

Purpose of Visit: Research guidance, laboratory exposure, innovation & startup sensitization

Date : 07/11/2025

1. Introduction

A team of students and faculty members from **Ahmedabad Dental College & Hospital** visited **Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU)** to explore advanced biotechnology research facilities and seek academic guidance for their ongoing thesis work. The visit aimed to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and provide students with exposure to cutting-edge laboratory techniques, innovation opportunities, and an understanding of how biotechnology can support dental and clinical research.

In addition, the session emphasized the importance of **converting thesis projects into early-stage startup ideas**, aligning with the “**Make in India**” vision that encourages indigenous innovation, product development, and self-reliance in the healthcare and biotechnology sectors.

2. Objectives of the Visit

- To understand GBU’s advanced **research and laboratory ecosystem**.
- To receive academic and technical support for their **ongoing thesis projects**.
- To explore how research ideas can be translated into **startup concepts and prototypes**.
- To encourage students to contribute to the **Make in India initiative** through locally developed biomedical and dental solutions.

3. Expert Session by Prof. Rakesh Rawal

Prof. **Rakesh Rawal**, Dean – Academics, conducted an interactive and highly informative session covering:

- Guidance on **research methodology, design, and data interpretation** relevant to dental and clinical research.
- How to identify research gaps and convert a strong thesis concept into a **commercially viable innovation**.
- Step-by-step insight into converting scientific ideas into **startup opportunities**, from ideation to prototype development.
- Importance of developing **indigenous, cost-effective solutions** in line with the **Make in India** and **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** missions.
- An overview of **SSIP support**, including idea pitching, funding opportunities, and mentorship for students.

Students actively engaged in discussions, seeking clarity on project refinement, innovation pathways, and entrepreneurship prospects in healthcare.

4. Laboratory Visit & Demonstration

Students participated in guided tours of key GBU laboratories:

- Molecular Biology Laboratory
- Cell Culture Facility
- Analytical Instrumentation Lab
- Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Lab

They observed high-end instruments, ongoing research activities, and practical applications relevant to **oral microbiology, biomaterials, tissue engineering, diagnostics**, and biomedical innovation.

5. Student Interaction & Key Takeaways

- Students received focused suggestions to strengthen their **thesis projects**.
- They learned how to identify real-world dental problems and convert their research into **startup ideas and prototypes**.
- Improved understanding of the **innovation ecosystem**, grant opportunities, and entrepreneurship pathways.
- Motivation to contribute to **India’s healthcare innovation ecosystem** through original, locally developed solutions.
- Strengthened collaboration prospects between Ahmedabad Dental College & Hospital and GBU.