



PDEU PANDIT DEENDAYAL ENERGY UNIVERSITY
GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT
Formerly Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU)



**Launchpad to Fuel
your Idea in Just
54 Hours!**



techstars_
Startup Weekend
Gandhinagar

August 29th – 31st, 2025

120+
Participants



120+
Participants

20+
Mentors



20
Teams Formed

50+
Startup Ideas Pitched



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Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU)

Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), formerly known as Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU), was established by the PDPU Act, 2007; Acts of the Gujarat Legislature and Ordinances promulgated and Regulations made by the Governor, in the State of Gujarat, India. The primary thrust areas for the university are to ensure Energy for All, creating a Larger Social Impact and Prepare the Youth for tomorrow. PDEU has **NAAC accreditation** with **"A++" Grade CGPA of 3.52 out of 4.00** & Graded Autonomy by UGC.

The University addresses the need for trained and specialised human resources for the energy industry worldwide. It intends to expand students' and professionals' opportunities to develop an intellectual knowledge base with leadership skills to compete globally. This objective is being addressed through several specialised and well-planned undergraduate and postgraduate energy education programs and intensive research initiatives, in management, engineering and humanities.



PDEU
PANDIT DEENDAYAL ENERGY UNIVERSITY
GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT
Formerly Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU)



9500+
Students

500+
Faculty &
Staff

200+
Guest
Faculty

75+
Ongoing
Project

450+
Patents

250+
Students
Research
Project

98%
Faculty with
PhD from
premier
institutes

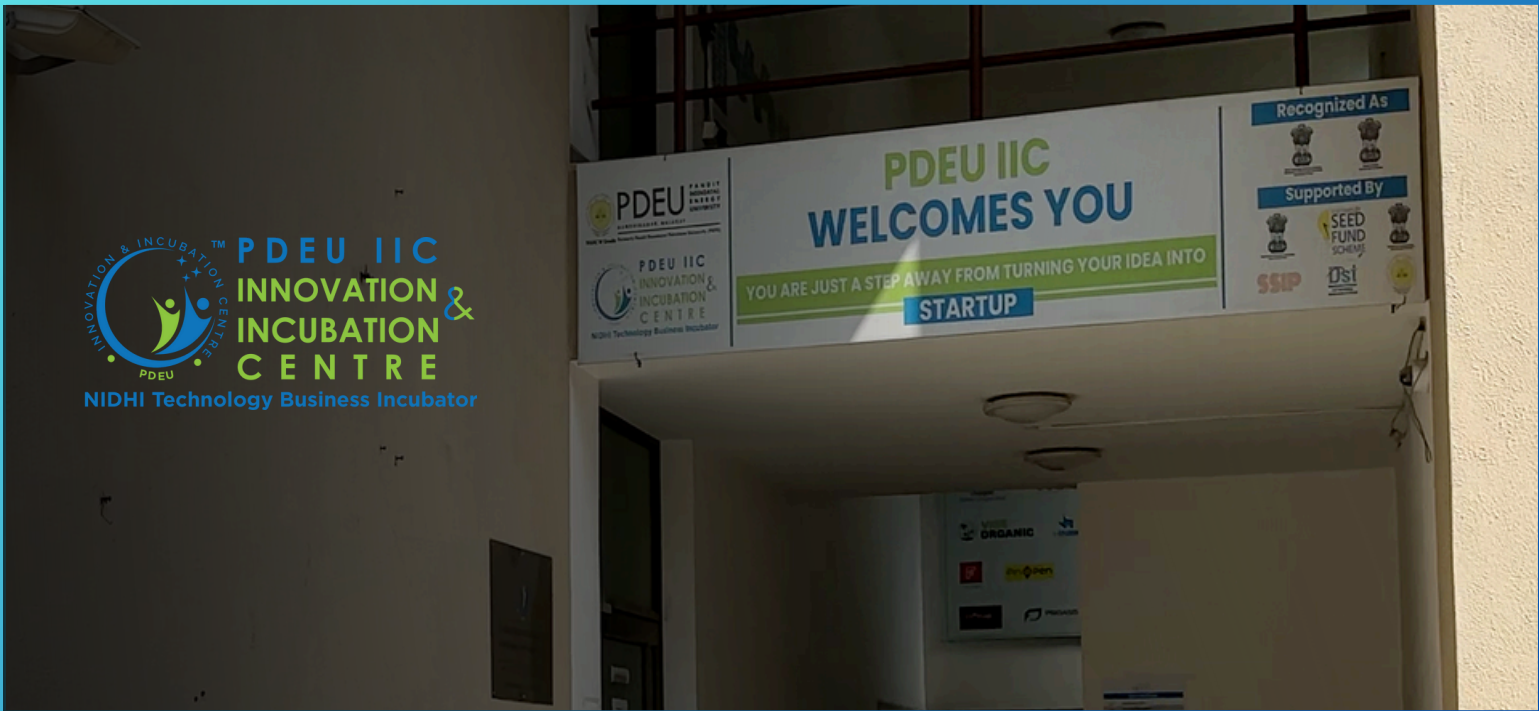
50+
Professional
Body
Association



PDEU Innovation and Incubation Centre

PDEU Innovation and Incubation Centre (formerly known as PDEU IIC) is an incubator at PDEU established in 2014. The Centre was formally established in 2017 u/s 8 of The Companies Act, 2013, with a vision to provide state-of-the-art support and service to innovators, technocrats and entrepreneurs who aim to create a social and economic pact in society through innovative solutions to existing problems. The centre acts complementary to the academic and research activities of the University.

PDEU IIC has also been approved to be a “**Technology Business Incubator**”, a recognition by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. It is recognized as a Nodal Institute by the Government of Gujarat. PDEU IIC has incubated **220+ start-ups across 10+ domains** and generated more than **400 employment opportunities** through start-ups. The IIC Office has a specially designated **area of 20,000 sq. ft** for the start-ups to work on.



nirf-Innovation
National Institutional Ranking Framework for Innovation
Ministry of Education, Government of India

3500+
Application received

220+
Start-up Incubated

230+
Events Organised

35,000+
Students Sensitized

30+
Startups with INR 50L+ revenue

12+
NISP Startups

45 CR+
Funding Raised

150+
IPR FILED

500+
Employment Generated

Techstars Startup Weekend is a dynamic three-day program where aspiring entrepreneurs can experience startup life. Startup Weekend features deep experiential learning guided by an experienced hand. During this event, participants engage in pitching, business model creation, prototyping, and market validation—all within a friendly and supportive team environment. The goal of this event is to create a startup idea from scratch in just **54 hours**.

techstars



Glimpses of Startup Weekend Gandhinagar 2025

Startup Weekend offers emerging entrepreneurs the opportunity to come together, collaborate, and develop innovative ideas. By hosting this event, PDEU IIC aims to inspire participants to think **creatively**, **challenge conventional approaches**, and **pursue new possibilities** of creating a venture, nurturing a culture of Innovation and Creativity. The event provides a platform for participants to exchange ideas, build relationships with **mentors**, **investors**, and **potential partners**, and expand their networks. In doing so, it unites like-minded individuals and cultivates a strong sense of community and common goals.

Startup Weekend Gandhinagar, hosted by PDEU’s Innovation and Incubation Centre (PDEU IIC) from August 29- 31 2025, is a 54-hour event designed to empower aspiring entrepreneurs. It offers a collaborative environment where participants can brainstorm, develop, and refine innovative ideas. The event promotes entrepreneurial thinking and nurtures a culture of innovation and creativity. It also serves as a valuable **networking platform, connecting participants with mentors and potential partners**, thereby strengthening both the institutional and local startup ecosystems.

techstars_
Startup Weekend
Gandhinagar
August 29th -31st, 2025



Glimpses of Startup Weekend Gandhinagar 2025

Key Statistics of the Event

120+
Participants

20+
Mentors

20
Teams
Formed

50+
Ideas
Pitched

4
Jury
Members

Partners

GLOBAL SPONSORS

Google for Startups

 HSBC Innovation Banking

deel.

 MERCURY

 Brex

ECO-SYSTEM PARTNERS

airX

KIIF
KARNATAKI INNOVATION &
INCUBATION FOUNDATION

HOUSE
of STARTS



ANTRAPRENEUR
THE BUSINESS INCUBATOR

PATechnical

CrADLE
Mentor - Nurture - Grow
Catalyzed and supported by
NITESH DIVAKAR, DCE, New Delhi

adani

Institute of Digital
Technology Management



HEADSTART®

SUPPORTED BY

SSIP

 INSTITUTION'S
INNOVATION
COUNCIL
(Ministry of HRD Initiative)

 DST NIDHI
START-TO-SCALE STARTUP SUPPORT



Timeline

FRIDAY AUGUST 29

- Registration - 04:00 PM
- Welcome Address - 05:00 PM
- Ice Breaking - 6:00 PM
- Pitch Fire - 7:00 PM
- Dinner - 8:30 PM
- Voting & Team Formation - 10:00 PM
- To Work! - 11:00 PM
- Tea Break - 11.59 PM
- Workshop - 1:00 AM

SATURDAY AUGUST 30

- Registration - 04:00 PM
- Welcome Address - 05:00 PM
- Ice Breaking - 6:00 PM
- Pitch Fire - 7:00 PM
- Dinner - 8:30 PM
- Voting & Team Formation - 10:00 PM
- To Work! - 11:00 PM
- Tea Break - 11.59 PM
- Workshop - 1:00 AM

SUNDAY AUGUST 31

- Registration - 04:00 PM
- Welcome Address - 05:00 PM
- Ice Breaking - 6:00 PM
- Pitch Fire - 7:00 PM
- Dinner - 8:30 PM
- Voting & Team Formation - 10:00 PM
- To Work! - 11:00 PM
- Tea Break - 11.59 PM
- Workshop - 1:00 AM

Startup Weekend Gandhinagar, hosted by PDEU's Innovation and Incubation Centre (PDEU IIC) from August 29th to 31st, is a dynamic 54-hour event designed to empower aspiring entrepreneurs. It offers a collaborative environment where participants can brainstorm, develop, and refine innovative ideas. The event promotes entrepreneurial thinking and nurtures a culture of innovation and creativity.

MR. ADITYA DAVE

Founder – Cibos Techno Solutions Private Limited



Mr. Aditya Dave is the **Founder & CEO of Cibos**, which creates modular, portable, and smart kiosks along with solar-powered heating and cooling solutions to empower micro-entrepreneurs. He received the **Karmaveer Chakra award** in 2019 from the International Confederation of NGOs in partnership with the UN. Passionate about youth opportunities, he also founded Uppskale, a challenge-based hiring platform that helps youth showcase skills and access equal job opportunities.

MR. DARSHAN PAREKH

Associate – PDEU IIC



Mr. Darshan Parekh has been working as an Associate at PDEU IIC for 5+ years, during which he has developed strong expertise and a deep understanding of the startup and innovation ecosystem. His consistent dedication reflects **steady growth** and a commitment to **supporting entrepreneurship** and innovation initiatives.



Facilitators guiding participants



Facilitators guiding participants

Welcome and Registration

Day One of Startup Weekend began with excitement as **120+ participants** from different universities registered and gathered to start their entrepreneurial journey. The registration process marked the **very first step**, setting the tone for an inspiring and action-packed weekend ahead.



Student Registrations under process

Inaugural Ceremony

Once the participants had settled in, the facilitators, **Mr. Aditya Dave** and **Mr. Darshan Parekh**, officially opened the session by introducing themselves and presenting an overview of Startup Weekend. They outlined the **objectives of the event**, detailed the planned activities, and shared what participants could look forward to over the next three days. The mentors and organizing team were also introduced, creating a welcoming, collaborative atmosphere. The session then transitioned into a high tea break, offering participants an opportunity to relax and begin networking with one another.



The start of something great

Ice Breaker Activity

To help participants loosen up, feel comfortable, and engage with one another, the facilitators introduced a fun activity called **Half Baked**. In this exercise, participants generated random words, formed groups, and collaboratively developed a quirky idea, even sketching out a logo on paper. The room was filled with laughter as everyone let their creativity flow and began building new connections, setting the foundation for future teamwork.



Participants bonded & engaged with each other during the ice-breaking session

Pitching of Ideas

The atmosphere was alive with excitement as **50+ participants** stepped up to the mic to pitch their ideas. With just **60 seconds** each to present their concepts, the energy remained fast-paced and captivating. Soon, the walls were covered with posters of these pitches, turning the space into a vibrant showcase of creativity and innovation.



Pitching is the art of turning ideas into opportunities



Dinner and Networking

As evening fell, dinner was served, providing participants with a chance to relax and enjoy their meal while engaging in **lively discussions** about the day's activities and the ideas pitched.

Choosing the Best Ideas

Following dinner, attention shifted to selecting the best ideas. Participants cast their votes using sticky notes, thoughtfully considering each concept through lively discussions. In the end, **20 ideas** stood out as the most promising, capturing the group's interest and enthusiasm.



Participants pitched and selected the best ideas

Forming Teams

After the top ideas were selected, the real work began. The 20 innovators whose ideas were selected stepped into team leader roles, selecting fellow participants and convincing them to be a part of the team. By the end of the evening, **groups of five to six members** formed, ready to further work and develop their ideas.

As the first day concluded, the atmosphere was charged with enthusiasm. **New connections** were made, ideas began to take shape, and anticipation for the journey ahead was clearly visible. This marked the beginning of an **exciting startup adventure**.



The voting was conducted using sticky notes, allowing participants to silently select their favorite ideas.



Workshop on Design Thinking 101

In the **Design Thinking 101 workshop**, **Mr. Aditya Dave** guided participants through the process of taking an idea from concept to customer. He emphasized the importance of adopting a problem-solving mindset, using the “**Why**” framework to uncover root causes, and applying structured methods to identify target customers and markets. The session also highlighted the value of **rapid testing** and **validation**, alongside the **perseverance** required for entrepreneurial success. By the end, participants had practical tools to prototype, test, and effectively grow their ideas.



Workshop By Ms. Ishita Hundia (Speaker – Wellness Analytics & Culture Strategist)

Day Two began with an interactive workshop **Brand Avatar Lab: Designing the Face of Your Brand**, led by **Ms. Ishita Hundia**. The session guided participants in developing unique and memorable brand personalities, exploring how visuals, tone, and storytelling contribute to a brand's identity. Through engaging exercises, participants learned to **create avatars** that authentically represent their brand values and resonate with their target audience. It was an enriching experience that combined creativity with **strategic thinking** to bring brands to life.



Empowered minds drive innovation

Mentoring Sessions

The mentoring sessions emerged to be one of the key elements of the event, offering teams the opportunity to engage **one-on-one** with mentors with **20+ industry experts**. These experts provided perfect **feedback**, **practical advice**, and **strategic insights** that helped participants critically evaluate their startup ideas. Through these mentoring sessions, teams were able to identify potential challenges, refine their business models, and enhance their value propositions. The guidance received during these sessions significantly increased participants' confidence and clarity as they advanced their ideas toward implementation.



Mentors at SWG 2025



**MR. ANAY
MASHRUWALA**

Partner, Head Marketing &
Quality Control - Venus
Engineering Works



MR. PRATIK PATEL

Founder - Balief Corporation
& AirX



MR. AMIT PATEL

Managing Director -
PATectual IP Law Services



MR. RAJESH SHAH

Teaching Finance subjects at
Management Institutes & Ex
Finance Vice President -
Adani Group



**MR. MEGHANA
SRINVAS**

Chief Operating Officer -
XylemX



MR. PRINCE SAH

Society for Innovation &
Entrepreneurship - SINE
IIT B



DR. KRUTI PATEL

Founder & Director - She & WE
- Institute for Women
Entrepreneurship



**DR. KAUSHAL
KISHORE**

Assistant Professor, Petroleum
Management - SOM-Pandit
Deendayal Energy University



DR. SAMIR PATEL

Associate Professor,
Department of Computer
Science and Engineering -
SOET-Pandit Deendayal
Energy University



**MR. JEREMY
FRITZHAND**

Chief Executive
Officer, Venture Studio -
Venture Studio



**MS. BRINDA
PANDYA**

Senior Manager - Karnavati
Innovation and Incubation
Foundation (KIIF)



MR. JAY MERJA

Director - Byways





MS. SWETA TIWARI

Program Lead – Plug and Play



MR. JITENDRA SINGH RAJPUT

CEO – NID Business Incubator
Senior Faculty– Strategic Design Management Dean



MS. NAMITA SHAH

Founder – Dalga Communications



MR. NIKHIL SUTHAR

Lead – Partnership at India Accelerator



MS. POOJA MATHUR

Co-Founder – The Green Straw



MS. EKTA SHAH

Co-Founder & CEO – Biziverse



MR. HARSHAL OZA

Co-Founder – APTRaise Technologies



MS. RUTVI BHATT

Product Manager – Weam AI



MR. ABHISHEK PADMANABHAN

Director – Centre of Excellence in Energy Sciences and e-mobility (Atria University)



MR. ADITYA SHUKLA

Founder – Saletch Design Private Limited



MR. PRATIK PARMAR

Founder – Atmos



MR. SHANI PANDYA

Founder – Imagine Powertree Private Limited



Workshop on How to Pitch in 5 Minutes

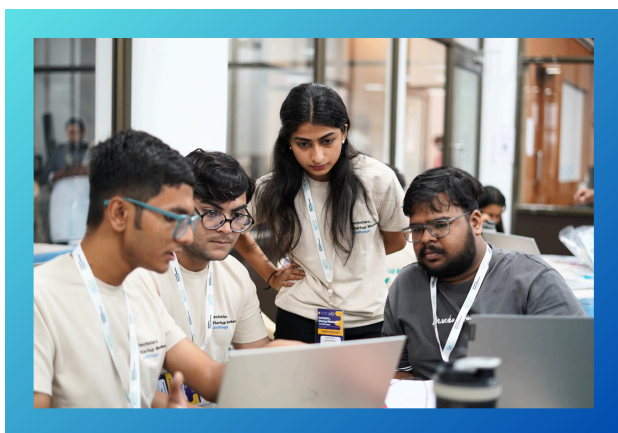
The **How to Pitch in 5 Minutes** workshop, conducted by **Mr. Darshan Parekh**, equipped participants with the core skills needed to deliver a strong pitch. The session emphasized key **judging criteria**, including the necessity of validating the problem with customers, confirming its authenticity, and clearly defining the target market. Participants learned **how to structure a pitch** by clearly outlining the problem, presenting a viable solution, demonstrating customer validation, and explaining the go-to-market strategy along with the business model. Additionally, the workshop provided **practical tips** on presentation skills, such as choosing the best presenter, communicating effectively, engaging the audience, and backing up claims with credible data.



Day 3: Pitching Day

Mock Pitching Sessions

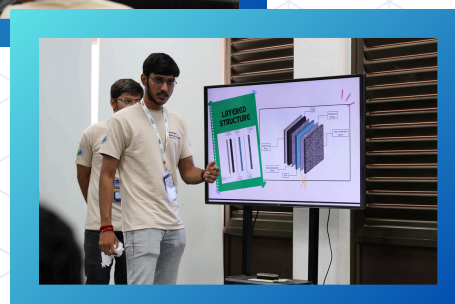
Day Three is the most **important day** of Startup Weekend, started with a refreshing breakfast, preparing the teams and setting the tone for the **mock pitch rounds**. During these sessions, teams presented their **final pitches** in front of mentors, who provided **guidance** and **constructive feedback**. These sessions were essential in shaping the startups teams progress, as mentors highlighted strengths, identified gaps, and offered actionable suggestions to refine their pitch decks further.



Teams preparing themselves for the final pitching

The Jury Pitching

After 54 hours of creativity and teamwork, Startup Weekend reached its **climax** with the most awaited **Jury Pitching Round**. Over 20 teams geared up to present their startup ideas to a panel of **04 judges**. Each team had **05 minutes** to deliver their pitch, followed by a **03-minute Q&A session** with the judges. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as teams showcased their innovative solutions, highlighting the problem, proposed solution, market potential, and business strategy. Judges carefully evaluated each presentation, asking questions to assess the feasibility and scalability of the ideas. This session concluded with the judges deliberating to select the most promising startups, recognizing outstanding creativity, strategy, and execution.





MR. JATIN KATARIA

Founder – InMesta

The **Founder of InMesta and JK Venture Studio**, Jatin Kataria is a startup ecosystem specialist who advises family offices on venture investing and helps entrepreneurs with strategy and scaling.



MS. PIYALEE CHATTOPADHYAY

Global Program Manager – TiE-Global

With **20+ years of leadership experience**, she has driven entrepreneurship, operations, partnerships, and growth through roles at HSBC Bank, DTE, and beyond. Passionate about public speaking, cultural promotion, and startup funding, she now leads TiE Global initiatives, scaling 64 chapters and empowering entrepreneurs worldwide.



MS. TANVI RANGWALA

Startup Investor

Ms. Tanvi brings **15 years** of experience in **technology, startup incubation, investment, and entrepreneurship**, with roles at VentureStudio, CIIE.CO, and GVFL Limited. She has supported 1,000+ startups, contributed to 75+ seed investments, co-developed India's first Internet and Mobile accelerator, and worked with companies including Tookitaki, Mech Mocha, Alma Connect, Travelyaari, Vphrase, and Formcept.



MR. SRICHANDRA T

Campus Founders Program Team – NSRCEL, IIM Bangalore

Srichandra Thirukkovela, an **IIT Mandi graduate** in Public Policy and Development Studies with a B. Tech in Electronics and Communication, has worked at **Amazon and with the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS)** on education policy with the Telangana government. He led the TiE University Program at TiE Hyderabad to foster student entrepreneurship and currently portfolio manages early-stage startups at NSRCEL, IIM Bangalore.

Winner Announcements

Now, it was time to **announce** the results:

- Three startup ideas were chosen as the winners.
- Two startup ideas got honorary mentions for their creativity and potential.

The **winners were chosen based** on the following evaluation criteria:

- Business Model
- Customer Validation
- Execution and Design

The following are the details of the **Winning Teams**:

Winner: SWAमाँ

Domain: HealthCare

Team Members: Prerana Som, Soumadip Barick, Raval Dipak, Rahul Khara, Jenil Sanchaniya, Jagani Manan.

Brief of the Startup Idea:

SWAमाँ is developing a smart nutrition and health-tracking band for pregnant women, offering reminders, fitness monitoring, and an emergency alert system. The solution aims to reduce maternal stress and promote well-being, while being affordable, doctor-recommended, and integrated with IVF clinics and hospitals.



1st Runner Up: Pushp

Domain: Social Impact

Team Members: Madhvendra Gadhi, Priyanshi Ilasariya, Shloka Shukla, Pranshav Bhatt, Dhruv Paladia.

Brief of the Startup Idea:

PUSHP is a digital B2B marketplace that streamlines procurement of religious supplies by offering timely delivery, stable pricing, and customization options. With subscription-based offerings and combo packs, it ensures temples and vendors have reliable access to fresh flowers, leaves, and other essentials, enhancing transparency and efficiency in the supply chain.



2nd Runner Up: EDVISOR

Domain: EdTech

Team Members: Nishu Shukla, Ayaan Goel, Dev Gami, Manav Odedara, Pragati Bansal, Dhruv Bhatt.

Brief of the Startup Idea:

EdVisor is a structured career-guidance platform that connects students with verified mentors, including professors and industry experts, through live one-on-one sessions. By offering trusted advice, customized roadmaps, and institutional packages, it bridges the gap between scattered information and reliable career planning for students.



Honorary Mention: Bio-Solaris Paints

Domain: Renewable Energy

Team Members: Fairy Dasharath Patel, Himani.H.Mehta, Greyc Manishbhai Patel, Mishti Bherwani, Het Patel, Shah Mahi.

Brief of the Startup Idea:

Biosolaris Paints develops innovative solar paints that transform any surface into a lightweight, portable energy generator. Unlike rigid solar panels, their bio-based pigments work under diffused light, enabling defense forces, mountaineers, and disaster relief teams to power radios, GPS, and medical devices in extreme terrains.



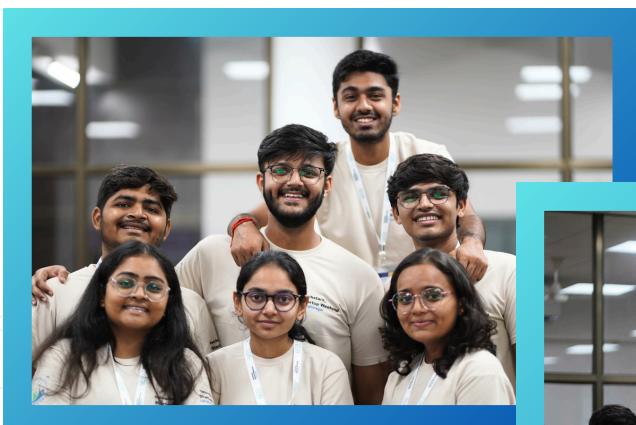
Honorary Mention: Eco-Cool

Domain: Sustainable Building Materials

Team Members: Yesha Gor, Arya Patel, Dev patel, Kashyap Rathod, Shubham der, Priyanshi patel

Brief of the Startup Idea:

Eco-Cool develops eco-friendly wall insulation panels that passively cool indoor spaces using sustainable materials. Their solution reduces temperature, cuts energy consumption, and prevents spoilage in cold storage facilities and supply chains, making it ideal for perishable goods, housing, and green buildings.



Conclusion

Startup Weekend Gandhinagar 2025, organized by PDEU IIC, was a successful event that brought together over **120 participants** presenting creative startup ideas over three days. On the final day, more than 20 teams presented their concepts to a panel of judges, with 03 teams receiving Top Honors and 02 teams earning Special Recognition.

The event offered participants numerous opportunities to **engage, build and explore their entrepreneurial capabilities**. Through a combination of **mentoring sessions, mock pitches, and hands-on workshops**, they acquired valuable skills and insights. Engaging with potential customers allowed them to validate their ideas and gather crucial feedback. In addition to technical knowledge, the weekend inspired participants to build upon their **existing skills, embrace calculated risks, and actively pursue** their entrepreneurial aspirations.



Inspired minds create lasting change



As the Jury Pitching Round came to an end, the weekend wrapped up with insights from the Facilitators, Jury Members, Mentors, and **Mr. Abhinav Kapadia, CFO-PDEU and CEO & Director - PDEU IIC**. They shared their perspectives on the event, providing feedback on the presentations and underscoring the overall journey of Startup Weekend. The jury highlighted challenges **encountered by teams, praised innovative solutions, and emphasized the event's role** in nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset. The final address delivered guidance and motivation, highlighting not only the importance of determination but also the need for continuous learning and adaptability as an important component of the entrepreneurial journey.

As SWG'25 wrapped up, participants left **inspired, having gained practical knowledge, expanded their networks, and strengthened the skills** needed to succeed as an entrepreneur. Participants also expressed heartfelt **appreciation to Team PDEU IIC** for their dedication and hard work in making the Startup Weekend a memorable and transformative experience!

Testimonials



A heartfelt thank you to PDEU IIC, the Techstars community, all the mentors, volunteers, facilitators, and the incredible organizing team. Your guidance, constant encouragement, and spirit of collaboration made every moment of this journey truly inspiring and deeply rewarding.

-Parthiv Mathukiya
Participant

To all the team members, volunteers, organizers, and especially the incredible hosts at PDEU IIC—thank you for such an enriching experience! We learned so much over the weekend. The warmth and hospitality PDEU IIC team extended shall always remain as a cherished memory in my life.

-Keval Shah
Participant

Really thankful to the IIC team and mentors for a truly unforgettable experience. And a special shoutout to everyone for being responsive—it meant a lot. The food? Phenomenal. The vibe? Spot on. The venue? Absolutely perfect. The comfort? Next level. And to all my fellow participants—you were the true stars of this show!

-Kashyap Rathod
Participant

Gratitude to PDEU IIC for the seamless arrangements and thoughtful management—it made the entire experience impactful. It was incredible to connect with so many passionate individuals during Techstars Startup Weekend Gandhinagar!

-Dev Patel
Participant





PDEU Innovation and Incubation Centre

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Let's Connect