

A Report on “Entrepreneurship & Innovation as Career Opportunity”

ACTIVITY TYPE	Expert Session on “Entrepreneurship & Innovation as Career Opportunity”		
DATE & TIME	29 th July, 2025	Duration	10:30 AM onwards
SEMESTER	1 st Sem	No. of participants	71
EXPERT NAME WITH DESIGNATION	Dr. Rishab Dhar , Assistant professor & Dept. PIERC coordinator		
NAME OF EXPERT'S ORGANIZATION	Dairy & Food Technology Department, Parul Institute of Technology, Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India		
EXPERT CONTACT DETAILS	+91 84028 36189		
FACULTY COORDINATOR	Mr. Ashish Todkar		
FACULTY CONTACT DETAILS	rishab.dhar37764@paruluniversity.ac.in , 8402836189 (Dr. Rishab Dhar)		
SPONSORING AUTHORITY	-NA-	SPONSORING AMOUNT	-NA-

The session was organized by the Dairy & Food Technology Department situated at the Parul Institute of Technology (PIT) of Parul University in association with the Parul Innovation and Entrepreneurship Research Center (PIERC) entitled “**Entrepreneurship & Innovation as Career Opportunity**” on **29th July, 2025**, from 10:30 am onwards for the students from various branches in Parul Institute of Technology (PIT). The session was delivered by Dr. Rishab Dhar, PIERC coordinator of Dairy & Food Technology Department (PIT). The session was coordinated by Mr. Ashish Todkar (assistant professor

in the Dept. Dairy & Food Technology) along with support of the convenor Dr. Vejay Kele (HOD, Dairy & Food Technology, PIT).

Objectives

- To inspire students and young professionals to explore entrepreneurship and innovation as viable and rewarding career paths.
- To provide insights into the entrepreneurial ecosystem, including startup development, funding opportunities, and innovation-driven business models.
- To make students aware about the opportunities, flagship events, and the institute's facilities to support entrepreneurship and innovation.

Outcomes

- Participants gained awareness and motivation to consider entrepreneurship and innovation as potential career avenues.
- Students developed a better understanding of the startup ecosystem, including key stages of venture development and available funding channels.
- Attendees became familiar with institutional support, including flagship events, incubation programs, and facilities promoting entrepreneurial initiatives.

Activity Details

A seminar titled “Entrepreneurship and Innovation as a Career Opportunity” was successfully conducted by Dr. Rishab Dhar, EDC (PIERC) Coordinator of the Dairy & Food Technology Department, Parul Institute of Technology, Parul University. The session was organized with the aim of inspiring students to explore entrepreneurship and innovation as promising career paths while equipping them with knowledge of the startup ecosystem and institutional support available at Parul University.

Dr. Dhar opened the session by emphasizing the importance of innovation in today's fast-changing job landscape and highlighted how entrepreneurship empowers individuals to turn real-world problems into impactful business solutions. Using thought-provoking examples of grassroots innovations by students across India—such as a wheelchair that converts into crutches or a

multicolor headphone wire—he encouraged participants to recognize the power of simple yet effective ideas.

The session provided a detailed overview of what defines a startup and discussed the structured entrepreneurial support system available through Parul Innovation and Entrepreneurship Research Centre (PIERC). Dr. Dhar shared the evolution of PIERC, from the establishment of EDC (entrepreneurship development cell) cells and appointment of departmental coordinators to the recognition as a Nodal Institution and receiving major funding, including ₹5.6 crore SSIP grant, ₹4.02 crore SPARSH Centre funding (BIRAC), and ₹3 crore under the Startup India SISFS initiative.

Participants were informed about the multi-stage funding opportunities for student and faculty startups, ranging from idea-stage grants (like SSIP and Startup Srujan) to growth-stage support from venture capitalists and angel investors. Dr. Dhar showcased several inspiring success stories of PIERC-incubated startups—such as Solnce Energy, which secured ₹1 crore investment on Shark Tank India, Trustopay valued at ₹6 crore, and Cligent Aerospace, India's first hydrogen-electric aircraft venture currently in \$1.2M fundraising.

The session also shed light on flagship startup events, including Vadodara Startup Festival and Startup Nivesh, which have attracted investment commitments of over ₹50 crores. Students were encouraged to participate in these events and utilize university-provided infrastructure like FABLAB and startup studios across various cities.

Dr. Dhar concluded the session with a strong call-to-action: urging students to identify real-life problems, develop innovative solutions, and initiate their entrepreneurial journeys through the structured incubation process provided by PIERC. He also guided them to submit their ideas through the official PIERC portal for further mentoring and support.

The event received an enthusiastic response from students, who expressed newfound interest in innovation and entrepreneurship as meaningful career options supported by institutional resources.

Benefits in Terms of Learning / Skill / Knowledge Obtained

- Enhanced understanding of the startup ecosystem, including stages of venture development, funding opportunities, and institutional support available through PIERC.
- Improved awareness of real-world innovation practices, showcased through successful student-led startups and grassroots innovation case studies.
- Motivation and guidance to develop entrepreneurial thinking, including how to identify problems, generate innovative solutions, and take the first steps toward launching a startup.

Glimpses of Activity





