





Two-Day National Seminar "Breaking Barriers and Building Futures: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in MSMEs for Vision Viksit Bharat 2047" Date: 18–19 July 2025 (Hybrid Mode)

The ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), IFHE Hyderabad, in collaboration with the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad, and the Central University of Andhra Pradesh, successfully organized a two-day national seminar titled "Breaking Barriers and Building Futures: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in MSMEs for Vision Viksit Bharat 2047" on 18–19 July 2025 at the CESS campus. Sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the seminar brought together a wide range of stakeholders including academicians, policymakers, research scholars, and grassroots women entrepreneurs.

The inaugural session set the tone for the seminar with thought-provoking addresses by distinguished guests, including Prof. E. Revathi, Director, CESS, Dr. Y. Kesava Reddy, Associate Professor, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Prof. L. S. Ganesh, Vice Chancellor, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Prof. C. Sheela Reddy, Registrar, Central University of AP, and Dr. G. Chinna Reddy, Vice Chairman, Telangana State Planning Board. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Eranti Vijaya, Director of the School of Enterprise Management at the National Institute for MSME, who highlighted the urgent need to enhance institutional support and market access for women-led MSMEs. This was followed by a distinguished lecture by Mr. B. Sreedhar, Assistant Director at MSME–DI Telangana, who emphasized the growing policy thrust on women's participation in micro and small enterprises, especially in the southern region. The conference was graced by Dr C S Shylajan, Director, ICFAI School of Social Sciences, Dr Koti Reddy, Dean, ICFAI School of Social Sciences, Dr S Vijayalakshmi, Registrar, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Dr Sanjay Fuloria, Director, Centre for Distance and Online Education,

IFHE, Dr Sushanta Mahapatra, Associate Professor, ICFAI School of Social Sciences and Dr Neeraj Kumar, Assistant Professor, ICFAI School of Social Sciences. Research scholars Ms Juhi Singh and Mrs Aruna Raju from ICFAI School of Social Sciences and Ms Swati Chirkuri from ICFAI Business School Hyderabad attended the conference.

The seminar featured three high-level panel discussions focusing on institutional mechanisms, policy reforms, and tapping local economies to strengthen rural MSMEs. These were complemented by technical sessions where 39 selected research papers were presented by scholars from across India. Topics included formalization of MSMEs, digital and financial inclusion, credit access, gender-based policy assessment, and grassroots innovations in women-led enterprises. Particularly impactful was the "Stakeholders' Voice" segment, where rural women entrepreneurs from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh shared their on-the-ground experiences, challenges, and success stories. Their presence and participation gave the seminar a truly inclusive and action-oriented character.

Across two days, the seminar provided a platform for meaningful academic exchange and practitioner-driven insights. It reinforced the role of MSMEs in shaping India's development and emphasized that empowering women entrepreneurs is critical to achieving the vision of a developed and inclusive nation by 2047. The event concluded with a valedictory session that summarized key insights and acknowledged the collective contributions of all participants.

Photographs and video highlights from the inaugural, panel, and technical sessions are available below, offering a glimpse into the vibrant discussions and inspiring voices that defined the seminar.



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Inaugural Session





ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Technical Session



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Technical Session



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Panel discussion



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Stakeholder's Voice



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Stakeholder's Voice



ICSSR National Conference: Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Valedictory Session

