

AICTE celebrates National Startup Day with the launch of Udyamotsav 2025 New Delhi, 16 January 2025:



In a historic move to honor Indian entrepreneurs, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) jointly inaugurated Udyamotsav 2025. This grand event coincides with the National Startup Day, and was centrally inaugurated at Amity University, Noida, with virtual participation from 13 institutes across India. The celebration highlighted the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

The inaugural ceremony witnessed the presence of Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman of AICTE, and Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE and Chief Innovation Officer of the Ministry of Education. During the event, Prof. Sitharam launched a Faculty Development Program on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and announced the ranking of Innovation and Incubation Centers (IICs) in AICTE-approved institutions.

Addressing the audience, Prof. Sitharam praised India's rich history of innovation and stressed the importance of a cultural shift towards fostering entrepreneurship through mandatory research and development cells in all institutions. "We are proud to see India emerge as the third-largest startup hub globally, with over 1.5 lakh startups," he remarked. He highlighted Udyamotsav 2025 as a demonstration of India's dedication to nurturing creativity and entrepreneurial success. Prof. Sitharam also announced plans to continue this initiative every four months, aiming to bridge the gap between academia and the startup ecosystem, promoting problem-solving, experiential learning, and creativity.

"Udyamotsav 2025 celebrates India's entrepreneurial spirit and acts as a catalyst for future innovation. It marks a pivotal moment in connecting academia with industry, fostering a culture of innovation integral to India's economic development. This event underscores our nation's commitment to creating a robust ecosystem for startups to thrive, driving India's journey towards becoming a global innovation powerhouse," Prof. Sitharam added.

Dr. Abhay Jere emphasized the initiative's significant impact, noting the participation of over 300 student and faculty startups, engaging with more than 90 investors. "Our goal is to connect startups and incubators with investors, fostering an educational environment that not only educates but also creates wealth," Dr. Jere explained. He underscored the role of educational institutions as innovation hubs, aligning with national efforts to empower young entrepreneurs.

Udyamotsav 2025 provided a platform for over 300 startups, selected from 3,200 applications, to pitch innovative ideas to investors across 14 locations in India, in a Shark Tank-style format. This initiative, part of the MoE-AICTE Investor Community Network, aims to strengthen India's entrepreneurial ecosystem and contribute to its economic growth. Finalist teams will receive ongoing mentorship and support through AICTE's Indovation Centers.

Udyamotsav 2025 embodies India's thriving startup ecosystem and reinforces government initiatives to empower youth in innovation and entrepreneurship. The event signifies a significant stride towards positioning India as a global leader in innovation.