

**Press Release**

**Empowering Entrepreneurs: IIM Jammu Inaugurates ninth batch of Capacity Building Program in Collaboration with DICCI under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Govt. of India**

**Jammu, Aug 12, 2024** – The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICCI), under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, commenced the Ninth batch of the Capacity Building Program on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) on 12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024 at Jagti Campus heralding a new chapter in entrepreneurial empowerment. The ninth batch comprised of 34 participants from various parts of the country ranging including individuals from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Among the notable attendees for the inaugural ceremony were Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Small Business Development Units (SBDU), Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Program Director, IIM Jammu, and Dr. Jaganth.G, Program Director, IIM Jammu.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, acknowledged the invaluable support from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Govt of India, DICCI, and the Dept. of Skill Development, J & K, Govt. of J & K. He explained that the program's primary objectives are to create and scale businesses, generate job opportunities, and encouraged the participants to actively engage with peers, identify challenges, and discuss value chain enhancements with experts at IIM Jammu.

Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Small Business Development, IIM Jammu, provided an insightful overview of the program, highlighting the achievements of previous initiatives. He reiterated IIM Jammu's unwavering commitment to fostering a healthy business ecosystem in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The inaugural session featured brief introductions from the participants, offering insights into their backgrounds and aspirations, which enriched the diverse tapestry of the program. Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Program Director, IIM Jammu, delivered the vote of thanks and provided a brief overview of the upcoming sessions lined up for the participants.

Present on the occasion were Dr. Naren Karunakaran, Consultant, SBDU, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer, IIM Jammu. The ceremony concluded with the rendition of the national anthem, symbolizing unity and collective aspirations. The event was coordinated by the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) Team at IIM Jammu.

The Capacity Building Program on Small Business Development Units by IIM Jammu sets the stage for transformative growth, empowering aspiring and existing entrepreneurs to realize their dreams and contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the nation.

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**Glimpses from the Inaugural Program-Ninth Batch of Capacity Building Program in Collaboration DICCI under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Govt. of India-12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024**





















