Report Of INSIGNIA 2025

Day 1st of INSIGNIA 2025 – Innovation and Start-Ups Summit

Organized by:
Institute Innovation Cell (IIC)
Jawahar Education Society's A.C. Patil College of Engineering, Kharghar
Date: 24th September 2025
Venue: Seminar Hall, Room No. 125 and Departmental Venues

Introduction

The Institute Innovation Cell (IIC) at A.C. Patil College of Engineering, Kharghar, has always been at the forefront of nurturing entrepreneurial spirit among its students. In line with the national agenda of fostering innovation and encouraging start-ups, the IIC organized its flagship two-day event, INSIGNIA 2025, on 24th and 25th September 2025. The aim of the event was to provide a platform for students, budding entrepreneurs, and innovators to present their ideas, interact with mentors, and gain exposure to the start-up ecosystem at regional and national levels.

Day 1 of INSIGNIA 2025 focused on a wide range of activities designed to expose participants to critical aspects of entrepreneurship such as business planning, legal and ethical considerations, mentorship support, intellectual property rights, prototype development, and funding opportunities. The day combined inspiring keynote addresses, interactive workshops, and competitive pitching sessions, all of which created a vibrant entrepreneurial atmosphere on campus.

Inauguration & Opening Session (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

The formal inauguration of Day 1 was held at the Seminar Hall (Room No. 125) and began with a warm welcome address by the coordinators. The dignitaries present emphasized the importance of innovation in higher education and its role in shaping India's future as a knowledge-driven economy.

The Chief Guest for the session, Mr. Umesh Rathod, Head of the Innovation Centre for the Western Region (Maharashtra and Goa) at AICTE Innovation Cell, delivered an

enlightening keynote on the theme "How to Plan for Start-up and Legal & Ethical Steps." In his address, Mr. Rathod highlighted the systematic processes required for establishing a successful start-up, the need to understand the legal frameworks governing businesses, and the significance of ethical responsibility while pursuing entrepreneurial ventures.

He shared real-life case studies of start-ups that succeeded because of strong ethical values and well-structured planning. Students were encouraged to not only innovate but also to build ventures that contribute positively to society. The session ended with an interactive Q&A, where students raised questions about intellectual property, compliance, and challenges faced by early-stage start-ups. The engaging session served as a perfect starting point for the day's activities.

Round 1: Business Plan Pitch (12:00 PM – 1:30 PM)

The Business Plan Pitch was the highlight of the morning session. Teams of students from various departments and institutes presented their start-up ideas to a panel of distinguished experts. This activity aimed to encourage students to think like entrepreneurs and to articulate their ideas in a structured format.

The panel for Round 1 included:

- Mr. Jayesh Khade (JK Start-up Support Incubation Center)
- Mr. Alok Ranjan (Founder & CEO, Fiterobic)
- Dr. Mayur Dubey (Director, Rahul Education Tiwari College of Engineering)

The teams presented innovative solutions across diverse fields such as sustainable energy, healthcare, digital platforms, social entrepreneurship, and technology-driven services. Each team was evaluated on the originality of their idea, feasibility, scalability, and presentation skills.

Participating Teams in Round 1

- **VisionX** – Presented a tech-driven solution for advanced vision systems. Members: Prathmesh Ughade, Mayur Chaudhari.
- **Clipfluence** – Focused on digital marketing and influencer networking. Members: Reva Pakhale, Swaraj Darekar.
- **Robustron** – Developed an idea around robotics and automation. Members: Pratik Sanjay Jadhav, Yashashree Dhake, Aditi Gaikwad, Vaishnavi Gadge.
- **404 Found us!** – Created a tech solution focusing on connectivity and problem-solving apps. Members: Siddhi Kandale, Samiksha Kadam, Abhishek Kalbande, Nikhil Kanojiya.
- **Civilians** – Worked on civil engineering and construction innovations. Members: Karna Motiwale, Harshita Singh, Iha Pathak, Aaryan Dafal, Akhil Soni, Abhishek Bhangdiya.
- **Solar Health** – Proposed renewable energy-based healthcare solutions. Members: Kunal Shivral, Ashish Thorat, Aadi Ashish Bhangdiya.
- **SK** – Saksham Agarwal
- **SkA** - Saksham Agarwal

The judges appreciated the creativity and clarity demonstrated by the teams and provided feedback that encouraged participants to refine their ideas further. The pitching session helped students understand the importance of aligning innovation with real-world applicability.

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Round 2: Panel Discussion (2:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

After lunch, a highly interactive panel discussion was conducted with start-up ecosystem enablers.

The panelists for round 2 included:

- Mr. Jayesh Khade (JK Start-up Incubation center)
- Mr. Alok Ranjan (Founder & CEO of Fiterobic)
- Dr. Mayur Dubey (Director Rahul Education Tiwari college of Engineering)
- Dr. Ravindra Pratap Gupta (MD-Aviyana RPG)

shared their experiences and expertise on building successful start-ups in India.

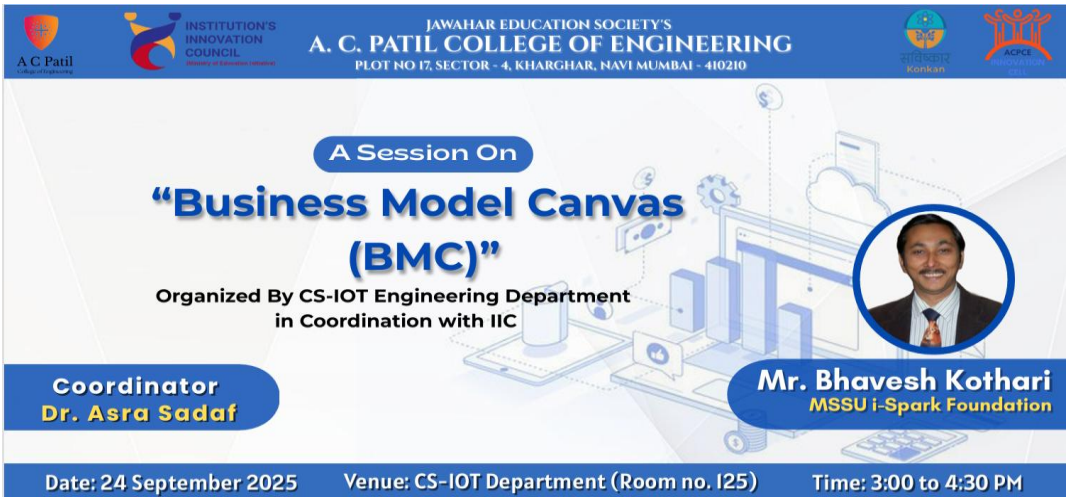
The discussion touched upon several crucial aspects including:
• The growth of the Indian start-up ecosystem and government support through initiatives such as Start-up India.
• The importance of incubation centers and accelerators in nurturing start-ups.
• Challenges faced by young entrepreneurs such as funding, scaling, and market entry barriers.
• The need for persistence, innovation, and adaptability in entrepreneurship.

The interactive format allowed students to directly engage with the experts. Questions from the audience included queries on how to raise initial funding, how to choose co-founders, and the relevance of mentorship. The panelists provided practical answers and encouraged students to leverage available institutional and government resources.

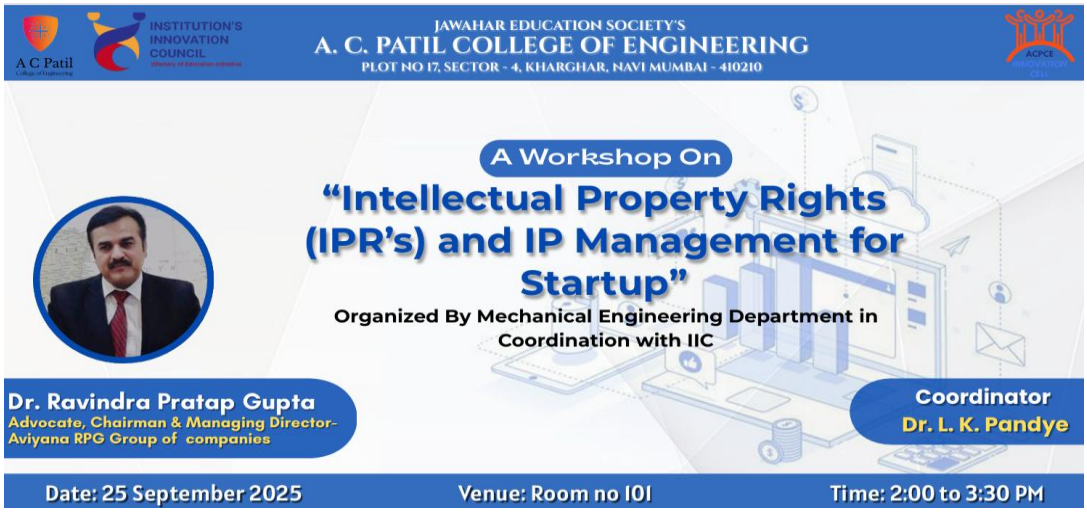
- **Parallel Sessions and Workshops (3:00 PM – 4:30 PM)**

The afternoon was dedicated to skill-based workshops conducted in parallel across different departments. These workshops provided hands-on insights into specific areas of entrepreneurship. The sessions included:

• **Business Model Canvas (BMC):** Organised by CS-IOT department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Dr. Asra Sadaf. Mr. Bhavesh Kothari (MSSU i-Spark Foundation) was the expert for the session. He explained the nine building blocks of the BMC and guided students on how to conceptualize their business ideas in a systematic manner.



Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and IP Management: Organized by Mechanical department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Dr. L. K. Pandye. Dr. Ravindra Pratap Gupta (MD-Aviyana RPG) was the expert for the session. This workshop covered patents, copyrights, trademarks, and their role in protecting start-up innovations



- **Angel Investment and Venture Capital Funding:** Organized by Masters in Management Studies department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Prof Abhijit Salunke. Dr. Nagendra Pratap Singh (Perpetual Gravity Labs) was the expert for the session. This session introduced students to early-stage funding mechanisms, pitching to investors, and managing finances.

- **Prototype and Process Design:** Organized by Electronics and Telecommunication department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Prof Nitin Chavande. Mr. Jayesh Khade (JK Start-up Incubation center) was the expert for the session. This workshop focused on transforming concepts into prototypes and highlighted design thinking principles. These workshops were well-received and enabled participants to gain practical knowledge beyond classroom learning.

Outcomes of Day 1

Day 1 of INSIGNIA 2025 successfully achieved its goal of combining academic knowledge with real-world entrepreneurial practice. The event empowered students to develop critical skills such as idea pitching, business planning, and design thinking. They also gained insights into intellectual property management, investment opportunities, and ecosystem networking.

Furthermore, the event fostered teamwork, confidence, and communication among participants. By engaging with industry experts and innovation ambassadors, students realized the importance of mentorship and collaboration. The collective learning experience will help participants refine their start-up ideas and work towards scalable ventures in the future.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the first day of INSIGNIA 2025 was a resounding success. The thoughtfully designed sessions, expert-led workshops, and enthusiastic participation of students created a lively and intellectually rich environment on campus. The event not only encouraged innovation but also aligned with the objectives of national missions such as Atmanirbhar Bharat and the vision of transforming India into a global hub of innovation.

Day 2nd of INSIGNIA 2025 – Start-Ups Event

Introduction

Day 2 of INSIGNIA 2025 carried forward the momentum established on the inaugural day of the event. The second day focused on deeper engagement with investors, innovation experts, and professionals from the entrepreneurial ecosystem. It provided students and participating start-up teams the opportunity to demonstrate their prototypes, engage in detailed mentorship discussions, and compete for recognition of their innovative ventures.

The agenda of Day 2 was structured around Demo Day, investor interaction, workshops on financial management, lean start-up principles, and incubation opportunities. The day concluded with prize distribution, recognizing the best-performing teams and honoring their contributions to innovation.

Round 3: Demo Day of Start-Ups & Mentorship Linkage (10:00 AM – 11:30 AM)

The third round marked the official Demo Day of INSIGNIA 2025, where start-up teams presented their refined prototypes and solutions to a distinguished panel of experts.

The jury included:

- Dr. Ravindra Pratap Gupta (CMD, Aviyana RPG Group)
- Mr. Jayesh Khade (JK Start-up Support Incubation Center)
- Mr. Alok Ranjan (Founder & CEO, Fiterobic)
- Dr. Mayur Dubey (Director, Rahul Education Tiwari College of Engineering)

Teams showcased working models, software applications, and conceptual prototypes that had been developed and refined after the feedback from Day 1. This session was a vibrant display of creativity, innovation, and determination. Each team was given an opportunity to explain the technical aspects of their prototype, its intended market, and future scalability.

The mentors provided one-on-one feedback, guiding students on how to strengthen their product-market fit, scale efficiently, and manage resources effectively. The Demo Day was especially valuable as it exposed participants to real-world scrutiny from investors and professionals.

Round 4: Investor Session and Start-up Competition (11:30 AM – 1:30 PM)

The investor session was one of the most anticipated events of Day 2. Teams pitched their start-ups to a panel of potential investors who evaluated their business models for funding opportunities. The same jury panel from Demo Day continued, ensuring continuity and familiarity with the teams' progress.

The jury included:

- Dr. Ravindra Pratap Gupta (CMD, Aviyana RPG Group)
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This session also doubled as an inter/intra-institutional start-up competition, where the best start-ups were identified and rewarded. Criteria for evaluation included innovation, feasibility, sustainability, teamwork, and overall presentation. The session instilled a sense of competitiveness and encouraged students to benchmark their ideas against others.

Investors emphasized the importance of resilience in entrepreneurship and provided practical tips on fundraising, equity distribution, and approaching angel networks and venture capitalists. Several teams were advised to incubate their ideas at regional centers

to gain further support.

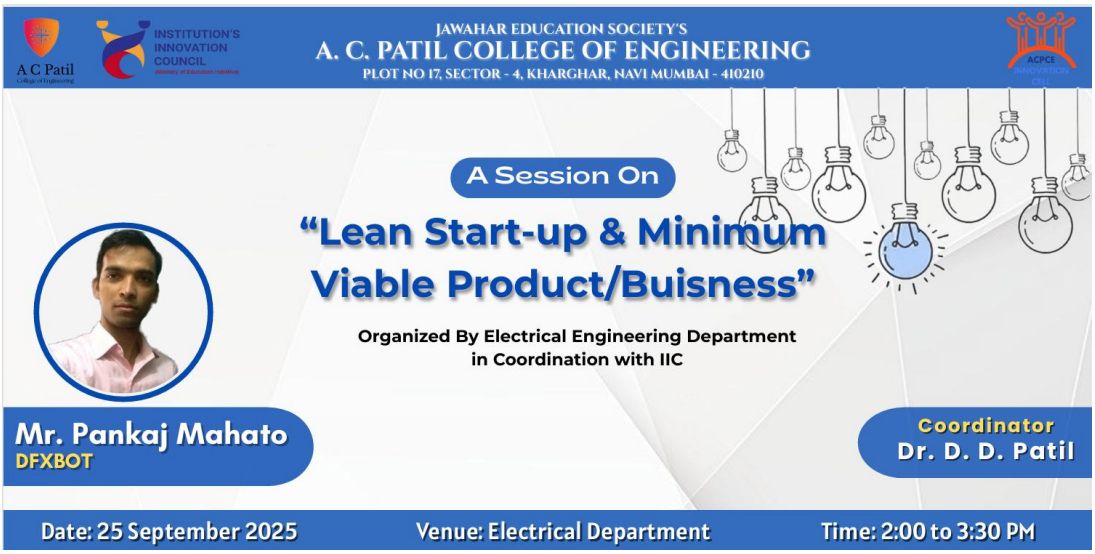
Workshop on "Raising Capital and Managing Finance for Start-ups" (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

Post-lunch, Mr. Sagar Babar from XCCEL Ventures conducted a detailed workshop on the financial aspects of running a start-up. Workshop Organized by Computer Engineering Department in Coordination with IIC coordinated by Dr. A. R. Sonule. Mr. Sagar Babar explained various sources of capital such as bootstrapping, angel investment, venture capital, and government schemes. Students learned how to prepare financial projections, manage cash flow, and structure investment deals. The workshop emphasized that while innovation is key, strong financial discipline is equally essential for survival and growth in the start-up ecosystem.

- **Session on "Lean Start-up & Minimum Viable Product" (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)**

Simultaneously, Session on "Lean Start-up & Minimum Viable Product" Organized by Electrical department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Dr. D. D. Patil. Mr. Pankaj Mahato from DFXBOT conducted a session on the Lean Start-up methodology and the importance of developing a Minimum Viable Product (MVP). The session highlighted how entrepreneurs can test their ideas quickly with minimal resources, gather feedback, and improve iteratively.

Students were taught how to identify their target audience, create rapid prototypes, and apply agile methods to business development. Real-world case studies demonstrated how global start-ups achieved success through lean approaches.



Session on "Accelerators and Incubation Opportunities" (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

In another parallel session, on "Accelerators and Incubation Opportunities" Mr. Jayesh Khade from JK Startup Support Incubation Center conducted a workshop on incubation and accelerator opportunities for students and faculties. He explained the role of incubation centers in providing infrastructure, mentorship, funding, and networking to early-stage entrepreneurs. Session is Organized By AIDS Engineering Department in coordination with IIC.

He motivated participants to connect with local and national incubation programs to take their start-ups to the next level. The discussion also included opportunities offered by government programs and academic institutions.

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Session on "Accelerators and Incubation Opportunities" (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

In another parallel session, Organized by Artificial Intelligent and data science department in coordination with IIC, coordinated by Dr. J. V. Terdale. Mr. Jayesh Khade from JK Startup Support Incubation Center conducted a workshop on incubation and accelerator opportunities for students and faculties. He explained the role of incubation centers in providing infrastructure, mentorship, funding, and networking to early-stage entrepreneurs.

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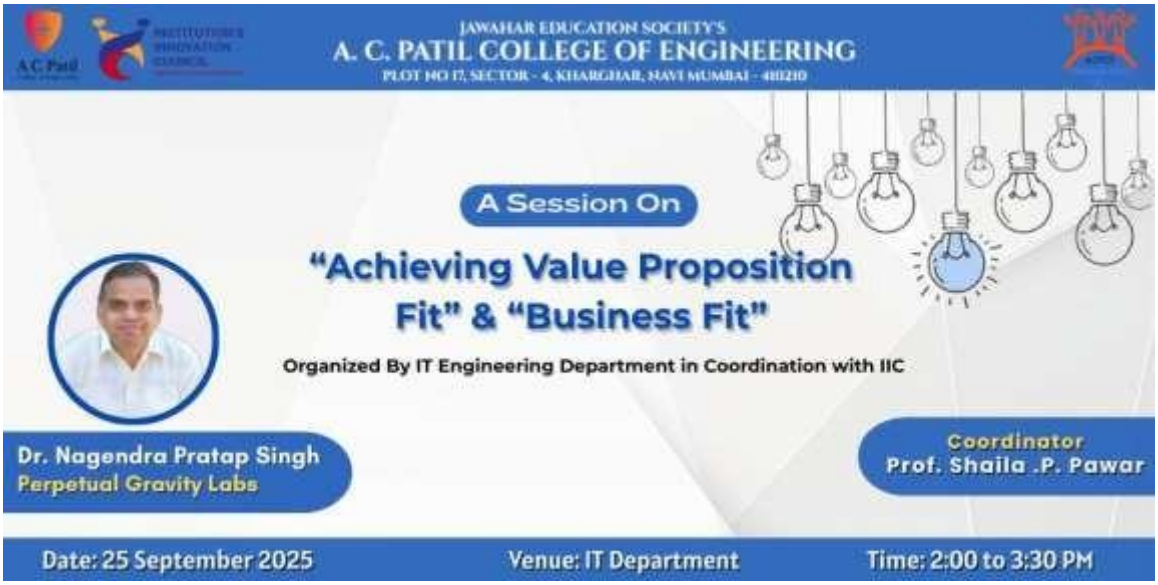
Session on "Achieving Value Proposition Fit and Business Fit" (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

Session is Organized By IT Engineering Department in Coordination with IIC. And coordinated by Prof. S. P Pawar. Dr. Nagendra Pratap Singh from Perpetual Gravity Labs led a comprehensive session on developing a value.

proposition that resonates with customers. He emphasized that entrepreneurs must clearly define the problem they are solving and ensure that their product offers a unique solution.

The session also touched upon aligning business models with customer needs, thereby creating a strong business fit. Through interactive activities, students learned how to map customer journeys and adapt their offerings accordingly.



Prize Distribution and Valedictory Session (3:30 PM – 5:00 PM)

The final segment of Day 2 was the Prize Distribution Ceremony, held in the Seminar Hall. The event was attended by faculty members, coordinators, and students who had actively participated across both days.

Prizes were awarded to the best-performing start-up teams based on their innovation, presentation, and feasibility. Special recognition was given to teams that showed exceptional creativity and potential for future development. Certificates of participation were also distributed to all registered teams, acknowledging their dedication and

enthusiasm.

The valedictory remarks highlighted the importance of continuing the spirit of innovation beyond the event. Faculty members and guests congratulated the students and encouraged them to pursue their start-up journeys with persistence and passion.

Outcomes of Day 2

Day 2 of INSIGNIA 2025 successfully provided participants with exposure to investor expectations, financial management, and incubation opportunities. Students developed a deeper understanding of how to scale their start-ups and prepare them for real-world challenges.

The recognition given during the prize distribution further motivated participants to continue working on their ideas. Networking with investors and mentors provided a pathway for future collaboration and potential funding. Overall, Day 2 built upon the learnings of Day 1 and ensured a comprehensive entrepreneurial experience for all attendees.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the second day of INSIGNIA 2025 was a culmination of innovation, mentorship, and celebration. The variety of sessions ensured that participants gained insights into every aspect of entrepreneurship—from demo presentations and investor interactions to financial planning and incubation opportunities.

The event achieved its objectives of fostering a culture of innovation and strengthening the start-up ecosystem within the institution. INSIGNIA 2025 not only inspired students but also established A.C. Patil College of Engineering as a hub for entrepreneurial activity, contributing meaningfully to the national vision of Start-up India and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Glimpse of the event:

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A.C. Patil College of Engineering

Institute Innovation Council (IIC)

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