

Department: E-Cell VGEC

Event Name: Entrepreneurship and Innovation as A Career Opportunity

VGEC's E-Cell and IIC organized an inspiring expert lecture **Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career Opportunity**. The session was delivered by **Mr. Raj Hakani**, Assistant Professor at Gujarat Technological University (GTU), who instantly connected with the students through his energetic and down-to-earth approach. He spoke about the growing opportunities in the start-up ecosystem and encouraged students to see entrepreneurship as a practical and fulfilling career path.

One of the most motivating aspects of his talk was the set of **real student case studies** he shared—stories of young individuals who were not top scorers in academics, yet their determination, curiosity and passion helped them build successful ventures. These examples reassured students that innovation is not limited to grades, but driven by mindset, perseverance and willingness to learn.

Mr. Hakani also walked the audience through simple steps of idea generation, problem validation, prototyping and early-stage market understanding, using relatable examples from GTU's innovation ecosystem. The session was highly interactive, with students asking questions on funding, team building, and intellectual property. He patiently addressed every query, leaving the audience motivated to take the first step toward their entrepreneurial journey.

The IIC Cell expressed heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Hakani for his time, enthusiasm and valuable guidance. The event not only widened students' perspectives about entrepreneurship but also instilled a renewed confidence that *any passionate learner can become an innovator*.

Key Features:

- **Speaker:** Mr. Raj Hakani, Assistant Professor at Gujarat Technological University (GTU)
- **Event Title:** Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career Opportunity
- **Venue:** A-block Auditorium, VGEC
- **Date:** 27/11/2025
- **No. of Participants:** 35
- **Organized by:** VGEC E-Cell
- **Faculty Coordinators:** Prof. Hetal Joshiyara, Prof. Chetna Chand and Prof. Kalpesh Chaudhary

Discussion Points:

- Understanding entrepreneurship as a viable and promising career path in today's innovation-driven world.
- Identifying real-life problems and transforming them into practical, innovative ideas.
- Case studies of students who, despite average academic performance, built successful start-ups through passion and perseverance.
- Overview of the GTU and VGEC innovation ecosystem, including incubation, mentorship and funding support.
- Interactive Q&A addressing doubts on IP, pitching, team formation and start-up opportunities.

