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CIED-IUST Foundation, Holds MSME Cluster Outreach Program on J&K Industrial and Startup Policy

Awantipora, November 13: CIED – IUST Foundation, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) in partnership with the Small Industries and Development Bank of India (SIDBI), organized an MSME Cluster Outreach Program and brainstorming session focused on the J&K Industrial and Startup Policy.

The program witnessed participation from various industry leaders, including delegations from the PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHDCCI), Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industries (KCCI), Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK), Industrial Association Laspipora (IAL), Industrial Association Khonmoh (IAK), Cricket Bat Manufacturing Association of Kashmir (CBMAK) and the Bakery Association of Kashmir (BAK), among others. The program was chaired by Sh. Balbir Singh, General Manager and Head of SIDBI's Chandigarh region, with expert insights provided by panellists including Prof. Ashok Aima, Chair Professor at MIET Jammu; Mr. Adil Ahsan, AGM of SIDBI's Srinagar XBO; Er. S. P. Qalander, Industry Consultant; and Prof. Parvez A. Mir, CEO of CIED – IUST Foundation.

Mr. Ahsan outlined SIDBI's schemes for MSME development and their potential benefits for regional industries. Er. Qalander critically evaluated the existing industry policy, suggesting improvements for greater inclusivity. Prof. Aima stressed the importance of introducing entrepreneurship education at the high school level to nurture young talent. Sh. Singh highlighted SIDBI's contributions to entrepreneurship and tourism in J&K and reaffirmed its commitment to advancing industrial upskilling initiatives.

The event concluded with a Q&A session, where participants discussed key challenges and opportunities. Prof. Mir expressed gratitude to SIDBI for its collaboration and optimism for future initiatives, such as the Diploma in STEM, aimed at fostering innovation and skill development.

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