

# Unleashing Social Enterprise Innovations for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities and its Contribution towards Sustainable Development

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**ABSTRACT:** Statement of the Problem: Despite the recent economic growth of the Indian economy, poverty and social exclusion of some society sections remain the same. In this article, we place the current debate on the emergence and growth of social enterprise via social innovation's theoretical lens to include persons with disabilities. The purpose of this study: The paper aims to answer the following questions: how does social entrepreneurship fit with current strategies in welfare policies and social service? What are the mechanisms and processes through which social entrepreneurs use social innovations to empower the socially excluded communities and thereby trigger the social change that enables sustainable development? Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: This paper draws upon a multi-case study of social entrepreneurs in India addressing social exclusion through social innovations. Findings: The study's findings argue

that social enterprises have a crucial role in eradicating poverty and social exclusion by using innovative business models. It not only promotes social inclusion but also simultaneously increases the productivity of beneficiaries by their social and economic contribution. Thus, it helps in sustaining the growth of the social economy and achieving sustainable development goals. The study findings also indicate the need for further research to test the social innovation business models at national and international levels. Conclusion & Significance: The article concludes with a discussion of promoting practice and research on effective strategies and capabilities of social enterprises to increase social inclusion at national and local levels.

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### Biography

Nageswara Rao Ambati is serving as Dean, Research and Publication Division, Director, GNLU Legal Incubation Council and Assistant Professor of Social Work at Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), Gandhinagar. He has over 8 ½ years of teaching and research experience at GNLU. He holds a Ph.D. from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai (2012). His teaching and research experience areas include Social Entrepreneurship, Research Methodology, Human Resource Management, and Disability Studies. He was a visiting Research Fellow at Freie University, Berlin, Germany, and visiting faculty at Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management, Ahmedabad. He has several publications in the area of social entrepreneurship and disability studies. Most of his articles are published with SAGE, Wiley, Routledge, Elsevier, Rawat, etc.

### Recent Publications

1. . Ambati, N. R., (2019) Social Innovation Practices in Sustainable Waste Management: Case Study of Successful Social Enterprises in Ahmedabad, International Journal of Scientific & Technology Research, 8 (12), 1978-1985.
2. Ambati, N. R., (2019a) The Role of Social Entrepreneurial Organizations in Promotion of Sustainable Development, Think India Journal, Issue-14, 5931-5944.

**Citation:** Nageswara Rao Ambati, Unleashing Social Enterprise Innovations for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities and its Contribution.

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