

DST extends training and support to aspiring entrepreneurs

Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment Foundation (WEE) India's first of its kind initiative by IIT Delhi and Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, to strengthen women ecosystem has invited women across ages to apply for its' six months of extensive entrepreneurship mentorship programme. WEE has played a crucial role in changing the mindset of women through their innovative training methods, positive motivations and unique ideas.



WEE, IIT Delhi Women Entrepreneurs Mentorship Program

- All Indian Women entrepreneurs are eligible for the program.
- Applications are accepted at weefoundation.org
Last date to apply: 18th Dec'19
- NO application and course charges. Final selection for the mentorship program to be done by the committee.

WEE provides six months of extensive entrepreneurship mentorship by renowned mentors from academia, government, and industry to chosen women entrepreneurs at institutions of national eminence: IIT Delhi and SINE, IIT Mumbai. The mentorship enables women to take up entrepreneurship as a viable career option. The course covers all aspects of entrepreneurship: Marketing, finance, business development, networking, legal aspect, product development, product positioning, and personality development. There is also a special one day session on design thinking.

The program is conducted free of cost and applications are sought from women entrepreneurs across the country. Of the thousands of applications; based on written and interview combined; around 100 women entrepreneurs are chosen for batches at IIT Delhi and Mumbai.

There is no age limit for application. Some are complete strangers to the start-up arena, while others have been there for quite some time. While the trajectories of these women are different, they have a common goal — to master the vocabulary of entrepreneurship. The spectrum of the businesses being mentored is broad — from organic farming, bee-hiving, tissue reproduction, affordable sanitary napkins, textile technology, waste management, online marketing, drones, and 3D printing to smokeless cook stoves.

The participants are ranked on a scale of 1 to 10 based on their experience. Mentorship classes are conducted for these women entrepreneurs at the Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs) every alternate Sunday.

The uniqueness of WEE model comes from several factors that are combined in this program. These include the variety of women from different sectors, different education background and who are at different stages in their entrepreneurial journey mentored together, the eminence of the national institute they are being mentored at, the world class mentors who are guiding them and their access to various networking and pitching events.

Women Entrepreneurs get the exclusive opportunity to pitch for a grant of 25 Lac INR sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. All mentorship is conducted at IIT Delhi from renowned mentors.

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WEE Foundation was founded in 2016 by Dr. Sarandeep Singh and Ms. Aparna Saroagi under the vision of Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Director IIT Delhi and Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. WEE women entrepreneurs are scripting women entrepreneurship history and solving India's unique problems like waste management, women hygiene and health, tactile technology for disabled, health for all, rural employment generation with their passion, commitment and entrepreneurship journey.