



MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

(An Autonomous Institution Affiliated to the University of Madras)

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3.3.1 Institution has created an ecosystem for innovations, creation and transfer of knowledge supported by dedicated centers for research, entrepreneurship, community orientation, Incubation etc.

MSSW is constantly aspiring to create an ecosystem for innovations and knowledge creation built on a stable research base. There have been different initiatives by the college in this direction.

- **MSSW- Social Entrepreneurship Incubation Centre** was instituted in the premises of Madras School of Social Work in 2019. The Incubation Center aims in creating **social entrepreneurship ecosystem** by encouraging the students to get involved in social entrepreneurship.
 - The objective of the Centre is to provide guidance, mentorship, physical work space and create networks among fellow social entrepreneurs as well as funding agencies. The Centre is guided by its vision and mission:
 - Vision - Innovate impactful social business models to bring about social change
 - Mission
 - To set up **social enterprises** to generate gainful employment opportunities and **sustainable development**
 - Encourage to **innovate new models** to solve social, ecological and financial problems of the country
 - To mentor, guide and support early-stage enterprise for successful **social business venture**
 - The major functions before Center are to **review different business proposals from students**, creating a **sustainable ecosystem** and working space for select incubates, followed by mentoring and **creation of efficient venture model**
 - The incubation center will **support** each venture for two years. By the end of this period, the ventures are expected to become self- sufficient business models for further resource accumulation and scaling up.
 - Ventures under MSSW- Social Entrepreneurship Incubation Centre will get access to **seed money**, rich alumni network, library access and regular participation in Social Entrepreneurship club.
 - The thrust of the Centre is also to **promote entrepreneurship among the vulnerable sections of the society** such as artisans, Dalits, tribals, women, transgender persons, migrant communities and people with disabilities (PWD).
 - At present, the MSSW- Social Entrepreneurship Incubation Centre is **home to 16 social startups**.
 - **Two social enterprises have been especially successful** under the guidance of centre, namely
 - Nakuras (Social Entrepreneurship with Gypsy community) – has promoted the work of the tribal Narikurava artisans by creating a market ecosystem for the jewellery and handcrafted lifestyle products via e-commerce and participation in major jewellery exhibitions.
 - CAP (Child Aid Project) – addresses child abuse prevention needs via play-based interventions for children, young adults, parents and schools. CAP is now a collective of child psychologists, parenting experts among others and has been able to work with industry experts including TATA, Teach for India etc.

- The college has its own **Institution Innovation Policy** which aims to promote and nurture the innovative ideas of the students through its Incubation Centre. The policy has been prepared in line with National Innovation and Start up policy, Govt. of India and Tamil Nadu Start up and Innovation Policy 2018-2023 which focuses on Social Entrepreneurship in the action plan.
 - Madras School of Social Work has been the member of **Institution Innovation Council**, Ministry of Human Resource Management, Govt. of India.
 - MSSW participated in The Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (**ARIIA**), an initiative of the HRD Ministry, implemented by AICTE and MHRD's Innovation Cell.
- (Website link to Incubation Centre is annexed)

[498 words]