

A Session on Early-Stage Entrepreneurs

Activity Report

Academic Year	2024-25
Program Driven by	
Quarter	IV
Program / Activity Name	
Program Type	
Program Theme	
Start Date	
End Date	
Duration of the Activity (in Mins)	1Hr
Number of Student Participant	
Number of Faculty Participant	
Number of external Participant	--
Expenditure Amount in Rs.	
Any Remark	--
Mode of Session Delivery	Offline
Objective	
Benefit in terms of Learning / Skills / Knowledge obtained	
Feedback	
Video url (mp4)	
Photograph 1 (jpg)	Attached
Photograph 2 (jpg)	Attached
Overall report of the Activity (pdf)	As given below



Dr. P. H. Zope
Convener IIC

Activity Report

Session Report: Early-Stage Entrepreneurs

Objective: The session aimed to provide a broad understanding of how early-stage entrepreneurs can convert their innovative ideas into successful startups by leveraging the support of Incubation Centres and Accelerators.

Key Points:

1. Understanding the Support from Incubation Centres and Accelerators

- **Incubators:** These centers typically support very early-stage startups, often at the idea or pre-product stage. They offer a flexible, longer-term program (1-5 years) to help entrepreneurs develop a business plan and validate their idea. Incubators provide essential resources, including mentorship, training, office space, and a community of like-minded entrepreneurs. While they may not always offer direct funding, they can help secure grants and connect entrepreneurs to early-stage investors.
- **Accelerators:** Designed for startups that have already developed a minimum viable product (MVP) or have some initial traction, accelerators focus on rapid, short-term growth. These are often cohort-based programs (3-6 months) that provide intense mentorship, networking opportunities, and seed funding in exchange for equity. The goal is to prepare the startup for a "demo day" where they can pitch to a wider audience of investors.

2. Process and Useful Steps for Getting Incubated

1. **Do Your Research:** Before applying, thoroughly research different incubators and accelerators. Look at their track record, success stories, and the types of companies they typically support. Find a program that aligns with your business idea, industry, and specific needs.
2. **Prepare Your Application:** The application process is highly competitive, with some top accelerators accepting only 1-3% of applicants. Your application should be clear, concise, and compelling. Focus on these key elements:
 - **The Problem:** Clearly define the problem your product or service solves.
 - **Your Solution:** Explain your innovative solution and what makes it unique.
 - **The Team:** Highlight why your team is uniquely qualified to succeed. Demonstrate a blend of technical and business skills.
 - **Market Potential:** Show that you are addressing a large or fast-growing market with a clear demand for your solution.
 - **Traction (if applicable):** For accelerators, demonstrate progress such as user growth, revenue, or a working prototype.
3. **Create a Killer Pitch Deck and Business Plan:** These documents are crucial for conveying your vision. A strong business plan acts as a roadmap, while a compelling pitch deck tells your startup's story in an engaging way.
4. **Show Coachability and Passion:** Incubators and accelerators want to see that you are open to feedback and have the drive and persistence to navigate challenges. Be ready to articulate your vision with confidence and knowledge during interviews and presentations.
5. **Utilize the Resources:** Once accepted, take full advantage of the resources provided, including workshops, mentorship sessions, and networking events. Engage with other founders and build strong relationships with mentors, as the network you build may be the most valuable part of the experience.

Useful Links and Resources:



SSBT's College of Engineering and Technology, Bambhori Jalgaon
(Included under section 2 (f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956)
Grade A (3.14) NAAC Accredited



- **Startup India Portal:** This government initiative often has a list of recognized incubators and accelerators.
- **AngelList, F6S, and Gust:** These platforms are commonly used for finding and applying to startup programs.
- **Y Combinator, Techstars, and 500 Global:** These are examples of well-known accelerators.
- **University Incubators:** Many universities have their own incubators, which can be a great option for students and alumni.



