

MSME DFO Srinagar in Collaboration with CIED-IUST Foundation Inaugurates Six-Week Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme

October 6, 2026: The Branch MSME Development & Facilitation Office (DFO), Srinagar, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, in collaboration with CIED-IUST Foundation, inaugurated a Six-Week Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) at the IUST Innovation Campus.

The programme, being conducted from October 06 to November 14, 2026, aims to strengthen entrepreneurial capabilities among startups and aspiring entrepreneurs by equipping participants with essential knowledge, practical skills and an understanding of various aspects of entrepreneurship and enterprise development.

The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, in the presence of Prof. Parvez A. Mir, CEO, CIED-IUST Foundation, Mr. Saheel Alaqband, Assistant Director, MSME DFO Srinagar, Mr. Altaf Hussain Shalla, Principal, Govt. Polytechnic College Pulwama, members from MSME DFO Srinagar, esteemed members of CIED-IUST Foundation, entrepreneurs and a large group of students.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir emphasised the importance of the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) in equipping participants with the knowledge, skills and practical exposure necessary for successful entrepreneurship and enterprise development. He encouraged the participants to make effective use of the mentoring, learning and practical exposure opportunities available throughout the six-week programme.

Prof. Parvez A. Mir highlighted the importance of structured skill development and entrepreneurial learning in enabling young people and emerging startups to transform innovative ideas into sustainable ventures.

Mr. Saheel Alaqband apprised the participants that the ESDP has been designed to provide comprehensive exposure to entrepreneurship, business development, enterprise management, market understanding, financial awareness, innovation and other essential aspects required for establishing, managing and scaling successful enterprises.

Mr. Syed Abdul Basit Andrabi, Assistant Manager CIED, delivered the vote of thanks and expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, officials, resource persons, participants and all stakeholders for their support and contribution towards the successful commencement of the programme.