

Annual Report 2023-24



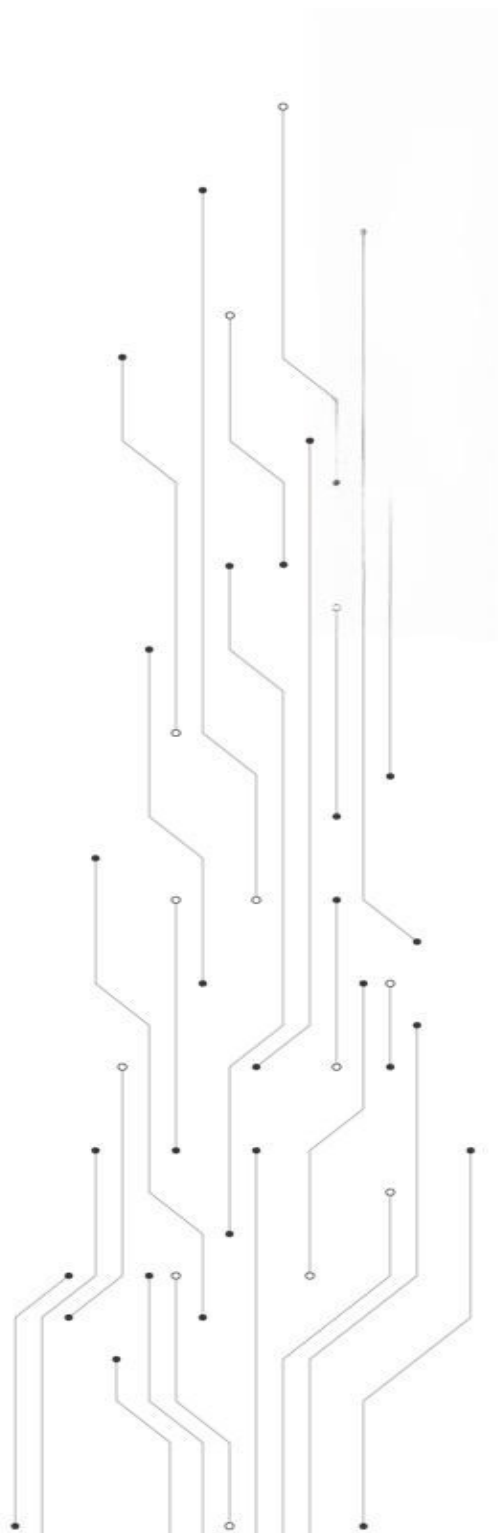
SODES
SOCIETY OF DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURS



**Nurturing Digital Entrepreneurship
for Brighter Future**

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Message from President



Dr Dinesh Kumar Tyagi
Retd. IAS

Dear Members,

I am delighted to present the annual report of the Society of Digital Entrepreneurs (SODES). In our first year, we have empowered communities through digital literacy, skilling 50,000 candidates and nurturing inclusive growth.

As the digital landscape evolves, SODES remains committed to equipping entrepreneurs with resources, mentorship, and opportunities. Our mission is not just about technology access but creating pathways for skills, employment, and economic growth. Through mentorship programs, partnerships, and industry linkages, we have nurtured innovation and local entrepreneurship. Beyond digital empowerment, we are actively addressing climate change, resource conservation, and plastic-free villages. Initiatives like nursery setup, carbon credits, and green credits are helping entrepreneurs enhance their income while contributing to sustainability.

We take immense pride in your contribution to registering 4 lakh students in KHO KHO, earning recognition from the federation. Our goal remains to promote the sport at the grassroots level and support its inclusion in the Olympics.

Looking ahead, we will continue identifying emerging opportunities in digital, environmental, skilling, and AI-driven domains to support new business growth.

A heartfelt thanks to all our members for your unwavering support and trust. Your contributions drive our mission forward.

I also extend my gratitude to the SODES team for their relentless efforts in supporting members and meeting partner expectations.

Together, let's build a digitally inclusive and sustainable future.



About SODES

Society of Digital Entrepreneurs (SODES) is a not for profit organization owned and managed by Digital Entrepreneurs working towards empowering Digital Entrepreneurs to gain access to better healthcare, education, skills and livelihood opportunities through digital literacy and digital tools.

The organization's main focus is to make technology easily accessible to the masses, to empower women, youth, persons with disabilities and the elderly through providing functional digital literacy and digital up-skilling.

The core objective of SODES is promoting digital empowerment within local communities particularly in rural, tribal, marginalized, and unreached areas. SODES constantly works for creation of digital information empowerment, digital equitable communities by providing digital access to information, knowledge and contextual capacity

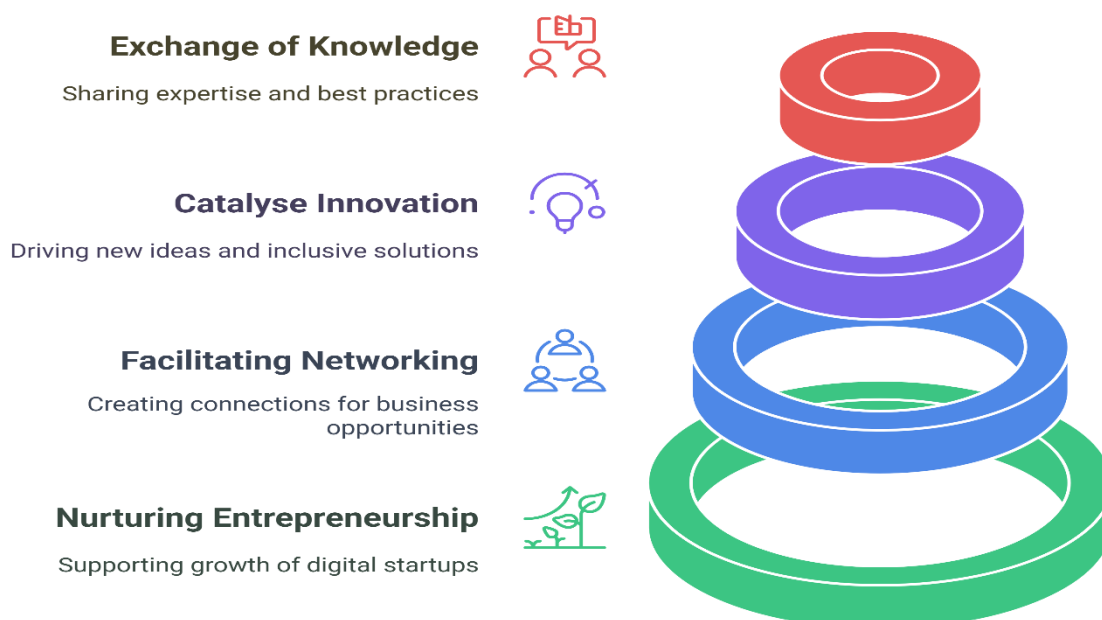
SODES believes that, in the digital age, access to information and digital expertise is an essential requirement and should not lead to exclusion. As a result, SODES consistently focuses on adapting and optimizing its efforts to prioritize access to digital tools and technologies.

SODES supports the development of digital entrepreneurs and provides opportunities for them to connect with each other and to organisations and institutions working in digital and financial inclusion.

SODES is a unique society, bringing together a diverse set of individuals from across the digital ecosystem. For organisations and institutions, SODES links you to a network of Digital Entrepreneur professionals with a wealth of local knowledge, experience, and expertise across the digital ecosystem. This networking and collaboration is a catalyst for increasing innovation, uptake of digital services and achieving greater financial inclusion. Our cohesive focus allows for meaningful progress and the acceleration of financial inclusion and well-being.

SODES promotes an inclusive approach within digital finance to increase diversity, accessibility, and sustainability. We are a bridge to build cohesiveness in the Digital Entrepreneurs ecosystem and bring professionals from diverse fields together to advocate, ideate, and implement to achieve greater financial resilience and inclusive economic growth.

Building a Digital Ecosystem



SODES catalysing exchange of knowledge and industry best practices, facilitating opportunities and partnerships for members to collaborate, and promoting its member's expertise and achievements.



Vision, Mission & Goal

→ Vision

Enabling Economic Advantages through Digital Inclusion :

SODES aims for a future where Digital Inclusion and Connectivity drive significant economic advantages, nurturing Digital Entrepreneurship and paving the way for a brighter and more prosperous tomorrow.

SODES is working towards catalysing socio-economic transformation across diverse rural segments, including women, youth, farmers, and people of marginalised community. It actively supports first-generation entrepreneurs, nurtures women-led enterprises, and promotes sustainable rural micro-enterprises, fostering empowerment and economic independence for marginalized communities.

SODES Vision is aligned with UN SDG Goals & Viksit Bharat@2047



SODES aligns its efforts with India's ambitious vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047** and the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, working to empower rural and tribal communities across the nation by utilizing digital tools and skills. Our initiatives are centred on creating sustainable rural livelihoods, contributing to the achievement of both the SDGs and India's development goals.

Through the development of resilient, scalable, and digitally-enabled livelihood models, SODES aims to ensure that rural and marginalised India grows in harmony with the nation's broader development ambitions. Together, we aspire to create a future of dignity, opportunity, and prosperity for all.

→ Mission

Empowering Digital Equity and Catalysing Progress in Information Dark Regions to Open Up a World of Opportunities.

Our Presence



**Digital
Footprint**

1,62,631





Digital & Financial Literacy Programme





Digital & Financial Literacy Programme

Digital and financial literacy are crucial in today's interconnected world. Digital literacy empowers individuals to navigate and utilize digital technologies effectively. As our lives become increasingly digital, understanding how to use digital tools, assess information online, and protect oneself in the digital space is vital.

Financial literacy, on the other hand, equips individuals with the knowledge and skills to manage their finances wisely. It includes understanding budgeting, investing, debt management, and overall financial decision-making. Financially literate individuals are better positioned to make informed choices about savings, investments, and retirement planning. Together, digital and financial literacy contribute to overall empowerment, enabling individuals to participate actively in the modern economy, make informed financial decisions, and safeguard themselves in the digital age. These skills are essential for personal growth, economic stability, and navigating the complexities of the contemporary world.

The Society of Digital Entrepreneurs (SODES), in collaboration with AADHAAR and Capgemini India, launched the Capgemini Digital & Financial Literacy Programme to bridge the digital divide and empower individuals with essential digital and financial literacy skills. The initiative has successfully trained and certified 35,000 individuals aged 16 to 60 years while raising awareness among 53,589 individuals.

Objectives of Programme

- To provide Digital & Financial Literacy training to individuals across India.
- To enhance financial inclusion and digital capabilities among marginalized and underprivileged communities.
- To conduct awareness and mobilization campaigns for maximum outreach.
- To provide training and certification free of cost to beneficiaries

Programme Implementation Process



Key Achievements

53,589

Individuals Trained

35,000

Individuals Certified

Gender-wise Distribution

Female Certified: **64.9%**

35.09% :Male Certified

Age Group-wise Distribution

16-25 years: **12,153**

36-45 years: **7,629**

26-35 years: **8,277**

46-60 years: **6,503**



Digital & Financial Literacy Centers

SODES DFL
centre
Gurdaspur
Punjab



SODES
DFLCentre
Rewari,
Haryana



SODES DFL
Centre
Namakkal, Tamil
Nadu





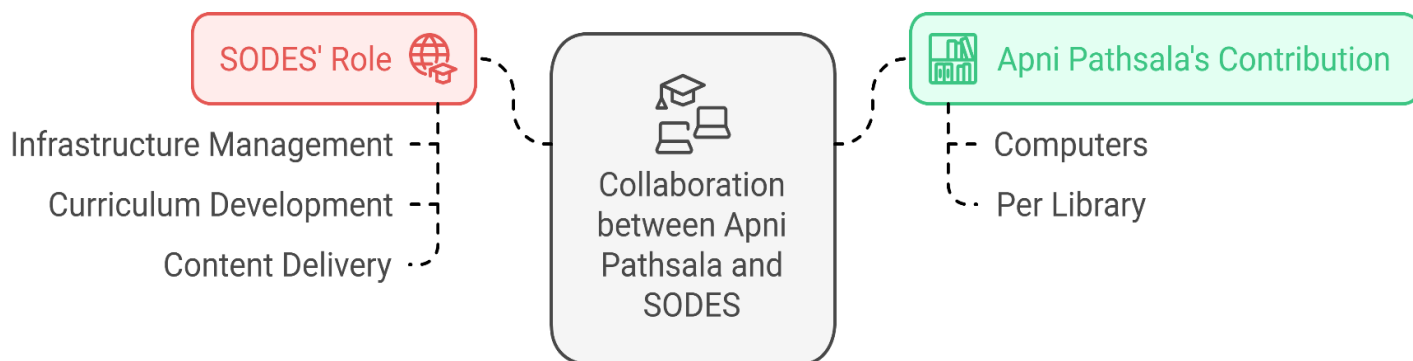
Digital Library

Education is a basic human right, not just a privilege. It has the power to change lives, especially for those who are economically and socially disadvantaged. Quality education helps people break free from poverty, improve their living conditions, and become active participants in society. International human rights laws recognize the importance of education in both personal growth and the development of communities.

Nelson Mandela said, “**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.**” This statement holds even more significance in the current digital age. Education now extends beyond traditional classrooms; it includes digital literacy, which is essential for navigating and succeeding in today’s world. Digital literacy involves the ability to find, evaluate, use, and create digital information in an effective and ethical manner.

To bridge the digital divide and provide accessible education, SODES has partnered with Apni Pathsala to establish Digital Libraries across underserved communities. These libraries serve as inclusive learning hubs, equipping individuals—especially women and children—with essential digital skills to thrive in today’s world.

Roles and Contributions of Apni Pathsala and SODES



Current Digital Library Locations



Digital Library Transforming Lives

The Digital Libraries initiative is a step toward building a digitally empowered society, ensuring that education reaches those who need it the most. By integrating technology with education, SODES and ApniPathsala are creating opportunities for lifelong learning, financial independence, and community growth.

SODES Digital Library





Legal Consultancy

At SODES, we firmly believe that legal assistance is the right of every citizen, not a privilege. Access to legal guidance should not be limited by financial constraints, social barriers, or lack of awareness. In a country where many individuals, especially those from underprivileged and marginalized backgrounds, hesitate to seek legal help due to fear or financial limitations, **SODES is committed to bridging the gap by providing free, expert legal consultancy.**

To make justice accessible to all, we organize **Free Online Legal Consultancy Sessions**, ensuring that individuals facing legal challenges receive professional advice and support without any cost. These sessions empower people with the knowledge of their rights, enabling them to make informed legal decisions and take necessary actions to protect their interests.

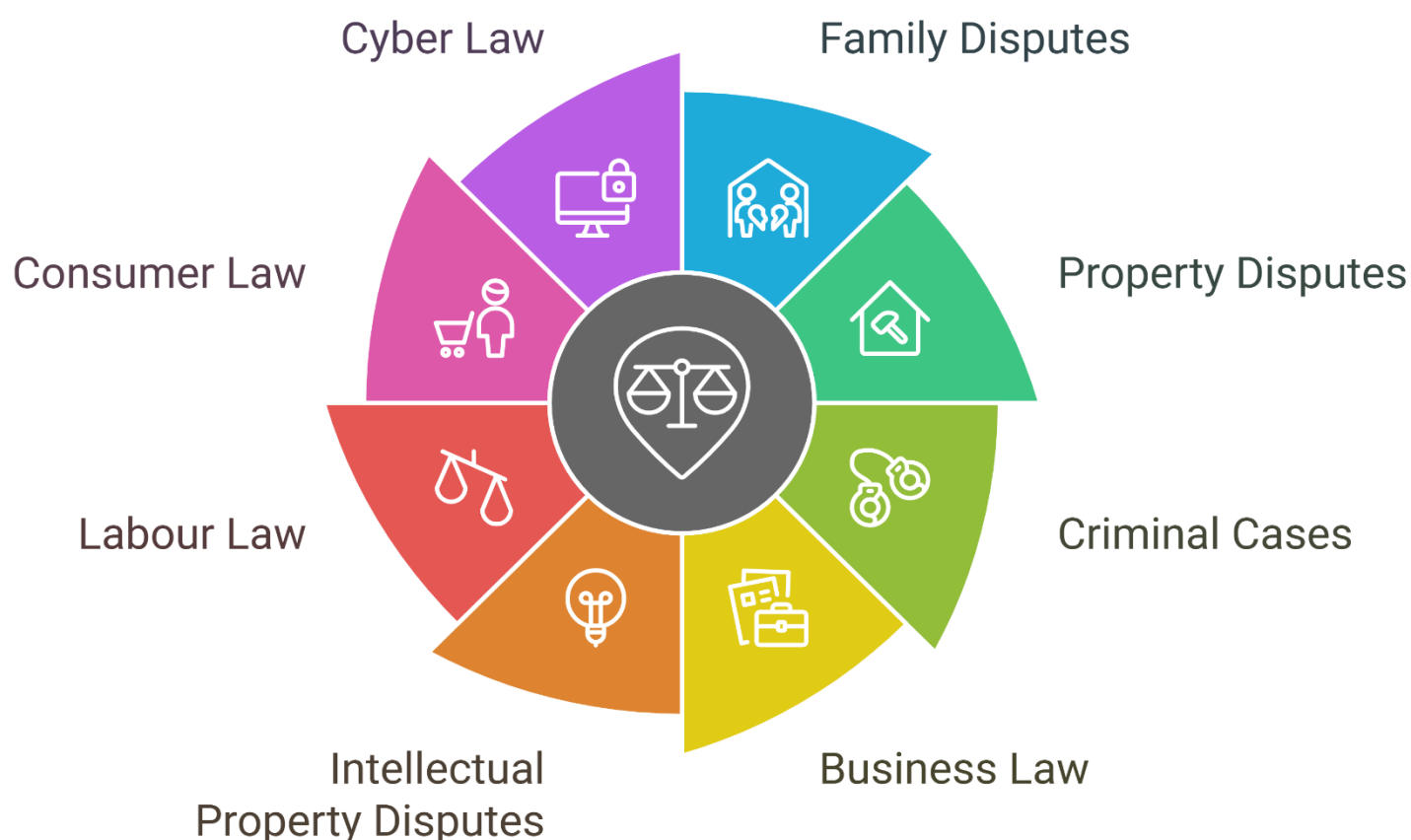
Impact So Far

Through this initiative, 207 cases have been consulted, covering a wide range of legal matters. Out of these, 24 cases have been successfully resolved, bringing justice and relief to those in need. This initiative has been particularly beneficial for individuals who may otherwise avoid seeking legal assistance due to financial hardships or the fear of navigating complex legal procedures.

Expert-Led Legal Assistance

Our legal consultancy services are provided by a **distinguished panel of senior lawyers**, including **practitioners from the Supreme Court and experienced senior bureaucrats**. These experts bring their vast knowledge and expertise to guide individuals through their legal concerns, offering professional insights, legal remedies, and strategic counsel.

Comprehensive Legal Support in Multiple Domains



Through this initiative, SODES aims to create a society where every individual has access to legal assistance without barriers. We believe that legal literacy and timely legal support can transform lives, prevent exploitation, and empower communities.



Plastic Free Villages

At Plastic has become an integral part of modern life due to its versatile applications, durability, and low cost, but the same qualities that make it useful—alongside poor waste management—have created a global waste challenge.

Plastics are non-biodegradable and remains on earth for thousands of years. The burning of plastics waste under uncontrolled conditions lead to generation of different hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), depending upon the type of polymers and additives used. The visibility of huge quantity of plastic waste has been perceived as a serious problem.

Plastic wastes hinder the natural aeration process of the surface water bodies, choke municipal sewer lines and storm water drains and clog the bar-screens of sewage treatment plants; they interfere with various agricultural operations, prevent natural recharge of underground water and contribute to visual pollution. Consuming food wrapped in coloured plastic has adverse effects on health; death of cows and other animals from ingesting plastic bags.

Initiative for Plastic Free Villages

SODES is actively working to make villages plastic-free with the help and involvement of the local community, especially women, by setting up **Used Plastic Processing Centres (UPPC)** in Bansur block in Alwar district of Rajasthan, Goalpara and Numaligarh districts of Assam. 20 tons of plastic waste have been collected from Bansur block of Alwar and out of these about 18 tons have been sold locally. Additionally 8 new UPPC have been identified.

These centres are dedicated to managing and reducing plastic waste in surrounding villages, ultimately creating plastic-free communities. Each centre serve as a hub for collecting,

Plastic Waste Processing Sequence



This initiative aligns with broader environmental goals, including reducing plastic pollution, promoting sustainable waste management practices, and ultimately transforming the targeted villages into models of plastic-free communities. By reducing plastic waste, these villages will experience a cleaner environment, improved public health, and enhanced biodiversity.

The initiative also promotes the circular economy by repurposing waste into reusable materials, thereby reducing the dependency on virgin plastics. Additionally, it nurtures economic opportunities for local communities, particularly women, by involving them in waste collection, sorting, and processing activities. Through educational campaigns and active community participation, SODES aims to instill long-term behavioural change, ensuring sustained plastic-free environments. These efforts contribute to a larger vision of environmental conservation and align with national and global sustainability goals, making villages self-reliant and environmentally responsible. this initiative,



Menstrual Hygiene Skilling

Under the guidance of the Textile Sector Skill Council, SODES is actively participating in the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0)—a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), implemented by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

Through this initiative, SODES is working towards enhancing skill development opportunities, particularly in sanitary napkin production, to create sustainable livelihoods for underprivileged communities.

As part of PMKVY 4.0, SODES is helping individuals, especially women, learn the process of sanitary napkin production and business management.

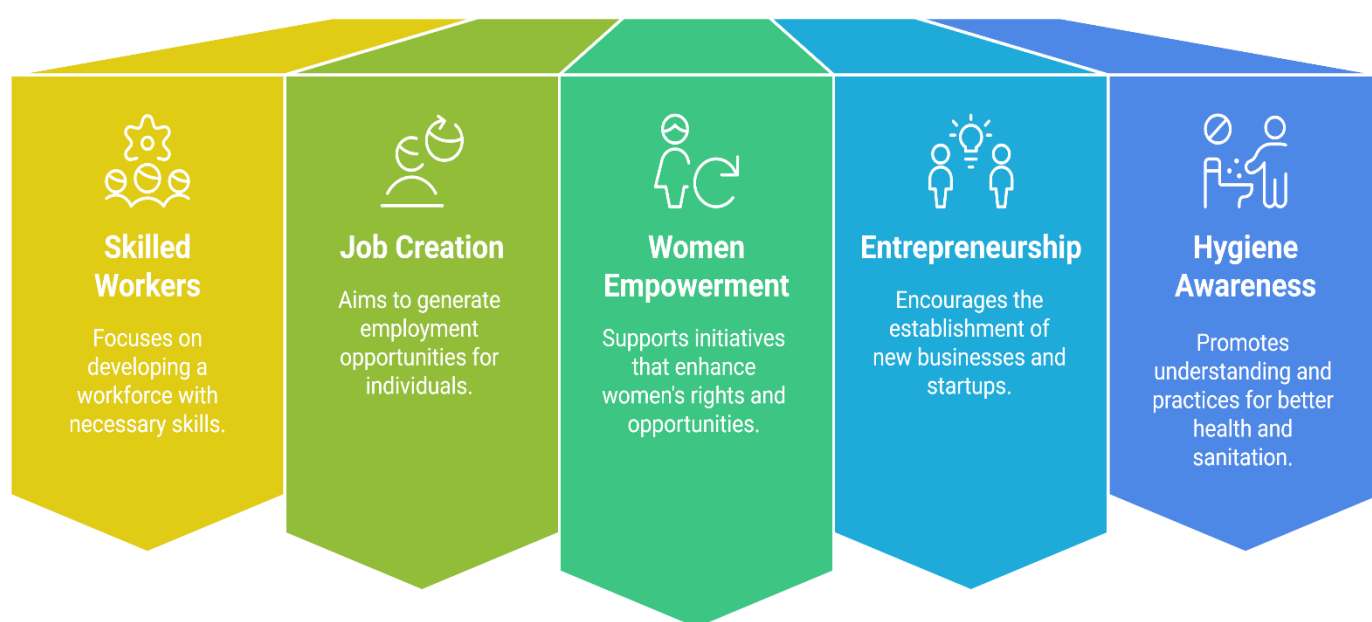
To ensure quality training, SODES members are completing the Sanitary Napkin Operator Training of Trainers (ToT) certification, which enables them to train more individuals effectively. Following this certification, their training centers are being recognized by NSDC as Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres.

These centres are imparting technical knowledge and practical skills, allowing them to manufacture high-quality sanitary napkins and contribute to the menstrual hygiene sector. The program is also emphasizing the importance of health and hygiene, ensuring that trainees are gaining a deeper understanding of menstrual health awareness.

Impact of SODES' Training Centres

Currently, SODES is operating 13 Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centres in different locations. Each center is training 60 individuals per batch, creating a strong pipeline of skilled professionals in this sector.

SODES Menstrual Hygiene Skill Centre Impact



SODES is continuously expanding its efforts to ensure that more individuals, especially women, are receiving skill training that leads to sustainable employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

This initiative is not only generating livelihood opportunities but is also making a meaningful impact on women's empowerment and hygiene education, ensuring that more people are benefiting from the power of skill development.

Sanitary Napkin Skilling Centers

SODES Sanitary
Skilling Centre
Uttar Kanadda,
Karnataka



SODES Sanitary
Skilling Centre
Rewari,
Haryana



SODES Sanitary
Skilling Centre
Rangareddy,
Telangana



Rangareddy, Telangana, India
7h6p+r34, Telangana 501510, India
Lat 17.26193° Long 78.585138°
24/01/25 12:04 PM GMT +05:30



Sustainable Green Initiative

The Government of India has been actively promoting afforestation and green cover expansion as a crucial strategy to combat climate change. The recent initiative, **“Ek Plant Maa Ke Naam”**, launched by Hon. Prime Minister, aims to encourage widespread tree planting across the nation. Additionally, the **Clean Plant Program (CPP)** focuses on ensuring access to **virus-free, high-quality planting material**, ultimately increasing crop yields and improving farmers' income. The CPP also emphasizes streamlining certification processes and providing infrastructure support for nurseries to propagate clean planting materials efficiently.

Nurseries provide sustainable business opportunities and employment at the local level. To meet national requirements, at least 2.5 lakh nurseries need to be established—one at every Panchayat level—generating employment for over one million individuals (at least four persons per nursery). However, India faces a shortage of skilled manpower in nursery management (Gardeners). More than one million trained gardeners are required in rural areas alone, with a similar demand in urban landscapes. Continuous skilling and training in modern nursery techniques and technologies are essential to enhance the quality and productivity of nurseries in India.

SODES, in collaboration with the Indian Nurserymen Association, is actively working to support nursery development and skilling in India

SODES is assisting farmers and entrepreneurs in establishing nurseries, promoting sustainable business models that contribute to local employment and ecological balance. To address the shortage of skilled manpower, SODES is providing structured training programs for gardeners, ensuring that they are equipped with the latest techniques and technologies for effective nursery management.

To achieve India's vision of **enhanced green cover and economic sustainability**, a structured approach to nursery development, skilled manpower training, and export facilitation is essential. Through its initiatives, **SODES aims to bridge the gaps in nursery management, employment generation, and global market access, contributing to a greener and more prosperous India.**



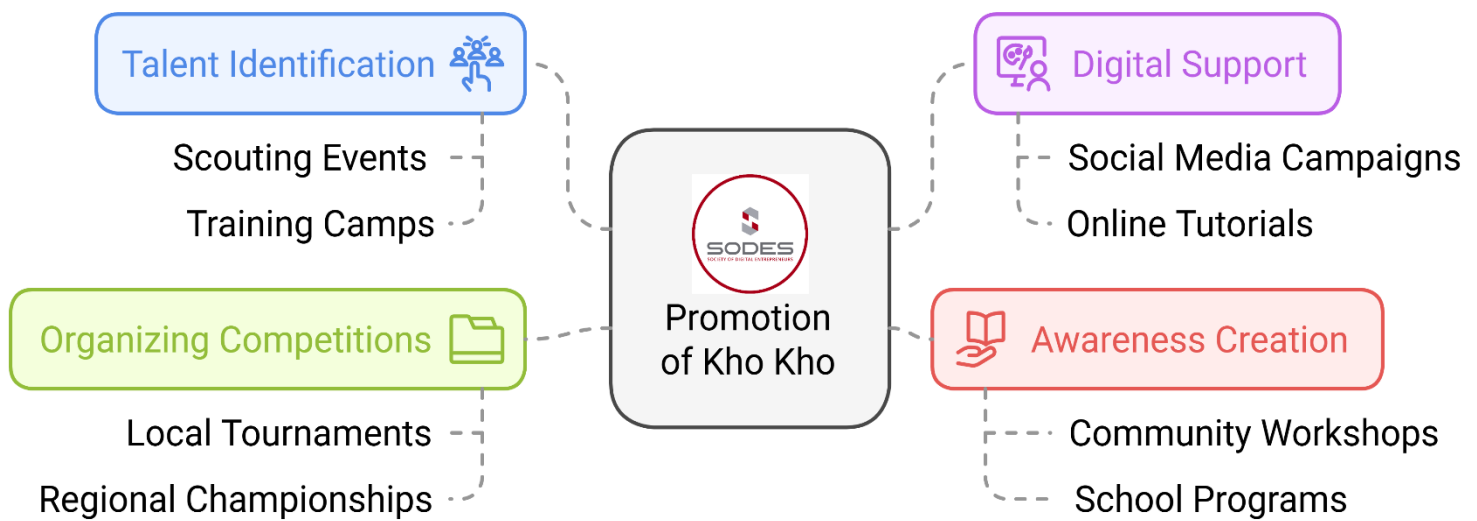


Kho Kho Sports Promotion

Kho Kho, a traditional South Asian sport, has its origins traced back to the Mahabharata era, making it one of India's most ancient games. It is believed that warriors played a form of Kho Kho to develop agility, strategy, and teamwork during times of war. Today, Kho Kho remains the second-most popular traditional tag game in the Indian subcontinent after Kabaddi. Played on a rectangular court with a central lane connecting two poles, the game demands speed, endurance, and tactical brilliance.

Recognizing the importance of preserving and expanding this indigenous sport, the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and SODES have come together with a shared vision to promote Kho Kho in rural and remote parts of India. This collaboration aims to nurture young talent, create opportunities for players from underserved communities, and contribute to the modernization and international expansion of the sport.

SODES promoting Kho Kho



Kho Kho World Cup 2025: A Historic Milestone for Indian Sports

India had the immense honour of hosting the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup from January 13 to 19, 2025, a landmark event that saw participation from 24 nations across six continents. With both men's and women's teams competing, this event was a momentous occasion, showcasing the universal appeal and global recognition of Kho Kho.

In preparation for this historic tournament, the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) launched a Kho Kho Awareness Campaign, aimed at promoting the sport among school students from Class 6 to 12. This initiative sought to instil the core values of sportsmanship, teamwork, agility, and strategic thinking among young players while identifying and nurturing future talent who could represent India on global platforms.

As part of this campaign, SODES played a crucial role by registering over 4 lakh students across the country, reinforcing its commitment to the promotion and development of Kho Kho at the grassroots level. Through its efforts, the sport was introduced to thousands of young athletes, creating new pathways for talent development and participation.

SODES Bridging the Gap Between Talent and Opportunity

A major focus of this campaign was to identify and nurture talent from remote areas and marginalized communities, ensuring that young athletes with limited access to sports opportunities could realize their potential. By bridging the gap between raw talent and professional training, SODES is empowering young players to compete at national and international levels, contributing to the long-term growth and global expansion of Kho Kho.

Collaborations

Advancing Goat Farming with Technology

- Introducing advanced breeding, nutrition & healthcare solutions to improve livestock productivity.
- Facilitating guidance and technical for sustainable goat farming.
- Enhancing income opportunities for rural communities through improved livestock management.

Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Finance

- Focus on developing nature-based solutions to support Climate Finance initiatives.
- Implementation of projects related to carbon credits and green credits.
- Strengthening climate resilience by integrating ecological conservation with financial sustainability.

Advocacy for Mountain-Specific Studies and Research

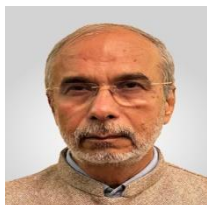
- Promotes research on biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable development in mountainous regions.
- Encourages innovative approaches for conservation, resource management, and livelihood development.
- Engages researchers, institutions, and local communities to enhance expertise and awareness.

Promoting Eco-Friendly Hygiene Solutions

- Promote eco-friendly bio-enzymatic products.
- The initiative aims to improve hygiene and sanitation.
- It encourages sustainable solutions over chemical-based cleaners.
- The focus is on creating a safer and healthier environment.

Governing Body

Founding Members



Dr Dinesh Tyagi (Retd. IAS)
President



Uttam Gupta
Secretary

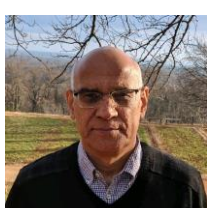


Satya Prakash
Treasurer

Governing Body Members



Sushil Kumar (Retd IAS)



**Alok Vardhan
Chaturvedi (Retd IAS)**



**Ram Mohan Mishra
(Retd IAS)**



Anjali Sen (Retd IAAS)



**Raj Kumar Srivastava
(Retd IFS)**



**R. K. Sharma
(Retd Technical Director)**



**A N Ramachandra
(Retd JC Navodaya
Vidyalaya Samiti)**



**Rohit Srivastava
(CEO-Dparth Tech)**



**Rekha Varshney
(Retd DGM LIC)**



Let's Work Together



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