

GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL

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Honourable Education Minister Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama Inaugurates India's Largest Startup Literacy Course

Date: 28-10-2016

Time- 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Venue: Tapi Hall, Swarnim Sankul, Swarnim Sankul 1, Sector 10, Gandhinagar

Gujarat Technological University (GTU) has launched very unique initiative wherein, students from any corner of the Gujarat state can access and learn about start-ups totally free of cost. It is expected that the earlier students get sensitized about the start-up world, the sooner the better. Start-up Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) will give access to the students to learn from local start-up stories from Gujarat. Many start-up stories from Stanford & Harvard are recognised and appreciated but this MOOC will focus on local start-ups. This unique initiative is particularly for beginners & undergraduate students which was inaugurated by the Hon. Education Minister Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama to get this initiative kicked off. He said that Solutions of social problems are in innovation. If we want to compete with the developed countries, we have to upgrade our technological skills. That's why Government of Gujarat (GoG) had declared financial assistance to facilitate matured start-ups by providing them seed fund.

In fact, this MOOC is unique in terms of goal, scale & content. Scale is very huge and beyond comparison. In terms of content, it has all the local case studies from the ecosystem and in terms of quality, it is kept in such a manner that even a student from rural area can understand on what we are trying to infuse in their tender minds.

Start-up Village has supported this unique MOOC program for free of cost. Many faculties from MIT, Purdue University etc. will be sharing their stories, learnings and views through this program (platform). Gautham, COO- SV.Co shared his views and applauded for such an effort taken by state wide university. Sv.Co is always happy and cooperative to support GTU as we always strive to bring world class interventions for engineering students. India resides in villages so, "India for future" is not possible unless we have such a kind of initiative which can help students to learn about entrepreneurship. Gautham also discussed about his experiences and expressed that there is a need of right mentors to grow any start-ups.

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Due to rich experience at Sv.Co, they have seen many start-ups to scale and groom, they have seen many start-ups which are acqui-hired. They have observed the progress of start-ups right from prototype to scalability. Their experiences ignited an idea, that we can have a module of entrepreneurship for beginners and so MOOC initiatives were conceptualized.

Honourable Principal Secretary (Higher & Technical Education) Colleges & Universities Anju Sharma, discussed about how to upgrade the learning on entrepreneurship in this ecosystem. She told students that you are the future of entire society. Please think big. Processor of a young mind is always more powerful. So take the maximum benefit of it.

Hon. I/c Vice Chancellor Dr. R. K Gajjar briefed on how these unique initiatives will help the ecosystem to groom. She rightly quoted, “The perception of colours arises from variety of substances & forms, and they bring out special characteristics of that colour”. We bring some small little elements which give shape to Gujarat technological university and vibrant state of Gujarat. Today we talk about hard-core advanced Technology, where we have many new interventions to address them such as 100 point activity system, bridge courses, design engineering, Industry / User defined problems, innovation clubs along with this we also promote village visits, sodhyatras and project to product. These were some of the compartments which were working independently with motivation of GIC clubs & students since long. Then we realized that these compartments are not interlinked and they are watertight. So to make the innovation council more inclined towards outcome based, we made these compartments transparent & porous which gave a clear view on how to build an ecosystem. Starting from Design thinking-innovation clubs-prototype development-patents-start up, the whole chain is interlinked.

AICTE and MHRD are keen to see the impact factor of this initiative and whether this can be replicated in other state wide universities. We are in process to create a model for the nation and see how 4 million youth get access and become job creators. This is a small jump for huge flight and it will ignite many minds right in their college days. Also, the intensity with which Hon. Minister is supporting these start-up related activities & policies is highly commendable. It was a big day for all the start-ups incubated at GTU Incubator and we congratulate all the start-ups who will get the seed fund which was highly missing and creating a big void till now.

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And, this was just the beginning we have to travel far and see that these activities get soaked till the roots. We recall the day when we met Hon. Minister and it was discussed that some serious effort is required to get things inclined and in second meeting on the auspicious day of Dhanteras (Friday, 28.10.2016) the funds were felicitated.

Photo Gallery

Honorable Education Minister Inaugurating the MOOC Course



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Reference Links:

GTU Startup MOOC:<http://www.gtu.ac.in/startupmooc.aspx>

http://files.gtu.ac.in/circulars/16JUL/14072016_01.pdf

<http://www.indianweb2.com/2016/08/03/gtu-launch-indias-largest-start-literacy-program-online-mooc-50000-students/>

Media Coverage:

<https://yourstory.com/2016/07/gujarat-technological-university-student-startup-literacy-programme-online/>

<https://www.collegedekho.com/news/gtu-students-leverage-start-up-mooc-course-1998/>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/education/gtu-to-launch-students-start-up-literacy-programme-on-august-15-2935823/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/GTU-to-launch-student-startup-literacy-programme/articleshow/53348072.cms>

Report By:
Ms. Tosha Shukla
Asst. Professor, GTU Innovation Council