Innovation, Design & Entrepreneurship Bootcamp begins at NITK Surathkal

MANGALURU, DHNS

National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) Surathkal Director Prof B Ravi said it is the right time for students to become entrepreneurs by applying their skill sets to practical use.

He was presiding over the inaugural programme of the phase one of the second edition of 'Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE) Bootcamp' organised by the Ministry of Education, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) at NITK, Surathkal on Monday.

"The changing scenario in the job sector can be seized by the innovative minds to create opportunities. Through boot camps, students are encouraged to learn new skill sets which will make them market ready. Taking ideas into the market is also important and the Ministry of Education has initiated steps in this direction," he said.

"It is essential for students of technology to know everything about startups such as customer positioning, functionality, blitzscaling and related topics," stressed DriveU co-founder, CEO Rahm Shastry (Ramprasad Shastry), while delivering the keynote address on 'Building an enduring and profitable business – Insights from Silicon Valley'.

AICTE Chairman Prof T

DriveU co-founder, CEO and Executive Chairman Rahm Shastry (Ramprasad Shastry) delivers the keynote address during the inauguration of Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship bootcamp at NITK, Surathkal on Monday. DH PHOTO

G Seetharam addressed virtually and said AICTE is committed to transforming institutes of higher education such as NITs into islands of innovations, which will in turn contribute towards developing a knowledge-based economy. "Innovative ideas of students are channelised to develop them into entrepreneurs."

Equip students

He meanwhile felt a need to equip students with practical startups by providing them with local tools and networking opportunities.

AICTE Innovation Officer and Nodal Center Head Abhishek Ranjan Kumar said that the bootcamp at NITK is being attended by 288 students from various states, including the participants of Smart India Hackathon. 135 innovations were selected for funding a year ago. The best innovations, selected at the finals of the Smart India Hackathon, organised by the Education Ministry, become part of the Yukti innovation repository and will receive funds to execute the project and to patent the product.

Participants of the boot camp are selected from various colleges, based on their project ideas. Sessions and panel discussions with experts are conducted to mould them. The boot camps are conducted at 10 different locations in the country, he added.

Investors' network

AICTE Innovation Manager S Sam Jaikumar said AICTE has developed an investors' network with 100 plus investors to fund the projects for industrial requirements. Funding is also provided under KAPILA - Kalam Programme for IP (Intellectual Property) Literacy and Awareness.

NITK Nodal Centre SPOC faculty convener Dr Suprabha K R and IDE Bootcamp faculty convenor Prof Subray Hegde among others were present on the ocassion.

Exhibition

An exhibition of projects by students was held on the occasion.