

RISE WITH EDUCATION

NAAC REACCREDITED - 'A' GRADE

SIES COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE, (AUTONOMOUS), SION (W), MUMBAI -400 022

NAAC SSR – CYCLE 4 : 2018-2023

Metric No.7 : 7.2: Best Practices of the Institution- Nirmitee Kendra

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Principal

SIES College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous) Sion (West), Mumbai - 400 022.





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Best Practices Nirmitee Kendra

'Nirmitee Kendra' - Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub

Nirmitee Kendra - Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub was established in 2019 and funded by Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).

Objectives:

- 1. To inculcate entrepreneurial skill among students.
- 2. To serve as a platform for interaction between students and successful entrepreneurs.
- 3. To act as an incubation centre that encourages student entrepreneurs.

Intended Outcomes:

- 1. Students would be motivated to become job providers rather than job seekers.
- 2. Students would be inspired to become entrepreneurs and initiate 'start ups'.
- 3. Students would become aware of intellectual property rights involving patents, designs etc.

The context

'Nirmitee Kendra' was established to develop entrepreneurial skills among students. Programmes like Startup India, launched in 2015, has created a business environment that works towards innovation, development, commercialization of new products and services driven by technology or intellectual property. Nirmitee Kendra wishes to make use of this conducive policy environment by attempting to transform students into job providers from being just job seekers.

The Practice and its Uniqueness:

'Nirmitee Kendra' is a unique practice in the context of higher education in India since, it promotes skill enhancement and encourages students to become entrepreneurs. It was able to conduct Skill Enhancement Workshops, Interactions with entrepreneurs; Innovation boot camps and Business Idea Pitching Competitions, IPR Awareness. It has been able to create a conducive environment for incubation of ideas, creation of startups, innovation.

The constraints and the limitations faced:

- 1. Besides seed money, Entrepreneurship requires perseverance and financial support.
- 2. Mind set of students need to change from service providers to innovators.
- 3. Entrepreneurship and skill development needs to be integrated in curriculum design.
- 4. Institutions needs expertise from industry experts, startup advisors, venture capitalists.

Evidence of success

'AaharNutra' funded with Rs. 100000/- was initiated by students of Food Technology and Nutraceuticals, whereby they developed a food product named 'Iron Bytes'. Its objective was to develop Iron-Enriched Nutrition bar to combat different types of nutritional deficiencies and to meet the requirement of Iron in Indian population as recommended by ICMR. The bar contains Vitamin-C and Folic acid to aid Iron absorption.

'Currency detector' funded with Rs. 45,000/- was developed by students of Data Science, Computer Science and Physics to create a portable mini-spectrophotometer utilizing RGB, UV, IR sensors, and AI/ML algorithms to detect and recognize currency notes, such as Indian INR, US Dollar, Euros. This device helps visually challenged individuals for accurate identification of genuine currency notes and counterfeit ones.

The launch of UV-Covid box & UV Covid lamp developed by Yash Hajare, our student and a budding entrepreneur was useful during Covid pandemic and is a unique example of academia-industry collaboration.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The problems encountered and resources required to implement the practice are as follows:

- a) Students need to be mentored to transform their ideas into a potential startup.
- b) Students prefer a stable job rather than starting their own enterprise.
- c) Networking with venture capitalists, funding agencies and MoUs needs to be explored. FINCE & COM



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