

## Media Release

# Savjibhai Dholakia delivers the 6<sup>th</sup> Lecture of the Dr. VG Patel Memorial Lecture Series

- *The sixth lecture in the series, was organized at the Institute on the topic **Entrepreneurs are the pillars of Nation Building***
- *National Entrepreneurship Trainer/Educator/Mentor Award was also presented on the occasion.*

**Ahmedabad, Sept 6, 2024:** Noted entrepreneur, Shri Savjibhai Dholakia, Founder & Chairman Hari Krishna Exports Pvt. Ltd., delivered the Memorial Lecture that was organised by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad.

The lecture, sixth in the series, was held at EDII campus. The Topic of the Lecture was ***Entrepreneurs are the pillars of Nation Building.***

EDII lost its founder **Padma Shri Dr. V.G. Patel** on April 4, 2019. To commemorate Dr. Patel's great work in the field of entrepreneurship, the Institute started an annual lecture series in 2019. Recognised by the entrepreneurship fraternity as the 'Pioneer of Entrepreneurship Movement,' Dr. V.G. Patel committed himself to propagate entrepreneurship within India and globally. Not only did he succeed in establishing the credibility of his belief across India, but also went on to establish the National Resource Institute, EDII, in 1983.

**Dr. Sunil Shukla**, Director General, EDII recalled Dr. Patel's exceptional contribution to the economic development of the nation by introducing and promoting the concept of entrepreneurship. He said, "Dr. Patel introduced the country to Entrepreneurship when people had no clue about its potential. Dr. Patel held on to the belief and persisted till he proved to the world that training and mentoring could create successful entrepreneurs, and that there was no truth in the fact that entrepreneurship was a privilege of only a few. Dr. Patel's contribution to the domain of entrepreneurship is unparalleled. He not just created a knowledge infrastructure but also raised the motivation of people and changed mindsets of people in favour of entrepreneurship."

Addressing the audience, **Shri Savjibhai Dholakia**, said, Addressing the audience, **Shri Savjibhai Dholakia**, said, "It is my honour to come and speak on this momentous occasion. Dr. Patel, a legendary figure, was a true visionary who not only introduced entrepreneurship to our nation but also instilled the values of independence & self-reliance through it. Only an accomplished entrepreneur could convince the sponsors in 1983 to set up an Entrepreneurship Institute. What a great achievement that was, and all that followed as a part of his work continued to create history. I think Dr. Patel's attitude and skills are a learning for today's entrepreneurs. He, in a way, sowed the seeds of Start Up India and Atmanirbhar Bharat that we talk about so proudly today. The youths who want to become entrepreneurs have to understand that hardwork and the strength to get up after every storm, is what makes entrepreneurs. If you are entering into the field to earn money alone, please stay away. Entrepreneurship is about resilience, strength of mind, countless hours of hard work, sleepless nights and a positive midset. Dr. V G Patel stood for all these

entrepreneurial values. I am glad Dr. Shukla is carrying forward the legacy. My best wishes to EDII for all their future initiatives.”

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On this occasion, the winner of the Dr. V.G. Patel National Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/Educator/Mentor 2023 was also announced.

### **About Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/Educator/Mentor**

In 2020, EDII instituted Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award for Entrepreneurship Trainer/Educator/Mentor to honor the late legendary, Dr. V. G. Patel who emphasized on the significance of instituting a cadre of entrepreneur trainer-motivators to sustain the entrepreneurship movement. Dr. Patel hailed this cadre of professionals as the backbone of the entrepreneurship development movement. This National Award recognises the outstanding contribution of a trainer/educator/mentor in propagating innovations and technology driven new enterprises. To arrive at its decision, the high-level Award Committee follows a three-tier selection process based on critical evaluation parameters and personal interview. This year 469 nominations were received. The award comprises a citation and cash prize. The Selection Committee comprised:

1	Dr. Jaimin Vasa	Chairman, Vasa Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd.	Chair
2	Dr. Sunil Shukla	Director General, EDII	Co-Chair
3	Dr. Biswajit Saha	Director (Skill Education & Training), CBSE	Member
4	Dr. Raman Gujral	Director, Dept of Projects-Corporates- EDII	Member
5	Mr. S B Sareen	Entrepreneurship Expert	Special Invitee
6	Dr. Satyajit Majumdar	Professor and Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai & Dr V G Patel Memorial Award winner 2023	Member

**The winner of 2024 is**

### **Dr. Dipak Uttamrao Tatpuje, Founder and Research Advisor, Vidyadeep Foundation, Satara, Maharashtra**

Prof. Dr. Dipak Tatpuje has over 40 years of experience in the field of entrepreneurial education & training, project consulting, and research projects at national and international levels. He completed more than 17 projects with national and international organizations like UNESCO-Bangkok, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology, and Mathematics Educators (CASTME-Asia), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. He founded VidyaDeep Foundation in November 2004. He is also a serial social entrepreneur who founded two

Satara based NGOs and two credit cooperative societies to help the first generation of entrepreneurs during 1990 to 2010. Dr. Tatpuje developed Model of career counselling with a tool, "7 Point Career Aptitude Test" for age group of 15 to 17. He is Google Certified Innovator, Microsoft Innovative Educator-Trainer, Google Applied Skills Ambassador, & Expert advisor of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab & is associated with UNOSSC, Miller Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, TREC-STEP, and other organisations. He has been actively involved as a Business Incubator Manager in India Innovation Growth Program (IIGP-2014) of Stanford University, NSTEDB, DST, Govt. of India, and Indo-US Science and Technology Forum. Dr. Tatpuje has developed a number of technology integrated learning materials funded by international organizations with his expertise in educational technology and instructional design. Also an author, a columnist, Dr. Tatpuje is recipient of prestigious awards

**Certificate of Appreciation** were awarded to:

1. **Dr. Vijayashree Lakshman**, Head - Innovations, Chief Co-Ordinator-NewGen IEDC, BNM Institute of Technology, Bangalore

Dr. Lakshman has Harvard certification in Innovation & Design Thinking. She has designed Courses and executed across Karnataka. Recipient of 7 Design Patents and 1 copyright grant, she has also created 5 Centers of Excellence inside the BNMIT campus and has adopted a village to inculcate design thinking with social concerns.

2. **Dr. Abhishek Pareek**, Chief Executive Officer, Atal Incubation Centre, Banasthali Vidyapith, Rajasthan

Dr. Abhishek Pareek has over 17 years of experience in Risk Management & Working Capital Finance across sectors/geographies, giving him a good understanding of the needs and requirements of businesses across sectors. He has supported several businesses, ensuring that they become sustainable.

### **About Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII)**

The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad was set up in 1983 as an autonomous and not-for-profit Institute with support of apex financial institutions - the IDBI Bank Ltd., IFCI Ltd., ICICI Bank Ltd. and State Bank of India (SBI). The Government of Gujarat pledged twenty-three acres of land on which stands the majestic and sprawling EDII Campus. EDII has been recognized as the CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India. The Institute has also been positioned in

the band of 11-50 under Innovation Category by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India & been listed as the Institute of National Importance by Education Department, Govt. of Gujarat. For more information visit: [www.ediindia.org](http://www.ediindia.org)

The institute trains 80,000 to 1,00,000 potential entrepreneurs annually across the country and reaches out to more than 25000 MSMEs nationally.