

FIELD VISIT TO SKILL & ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (SEDI) AMBUJA CEMENT FOUNDATION (ACF), UVARSAD, GANDHINAGAR

Rapporteur: Dr. Meena Bilgi

5 Dec. 2019: As part of the course on Administration of Non-Government Organizations/Non Profit Organizations, Dr. Meena Bilgi, Visiting faculty of School of Liberal Studies, PDPU in support with Dr. Sriram Divi organised a half-day visit to SEDI, ACF at Gandhinagar on 5th December, 2019. Fifteen students of Public Administration from Semester-5 and Semester-7 visited SEDI with Dr. Bilgi. The purpose of the visit was to link class-room teaching with on-site practical experience specifically in Skill and Entrepreneurship Development of youth and young people to get them out of poverty through employment and to fill-in the skill gap in 24 key sectors of economy. ACF has established about 30 SEDIs in 21 States of India. SEDI Gandhinagar offers 29 courses on very nominal fees ranging from construction, health, capital goods, automobiles, retail, hospitality, security, beauty & wellness, garment making etc. Apart from hard skills, the trainees learn soft skills too. The students visited and interacted with trainees of these trades.



Major learning's –

- Ø Face to face interaction with trainees and real life stories of those who already are in employment through SEDI definitely boosted self-esteem and dignity of the youth.
- Ø Both boys and girls were being trained in trade irrespective of their sex, but as per their interests. The students met boys being trained in nursing too.
- Ø If families are supportive, no-one can stop these youth going forward in their lives. The students met many girls and married women whose families knew and accepted the fact that as nurses they will have to work in night and early morning shifts.
- Ø The students heard from SEDI staff many stories of transformative changes within individuals, communities and society at large since structural changes of various social institutions were clearly taking place, as well efforts for policy influencing.
- Ø The students also learnt the concept of 'Corporate Social Responsibility' Some students expressed their desire to undertake internship or volunteer with SEDI which was welcome by SEDI staff.