

## AP GOVERNMENT EXCHANGES MoU WITH BYST

### Andhra Pradesh Government Exchanges Landmark MoU with BYST *One Family – One Entrepreneur MSME Growth Summit 2026 · Vijayawada*



*Hon'ble CM Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu with BYST at the One Family – One Entrepreneur MSME Growth Summit 2026, Vijayawada*

Against the grand backdrop of the One Family – One Entrepreneur MSME Growth Summit 2026 in Vijayawada, a flagship Andhra Pradesh summit dedicated to micro and small enterprise, the Government of Andhra Pradesh exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with BYST in the distinguished presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu. The MoU was formally exchanged amid a celebration of enterprise, a landmark moment for grassroots entrepreneurship in the state.

To support Andhra Pradesh's bold vision of large-scale job creation, BYST proposes to train a new generation of entrepreneurs and build a state-wide network of mentors, embedding entrepreneurship and mentoring as engines of livelihood and dignity across every district.

For BYST, the occasion reaffirmed a simple but powerful belief: with the right training and mentoring, every aspiring entrepreneur can become a job creator — and, at the scale Andhra Pradesh envisions, a catalyst for one of India's most ambitious enterprise movements.

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## BYST AT THE CII ANNUAL BUSINESS SUMMIT 2026

### “Powering the Future: India's Micro Enterprises”

CII Annual Business Summit 2026 · New Delhi · 11–12 May 2026

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) convened a dedicated session, *Powering the Future: India's Micro Enterprises*, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders and entrepreneurs to deliberate on the opportunities, challenges and future growth of micro and small enterprises.

The session was chaired by **Shri R. Dinesh**, Chairman of the CII Centre of Excellence on Employment & Livelihood (CEL), and Executive Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions. The keynote was delivered by **Dr V. Anantha Nageswaran**, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India.

Drawing on BYST's three decades of empowering first-generation entrepreneurs, **Ms. Lakshmi V. Venkatesan** emphasized that micro-entrepreneurs must be capacity-built from the very beginning. Across smaller towns and aspirational districts, she noted, there is no shortage of entrepreneurial intent, what is often missing is early exposure, structured guidance, mentoring and the confidence to take that first step. She cited BYST's experience in Kalahandi, where awareness programmes, business-idea competitions and sustained mentoring showed what the right early interventions can unlock.



SCAN TO WATCH

Ms. Lakshmi V. Venkatesan's  
address at the CII Summit 2026

## BYST PROGRAMME UPDATE — Mithapur (GUJARAT)

### Yuva Udyogi Rath - Taking Enterprise to the Village Doorstep

Partners: BYST · TCSR (Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development)



Yuva Udyogi Rath flagged off from the TCSR Office, Mithapur

On 18 May, the BYST Mithapur cluster flagged off the *Yuva Udyogi Rath* from the TCSR Office, in the presence of the TCSR CSR Head, Project Head and team, alongside the BYST Mithapur Strategic Chairman and Mentors. The mobile caravan carried enterprise awareness directly to the village doorstep, encouraging rural youth toward self-employment and sustainable livelihoods.

Over eight days the caravan travelled close to **800 km**, averaging 100 km a day and reaching **47 villages** across Devbhumi Dwarka district (42 in Okhamandal and 5 in Kalyanpur taluka). The caravan engaged nearly **4,000 people**, distributing around 1,000 leaflets and putting up 135 posters.

**47**

Villages Reached

**~4,000**

People Engaged

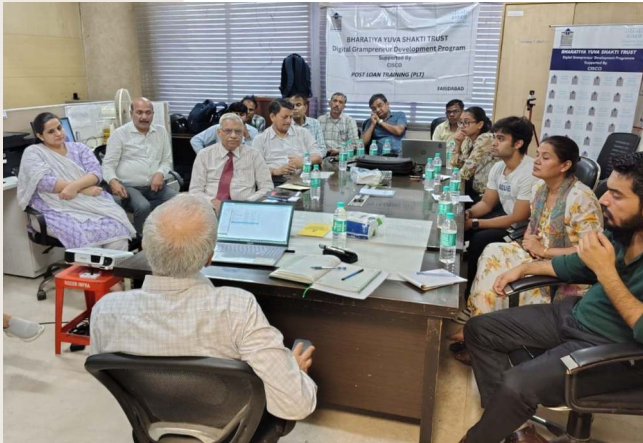
**800 km**

Covered in 8 Days

## TRAINING ON EXPORT PROMOTION — FARIDABAD CLUSTER

Partners: **BYST · Cisco India CSR**

On 25 May 2026, the Faridabad Cluster hosted a Training session on Export Promotion, led by Senior Mentor, Sh. A. K. Gaur with the Mentoring India® team, Mr Sohrab Alam and Mr Rajeev Nirmal. Drawing on deep industry experience, Sh. Gaur showed how shifting global trade patterns are opening doors for Indian MSMEs, and urged entrepreneurs to target rising demand in African markets, increase quality, and meet international standards. Mr Gaur then walked participants through the export pathway – the DGFT registration, the Import Export Code (IEC), documentation, and compliance with quality, packaging and labelling norms while pointing to the government schemes that support exporters.



Training on Export Promotion, Faridabad Cluster

The session came alive in an open exchange, new mentor Sh. Atul Kumar Shrivastava (retired GM, BHEL) shared quality-management lessons and pledged voluntary support.

Some of the entrepreneurs who shared their journey were Mr. Shiva of Ecograde, whose compostable packaging has won orders including from Indian Railways; Ms Ankita Arora of Keats Clothing, now employing around 30 people and exporting garments worldwide; and Mr Shiv Yadav, whose millet-snacks venture has reached a ₹1 crore turnover. Attended by 25+ participants, the session was rated highly informative, with many wanting even more time to go deeper.

## MENTORING INDIA®

May saw Mentoring India® deepen its institutional footprint across Andhra Pradesh and beyond generating awareness, signing new partnerships and upskilling mentors.

- **Awareness Generation** - BYST carried its entrepreneurship message to campuses including JSS, Vijayawada and Krishna University, Vijayawada, with several institutions expressing interest in BYST's mentor training.
- **New Partnerships (LoC Signings)** - BYST signed Letters of Cooperation with KVS Siddhartha Medical & Pharmacy College and MIC Engineering College, Vijayawada thus extending the mentor pipeline into healthcare and engineering talent.
- **Mentor Online Learning** - The Mentor Development Programme, a blended model of print, face-to-face and digital learning – built mentor capability on the ground, with a session at KVS Siddhartha led by Mr Balaji Vardhan, Senior Mentor, Chennai.
- **Upskilling Webinars** - Weekly handholding kept new mentors sharp, two Upskilling webinars were conducted for the Mentors.
- **Networking & Chapter Meetings** - General Webinars connected mentors nationwide, while chapter meetings with MGM Agriculture College, Government ITI Institutes and Terna Engineering College introduced new institutions to the BYST Mentor Networking Platform.



LoC Signing with MIC Engineering College, Vijayawada



Mentor Training Program at KVS Siddhartha Medical and Pharmacy College Vijayawada

“Thanks to BYST for the two-day training programme. As we work with SHGs, the mentor's role is vital. We learned there is a structured mentoring process that helps grow tiny entrepreneurs into micro entrepreneurs.”

**-Mr. Narendra Nayak,**  
Director, OSFAFI, Odisha

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT



### **YARDI Software India Pvt. Ltd.**

*BYST–Yardi Young Grampreneur® Development Programme.  
Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Maharashtra*

BYST, in partnership with Yardi Software India Pvt. Ltd., is strengthening the district's entrepreneurial ecosystem through the identification, training, and mentoring of aspiring young entrepreneurs. The programme is designed to facilitate an estimated ₹5 crore in loan disbursements via partner banks and generate approximately 1,500 employment opportunities across the district.

In a relatively short period, the BYST team has successfully driven entrepreneurship awareness, reaching 1,430 youth and providing them with counselling for entrepreneurship development. Selected entrepreneurs have further benefited from structured training programmes that equip them with both foundational entrepreneurial knowledge and practical business management skills. Building on this training, many have now secured loans and successfully established their enterprises.



### **ASHOK LEYLAND FOUNDATION**

*BYST–ALF Young Grampreneur® Development Programme -  
Kolli Hills, Tamil Nadu*

BYST, in partnership with the Ashok Leyland Foundation, is empowering semi-skilled and skilled unemployed youth to pursue entrepreneurship as a viable livelihood pathway, one that offers strong potential for local job creation. The programme prioritises inclusive outreach by engaging the Malayali tribal community, women, and individuals from SC/ST/OBC communities.

The programme aims to reach 13,500 potential entrepreneurs; provide counselling support to 4,500 youth; deliver structured training to 900 aspiring entrepreneurs; develop 225 entrepreneurs; and onboard 225 mentors to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

## SUCCESS STORY

### **Everything the Village Needs, Under One Roof**

*Mr. K. M. Manikandan · Mekkinikadu, Kolli Hills | BYST–Ashok Leyland Foundation · Kolli Hills Cluster*

Well educated and rooted in his community, K. M. Manikandan had spent years with the village Parents–Teachers Association, sharpening his instinct for what local people needed. He carried two ambitions in equal measure: to lift his family's economic standing, and to build something in his native village that gave back to the community that raised him.

His business idea came straight from the gap he saw every day. Mekkinikadu had no grocery shop — residents travelled to distant towns for rice, oil, pulses, sugar and other daily essentials. Manikandan resolved to change that, but limited finances stood in the way. BYST counselling and continuous mentoring turned the corner:

he secured a ₹5.27 lakh loan through Indian Bank under the UYEGP scheme, with a ₹1.39 lakh back-end subsidy.

The grocery shop opened — and he didn't stop there, adding a rice-grinding machine and an E-Sevai centre alongside it. What began as a single shop is now a multi-service rural enterprise, putting everyday goods and government services within walking distance of the village. Families no longer make long trips for essentials, saving time and transport costs. In building his own livelihood, Manikandan has strengthened his family's future and contributed to the wider development of Mekkinikadu — proof that with the right guidance, financing and institutional support, rural youth can become entrepreneurs and community builders.



## From Forest Leaves to a Plastic-Free Table

*Mrs. Minakshi Padhi · Amlabhata, Rayagada, Odisha |  
M/s Maa Durga Paper Plate · BYST–JK Paper Programme*

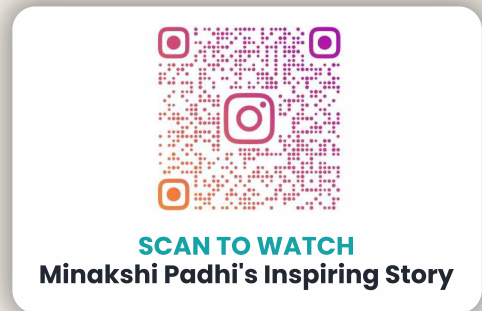
When her husband's transport business collapsed, Minakshi Padhi set out to rebuild her family's fortunes. Bank after bank turned the couple away. BYST counselled and trained her, facilitated a **Central Bank loan**, and assigned mentor **Mr. Udaya Chandra Panda** to guide her early years, and in 2018 a first-generation woman entrepreneur registered **M/s Maa Durga Paper Plate** in remote Amlabhata, Rayagada.

She began with ordinary paper plates, but the market was crowded. The turning point came on a visit to a women's Self-Help Group, where she saw **siali (sal) leaves** gathered in abundance. She pressed them on her existing machine and it worked. She switched her entire output to **100% biodegradable siali-leaf plates and cups**: a renewable, compostable, plastic-free substitute for the thermocol disposables that litter rural feasts.



Minakshi Padhi with her siali-leaf plates at M/s Maa Durga Paper Plate, Amlabhata, Rayagada

<b>100%</b> Biodegradable (Siali-Leaf)	<b>5</b> People Employed (incl. Women)	<b>₹14 L</b> Annual Turnover (₹18 L Forecast)
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Today Maa Durga Paper Plate employs five people, including women from her village, buys its leaves from local women's Self-Help Groups, and supplies roughly five districts of southern Odisha - Rayagada, Kalahandi, Koraput, Nabarangpur and Gajapati. Now Vice Chairperson of the BYST High-Flier Club, Minakshi welcomes other entrepreneurs to her unit and encourages SHGs to start their own reviving a forest-leaf economy one biodegradable plate at a time.

“Though the call of circumstances forced me to become an entrepreneur, I feel fortunate and happy for what I am today. Supporting my family gives me immense pleasure. Thanks to BYST and JKPM for helping us while we were struggling to earn our living.”

**-Minakshi Padhi,**  
Founder, M/s Maa Durga Paper Plate

## ANNUAL REVIEW — KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK VISITS PUNE

The CSR team from **Kotak Mahindra Bank** visited BYST's Pune office for the annual review of the Inclusive Digital Entrepreneurship Programme.

Looking ahead to FY 2027, discussions set a clear direction strengthening data systems and reporting standards, refining the programme's monitoring framework, and deepening Kotak's involvement through closer participation in entrepreneur selection. The team also expressed keen interest in extending mentorship support.

BYST is grateful to Kotak Mahindra Bank for its continued partnership and engaged guidance, which keeps the programme sharp, accountable and focused on lasting entrepreneurial impact.



*Kotak Mahindra Bank CSR team with the BYST team, Pune*

## ANNUAL REVIEW — ASHOK LEYLAND FOUNDATION VISITS KOLLI HILLS

The CSR team from the **Ashok Leyland Foundation** visited the Kolli Hills Cluster for its Annual Review Meeting with the BYST team. They met the entrepreneurs and the mentors across the region and distributed the Entrepreneurs Step Training Certificates and Mentor Accreditation certificates.

The CSR team encouraged a stronger focus on high-value local sectors like food processing, eco-tourism and organic enterprise, and deeper linkages with specialised training institutes.

BYST is grateful to the Ashok Leyland Foundation for its continued partnership and guidance, which turns local potential into lasting livelihoods across Kolli Hills.



*Ashok Leyland Foundation CSR team with BYST entrepreneurs and mentors, Kolli Hills*

# BYST IN THE NEWS

**AP government partners with BYST to launch entrepreneurship training programme for MSMEs**

Venu Lanka / May 27, 2026, 2:24 IST

The Letter of Intent between Andhra Pradesh MSME Development Corporation and Bharatiya Yuva Shakti...

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh government has partnered with Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST) to launch an Entrepreneurship Training & Mentoring Programme (ETMP) aimed at strengthening nano and micro enterprises across the state.

**महाराष्ट्र में BYST नई पहल : युवा उद्यमियों को मेंटरशिप और बैंक फाइनेंस, ₹5 करोड़ के लोन का लक्ष्य**

Curated by इंडी हिंदी डेस्क The Economic Times Hindi · Updated: 21 May 2026, 4:07 pm IST

महाराष्ट्र के छत्रपति संभाजीनगर में युवाओं को स्वरोजगार और उद्यमिता से जोड़ने के लिए एक बड़ा कार्यक्रम शुरू किया गया है। भारतीय युवा शक्ति ट्रस्ट (BYST) और यार्डी सॉफ्टवेयर इंडिया ने मिलकर यह पहल शुरू की है, जिसके तहत युवाओं को ट्रेनिंग, मेंटरशिप और बैंक लोन तक पहुंच दिलाई जाएगी।

नई दिल्ली. महाराष्ट्र के छत्रपति संभाजीनगर में युवाओं को रोजगार और स्वरोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराने के लिए भारतीय युवा शक्ति ट्रस्ट यानी Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust और Yardi Software India Pvt. Ltd. ने मिलकर एक नई पहल शुरू की है। इस कार्यक्रम का नाम यंग ग्रामप्रेन्योर डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम रखा गया है।

**BYST to train, mentor nano and micro entrepreneurs**

Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST) Founding and Managing Trustee Lakshmi V. Venkatesan has said that the Trust aims to support nearly 10,000 nano and micro entrepreneurs while building a network of around 4,000 trained mentors to provide long-term business guidance across Andhra Pradesh. Addressing a press conference here on Wednesday, Ms. Lakshmi V. Venkatesan said the Trust had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Andhra Pradesh MSME Development Corporation (APMSMEDC) to launch an Entrepreneurship Training and Mentoring Programme in the State. The initiative was announced during the 'One Family-One Entrepreneur MSME Growth Summit 2026' held here recently. Trust Strategic Committee chairman D. Ramakrishna also spoke.

**Giving wings to young aspiring entrepreneurs**

'Young Grampreneur' programme launched in Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
New Delhi, Updated At: 04:37 PM May 20, 2026 IST

The Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST) has partnered with Yardi Software India Pvt. Ltd. to launch the Young Grampreneur Development Programme in Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar. This initiative aims to strengthen the district's entrepreneurial ecosystem by training and mentoring young, aspiring business owners.

The programme directly addresses youth unemployment by targeting rural youth, women, and underserved SC/ST communities. It builds on BYST's nine-year regional track record of supporting over 1,000 entrepreneurs during which it has trained more than 25,000 youth. The new programme will focus on supporting 100 young entrepreneurs with mentoring and bank-linked financial assistance, and training 150 institutional mentors through BYST's Mentoring India initiative.

**Why MSME liquidity stress persists and how financing mechanisms are evolving**

According to Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, BYST (Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust), delayed receivables directly affect core operations such as payroll, raw material procurement, and inventory management.

She noted that MSMEs often operate with limited financial buffers and are therefore disproportionately impacted when payment cycles extend beyond agreed timelines.

**అతినలను ఆర్థికంగా బలోపేతం చేయడమే లక్ష్యం**

అతినలను (MSME) ఆర్థికంగా బలోపేతం చేయడమే లక్ష్యం. అతినలను ఆర్థికంగా బలోపేతం చేయడమే లక్ష్యం. అతినలను ఆర్థికంగా బలోపేతం చేయడమే లక్ష్యం.

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