

**Press Release**

**IIM Jammu's second batch of the Training of Trainers (ToT) program culminates in a grand valedictory ceremony**

**Jammu, Aug 9, 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 and Industry (DICCII) and under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, successfully concluded a five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) from 05<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024 with a grand valedictory ceremony. The valedictory ceremony took place at IIM Jammu's Jagti Campus on 09<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024.

The primary objective of the ToT programme is to equip trainers from various proposed SBDUs at Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and Government Polytechnics with the necessary skills and knowledge to train local entrepreneurs. These SBDUs will serve as district hubs, fostering entrepreneurship and skill development at the grassroots level. The program consists of 22 participants from different ITIs and polytechnics.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, and Program Director, ToT, SBDU, highlighted that the Training of Trainers was a foundational course for the Small Business Development Units (SBDU). He stressed the importance of building a robust ecosystem in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and urged the promotion of this initiative across Government Polytechnics and ITIs. The goal is to establish 22 SBDU Units in these regions, with a focus on supporting the upcoming Hackathon and Capacity Building Programs under the SBDU of IIM Jammu.

Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Small Business Development Units, IIM Jammu, emphasized the need to cultivate entrepreneurship by creating a healthy ecosystem for budding entrepreneurs. He highlighted the importance of providing mentoring and guidance and called for mobilization support from current participants for the upcoming Hackathon and Capacity Building Program to foster a sustainable ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Dr. Niti Shekhar, Program Director, ToT, SBDU, IIM Jammu expressed her desire to see many success stories emerging from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Sudershan Kumar, JKAS, Director of Skill Development, Government of Jammu and Kashmir on 05<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024. The participants The valedictory ceremony featured the distribution of certificates, a group photography session with Director, IIM Jammu, and the rendition of the national anthem, symbolizing unity and collective aspirations. The event was coordinated by the Small Business Development Unit Team, IIM Jammu. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Niti Shekhar, Program Director, SBDU, IIM Jammu. Present on the occasion were, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer, IIM Jammu and Shri Naren Karunakaran, Consultant, SBDU, IIM Jammu, Shri Shahid Jibran, Project Manager, SBDU, IIM Jammu along with other team members of SBDU, IIM Jammu.

The Training of Trainers programme aims to prepare participants to establish and run SBDU centres effectively in their respective ITIs and Government Polytechnics. By the end of the five-day training, participants will be well-equipped to impart training to local entrepreneurs, thereby contributing to the overall goal of skill development and entrepreneurship promotion in their districts.

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## Glimpses from the Valedictory Ceremony for Training of Trainers (ToT) on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs)



































