

There are opportunities beyond jobs, don't limit yourself: Union minister

Suresh Prabhu who inaugurated GU's start-up and innovation policy applauded varsity for encouraging budding entrepreneurs

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The Gujarat University Start-up and Innovation Policy and the Bharat Research Foundation were inaugurated by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu in presence of State Education Minister Bhupendra Chudasama and GU VC Himanshu Pandya.

Addressing the students and start-up aspirants, Prabhu urged them to look beyond jobs. He said, "Start-ups can transform the country in a significant way. There are over 20,000 start-ups in India and Gujarat University is probably the first to come up with a policy for start-ups," he added. There are more than 60 start-ups in the two-year-old Gujarat University Startup and Entrepreneurship Council (GUSEC).

Stressing on the need for fresh ideas and perseverance, he said that an idea is the seed that when nurtured with perseverance can give life-transforming results. "Gujaratis are known for the out-of-the box thinking and business acumen. Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a live example of what an idea and perseverance can accomplish," he said.

The Union minister advocated educational institutions to be the hub of start-ups instead of hindrances. "Currently, students rely too much on rote-learning to clear their examination successfully. But start-up culture can be promoted only if students are encouraged to think, understand and brainstorm. In fact, there should be re-



JIGNESH VORA

Suresh Prabhu interacted with the students at GU

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Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister

search done on why only drop-outs become successful entrepreneurs. We look forward to seeking guidance from

you and I am sure this policy will go a long way to form institutional framework.”

Asking them to listen to their “intuition”, the Union minister said, “If you don't believe in your inner voice, you won't succeed. Also, don't emulate any of the successful people and don't think only about jobs, there are more opportunities waiting for you.”

State Education Minister Chudasama said, “It is a matter of honour that after seeing the start-ups, the Union Minister showed his readiness to help take a few start-ups further.”

Chudasama also added that the government was mulling over making Gujarati compulsory in schools.