

IIM-V launches incubation centre for biz women

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Visakhapatnam: An incubation centre for 26 women entrepreneurs, hand-picked from among more than 1,500 applications as part the 'Women Start-up Programme 2018', was inaugurated at the Indian Institute of Management-Visakhapatnam on Monday.

Prasad Dahapute, MD of Varhad Group and member, Board of Governors at IIM-V, launched the centre in the presence of Andhra University arts college principal Prof K Rama Mohana Rao and IIM-Bangalore representative Bharthraj. The ideas of these women entrepreneurs will be incubated at the IIM-V for the next one year.

Speaking on the occasion, Dahapute congratulated the women for making it to the final phase of the programme. He said IIM-V, apart from extending hand-holding and knowledge-support, will also help the aspiring entrepreneurs in finding investment opportunities. Relating his own experience as an entrepreneur and investor, he high-

ted the contributory role of incubation in an idea, converting it from seed stage to that of innovation.

Prof Rama Mohana Rao assured that Andhra University is always ready to extend all the support required for such initiatives that empower women in the society. IIM-V director Prof M Chandrasekhar said the institute would stand "shoulder to shoulder" with the incubatees in helping them realise their aspirations and dreams.