

Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Chennai
Call for Registration of Volunteer Business Mentors

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of Tamil Nadu (www.editn.in), (An autonomous society of the Government of Tamil Nadu), functions in SIDCO Industrial Estate at Guindy. **Hon'ble Chief Minister** launched New Entrepreneur-cum-Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS) in the year 2013-14 to assist first generation entrepreneurs. So far 2606 entrepreneurs have been assisted under NEEDS. In addition, Prime Minister Employment Programme (PMEGP) and Unemployed Youth Employment generation Programme (UYEGP) has helped thousands of businesses to emerge.

Launching and growing a successful venture requires the potential entrepreneur to have the necessary business skills. New Entrepreneurs require advice and support of an experienced entrepreneur or industry professionals as business mentors. In Chennai, Kanchipuram and Thiruvallur, EDI works with Bharat Yuva Shakti Trust as a partner in mentoring entrepreneurs.

Government of Tamil Nadu, through EDI, is in the process of creating a mentors network in Tamil Nadu. Experienced entrepreneurs, technologists, serving business professionals, working or retired senior corporate executives or specialists in business finance, sales, marketing or professors with exposure to supporting entrepreneurs etc., have the opportunity of contributing a few hours of their time every month to help young entrepreneurs succeed as entrepreneurs. Mentors will have to undergo a half-day orientation program in Mentoring and coaching at EDI or its partner institutes. Mentorship is expected to be voluntary and no payment would be made for any services.

The qualities we look for in a mentor are: concern for developing small entrepreneurs, patience, technical expertise & business experience. Mentors are expected to work out the interaction frequency and mode with the mentees. This can be a combination of telephonic interaction, personal visits by mentor to the mentee's place of business and vice versa.

Business experts willing to join this initiative can visit web page www.editn.in/pages/view/mentoring for details and registration process. Any person wanting to seek any information or clarification may send a mail to mentor@editn.in or call up the EDI Help Desk at 044-22252081 or 22252082.