

Clip: 1 of 1

'Successful entrepreneur is one who is willing to take risk'

Our Bureau

Hyderabad, Dec. 19

The key to entrepreneurial success is the first to come out of the comfort zone of employment and shrug off fears of failure. Challenges and failures will spring up at every step of an entrepreneurial journey, but one would succeed if one understood the message that each failure delivered and rectified on it.

This was the message that a

panel of successful Hyderabad-based entrepreneurs gave during a discussion on 'Yes You Can Dream' at the **TIE** Entrepreneurial Summit here today. G.M. Rao, Chairman of the airport and infrastructure developer GMR Group, traced out his 40-year-old entrepreneurial journey that began in his small village Rajam in Srikakulam district as a jute trader.

The GMR Group today op-

erates the Hyderabad and New Delhi airports in India, besides an airport in Istanbul and has executed a string of road and power projects. "At the time we were bidding for the Hyderabad airport project, I had no idea of the complexities in airport development. My idea of an airport was a runaway and a small shed. If I had known the complexities involved, I perhaps would not have gone ahead with the bidding," Rao

said. He was trying to make the point that some times having too much knowledge could prove to be an obstacle in taking the entrepreneurial plunge as it could throw up a fear of failure. Now it is his dream to build an institution that has a lasting value. "I do not want GMR to vanish in say 30 years," he said.

Serial entrepreneur Sriniraju agreed with Rao that there was a difference between

making money and building an institution. "Even I have come from a village that saw no electricity till 1975. What I learnt in my journey is a successful entrepreneur is one who is willing to take the risk," he said.

Raju, who had co-founded the erstwhile Satyam Computers Ltd and later ILabs, said his new dream is to create a world-class university that could rank amongst the first 100 globally.

amit.mitra@thehindu.co.in