

Plenary Session

Systems Innovations for entrepreneurship led job creation

Background

The session placed emphasis on the need for innovative solutions to accelerate enterprise solutions for large-scale impact on economic growth and social well-being in local economies. Speakers from diverse affiliations, including Government and Social Entrepreneurship set the tone for discussion on the processes of dialogue, knowledge sharing and collaboration; and identified possible synergies among stakeholders through systemic approaches to job creation. **Zeenat Niazi, Vice President, Development Alternatives** opened the floor for deliberations on the role systems innovation can across all sectors of the economy (Public, Private (including social enterprise), non-profit and informal sectors) for entrepreneurship led job creation.

Proceedings



The session started with **Shri B.H. Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary-ARI, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises** sharing his thoughts on the range of initiatives that are currently being rolled out by the Government in enterprise development eco-system. He shared information on schemes promoted by the government to facilitate job creation – the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), the National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) and the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). One of the several noteworthy points made, was about the new way the Government is looking at job creation in the country – the measurement of cost of per capita employment and the

ratio of entrepreneurship to job generation. A study done to evaluate the work done under the PMEGP scheme revealed that a total of 4.5 lakh microenterprises have been set up across India and the average employment generated is 7.62 per microenterprise. He also spoke about the production of yarn through solar powered charkha, and the vision to create 20-lakhe employment in the next 5 years as a result of the innovation. He concluded by emphasising on the need for favourable partnerships with key stakeholders to ensure benefits to last mile stakeholders.

Mr. Rohtash Mal, Chairman and MD, EM3 Agriservices shared thoughts on his experience of harnessing the power of information technology and mobile telecom services for delivering productivity on the soil, price discovery and market mechanisms. He discussed about how digital data management is enabling greater land productivity, measuring diesel usage by farm machines and making agriculture climate proof. He talked about various initiatives being undertaken across the globe, including the drone policy introduced by the Indian government. In his words, “The need of the hour is to look at the nature of jobs created and the output generated per job. There is shift in the kind of jobs in agriculture, from being drudgery filled human labour to machines. India requires 3 million farm machine operators and not drivers”. He concluded by making an appeal to the audience to reimagine the basic level of job creation in agriculture as mechanisation. There is a need to understand the consequences of digitisation and to empower the farmer to be able to make this transition.



Mr. Roger Warnock, Program Lead Ireland, The Young Foundation shared his experience of working with the youth through his five year initiative called ‘Amplify’ to support people in Northern Ireland to take action together, to create fairer communities where everyone can thrive. It works across Northern Ireland with a main focus in Belfast, Derry/Londonderry and Enniskillen. He focussed on the importance of treading lightly and listening deeply to understand what the community wants instead of what we expect them to do. He talked about how different actors – businesses, government, organisations and people constitute a community and the need to find shared narratives and co-create micro-movements. He also discussed about the ‘Co-creation toolkit’ that enables communities to come together and co-create solutions by means of empathy

mapping and trust building. He emphasised on the need for community cohesion and micro-movements creating a ripple effect within communities, leading to a larger collective impact.