



National seminar on “Opportunities and Challenges for Rural Entrepreneurs

Date: 8th March 2025

Venue: Department of Biotechnology

Organized by: Department of Rural Technology and Social Science

Brief report of the event mentioning resource person(s) name, affiliation, total number of participants.

Department of Rural Technology & Social Sciences, Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh

The Department of Rural Technology and Social Sciences, Guru Ghasidas Central University, Bilaspur, organized a one-day national seminar on “*Opportunities and Challenges for Rural Entrepreneurs*” on 8 March 2025 under the “Capacity Building and Entrepreneurship Programme (CBDE)” sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. The purpose of this seminar was to develop entrepreneurial skills among students and other stakeholders so that rural development and self-employment skills can be strengthened in the future.

The inaugural session began with the arrival of the Chief Guest of the national seminar, **Prof. O. P. Agrawal**, Vice Chancellor of Jiwaji University, Gwalior, along with other esteemed dignitaries of Guru Ghasidas University such as **Prof. Amit Saxena (Acting Vice Chancellor)**, **Prof. Randeve (Acting Registrar)**, **Prof. Ratnesh Singh (Coordinator)**, **Prof. T. V. Arjunan (Co-Coordinator)**, and **Prof. Rajendra Mehta (Dean)**.

In his address, Prof. Rajendra Mehta first thanked **Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal**, Vice Chancellor of GGV, for his continuous support and motivation in organizing this seminar. The Coordinator of the seminar, **Dr. Bhaskar Chaurasia**, also expressed gratitude to Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal for his guidance and cooperation in conducting the event.

The seminar featured key speakers including **Prof. O. P. Agrawal (Gwalior, M.P.)**, **Prof. Diwakar Singh Rajput (Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar, M.P.)**, **Dr. (Mrs.) Bobby Brahme Pandey (GGV Bilaspur)**, **Dr. Anupam Tiwari (CV Raman University, Kota)**, and **Mrs. K. Monica (Manager, Bastar Pearl, Bastar)**. They shared insights with participants on the opportunities available in the rural entrepreneurial sector and the challenges faced while establishing rural enterprises.

Mrs. K. Monica discussed the successful production of pearls in a backward region like Bastar.

At the conclusion, **Dr. Bhaskar Chaurasia** provided information about the establishment and concept of the Capacity Building, Entrepreneurship, and Design Development Pro-

gramme supported by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. He emphasized that the main objective of this seminar—focused on product design and product development—is to help students develop entrepreneurship and self-employment skills along with academic learning.

A poster competition was also organized during the event, in which:

- **First Prize** was awarded to *Piyush Shukla (Biotechnology)*
- **Second Prize** to *Sakshi Gautam*
- **Third Prize** to *Ithi Gupta (Rural Technology)*

Add few photographs (Geo-tag photos if available), Browser of the event.



Signature of the Organizing Secretary/Coordinator

Member
Prof. Rajendra Mehta
Head & Dean
Dept. of Rural Tech. &
Soc. Dev., GGV, Bilaspur

Signature of HoD