

SOCIETY OF DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURS



**ANNUAL
REPORT**
— 2025

NURTURING DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
FOR BRIGHTER FUTURE

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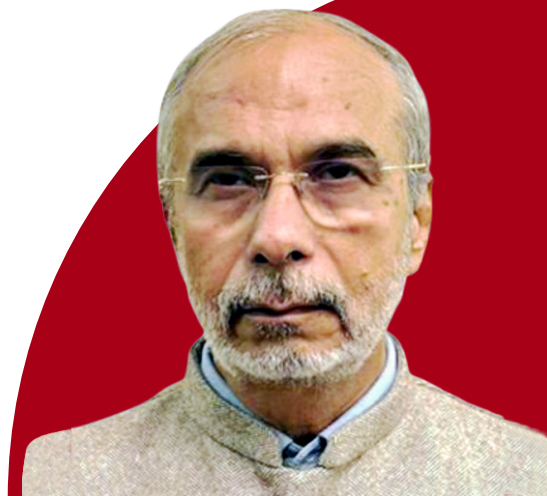
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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT



Dr. Dinesh Kumar Tyagi
Retd. IAS

Dear Members,

I am delighted to present the annual report of the Society of Digital Entrepreneurs (SODES). In our first year, we have empowered communities through digital literacy, skilling 50,000 candidates and nurturing inclusive growth.

As the digital landscape evolves, SODES remains committed to equipping entrepreneurs with resources, mentorship, and opportunities. Our mission is not just about technology access but creating pathways for skills, employment, and economic growth. Through mentorship programs, partnerships, and industry linkages, we have nurtured innovation and local entrepreneurship.

Beyond digital empowerment, we are actively addressing climate change, resource conservation, and plastic-free villages. Initiatives like nursery setup, carbon credits, and green credits are helping entrepreneurs enhance their income while contributing to sustainability.

We take immense pride in your contribution to registering 4 lakh students in KHO KHO, earning recognition from the federation. Our goal remains to promote the sport at the grassroots level and support its inclusion in the Olympics.

Looking ahead, we will continue identifying emerging opportunities in digital, environmental, skilling, and AI-driven domains to support new business growth.

A heartfelt thanks to all our members for your unwavering support and trust. Your contributions drive our mission forward.

I also extend my gratitude to the SODES team for their relentless efforts in supporting members and meeting partner expectations.

Together, let's build a digitally inclusive and sustainable future.



ABOUT SODES

Society of Digital Entrepreneurs (SODES) is a not for profit organization owned and managed by Digital Entrepreneurs working towards empowering Digital Entrepreneurs to gain access to better healthcare, education, skills and livelihood opportunities through digital literacy and digital tools.

The organization's main focus is to make technology easily accessible to the masses, to empower women, youth, persons with disabilities and the elderly through providing functional digital literacy and digital up-skilling.

The core objective of SODES is promoting digital empowerment within local communities particularly in rural, tribal, marginalized, and unreached areas. SODES constantly works for creation of digital information empowerment, digital equitable communities by providing digital access to information, knowledge and contextual capacity SODES believes that, in the digital age, access to information and digital expertise is an essential requirement and should not lead to exclusion. As a result, SODES consistently focuses on adapting and optimizing its efforts to prioritize access to digital tools and technologies.

SODES supports the development of digital entrepreneurs and provides opportunities for

them to connect with each other and to organisations and institutions working in digital and financial inclusion.

SODES is a unique society , bringing together a diverse set of individuals from across the digital ecosystem. For organisations and institutions, SODES links you to a network of Digital Entrepreneur professionals with a wealth of local knowledge, experience, and expertise across the digital ecosystem. This networking and collaboration is a catalyst for increasing innovation, uptake of digital services and achieving greater financial inclusion. Our cohesive focus allows for meaningful progress and the acceleration of financial inclusion and well-being.

SODES promotes an inclusive approach within digital finance to increase diversity, accessibility, and sustainability. We are a bridge to build cohesiveness in the Digital Entrepreneurs ecosystem and bring professionals from diverse fields together to advocate, ideate, and implement to achieve greater financial resilience and inclusive economic growth.

Building a Digital Ecosystem

Exchange of Knowledge	Catalyse Innovation	Facilitating Networking	Nurturing Entrepreneurship
			
Sharing expertise and best practices	Driving new ideas and inclusive solutions	Creating connections for businesses opportunities	Supporting growth of digital startups

SODES catalysing exchange of knowledge and industry best practices, facilitating opportunities and partnerships for members to collaborate, and promoting its member's expertise and achievements.



VISION, MISSION & GOAL

VISION

Enabling Economic Advantages through Digital Inclusion :

SODES aims for a future where Digital Inclusion and Connectivity drive significant economic advantages, nurturing Digital Entrepreneurship and paving the way for a brighter and more prosperous tomorrow.

SODES is working towards catalysing socio-economic transformation across diverse rural segments, including women, youth, farmers, and people of marginalised community. It actively supports first-generation entrepreneurs, nurtures women-led enterprises, and promotes sustainable rural micro-enterprises, fostering empowerment and economic independence for marginalized communities.

SODES Vision is aligned with UN SDG Goals and Viksit Bharat@2047 :



SODES aligns its efforts with India's ambitious vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047** and the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, working to empower rural and tribal communities across the nation by utilizing digital tools and skills. Our initiatives are centred on creating sustainable rural livelihoods, contributing to the achievement of both the SDGs and India's development goals.

Through the development of resilient, scalable, and digitally-enabled livelihood models, SODES aims to ensure that rural and marginalised India grows in harmony with the nation's broader development ambitions. Together, we aspire to create a future of dignity, opportunity, and prosperity for all.

MISSION

Empowering Digital Equity and Catalysing Progress in Information Dark Regions to Open Up a World of Opportunities.

OUR PRESENCE



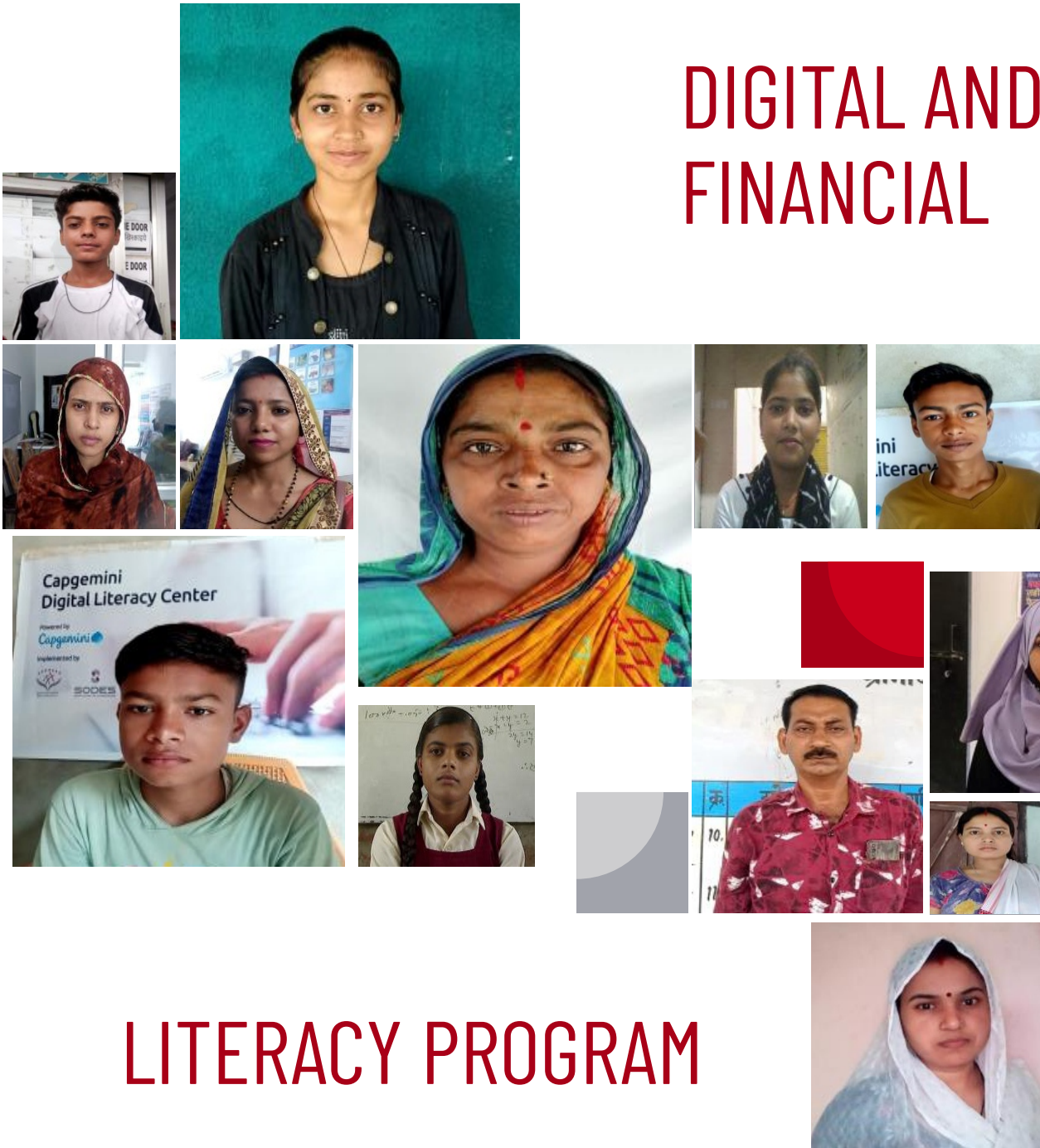
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FOOTPRINTS**

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ONGOING PROGRAMS



DIGITAL AND FINANCIAL



LITERACY PROGRAM



DIGITAL & FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM

Digital and financial literacy are crucial in today's interconnected world. Digital literacy empowers individuals to navigate and utilize digital technologies effectively. As our lives become increasingly digital, understanding how to use digital tools, assess information online, and protect oneself in the digital space is vital.

Financial literacy, on the other hand, equips individuals with the knowledge and skills to manage their finances wisely. It includes understanding budgeting, investing, debt management, and overall financial decision-making. Financially literate individuals are better positioned to make informed choices about savings, investments, and retirement planning.

Together, digital and financial literacy contribute to overall empowerment, enabling individuals to participate actively in the modern economy, make informed financial decisions, and safeguard themselves in the digital age. These skills are essential for personal growth, economic stability, and navigating the complexities of the contemporary world.

WHAT SODES DID IN 2024–25

SODES worked with Capgemini India and AADHAAR to run Digital & Financial training programme to teach these skills to people across India. This was called the Capgemini Digital & Financial Literacy Programme.

The programme provided free training to people between the ages of 16 and 60 years, aiming to improve financial inclusion and boost digital confidence, especially among underprivileged communities.

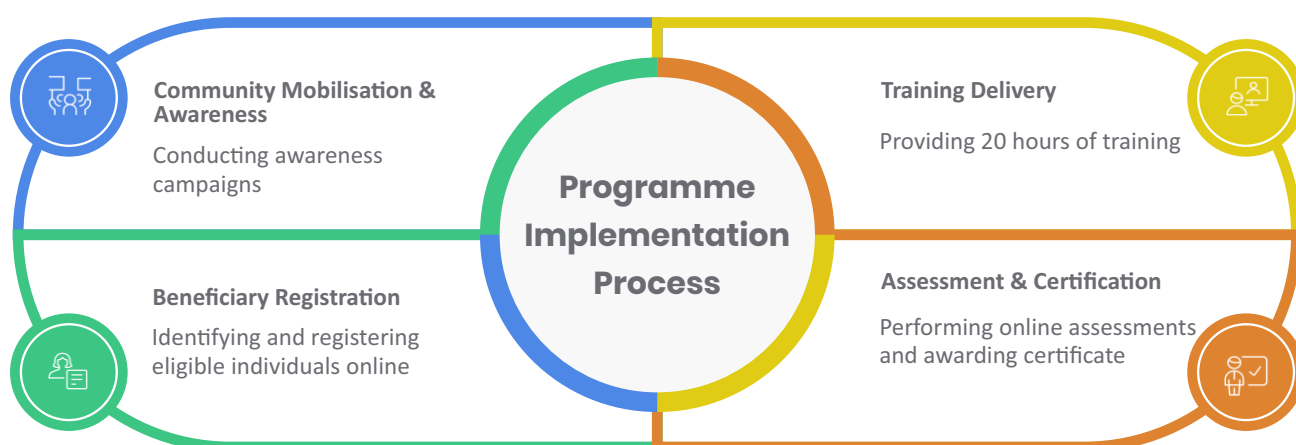
Through this initiative, participants learned how to:

- 01 Use smartphones, computers, and the internet safely
- 02 Make digital payments and use online banking.
- 03 Plan their savings and manage daily expenses.
- 04 Apply for Government schemes and services online

The training empowered thousands of individuals to handle money wisely and use digital tools in their everyday lives.

PROGRAMME GOALS

- 01 To provide Digital & Financial Literacy training to individuals across India.
- 02 To enhance financial inclusion and digital capabilities among marginalized and underprivileged communities.
- 03 To conduct awareness and mobilization campaigns for maximum outreach.
- 04 To provide training and certification free of cost to beneficiaries



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



65,361
Individuals Trained



42,000
Individuals Certified

Gender-wise Distribution



33.6%
Male Certified



66.4%
Female Certified

Age Group-wise Distribution

14,768
16-25 years

10,058
26-35 years

9,271
36-45 years

7,902
46-60 years

DIGITAL AND FINANCIAL LITERACY CENTRES



SODES DFL Centre
Mothuka Government School, Bansur - Rajasthan

SODES DFL Centre
Bansur - Rajasthan



SODES DFL Centre
Karauli - Rajasthan



SODES DFL Centre
Rangareddy, Telangana

SODES DFL Centre
Rangareddy, Telangana



Rangareddy, Telangana, India
7h6p+r34, Telangana 501510, India, Rangareddy, Telangana
501510, India
Lat 17.262036° Long 78.585158°
08/07/2025 01:10 PM GMT +05:30



SODES DFL Centre
Rangareddy, Telangana

SODES: DIGITAL LITERACY THROUGH MOBILE VAN

SODES, in partnership with NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation) and Learning Links Foundation, is implementing a Digital Literacy Awareness Programme in the Ujjain district of Madhya Pradesh.

To ensure access to digital learning in rural and remote areas, a specially designed Solar Community Hub Mobile Van is being used for outreach.

Key Features of the Mobile Van:

- Equipped with 8 computers for hands-on learning.
- Includes an LCD TV and speakers for audio-visual sessions.
- Supported by solar power, allowing uninterrupted operation even in areas with limited electricity.

The mobile van visits different villages to raise awareness and provide basic digital literacy training. The focus is on helping community members—especially women and youth learn how to use computers, the internet, digital financial tools, and access online government services.

This initiative is helping bridge the digital gap and making digital learning accessible to everyone.





DIGITAL LIBRARY

Education is a basic human right, not just a privilege. It has the power to change lives, especially for those who are economically and socially disadvantaged. Quality education helps people break free from poverty, improve their living conditions, and become active participants in society. International human rights laws recognize the importance of education in both personal growth and the development of communities.

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." This statement holds even more significance in the current digital age. Education now extends beyond traditional classrooms; it includes digital literacy, which is essential for navigating and succeeding in today's world. Digital literacy involves the ability to find, evaluate, use, and create digital information in an effective and ethical manner.

To bridge the digital divide and provide accessible education, SODES has partnered with Apni Pathsala to establish Digital Libraries across underserved communities. These libraries serve as inclusive learning hubs, equipping individuals—especially women and children—with essential digital skills to thrive in today's world.

Roles and Contributions of Apni Pathshala and SODES



CURRENT DIGITAL LIBRARY LOCATIONS



WHAT SODES AND APNI PATHSALA ARE DOING

To help more people get access to education and digital skills, SODES has partnered with Apni Pathsala to set up Digital Libraries in areas where resources are limited.

These libraries are safe learning spaces where people—especially women and children—can learn basic computer skills, use the internet, and improve their knowledge.

How It's Changing Lives



Together, SODES and Apni Pathsala are making sure that education and digital knowledge reach everyone, so that no one is left behind.



SODES DIGITAL LIBRARY



LEGAL CONSULTANCY

At SODES, we believe that everyone has the right to legal help—no matter their background or financial situation. Many people, especially from poor or underprivileged communities, avoid seeking legal advice because they are afraid, unaware of their rights, or cannot afford a lawyer. We want to change that.

To help make justice accessible for all, SODES offers Free Online Legal Consultancy Sessions. These sessions are completely free and help people understand their legal rights, get expert advice, and take the right steps to protect themselves.

WHY FREE LEGAL CONSULTANCY IS ESSENTIAL

Millions of people in India face legal issues every day but cannot access help due to lack of awareness, high legal costs, and limited access to lawyers especially in rural and marginalized communities.

Low Legal Awareness:

Only 24% of Indians are aware of their legal rights, and many do not know how to seek legal help.

Underused Government Aid:

Though free legal aid is available through National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), only 15% of eligible people have accessed it due to lack of awareness.

High Legal Costs:

For nearly 70% of low-income households, hiring a private lawyer is unaffordable.

Judicial Delays:

With over 5 crore cases pending in Indian courts, timely legal advice can help resolve disputes before they escalate.

Access Gaps:

Most qualified lawyers are based in cities, leaving rural populations without proper legal support.

Most Affected Groups:

Women, daily wage workers, SC/ST communities, and migrants often suffer silently due to fear or social stigma.



Expert Legal Help You Can Trust

Our legal services are provided by highly experienced senior lawyers, including those who practice in the Supreme Court, and retired senior officers. They use their deep knowledge of the law to guide people through their legal problems, offering helpful advice and practical solutions.

With this initiative, SODES hopes to build a society where everyone rich or poor can get legal help when they need it. We believe that knowing your rights and getting timely legal support can prevent injustice, stop exploitation, and empower entire communities.

COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL SUPPORT IN MULTIPLE DOMAINS



Through this initiative, SODES aims to create a society where every individual has access to legal assistance without barriers. We believe that legal literacy and timely legal support can transform lives, prevent exploitation, and empower communities.

PLASTIC FREE VILLAGE



Plastic has become a regular part of our lives because it is cheap, light, and can be used in many ways. From packaging and bottles to bags and containers, it is everywhere. But while plastic is convenient, it also causes serious harm to our environment and health.

The Problem with Plastic

Plastic does not break down easily. It stays in the soil, water, and air for hundreds or even thousands of years. When not disposed of properly, plastic waste creates serious problems:

- Pollutes water bodies like rivers, ponds, and lakes by floating on the surface and blocking oxygen, harming fish and aquatic life.
- Clogs drains and sewer lines, causing flooding in villages and towns.
- Harms farmland by mixing with the soil and reducing its fertility.
- Kills animals, especially cows and stray dogs, who often eat plastic bags thinking it is food.
- Burning plastic waste in the open releases toxic gases that pollute the air and can cause lung diseases.

The Hidden Danger: Microplastics and Human Health

As large plastic items break down into tiny particles, they turn into microplastics—small pieces of plastic less than 5 mm in size. These microplastics are now found in drinking water, food, air, and even inside the human body. Studies show that microplastics:

- Enter our bodies through food, water, and air.
- Can damage organs and affect the immune system.
- May cause hormonal imbalances, increase the risk of cancer, and affect reproductive health.
- Pose serious risks to pregnant women and children, whose bodies are more sensitive.

SODES' Initiative for Plastic-Free Villages

SODES is working to reduce plastic waste and make villages clean and plastic-free. To do this, SODES is involving local people especially women, so that the whole community can take part in the solution.

With the help of the community, SODES has started Used Plastic Processing Centres (UPPC) in the Bansur block of Alwar district in Rajasthan. These centres are set up to collect, sort, and partly process plastic waste from nearby villages. SODES has received similar orders to set up UPPCs in Goalpara and Numaligarh districts of Assam. These new centres will follow the same model to collect and manage plastic waste from those areas.

Why This Matters

This initiative is important because it helps solve a big problem “plastic pollution” which harms our environment, health, and daily life. By properly collecting and managing plastic waste, we can:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ● Reduce pollution in our rivers, farms, and streets | ● Protect animals and nature |
| ● Keep villages clean and green | ● Improve public health, especially for children and women |

This effort also promotes a circular economy which means instead of throwing away plastic, we turn it into something useful again. This reduces the need to produce new plastic, which saves natural resources.

At the same time, this process creates income and job opportunities, especially for local women who are trained and involved in collecting, sorting, and managing waste. It gives them a chance to support their families while helping the environment.

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE SKILLING

SODES, is proud to be part of the SANKALP (Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion) scheme, launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) with support from the World Bank.

This scheme aims to improve the quality and reach of short-term skill training in India, with a special focus on strengthening institutions, maintaining quality standards, and including people from underprivileged communities.

Under this initiative, SODES is enabling women to learn the process of sanitary napkin manufacturing and gain essential business management skills. To ensure effective training delivery, SODES members are undergoing the Sanitary Napkin Operator Training of Trainers (ToT) program. Upon certification, their centers are being recognized by NSDC as official Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centre.

A total of 13 SODES members have been trained and certified as Sanitary Machine Master Trainers under the SANKALP scheme. These Master Trainers are now actively leading skill development initiatives in their respective regions.



Impact of the Training Centres

SODES Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres are providing practical, hands-on training that equips women to produce high-quality sanitary napkins. Beyond technical training, the program also emphasizes menstrual health and hygiene awareness.

To date, 121 women have been certified through these centers, forming a strong and growing network of skilled individuals contributing to women's empowerment and the national menstrual hygiene movement.





SODES Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres
Gurdaspur, Punjab

Gurdaspur, Punjab, India
Zafarpur, Gurdaspur, 143521, Punjab, India
Lat 32.055075, Long 75.409086
02/04/2025 12:21 PM GMT+05:30
Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera

SODES Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres
Gurdaspur, Punjab



Gurdaspur, Punjab, India
Zafarpur, Gurdaspur, 143521, Punjab, India
Lat 32.054985, Long 75.409388
02/04/2025 12:22 PM GMT+05:30
Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera



SODES Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres
Gurdaspur, Punjab

Rangareddy, Telangana, India
7h6p+r34, Telangana 501510, India, Rangareddy,
Telangana 501510, India
Lat 17.262014° Long 78.585119°
04/03/2025 12:20 PM GMT +05:30

SUSTAINABLE GREEN INITIATIVE

The Government of India has been actively promoting afforestation and green cover expansion as a crucial strategy to combat climate change. The recent initiative, “Ek Plant Maa Ke Naam”, launched by Hon. Prime Minister, aims to encourage widespread tree planting across the nation. Additionally, the Clean Plant Program (CPP) focuses on ensuring access to virus-free, high-quality planting material, ultimately increasing crop yields and improving farmers' income. The CPP also emphasizes streamlining certification processes and providing infrastructure support for nurseries to propagate clean planting materials efficiently.

Nurseries provide sustainable business opportunities and employment at the local level. To meet national requirements, at least 2.5 lakh nurseries need to be established—one at every Panchayat level generating employment for over one million individuals (at least four persons per nursery). However, India faces a shortage of skilled manpower in nursery management (Gardeners). More than one million trained gardeners are required in rural areas alone, with a similar demand in urban landscapes. Continuous skilling and training in modern nursery techniques and technologies are essential to enhance the quality and productivity of nurseries in India.





SODES' Contribution to Nursery Development and Skilling

SODES, in collaboration with the Indian Nurserymen Association, is actively working to support nursery development and skilling in India.

SODES is assisting farmers and entrepreneurs in establishing nurseries, promoting sustainable business models that contribute to local employment and ecological balance. To address the shortage of skilled manpower, SODES is providing structured training programs for gardeners, ensuring that they are equipped with the latest techniques and technologies for effective nursery management.

To achieve India's vision of enhanced green cover and economic sustainability, a structured approach to nursery development, skilled manpower training, and export facilitation is essential. Through its initiatives, SODES aims to bridge the gaps in nursery management, employment generation, and global market access, contributing to a greener and more prosperous India.



COLLABORATIONS



CSIR -India

- a) Development and deployment of Argo-waste (pine needles, lantana, Mexican devil)-based fuel-making technologies.
- b) Technology support for bio-diesel production from used cooking oil.
- c) Production of pallets and bricks from parali (crop residue) and plastic waste.



K.R. Mangalam University

- a) Education Initiatives
- b) Green Initiatives & Sustainability
- c) Capacity Building
- d) Entrepreneurship Development



RPL training

Proposal submitted to Agriculture Sector Skill council.



Shiv Nadar foundation

SODES is currently in discussion with the Shiv Nadar Foundation to explore potential collaboration in the areas of Digital Libraries and Digital & Financial Literacy programs.

FOUNDING MEMBERS



Dr Dinesh Tyagi (Retd. IAS)
President



Uttam Gupta
Secretary



Satya Prakash
Treasurer

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