Report for a Session on

MIC Programmes & Schemes of IIC

Speaker

Dr. Abhay Jere

Date: 23rd October 2024

Venue: IT Lab-1

In association with

Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), SCET

Introduction

On October 23, 2024, Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE and Chief Innovation Officer at the Ministry of Education, conducted an insightful session titled "MIC Programmes & Schemes." Organized by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) and Institution Innovation Councils (IICs), the event aimed to bolster innovation and entrepreneurship in India's higher education institutions. The session provided a comprehensive overview of initiatives and schemes introduced by the MIC to cultivate an ecosystem of creativity, problem-solving, and start up culture among students and faculty.

Key Highlights of the Session

Opening Remarks:

The session on "MIC Programmes & Schemes" commenced with an introduction by Mr. Yogesh, who welcomed the attendees and introduced Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE and Chief Innovation Officer at the Ministry of Education. Mr. Yogesh highlighted Dr. Jere's pivotal role in driving innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives in India's higher education sector. He acknowledged Dr. Jere's contributions to transforming the educational landscape and fostering a culture of creativity and problem-solving among students and faculty.

Transformation of Institution Innovation Councils (IICs)

Dr. Jere emphasized the importance of transforming IICs into global hubs for problem-solving and innovation. He highlighted the potential of these councils to become incubators of ideas and solutions addressing societal challenges. To enhance the effectiveness of IICs, Dr. Jere encouraged institutions to focus on organizing initiatives like idea challenges, design

thinking workshops, and awareness campaigns about Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). He noted that despite over 10 million students enrolled in higher education institutions, the number of start-ups emerging globally from these students remains disproportionately low, with only 6,000 notable ventures. This statistic underscores the need for systemic improvements in fostering entrepreneurial outcomes.

Participation in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH)

A significant portion of the session was dedicated to the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024. Dr. Jere urged students to actively participate in this flagship initiative, which provides a platform for young innovators to propose and implement solutions to real-world problems. The hackathon not only serves as a testing ground for innovative ideas but also bridges the gap between academic knowledge and practical application.

Yukti Portal and Innovation Challenges

Dr. Jere elaborated on the success of the Yukti Portal, which has received over 100,000 submissions of innovative ideas. He encouraged students and faculty to submit projects that have reached at least Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4 to ensure substantial progress toward commercialization. He also highlighted that 130 innovations were funded under the Yukti Innovation Challenge in the previous year, showcasing the Ministry's commitment to supporting promising projects. This portal is a vital tool for tracking and nurturing innovation across institutions.

Intellectual Property Management through the Kapila Portal

In the session, Dr. Jere stressed the importance of protecting intellectual property as a cornerstone of successful innovation. He discussed the Kapila Portal, which reimburses government charges related to IP filing. By promoting this initiative, the Ministry aims to

empower institutions and students to safeguard their innovations, thereby enhancing their marketability and impact.

Innovation Centres
Another key focus area was the establishment of Indovation Centres across the country. These centers are designed to support technology transfer and provide a robust framework for converting ideas into commercially viable products and services. Dr. Jere encouraged institutions to leverage these centers to strengthen their IIC activities and foster a culture of impactful innovation.

Outcomes and Recommendations
The session witnessed enthusiastic participation from 172 students and 24 faculty members. It provided valuable insights into the Ministry's various initiatives and served as a call to action for institutions to adopt a proactive approach to innovation and entrepreneurship. To maximize the impact of the discussed schemes and programmes, Dr. Jere recommended the following:

- Increased Awareness and Participation: Institutions should actively disseminate information about MIC programmes to ensure widespread student participation.

- Focus on Practical Implementation: Projects submitted to platforms like the Yukti Portal and SIH should prioritize practical application and scalability.

- IPR Awareness: Conduct workshops on IPR to educate students about the benefits of protecting their innovations.

- Collaboration with Indovation Centres: Institutions should establish partnerships with Indovation Centres to accelerate technology transfer and commercialization.

Conclusion
The session on MIC Programmes & Schemes, led by Dr. Abhay Jere, provided a detailed roadmap for fostering an innovation-driven ecosystem in higher education. By leveraging initiatives such as the SIH, Yukti Portal, Kapila Portal, and Indovation Centres, institutions can significantly contribute to India's growth as a global innovation hub. The event served as an inspiration for students and educators alike, underscoring the critical role of innovation in shaping the future of the nation.
.
We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Provost, Principal, faculty members, and all the participants and students for making this event a truly memorable and meaningful. As we look forward to the coming years, we aspire to continue this tradition of spreading knowledge on various domains of the nation with enthusiasm and dedication.

****