. The summit is part of 8th Global Entrepreneurship Summit being held in India. The event was organized by National Institute of Transforming India (NITI) Aayog in partnership with Government of United States of America (USA).

The main objective of this summit is to inspire, nurture and promote the spirit of entrepreneurship in tribal youth. The summit is inaugurated by MoS Science and Technology YS Chowdhary held at Dantewada in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh. This event is an 8th Global Entrepreneurship Summit, being held in India which ensures yet another step towards tribal- sustainable and development.

Union MoS Science and Technology YS Chowdhary inaugurated the event, organized by NITI Aayog in partnership with Government of United States of America.

The summit witnessed the participation of tribal entrepreneurs from various sectors across the country and abroad. The summit has been addressed by eminent speakers from NITI Aayog, health and agri-pharma sectors.

The speakers emphasized the importance of forest produce in generating livelihood opportunities for tribals.

The District Collector, Saurabh Kumar emphasized the importance of forest produce in generating livelihood opportunities for tribals. While, IG Bastar range, Vivekananda has shared his experience in the first Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit at Dantewada. He has spoken about the better opportunities for investments in the forest economy.

Dantewada is known for the forest produce and especially for the millets, is hosting India's first Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit.

The tribal entrepreneurship summit will see the participation of tribal entrepreneurs from various sectors across the country and abroad.

The summit will be addressed by eminent speakers like Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog; Y S Chowdhary, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and Dr M S Swaminathan, Father of Green Revolution alongside the gracious presence of Saurabh Kumar, District Collector, Dantewada. The summit will also witness dignitaries from health and agri-pharma sectors like Ramanathan Ramanan, Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog; Tenzing Bodoza, owner of the Bodosa Farms in Assam; Rohit Pillai, Director, Rural Caravan; Nagaraja Prakasam, Founder Chairman, Native Angels Network (NAN); Shakeb Nabi, Country Director for Christian Aid in Bangladesh and Rashmi Tiwari, Founder and Director of Aahan Tribal Foundation of India.

The summit is organised to address the problems of the tribal community such as poverty, malnutrition, low literacy and poor health. With the motive to inspire, nurture and promote the spirit of entrepreneurship, this summit ensures yet another mammoth step towards tribal-centric sustainable and inclusive development.

Excited to host the first edition of this summit, Saurabh Kumar, District Collector, Dantewada said, “We are grateful to the Government of India for choosing Dantewada for this particular summit. I believe that problems of the tribal community can be solved when inspired individuals challenge the status quo with their entrepreneurial zeal and spirit of innovation and develop solutions building on the core strengths of the tribal regions. This summit not only provides a platform to these individuals but also addresses the issues faced by the tribal community in pragmatic and progressive ways.”

The tribal regions in India are bestowed with the wealth of natural resources like forest and minerals and traditional knowledge that the tribal communities possess about the natural eco-system, medicinal plants, forest produce, handicrafts and agriculture. This summit aims to acknowledge the potentiality of these natural resources in improving the livelihood of the tribal community.

The Cabinet had approved the “Stand Up India Scheme” to promote entrepreneurship among Scheduled Caste/Schedule Tribe and Women in 2016.

The Scheme provided for composite loans by banks between Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 100 lakh, inclusive of working capital component for setting up a new enterprise. These loans would be eligible for refinance and credit guarantee cover.

**Read further:**

<https://in.usembassy.gov/global-entrepreneurship-summit-2017-held-hyderabad-november-28-30-3>

<https://www.ges2017.org/>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2017/nov/15/first-global-tribal-entrepreneurship-summit-nations-tribal-summit-focuses-on-boosting-entrep-1701630.html>