A Report on

"Eureka! Pitching Competition 2026"

Theme: Startup Ideation and Business Pitching

(Academic Session: 2026-27)

Organizing Committee:

Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell), Institute of Advanced Research

Team: Incredibles Inc. | NEC ID: NEC2617272

Faculty Coordinators:

Mr. Milan Trivedi

IIC Convener

Report Prepared by:

Anchal Sharma

Student Coordinator

Date of the event: 24/08/2026

Name of Event	**"Eureka! Pitching Competition 2026"**
Event Type (Co-curricular/ Extra Curricular)	**Co-curricular**
Platform	**Offline (On-Campus – A3 102, Auditorium, Institute of Advanced Research, Gandhinagar)**
Date & Time:	**24 August 2026, 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**
Total Number of participants:	**Participants from IAR University:** **Students: 40 UG/PG Students** **Winners: 09 | General Participants: 31** **Organizing Team: Incredible Inc. (E-Cell), NEC ID: NEC2617272**
Guest/Expert invited	**Panel of Judges – 10**
Event Coordinator	**E-Cell, IAR**
Media coverage	
Link to session on online platform	**NA (Offline Session)**
Payment advice from the Accounts department:	**NA**
Sponsoring authority	**Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell), Institute of Advanced Research, under the National Entrepreneurship Challenge (NEC)**

Objective of the Event:

The "Eureka! Pitching Competition 2026" was organized by the Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) of the Institute of Advanced Research, Gandhinagar, under the National Entrepreneurship Challenge, to provide students with a live platform on which to convert their business ideas into structured, investor-ready pitches. The competition aimed to:

- Provide students with a realistic experience of pitching a startup idea before a panel of judges acting in the role of potential investors.
- Develop the ability to structure a business concept into a concise three-minute pitch covering problem, solution, market and viability.
- Build confidence in defending an idea under questioning through a moderated four-minute question-and-answer round.
- Encourage entrepreneurial thinking, creativity and problem-solving among students from diverse academic backgrounds.

- Strengthen presentation, communication and teamwork skills through a competitive yet supportive environment.
- Identify promising student ideas that can be taken forward for further mentorship, incubation and funding support.

Brief Overview of the Session:

Planning Phase: The event was designed to create a dynamic platform where students could transform innovative ideas into compelling business pitches. The organizing team, Incredibles Inc., coordinated every aspect of the competition, including registrations, judging parameters, stage management and volunteer assignments, to ensure a professional and engaging experience for all participants.

Promotion Phase: A focused promotional campaign through digital media, campus announcements and classroom outreach successfully built enthusiasm for the competition. The emphasis on innovation, leadership and entrepreneurial excellence attracted participants from diverse academic backgrounds across the institute.

Execution Phase: Following the inaugural ceremony and an engaging ice-breaking session, the anchoring team introduced the judges and explained the pitching format of a three-minute pitch followed by a four-minute question-and-answer round for each team. Teams then presented their startup ideas before the panel across two sessions. Each presentation showcased creative thinking, strategic planning and effective communication, while the interactive question-and-answer round encouraged deeper discussion and valuable learning. Audience engagement activities kept the momentum alive between presentations until the results were announced.

Follow-up Phase: The competition concluded with the felicitation of the winning teams, certificate distribution and networking over refreshments. Participants left with greater confidence, practical insights into what makes a pitch persuasive, and renewed motivation to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.

The Eureka! Pitching Competition was much more than a startup contest — it was a platform where ideas came to life. Students confidently presented their business concepts, answered challenging questions from the judges, and experienced what it feels like to pitch before potential investors. The interactive sessions, enthusiastic audience and supportive environment made the event both inspiring and memorable, encouraging participants to think bigger and believe in their ideas.

Schedule of the Event:

Time	Activity
10:00 A.M. – 12:20 P.M.	Session 1: The anchoring team introduces the judges and explains the pitching format (3-minute pitch + 4-minute Q&A per team), followed by presentations from 11 teams.
12:20 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.	Break
1:10 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.	Session 2: Remaining participants present their ideas, following the same 3-minute pitch + 4-minute Q&A format.
4:00 P.M.	Results announcement and felicitation of winners

Winners of the Competition:

Sr. No.	Name	Role	Team	Position
1	Jeet Chauhan	Team Leader	Git Ke Ghode	1st Position
2	Anuj Bhadouria	Team Member	Git Ke Ghode	1st Position
3	Arya Patel	Team Member	Git Ke Ghode	1st Position
4	Harsh Solanki	Team Leader	Vzeya	2nd Position
5	Lakshya Panchal	Team Member	Vzeya	2nd Position
6	Ubaid Khan	Team Member	Vzeya	2nd Position
7	Sooryansh Somnath Poddar	Solo	—	2nd Position
8	Nikita Sharma	Solo	—	3rd Position
9	Dhairya Chhaiya	Solo	—	3rd Position

List of Participants:

Sr. No.	Name	Role	Team
1	Dhanvi Shah	Team Leader	ECODRAIN
2	Nitya Gandhi	Team Member	ECODRAIN
3	Richa Rav	Team Member	ECODRAIN
4	Krisha Bipinchandra Patel	Team Leader	Creative Catalysts
5	Shivam Patel	Team Member	Creative Catalysts
6	Bhavya	Team Member	Creative Catalysts
7	Dhruv Seladiya	Team Member	Creative Catalysts
8	Man Patel	Team Member	Creative Catalysts

Sr. No.	Name	Role	Team
9	Angel Talreja	Team Leader	The Innovators
10	Kirtana Jammu	Team Member	The Innovators
11	Anusha Kavla	Team Leader	The Renegades
12	Taneesha Rajput	Team Member	The Renegades
13	Aayasha Patel	Solo	—
14	Kashish Jeshrani	Solo	—
15	Priyancy	Team Leader	Nexora
16	Hanny	Team Member	Nexora
17	Astha	Team Member	Nexora
18	Devarsh	Team Member	Nexora
19	Ghyan	Team Member	Nexora
20	Bhuvi Bansal	Solo	—
21	Kirtan Patidar	Solo	—
22	Daksh Patel	Solo	—
23	Shivam Dankhara	Team Leader	Carbonova
24	Amisha Vaghela	Team Member	Carbonova
25	Nancy Prajapati	Solo	—
26	Flora Patel	Solo	—
27	Zeeya Patel	Team Leader	Tatvora
28	Reeya Patel	Team Member	Tatvora
29	Parv Trivedi	Team Member	Tatvora
30	Vrushti Trivedi	Team Member	Tatvora
31	Varenya Choksi	Team Member	Tatvora

Outcome of the Event:

The Eureka! Pitching Competition 2026 succeeded in giving forty participants direct, hands-on exposure to the discipline of startup pitching within a single day. Students gained a clear understanding of how to compress a business idea into a structured three-minute narrative, how to anticipate and answer investor-style questions, and how judging panels evaluate feasibility, market potential and clarity of communication. Nine participants were recognised as winners across three positions, while the remaining thirty-one gained valuable competitive experience

and detailed feedback on their ideas. Most importantly, participants left with a practical framework for assessing the strength of their own concepts and with the confidence to take those concepts forward. Several teams expressed interest in developing their ideas further and in approaching the E-Cell for mentorship and incubation support.

Audience/Participants Feedback:

Participants responded positively to the competition, particularly appreciating the professional format, the quality of the questions raised by the judging panel, and the constructive feedback received after each pitch. Students noted that the strict three-minute limit forced clarity of thought and helped them identify the weakest parts of their own arguments. The audience engagement activities conducted between sessions were widely appreciated for keeping energy levels high across the six-hour programme. Several participants requested a preparatory orientation on pitching technique before future editions, advance publication of the judging criteria, and follow-up mentorship sessions to help them refine their ideas beyond the competition.

Problems Faced:

- Keeping the pitching sessions within the allotted time required constant coordination between the anchoring team and the judging panel.
- Some teams needed additional preparation to confidently respond to technical questions raised during the question-and-answer round.
- Managing audience engagement alongside the judging process demanded extra volunteer support during both sessions.

Suggestions for Future Editions:

- Share the judging criteria with participants well before the competition.
- Organize a short orientation session on effective pitching techniques ahead of the event.
- Keep a small buffer between presentations to avoid schedule delays.
- Include a digital timer on stage to help teams manage their presentation time effectively.

Report for Media:

The Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell), Institute of Advanced Research, Gandhinagar, successfully conducted the **"Eureka! Pitching Competition 2026"** on 24th August 2026 at the A3 102 Auditorium on the university campus, under the National Entrepreneurship Challenge.

Key highlights:

- Full-day startup pitching competition conducted under the E-Cell and National Entrepreneurship Challenge initiative.
- 40 participants took part across two pitching sessions, with 9 declared winners.
- Organized by the student team Incredibles Inc. (NEC ID: NEC2617272).
- Structured investor-style format of a 3-minute pitch followed by a 4-minute Q&A round for every team.
- Team Git Ke Ghode secured 1st Position; Team Vzeya and Sooryansh Somnath Poddar secured 2nd Position.
- Ideas presented spanned sustainability, technology, consumer products and social enterprise.
- Event concluded with felicitation of winners, certificate distribution and a networking session.
- Participants encouraged to take their ideas forward with E-Cell mentorship and incubation support.

Event Flyer:



Media Coverage: https://lnkd.in/p/g_9sU4it

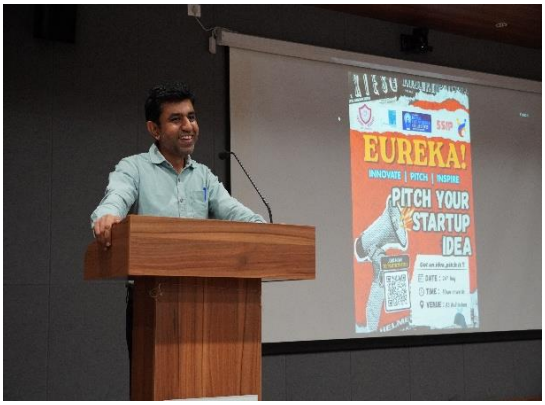
Ideate. Pitch. Succeed. — Think Big, Build Bigger!

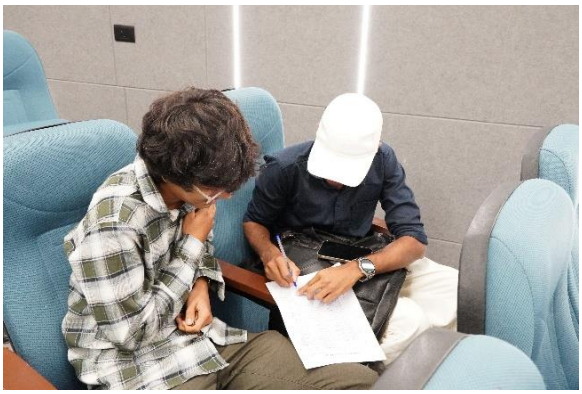
#ECell #Eureka #NEC #IARUniversity #Pitching #Startup #Entrepreneurship #StartupIndia #StudentInnovation

Photographs of the Event:












Introducing the Solution









Acknowledgement:

The committee members acknowledge the contribution of:

- Director, IAR
- Dean Academics
- Registrar
- Dean Research
- Heads, All the Departments
- Judging Panel
- Student Volunteers

Report Copied to: (attachment sent through email)

- Office of Director, and Registrar
- Office of Dean Research and Academics
- Heads of all the Departments
- E-Cell / SSIP / IIC Coordinator

Signature
Dr. Roli Mishra
Chairman, IIC, IAR

Signature
Mr. Milan Trivedi
IIC-Convener, IAR

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED RESEARCH GANDHINAGAR

Date: 25/08/2026

Place: Gandhinagar