



Field visit to IIEDC (Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre) at National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar

Design Your Degree Ist Batch, 3rd Semester.

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Introduction



The field visit for the students of Ist Batch (3rd Semester) Design Your Degree was conducted under the supervision of mentor Dr. Baasit Abubakr to IIEDC (Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre) at National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar on 3rd July, 2025.

The IIED centre is presently carrying out various activities like skill development, entrepreneurship support, incubation of ideas, development of grassroots technologies, and so forth.

In this visit, students were introduced to the latest practices and techniques regarding Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Design Thinking in action.



Sessions



- The group had a welcoming session with Shahid Abbas Mir (CEO of Greenovator Incubation Foundation, NIT Srinagar), who introduced the centre's vision. He then began the session by sharing his personal experience of becoming an entrepreneur after his engineering journey, and also insights on startups and entrepreneurship. He urged students to get over the fear of failing and embrace innovation, stressing the value of failure in the process of success. In the startup ecosystem, Dr. Shahid also emphasized the importance of ideas, perseverance, and teamwork.
- Dr. Dinesh Kumar, an Assistant Professor at NIT, who mentors student inventions and startup projects, led the second session. Dr. Dinesh discussed how NIT's innovation ecosystem is expanding and how students are helped to transform their ideas into practical solutions. Dr. Dinesh facilitated a session on career aspirations and engaged with participants.
- The group had another interaction with Dr. Saad Parvez (Head IIEDC, NIT, Srinagar), who gave insights on core startup concepts, including Red Ocean Strategy and Blue Ocean Strategy. He also made students aware of the importance of networking, strong team creation, alongside a good idea.

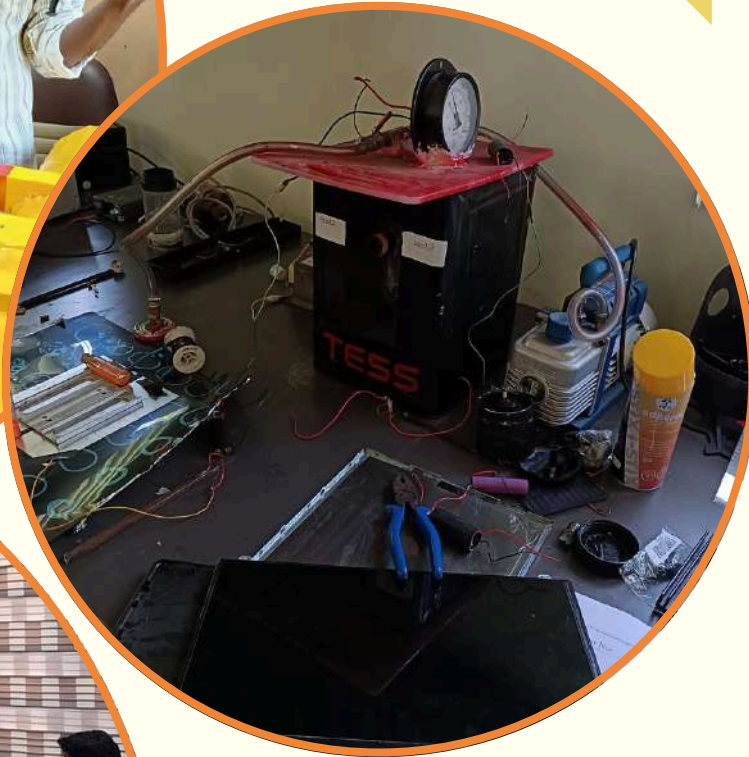
- The last interaction session was held with Murtaza Khan (student researcher), who shared his journey and experience of taking his project “Particle Accelerator” from home to receiving funding of ₹15 Lakh in MSME Hackathon 4.0 organized by NIT, Srinagar. Currently, he is working on his another project about hydrogen-to-helium applications.

Activities

- The activities involved visiting lab facilities, including Greenovator Incubation Centre to witness the particle accelerator project, and Fab Centre for exploring prototyping and digital fabrication facilities.
- Later on, the group headed to the Advanced Lab for drone development, drone manufacturing processes, including the use of 3D printing technology for component production. Students designed and fabricated hexacopters and quadcopters, using advanced digital manufacturing techniques. Dr. Dinesh demonstrated the use of a Bambu 3D printer for drone parts and prototypes, and also discussed practical applications and design approaches.



Field Photo Gallery



Key Takeaways

Takeaway 1

- Innovation is rooted in determination, passion and teamwork.

Takeaway 2

- Hands-on exposure, thinking creatively and critically, and Networking Skills are the important tools for taking innovative ideas to evolve into funded, impactful projects.

Takeaway 3

- Students learned about core startup concepts like Red Ocean Strategy and Blue Ocean Strategy, and mentors encouraged students to convert themselves into changemakers, blending education with innovation.



Conclusion

- The visit to NIT Srinagar's Incubation Centre was a truly insightful experience for students. It bridged the gap between classroom learning and real-world application. Students gained exposure to advanced technologies like drones and 3D printing and got to see the applications of design thinking in real-life problems.
- Interacting with faculty gave them a deeper understanding of how innovation begins with ideas, teamwork, and a willingness to fail and try again.
- The visit inspired students to become more proactive, take initiative in their learning journeys, and consider the broader possibilities of technology and research in shaping the future.

