

IIC CALENDAR ACTIVITY

Report on the Regional Meet at Francis Xavier Engineering College, Tirunelveli

January 24, 2024

Objective: Creating an Entrepreneurial Ecosystem through Innovation and Start-up

The Regional Meet at Francis Xavier Engineering College (FXEC), Tirunelveli, marked a significant day on January 24, 2024, as it opened a gateway to discussions on fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem powered by innovation and start-up culture. Held at the FX Auditorium, the event drew an eager audience comprising students, faculty, entrepreneurs, and distinguished guests from various sectors.

The Inaugural Session: The session began with an insightful introduction to FXEC's Innovation Cell (IIC) by its president, Dr. Lourdes Poobala Rayen, setting the tone for an event centered on innovation and entrepreneurial spirit. The felicitation by Dr. K. Jeya Kumar added to the anticipation of what was to unfold.

Voices of Innovation: The meet's highlight was the series of addresses by distinguished guests, each bringing a unique perspective on creating a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem. Mr. Dipan Sahu, Assistant Innovation Director at the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and AICTE, emphasized the critical role of innovation in education and the need for institutions to nurture creative thinking among students.

Mr. A. Thomas Antony's address provided a glimpse into the practical aspects of entrepreneurship, drawing from his experience as the Managing Director of Nova Carbon India

Private Limited. His talk underscored the importance of resilience and adaptability for start-ups operating in challenging environments.

Vision for the Future: Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman of AICTE, in his address as the chief guest, articulated a visionary approach towards integrating innovation with technical education. His emphasis on policy support for start-ups and the role of academic institutions in fostering an innovation-driven culture resonated deeply with the audience.

Dr. S. Cletus Babu's presidential address was a source of inspiration for many, as he shared insights from his journey in establishing the SCAD Group of Institutions. His emphasis on social entrepreneurship and the power of education to drive societal change was particularly impactful.

Participant Perspective: From an audience standpoint, the event was not just informative but transformative. It provided a comprehensive view of the entrepreneurial landscape, from policy-making and institutional support to practical challenges and opportunities in the start-up world. The first-hand accounts and the breadth of knowledge shared by the speakers were invaluable. The event succeeded in instilling a sense of urgency and possibility among the attendees regarding the role of innovation in shaping a better future.

Outcome

The Regional Meet at FXEC was a milestone event in promoting the ethos of innovation and entrepreneurship among the academic and business communities in Tirunelveli. It underscored the collective effort required to build a sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem and left the participants inspired to contribute towards this goal.

