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## **Granting of Centre of Excellence (CoE) Status to State Institute for Development of Arts and Crafts (SIDAC)**

Bhubaneswar, 15/12/2020

State Institute for Development of Arts and Crafts (SIDAC), Bhubaneswar has been accorded with Centre of Excellence(CoE) status by Govt. of India and is the first such institute in the country in Govt sector to impart non-technical training.

SIDAC established since 2004 is a Govt. of Odisha sponsored organisation registered under Societies Registration has been created to function as an autonomous agency for the development of handicrafts sector of the Odisha. The organisation is managed through a governing body headed by Commissioner cum Secretary to Govt. in H.T &H.SIDAC and is imparting skill training in handicrafts of the state having market potential. In the process, the organisation has developed syllabus for the craft courses and standardised the same by implementing the training programmes for more than 10 years. On integration of the state of art handicrafts and handloom museum “Kalabhoomi” SIDAC has now turned out to be a favoured place for the students from across the country for research activities in the traditional skill as well as related subjects. The organisation has successfully demonstrated its capacity for implementing skill development programmes in different clusters and pockets funded by Govt. Agencies.

On 24 November 2020, the final presentation for the status of “Centre of Excellence” was made by Smt. Subha Sarma. IAS Commissioner cum Secretary to Govt. in HTH Department and chairperson SIDAC to the standing committee under the chairmanship of Secretary MSDE Govt. of India. While granting the CoE status, MSDE, Govt. of India observed that an organization of the nature and standing of SIDAC has an important role to play in training activity in the informal / non-traditional skilling sector, as well as for the training, practice and preservation of rare and dying arts and crafts of the State as well as for wider proliferation of its activities and benefit to the skilling eco-system. This will have positive spinoffs in the form of sharing of best practices with similar institutions in the country, as well as mobilization of global best practices for preservation of rare art and crafts forms.

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