

Gender and Enterprise: Evidences from the Field

ISED Discussion Paper



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**Gender and Enterprise:
Evidences from the Field**

Gender and Enterprise: Evidences from the Field

by

ISED Small Enterprise Observatory

jointly with

ISED Centre for Social Development

Institute of Small Enterprises & Development

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PREFACE

Understanding the macro level phenomena relating to gender, enterprise, and finance, is difficult unless there is a close understanding of the micro level processes. Unlike the general analysis of entrepreneurship, and the motivational factors behind that, the factors influencing women entrepreneurship are distinct. Since gender is a biological factor, and family, as a factor influencing division of labour, it is important that these two aspects are factored into the analysis of entrepreneurial behavior. A micro level analysis is, therefore, crucial. The attempt in the following pages is to make such an analysis.

Our discussion in the preceding pages lead us to the need for a paradigm shift in entrepreneurship development initiatives, in the country. The conventional model of 'infrastructure-finance-marketing model' cannot contribute much to entrepreneurship development. In the modern environment, the imperatives lie releasing and enhancing the hidden capabilities, and providing a suitable ecosystem where knowledge has a significant role. After all, in a knowledge economy, it is knowledge and capabilities that can empower women, not simply registration, infrastructure and credit facility.

Kochi
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