

Press Release

ESDP Scheme Inaugurated at Jamia Millia Islamia

New Delhi, February 11, 2026

The Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP) Scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, was inaugurated on February 9, 2026, by Prof. Mazhar Asif, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, at the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE).

Under the leadership of Prof. Mazhar Asif, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Jamia Millia Islamia, in collaboration with the Ministry of MSME, is organising a series of Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAPs), Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programmes (ESDPs), Management Development Programmes (MDPs), Advanced ESDP, and Advanced MDP.

These programmes aim to promote entrepreneurship, innovation, self-employment, and enterprise creation among students, youth, women, SC/ST, differently-abled persons, ex-servicemen, and aspiring entrepreneurs, in line with the objectives of the Ministry of MSME.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Mazhar Asif highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship education in fostering innovation, inclusive growth, and transforming job seekers into job creators. He reaffirmed Jamia Millia Islamia's commitment to skill development, innovation, and the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, and appreciated CIE's role in strengthening the startup and MSME ecosystem.

Following the Vice Chancellor's address, Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, extended his best wishes on the inauguration of the scheme and emphasized that skills, entrepreneurship, and innovation are key drivers of sustainable economic growth and nation building. He noted that such initiatives enhance employability and empower youth to become innovators and entrepreneurs.

Prof. Mohammad Sharif, Dean, Faculty of Engineering & Technology, stressed the need to integrate technical education with entrepreneurship and encouraged innovation-led, technology-driven enterprises.

Prof. Simi Malhotra, Professor In-Charge, CIE, outlined CIE's mission and highlighted its role in providing training, mentorship, incubation support, and exposure to government schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Rihan Khan Suri, Director, CIE, stated that the programmes are designed to build entrepreneurial and managerial capabilities through structured training, expert mentoring, and practical exposure, enabling participants to establish sustainable enterprises.

The EAPs will cover diverse themes including entrepreneurship fundamentals, women and youth entrepreneurship, digital economy, green and sustainable businesses, food processing and bakery, MSME schemes, Startup India, innovation, financial literacy, and emerging technologies.

The MDPs will focus on digital business growth, marketing and branding, financial management, and leadership in MSMEs.

The ESDPs will offer hands-on training in bakery entrepreneurship, computer hardware and networking, digital entrepreneurship, and digital marketing, along with Advanced ESDP on Women-Led Business Acceleration and Advanced MDP on Sustainability and Green Business Practices.

The initiative reaffirms Jamia Millia Islamia's commitment to entrepreneurship education and capacity building, aligned with the goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat and the Ministry of MSME, Government of India.

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