



"Decentralization, the Way Out": Kerala Enterprise Development Report released

Institute of Small Enterprises and Development (ISED) unveiled a complete story of Kerala's track record on enterprise and entrepreneurship today. Kerala Enterprise Development Report was formally released by Dr.M.P.Sukumaran Nair, Chairman,RIAB. The event was planned by the Institute in order to mark the opening of the China Jubilee celebrations of the Institute's Knowledge platform, 'ISED Small Enterprise Observatory'(ISED-SEO). Dr.Christie Fernandez,Chairman,KSIDC, declared the celebrations open.

The Report, sponsored by the State Industries and Commerce Department, jointly with the KSIDC, belongs to the Regional Enterprise Development Audit(REDa) programme of the Institute. The Report makes a stock- taking of Kerala's achievements and concerns, especially against the rather difficult picture of the State's economy, says Dr. P.M. Mathew, Director of the Institute.

Kerala's density of self-employment is 29, as against 51, at the national level. This gives a rather disturbing picture of entrepreneurial spirit getting dried up, against the accelerated choice of wage employment within and abroad by Keralites. Unless the emerging pattern of employment in the State is closely monitored and corrective action taken immediately, Kerala, by all probability, is likely to turn into a complete 'rentier economy' in the near future, says the ISED press note.

The event, held at Hotel Presidency, Paramara Road Cochin, also marked a Technical Session on "Advancing Knowledge Economy : Evidence Base for Enterprise, Entrepreneurship Development and Livelihoods Promotion".To be presided over by Shri. Christy Fernandez, Chairman, KSIDC, and former Secretary to the President of India, experts from the State Planning Board, Government departments, Financial Sector, and industry will spoke on issues of Gender, Enterprise, Industry, Public Sector, Labour Market, Urban Development, Rural Development , etc. with focus on their data base.

ISED Small Enterprises Observatory(ISED-SEO), the unique national level knowledge hub, housed at the Institute of Small Enterprises and Development (ISED), kicked off its China Jubilee Celebrations on Tuesday. Dr.Christie Fernandez, Chairman, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation(KSIDC) inaugurated the celebrations. The speakers included, Dr.M.P.Sukumaran Nair, Chairman RIAB,P.V.Velayudhan, Director , MSME Development Institute, Dr.M.K.Sukumaran Nair, former Head, Department of Economics, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

The ISED Observatory is a unique knowledge hub on enterprise and entrepreneurship that provides a solid evidence base for policy and practice relating to enterprise development in the country, says ISED Director and Senior Fellow, Dr. P.M. Mathew. 'Enterprise Observatory' is a state- of- the art concept at the international level today. However, the ISED Observatory is a peculiar platform tailored to the Indian conditions, says an ISED Press release. It provides a regular interface for enterprise promotion, through activities, such as national and regional reporting, a regular national communication programme having its spread in approximately twenty centres of the country, and advisory services for governments, financial institutions , and promotional agencies.