

It is stated that following minor research projects (2024-2025) are ongoing under the CRSIS&EC:-

Sr. No.	Title of minor research Project	Name of Project's Investigator	Tenure of Project	6 th Month's Report(s)
1.	<p>“Empowering the Deaf Community Through Inclusive Food Truck entrepreneurship: A model for Social and Economic Transformation”</p> <p>The global population of deaf individuals surpasses 70 million, with more than 80% residing in developing countries (World Federation of the Deaf). In India, the 2011 Census reported approximately 5 million deaf individuals. Despite the progressive measures introduced by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act of 2016, which guarantees equal rights and opportunities, the deaf community continues to face significant barriers to socio-economic integration. Persistent challenges such as limited access to employment, social isolation, and systemic discrimination hinder their participation in mainstream economic activities. Although advancements in technology and accessibility laws have enhanced quality of life, economic opportunities for deaf individuals remain scarce, often resulting in financial dependence. Moreover, the deaf community also now referred as Speech & Hearing impaired feels themselves in isolation, being neither able to listen nor speak. Thus, they need a model where their isolation challenges can be looked into align with financial & employment issues along with other challenges. This research proposes an inclusive food truck entrepreneurship model as a pathway to empower the deaf community, fostering sustainable livelihoods and promoting social transformation. The initiative aligns with key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, including SDG 1 (No Poverty) by fostering economic independence, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through skill development programs, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by generating employment opportunities, and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by dismantling barriers faced by deaf individuals. The food truck industry offers a unique and viable solution to these challenges due to its low entry barriers, entrepreneurial flexibility, and potential for social impact. However, there is a notable absence of structured models tailored to the specific needs of deaf entrepreneurs.</p>	<p>Prof. Radhey Shyam (Project Director) Prof. Ashish Dahiya (Co-Project Director) Dr. Pratima Devi. (Co-Project Director)</p>	13.09.2025 to 12.03.2027	<p>After 13th March, 2026 After 13th September, 2026</p>