

"Renaissance-An Entrepreneurship Summit 2015"

"Renaissance-An entrepreneurship Summit 2015" organized by Centre for Promoting Innovation and sponsored by TEQIP-II was organized during March 21-22, 2015 at Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad.

The inaugural of the event was graced by the presence of Director Prof P. Chakrabarti along with respected guests namely Prof. R.K. Srivastava- Coordinator, TEQIP-II and Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Rajeev Tripathi, Professor In-Charge, Training and Placement and Chairman, E-Cell, Prof Anuj Jain - Chairman, Technical Committee, Centre for Promoting Innovation and Dr. Shivesh Sharma, Convenor, CPI.

To give a well-rounded experience of entrepreneurship, various events like E-Talks from distinguished entrepreneurs and Panel Discussions on topics which were aimed at clearing the doubts of the students on a variety of issues was organized. Workshops were conducted to give some practical experience and a better understanding of some of the skills needed in a new enterprise. Lastly, competitions were organized with cash prizes as an incentive to maximize participation and instill the entrepreneurial spirit in the participants.

A total of 17 speakers were invited to the summit for participation in the different events present above, which was kick started by the Panel Discussion on Job vs. Entrepreneurship, and it served as the perfect start to the weekend to give a very basic view of why entrepreneurship is better than a regular job for graduates and the Panelists included successful entrepreneurs, like Mr Deep Sherchan, Mr Satya Sankalp, who also happened to be our alumnus, and Prof. Geetika Head, SMS Department of MNNIT.

Other panel discussions which also took place were on "Funding for Startups", which aimed at clearing some of the doubts of the students on the biggest hurdle in starting a new enterprise, which is, finding the necessary funds for it. Along with an entrepreneur at the stage, the presence of Dr Vibha Mishra, from the Ministry of MSME, Govt of India, was particularly insightful as she expounded on the various schemes that are available to budding entrepreneurs.

Further Panel Discussions on "Healthcare Enterprise" and "Social Enterprise" were primarily held for broadening the horizons of the students and explaining the various other avenues for starting an enterprise and in some cases, the noble causes that can be germinated by entrepreneurs that are not interested solely in profits. These discussions helped in increasing the scope of understanding of the students, for many of whom this was the first taste of entrepreneurship.

The workshops were held to increase student interaction and instill practical skills in the attendees. The Workshop on Idea Generation was taken by Mr. Pranjal Modi, Co-Founder, Vanijya Guru and he received a great student response as he walked amongst students and taught them how to find and germinate that idea which can give rise to a successful enterprise.

Other workshops dealt with slightly more technical areas, namely the Legal Issues surrounding businesses

and the Use of Big Data, and these were delivered by respected leading authorities in this field, including the ex-Chairman of the UP Bar Council and Mr Deep Sherchan for Big Data. Despite the technical nature of these topics, the audience responded well with insightful questions and the sessions ended with applause as the attendees left for lunch feeling they had learnt something new and very relevant.

Workshop on Cyber Security for web-based startups was taken by Mr. Pavan Kumar of Kratikai Tech and his work on Cyber Security excited the participants and explored the world which many would not have thought of while setting up their businesses.

To showcase the entrepreneurial spirit of the students, the E-Plan competition was held which was judged by the seasoned entrepreneurs themselves and the weekend saw over 30 entries, which were shortlisted down to 9, that got 10 minutes to present the business plan to the judges and the teams included students from MNNIT as well as from other colleges as well.

The highlight of the Event was clearly the E-Talks by the Speakers that had travelled across the world to talk about their experiences and their respective journeys to become successful entrepreneurs. They included veterans in the field and some that had just started out a few years back. Many of the alumni also brought with them their experiences and they connected the best with the students as they shared stories and each brought with them nuggets of wisdom that would come in useful to all the students, even outside the entrepreneurial world. The summit witnessed the registration of over 400 outside participants and students flocked over to see the distinguished speakers and discussions.

Sharma
Dr. Shivash







