AIC-BARC Hosts Co-founder Pairing Session for Aspiring Deep Tech Entrepreneurs

Mumbai, November 10, 2024: The Atal Innovation Center at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (AIC-BARC) and Homi Bhabha National Institute, HBNI, Mumbai nurturing research through academic programs, viz., Master's and Ph.D. degrees organized a productive Co-founder Pairing session for the second cohort of its Start-up Preincubation Program on Sunday at Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) Council Hall, Anushaktinagar. The event received active support from HBNI, which encouraged Ph.D. and M.Tech students to participate in this cohort. The session was also broadcast live on YouTube, providing access to remote students across Maharashtra interested in contributing to deep-tech innovation.

The program was open to students from all disciplines, including commerce, science, and engineering, encouraging a multidisciplinary approach to foster diverse perspectives and collaborative problem-solving in deep-tech innovation. The Co-founder Pairing event marks a significant milestone in AIC-BARC's mission to cultivate the next generation of deep-tech innovators, fostering a community where groundbreaking research ideas can flourish into viable commercial ventures.

The session aimed to facilitate connections among applicants interested in forming teams to tackle hard research challenges in deep-tech. It was designed as a face-to-face networking opportunity, attracting a solid turnout of aspiring start-up founders, both in person and online, all driven by the potential to commercialize cutting-edge BARC and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) technologies.

Key attendees included Convenor Task Force, HBNI Associate Deans, representatives from various DAE units, members of the AIC-BARC Task Force, Innovation Ambassadors from the HBNI Innovation Council along with the representatives from 7 student teams.

Shri Daniel Babu P, Convenor of the AIC-BARC Task Force, commenced the session with a welcome address, highlighting AIC-BARC's vision and ongoing activities. The program proceeded with an engaging talk by Dr. Hemanidhi Gupta, Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship, who emphasized the critical role of co-founders in a start-up's success. Her interactive session covered essential aspects of team building, such as role distribution, delegation, conflict resolution, and strategies for finding ideal co-founders.

The CEO of AIC-BARC shared key tips with applicants on approaching BARC and DAE research challenges, emphasizing breaking down these complex problems into manageable components aligned with the start-up team's skill sets, thereby increasing the feasibility of tackling them within a start-up framework. This approach is essential for creating practical commercialization opportunities and developing solutions that can effectively bridge advanced research with market needs.

Following the session, applicants were invited to submit a preliminary action plan for their chosen ideas, which will qualify them for participation in the upcoming six-week online program.

Ms. Urvashi Karnani, a Task Force member at AIC-BARC, concluded the event with a vote of thanks, acknowledging the efforts of all who attended and contributed to the session's success.



Participants at HBNI Council Hall

Team Conflicts

- · Task- differences in viewpoints and opinions pertaining to the task
- Relationship- dislike among group members and feelings such as annoyance, frustration, and irritation.
- BharatPe, Indigo airlines, Nestaway, Urban ladder, Housing.com, Lendingkart, OLA Electric
- Succession, ownership, sibling rivalry, nepotism in case of family business teams.
- Ranbaxy (sibling conflict), Raymond (father-son), Reliance (sibling conflict)





Participants Online



