



Saurashtra startup summit 2.0

Date: 18/07/2025

Time: 10:00 AM TO 05:00 PM

Speakers: 1. Mrs. Pabiben Rabari
2. Captain Ishan Karve
3. Captain Poonam Gaur
4. Mr. Vivek Mehta
5. Mr. Pence Mataria
6. Mr. Piotr Sladowski
7. Mr. Jatin Chaudhary
8. Ms. Shweta Upadhyay
9. Mr. Shalin Maheshwari
10. Mr. Amit Rokad
11. Mr. Ravin Bhadja

Venue: RK University, Main Campus, Rajkot

Targeted Audience & Participants: Startups, Students, Industry Delegates, Academicians, Researchers etc.

No. Of Participants: 725+ Delegates & students, 30+ Eminent Speakers, 16+ Startup & 30+ Mentors

Brief Description of the Event:

The Vibrant Mega Saurashtra Startup Summit 2.0 served as a landmark initiative to strengthen the growth landscape of Gujarat, with a special focus on tier-2 and tier-3 cities. Jointly organized by the Startup Gujarat Cell and RK University's K. S. Patel Centre for Entrepreneurship (KSPCFE), the summit brought together aspiring founders, investors, academic leaders, and ecosystem partners on a common platform. The Startup Gujarat Cell, functioning under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat, played a pivotal role by extending financial support, mentorship frameworks, and strategic policy-level guidance. Through this collaboration, the summit not only provided a platform to highlight the potential of emerging ventures from across India but also reinforced the role of academic incubators in nurturing regional talent and driving impactful. The Vibrant Mega Saurashtra Startup Summit 2.0 brought together diverse voices and perspectives through engaging sessions and discussions.

Ms. Pabiben Rabari shared how cultural heritage can be transformed into global business opportunities by focusing on branding, exports, and identity-driven crafts. Captain (IN) Ishan Karve drew lessons from his military background, emphasizing discipline, planning, and



execution for building deep-tech ventures. Captain Poonam Gaur inspired participants with insights on self-belief, mental strength, and purpose as essential tools during uncertain times. Founders Mr. Vivek Mehta and Mr. Pence Mataria showcased how talent from smaller towns can achieve global recognition when supported by the right ecosystem. International expert Mr. Piotr Sladowski highlighted advancements in the electric mobility sector with examples from Poland, touching on policy, sustainability, and partnerships. The eChai Connects panel featuring multiple founders and moderated by Mr. Jatin Chaudhary reflected on real startup journeys, including challenges, pivots, and growth strategies. Overall, the summit created a powerful platform that encouraged collaboration, celebrated regional talent, and showcased pathways for scaling ideas beyond geographical boundaries.

The summit also facilitated meaningful networking opportunities, where entrepreneurs connected directly with investors, mentors, and policymakers to explore collaborations, funding prospects, and market linkages. Dedicated interactions and informal exchanges further enriched the ecosystem by fostering long-term partnerships. By bridging the gap between grassroots innovators and national as well as international stakeholders, the event reinforced Gujarat's positioning as a rising hub for innovation, entrepreneurship, and inclusive economic growth.

Objective of Event:

The objective of this report is to capture the essence and key highlights of the Vibrant Mega Saurashtra Startup Summit 2.0, jointly organized by the Startup Gujarat Cell and RK University's K. S. Patel Centre for Entrepreneurship (KSPCFE). It aims to document the sessions, discussions, and contributions of speakers, panelists, and participants, while showcasing how the summit provided a platform for regional talent, cross-sector collaboration, and knowledge sharing. The report also seeks to reflect the role of the summit in empowering startups from tier-2 and tier-3 cities, strengthening academic–industry linkages, and demonstrating pathways for transforming ideas into scalable outcomes with wider societal impact.

Outcome of Event:

The Vibrant Mega Saurashtra Startup Summit 2.0 successfully established itself as a catalyst for growth and collaboration in Gujarat's emerging business landscape. The event brought together a diverse mix of founders, investors, policymakers, and academic leaders, enabling meaningful exchange of ideas and practical knowledge. It provided visibility to early-stage ventures, strengthened the role of academic incubators, and showcased the potential of regional talent from tier-2 and tier-3 cities. The summit also facilitated valuable networking opportunities, promoted sustainable business practices, and built stronger linkages between local enterprises and global markets. Overall, it reinforced Gujarat's position as a hub for new-age ventures while inspiring participants to scale their ideas with confidence and resilience.



Dr. Parth Davmurari
Event Co-ordinator
School of Science,
RK University