

Role of entre (Agri) preneurship development in bringing second green revolution in eastern India

A farmer does not become an entrepreneur only by adopting a new agricultural technology but he becomes an entrepreneur only when he comes to be an operator of a farm business.

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Background

With the advent of economic liberalization and industrial globalization in the regime of world trade during 1991 and the boom of information technology (IT) in India in the 90's; there was a momentum in Indian industry that brought a paradigm change in the form of entrepreneurship in the societal trade. Initially, the response of Indian society and the government towards entrepreneurship was not as encouraging as global trend. As per the remarks of the critics though Indian society has enormous entrepreneurial capacity, due to their large scale aversion towards risk-taking and usual proclivity to secured and assured long-term employment like government jobs, the potential of entrepreneurship has not been truly realized. According to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Report 2007, 8.5 per cent of India's working population is in the early stages of entrepreneurial activity, while its overall entrepreneurial activity is at 13.9 per cent. India has ranked second among all nations in Total Entrepreneurship Activity (TEA) as per the last Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) survey conducted specifically for India in 2002. It was highest among 28 countries in necessity based entrepreneurship.

With the increasing significance and visible impact of entrepreneurship in wealth-creation and employment-generation, National Knowledge Commission (NKC), 2008 considers it critical to India's growth and development. In recent times, the domain of Entrepreneurship in India has been intensified, particularly with the rise in knowledge-intensive services. New entrepreneurs who do not belong to traditional business communities have begun to emerge in large numbers. Systematic attempts have been initiated after economic liberalization to make finance more easily accessible to entrepreneurs and other institutional support to 'technopreneurs' which have helped improve the climate for entrepreneurship. A number of entrepreneurial initiatives have been taken at the central and state levels to improve the ease of doing business.

Central and state level initiatives have also been taken to create the climate of entrepreneurship in rural areas in general and agriculture in particular. Experts coined the term 'Agripreneur' for those entrepreneurs who undertake entrepreneurial activities in agriculture. It may be noted that by mere adopting technologies a farmer/farmwomen cannot be called an Agripreneur. He or she needs to become operator of agri-business demonstrating his/her entrepreneurial qualities such as risk taking, innovativeness, hope of success, persuability, manageability, self-confidence, knowledgeability, persistence, use of feedback, innovativeness, achievement motivation and locus of control.