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Subject: Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development

Promotional Institutions for Entrepreneurs

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Government support is a prerequisite for development of entrepreneurship among women. Government of India is promoting this cause through various schemes such as Technical Assistance, Supply of Machinery and Equipment, etc. The Department of Small-Scale Industries and Agro and Rural industries was created in 1991, in the Ministry of Industry to exclusively formulate the policy framework for promoting and developing small-scale industries in the country. The ministry of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries was bifurcated into two separate Ministries namely, Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Industries in September, 2001.

Through these institutions, Government of India is providing adequate credit facility and funds for modernization, modern management practices, advanced training facilities, marketing assistance etc. at par with the facilities available to the larger industries. Implementation of various policies and programs for providing infrastructure and support services to small enterprises is undertaken through it's attached departments such as Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), statutory bodies and other organizations such as Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), COIR Board; a public sector undertaking, National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), training institutes such as National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISIET) Hyderabad, National Institute for Entrepreneurship (NIE) Guwahati and National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBD), New Delhi.

Responding to the increasing trend of women opting for entrepreneurship, many organizations have come up with the idea of special training for women interested in setting up their own enterprise. Government has laid special emphasis on the need for conducting special entrepreneurial training programs for women to enable them to start their own ventures. For various development programmes have been implemented by the Government. Following are the major Government agencies/organizations that assist women entrepreneurs in the SME sector in India and in Gujarat.

1.2A National Level Institutions (Agencies)

1. Ministry of SSI: The ministry of SSI is the nodal agency assisting the promotion and growth of small scale industries. Various policies and programs are implemented for providing infrastructure and support services to small enterprises through the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), a public sector undertaking under the ministry.

2. Small Scale Industries Board: The SSI Board is the apex non-statutory advisory body constituted by the Government of India providing a forum for its members for interaction to facilitate co-operation and inter-institutional linkages. They also play advisory role for the government on various policy matters for the development of the sector.

3. Small Industry Development Organization (SIDO): SIDO established in 1954. It formulating, coordinating, implementing and monitoring policies and programmes for the promotion and development of the small-scale industries in the country.

The activities of SIDO relate to modern small scale industries' sector excluding those which fall with the purview of specialized Boards such as Khadi and Village Industries Commission, All India Handloom, Handicrafts, Sericulture and Coir Boards. The SIDO functions through Small Industries Service Institute (SISI), Extension Centre, Regional Testing Centre (RTC), Tool Rooms and Training centre and Production Centre.

The SIDO has 5 allied institutions namely National Small Industries Corporation, Central Institute Of Tool Design, Institute for Design of Electrical Measuring Instruments and Small Industry Extension Training Institute.

4 Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs.): The SISIs provide services such as technical consultancy, training, testing marketing, economic information service including common facility service and advisory service. It also performs job works.

Necessary assistance is being given to all women entrepreneurs who are interested in starting Small Scale Industries (SSI). This institute is the principal technical and business consultants to the SISIs and they have done creditable work in the development of SISIs. The Institute is placing great emphasis for creating entrepreneurs in the weaker section and the women of our country.

5 Regional Training Centers (RTCs):

Regional Training Centers have been set up in four metropolitan cities viz. New Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai for providing technical consultancy and testing facilities. RTCs also have eight field testing stations for providing testing services to SSI units.

6 National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) Ltd.: NSIC was established in 1955 by the Government of India to promote, aid and foster the growth of small-scale industries in the country through a blend of promotional and commercial activities. Among other things, it underwrites and guarantees loan from banks and similar institutions to small-scale units.

The corporation provides industrial finance by way of supply of machines on hire purchases to small industrial units all over the country. Presently, in India under its Marketing Assistance Programmes, the Corporation envisages not only large markets for the products of small scale industries, but also ensures availability of certain scarce indigenous as well as important raw materials and inculcation of quality control consciousness.

The NSIC through its network of SISI and Branch Institute and Extension Centers has been motivating women entrepreneurs to take up small industries of their own. Technical assistance and guidance is being provided to them on type of products and activities which could be taken up by them for gainful employment. A number of project profiles have been prepared suiting the requirements of women entrepreneurs. In addition, the entrepreneurial development training courses are being conducted exclusively for women entrepreneurs' normally covering duration of one months.

7 National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISIET): NISIET was set up as apex institute in 1960 by the Government of India with the charter of assisting in the promotion, development and modernization of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the country, mainly by creating a pro-business environment that would enable SMEs to progress towards success and prosperity.

The institute provides consultancy, training, research and education for retaining the competitive edge of SMEs in ever-changing markets. NISIET trains entrepreneurs, managers and various functionaries of the Government through its various training programmes. NISIET also undertakes research and consultancy activities for small-scale industries.

8 National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD): NIESBUD was established in 1983 by Ministry of Industry, Government of India, as an apex body for coordinating entrepreneurship and small business development activities in India.

The institute is also the Secretariat for the National Entrepreneurship Development Board, the apex body which determines policy for entrepreneurship development in the country. The Institute organises Post-Graduates Diploma in Entrepreneurship (PGDE). The Institute offers support and guidance in establishing EDP institutions at the state or even at lower level.

The Institute occasionally organizes National as well as International meets for sharing experience with the purpose to improve and modify their efforts to ensure greater success in implementing the programme for entrepreneurship development , organizes workshops and seminars on current topics.

9 National Research Development Corporation of India: The NRDCI is a Government of India enterprise, established in December, 1953 as a non-profit organization under the Companies Act, 1956. It has been specially created to develop and exploit indigenous - know-how, inventions, patents and processes emanating from all types of R & D institutions in the country.

It is realizing that economic independence of women would accelerate their improvement in the status of women. NRDCI is also promoting technologies, which are appropriate for women.

The corporation has brought out a publication which serves as a ready reference for women entrepreneurs and voluntary agencies working for the upliftment of women in India.

10 Khadi and Village Industries Commission: Khadi and Village Industries Commission created by an act of Parliament, is a statutory organization engaged in promoting and developing Khadi and Village industries for providing employment opportunities in the rural areas and thereby strengthening the rural economy.

11 National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC): This is the national corporation established by the Government of India for the economic upliftment of the people who belong to scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. Any viable project is eligible and can get assistance of 60/65 % loan with the interest of 4% annually. 20% of the project cost is contributed by Gujarat Scheduled Caste Development Corporation Ltd. and remaining 15% is contributed by the any beneficiaries included women entrepreneurs.