

## Report on

### The International Conference on Business Incubation: “Creating an Innovation Economy through Entrepreneurs and Incubation”,

held during January 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at Chennai

The Indian Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park and Business Incubators Association (ISBA), and Tiruchirapalli Regional Engineering College – Science & Technology Entrepreneurs Park (TREC-STEP) have jointly organized the “International Conference on Business Incubation: Creating an Innovation Economy through Entrepreneurs and Incubation”, from January 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, at Chennai.



**Shri Dr. K. Ponmudy**, Honourable Minister for Higher Education, Government of Tamilnadu is delivering the valedictory address

Nearly 300 + participants from all over India and from many other countries across the world participated in this great global event, which has proved to be a great learning and networking platform for promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The conference received excellent pre-conference reviews from the world top experts in the field of innovation and incubation. The participants mainly consisted of major global innovation players such as incubator managers, scientists, academicians, policy makers, and major development agencies, from 30 countries. Some of the countries represented in the conference include Australia, France, Greece, Germany, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Mongolia, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Srilanka, Thailand, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America etc.



The International Conference generated great enthusiasm among the practicing communities in Innovation and Entrepreneurship creation, by drawing inspirational inputs from the achievements of others and also from the recognition each new effort received from peers across the world. The Indian achievements in Incubation and the dynamic eco system of India for Incubating Innovative companies were hailed as great development achievements and appreciated by the Global Incubation Community. The conference also fructified many useful global partnerships and working arrangements and expected to bring in great near-term-term dividends to the promotion of Innovation in the country by forging global alliances. The conference has been a fertile ground of learning opportunity to professionals involved in incubation and promotion of Innovation and Entrepreneurship across the world.



Major international innovation promoting organizations such as the InfoDev World Bank, **Science Innovation Network of British High Commission**, International Finance Corporation, Global Business Incubation Network, 15 Innovation and Incubation Network Associations, Euro-Office Services Members and Corporates like CISCO, Intel etc, interacted and engaged actively with participants on innovation themes. Besides this, main stream national innovation promotion organizations such as the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science and Technology, Technology Development Board, Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Software Technology Parks of India, Department of Bio-Technology, Government of Tamilnadu are key sponsors for this global event and shall also actively participated. Participation of many venture capital organizations, angel network, seed funding agencies, financial institutions and

banks again provided a more pragmatic and result focused enduring networking event. It has achieved a great degree of convergence of all the national and international organizations in incubation, innovation and enterprise development. It has also been a truly global event to calibrate global innovation, investment and incubation community.



The Event spread over 3 days had four inspiring streams - The Incubation Stream, The Innovation Stream, Venture Funding and Development stream and an International Pavilion, with over 75 renowned Incubation Experts and Policy makers, enthraling the audience with their Global experiences and expertise.

In the Incubation Stream explored the sectoral implications and impact of incubation in Bio Tech, ICT, Agro Business, Manufacturing and Rural Technology areas, besides discussing the broad them on Policy Making in Innovation. Each session had Indian and global experts in Incubation sharing their experiences and views.



In the Innovation stream various aspects, dimensions and new innovation approaches for unearthing innovation, academic partnership challenges, efforts and frame works required for developing innovation in to commercially successful ventures through Incubation, Mentoring, International Bridge Platforms etc have been discussed in detail with intense interaction between Indian and International experiences.



In the third stream of Venture funding Seed Funds for Innovation Mining, Growth Funds Sustainability issues of Incubators, Role of Private sector in Incubation and Social Entrepreneurship aspects have been explored from the undercurrents and learning from experience from the global incubation experiences and initiatives.

The international pavilion offered opportunity to the participants to learn about what is new and insights of experience sharing from countries like Greece, South Africa, Mexico, Nepal,

Iran, Malaysia, Taiwan, Italy, Srilanka, Indonesia, Libya, Ugnada besides the mainstreams players from Americas, Europe and Asia.

The four plenary sessions, Models to Marvels, Clean and Green Tech, PPP in Incubation and International Pavilion provided invaluable inputs to participants in the major issues facing Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Incubation community.



As a first in the history of the Indian Incubation Community, the ISBA Awards 2009 is being launched at the Conference to honour 11 selected incubatees and graduates from across India, for their achievements in sectors like ICT, New Materials, Bio Technology, Pharmaceuticals, Clean Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing, Rural Development, Agriculture and Healthcare awards have been given to young innovative entrepreneurs.