ignou THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

प्रगति पथ

विश्वविद्यालय समाचार

27 August 2026 / Headquarters & RCs

IG/PIU/DigiNews/Aug/2122

IGNOU Faculty Participates in Expert Review of Academic and Career Skills Instrument by COL-CEMCA





Two faculty members of the **Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)** served as expert reviewers at a consultation meeting convened by the **Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (COL-CEMCA)** on **Monday, 24 August 2026**, to review the **Academic and Career Skills (Self-Assessment) Instrument (ACSI)**.

Prof. Swati Patra and **Dr. Monika Misra**, from the **Discipline of Psychology, School of Social Sciences, IGNOU**, participated as expert reviewers and shared valuable inputs during the meeting, held at the COL-CEMCA office and attended by officials from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and other experts in the field.

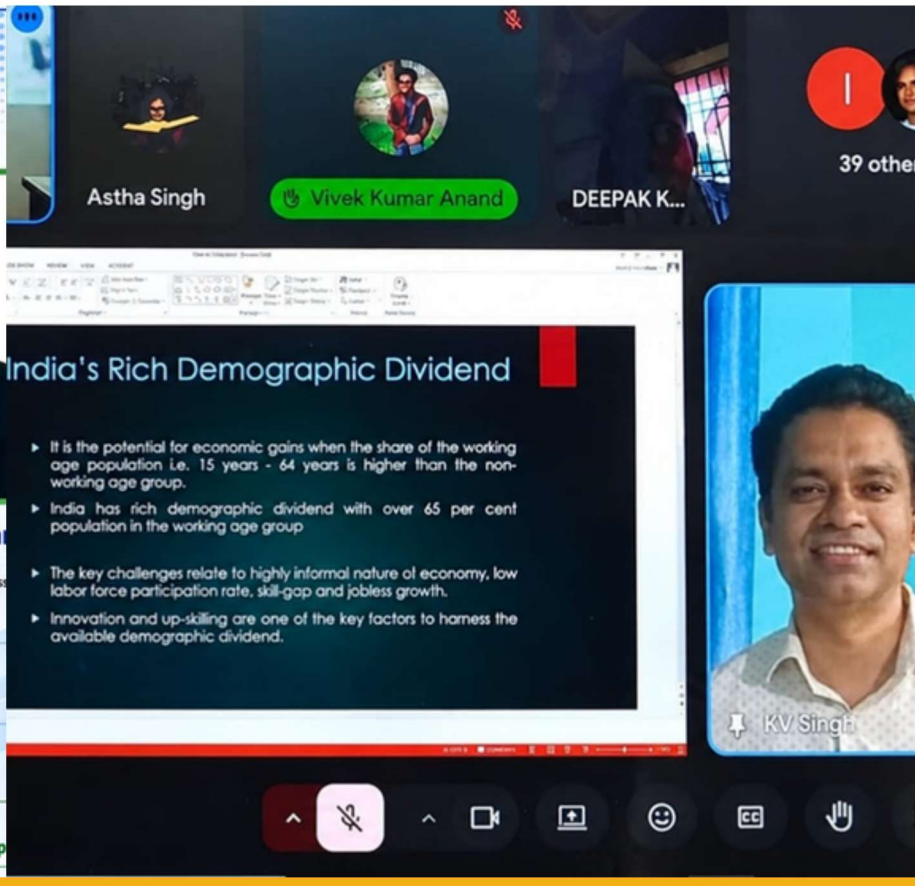
The ACSI has been developed by COL-CEMCA in collaboration with the CBSE to support students in **Classes VIII and X** in understanding their interests, skills, personality, and values, thereby enabling them to make informed academic and career choices. The instrument comprises **eight dimensions** and is aimed at mapping student profiles to academic, subject, and career pathways.

The discussion centred on further strengthening the instrument and enhancing its

RC- Bhagalpur

World Entrepreneurship Day Marked with Expert Lecture on Enterprise Development



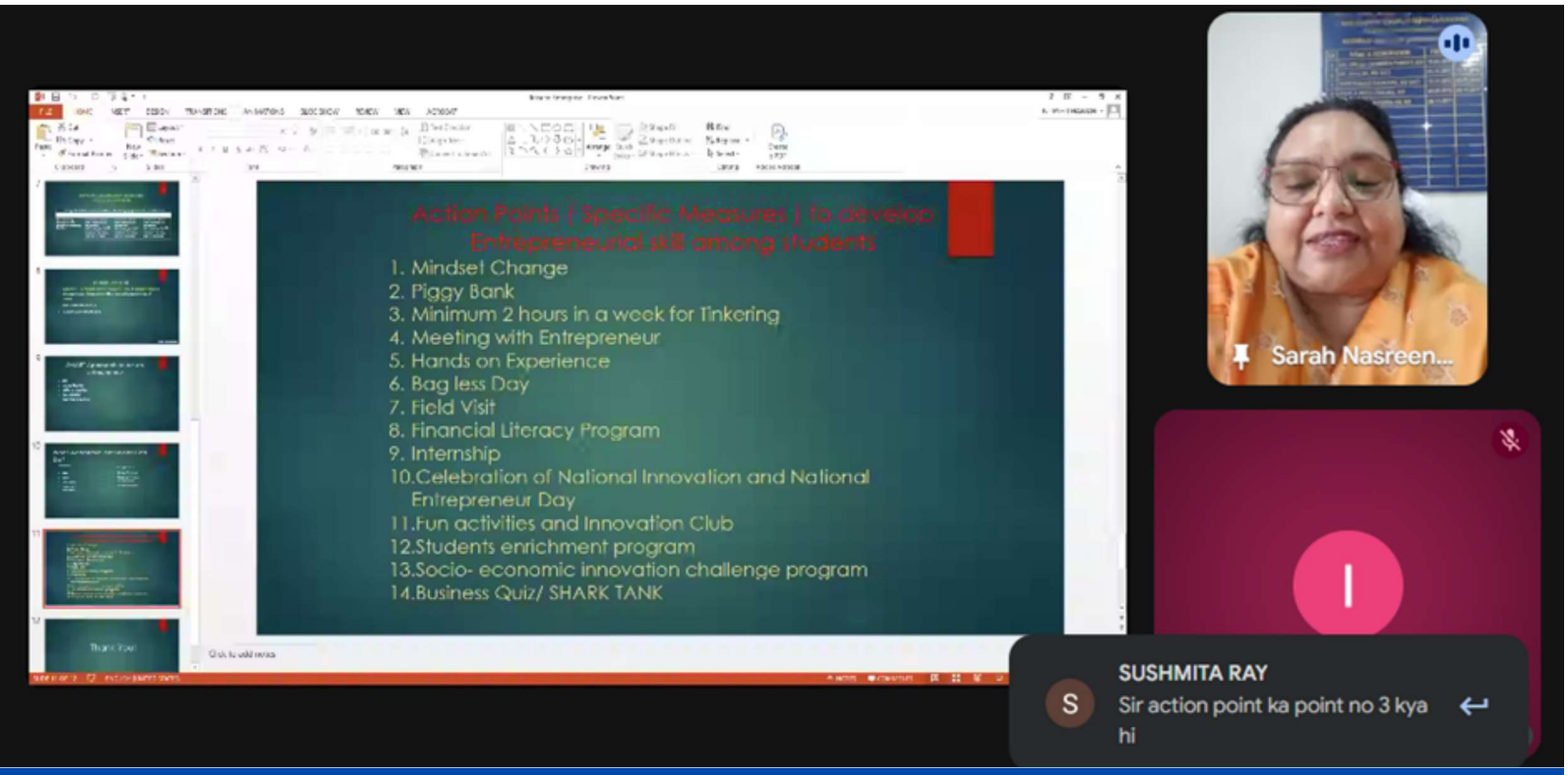


An **online expert lecture** was organised by the IGNOU Regional Centre Bhagalpur, on the occasion of **World Entrepreneurship Day** on **20 August 2026**. Held on the theme "**Idea to Enterprise: A Practical Roadmap for Aspiring Entrepreneurs**", the session focused on developing an **entrepreneurial mindset**, identifying opportunities, and understanding the practical steps involved in turning an idea into a viable enterprise.

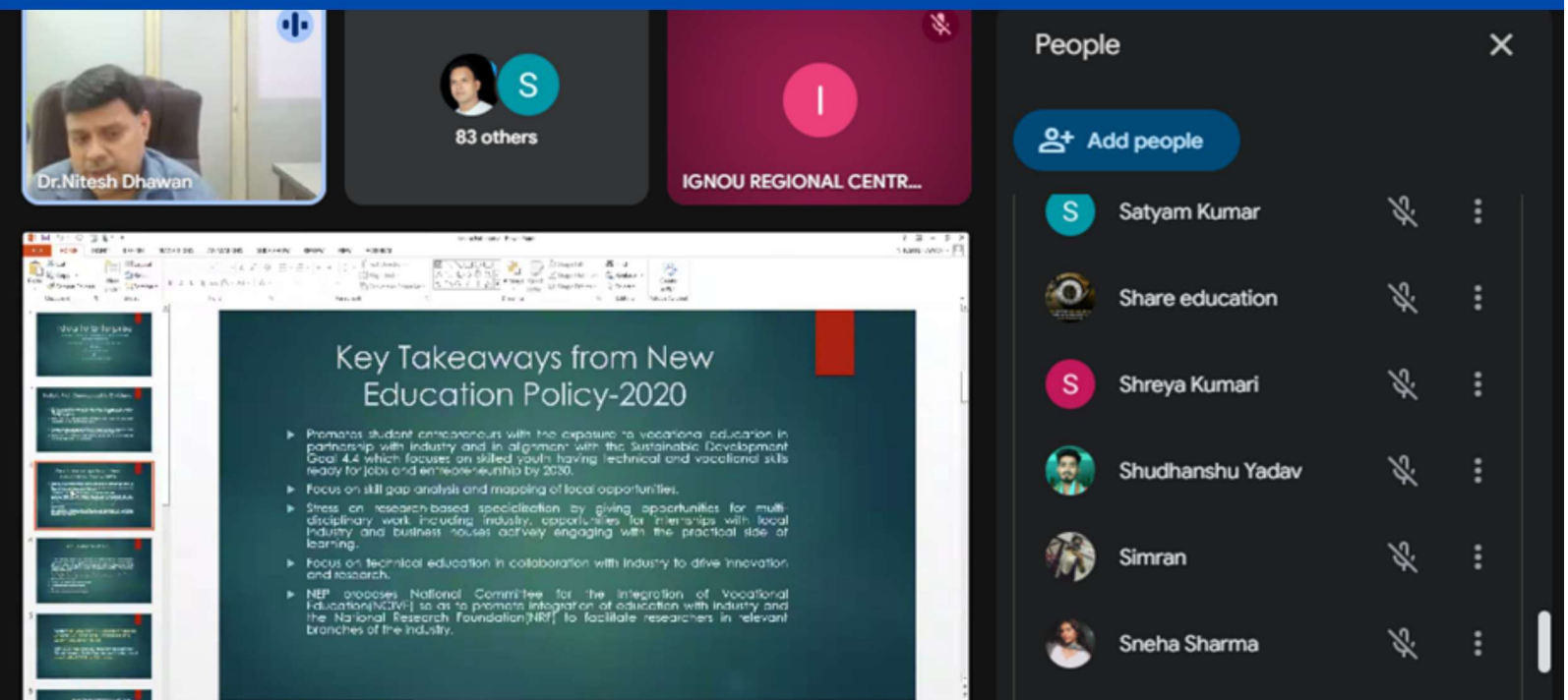
Dr. Nitesh Dhawan, Dy. CEO, Adm-HR/Legal/IT, **Khadi and Village Industries Commission**, **Ministry of MSME**, Government of India, Mumbai, shared practical insights on entrepreneurship and enterprise development. He emphasised the importance of converting ideas into actionable initiatives, recognising opportunities, and adopting an innovative and problem-solving approach.

Dr. Kirti Vikram Singh, Regional Director, spoke about the significance of entrepreneurship and innovation in the present educational and economic environment and encouraged learners to develop an entrepreneurial outlook. The programme was presided over by **Dr. Sara Nasreen**, Senior Regional Director, who highlighted the importance of **creativity, confidence, innovation** and an action-

RC- Bhagalpur

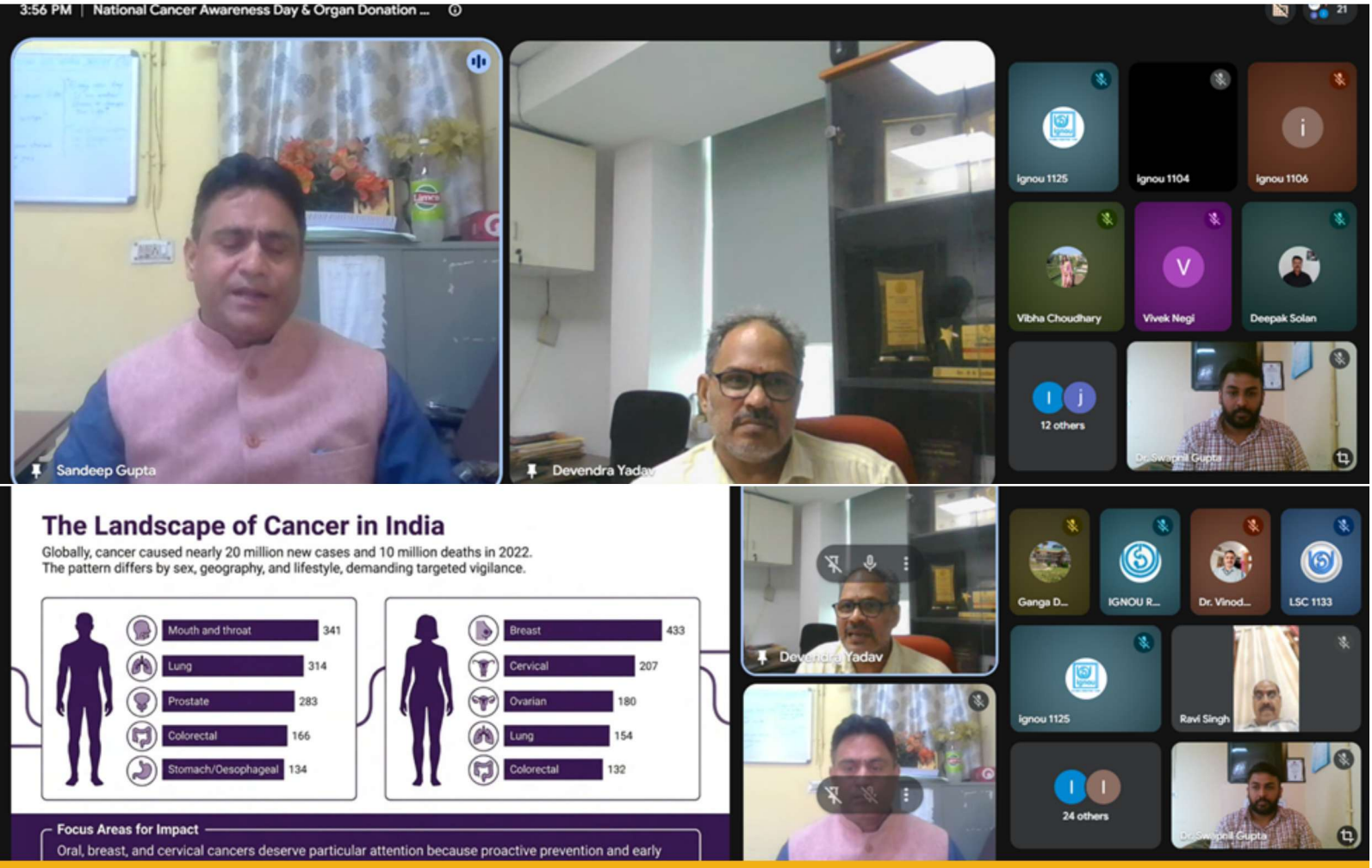


The session was followed by an interactive discussion on the entrepreneurial journey and the considerations involved in moving from an idea to enterprise creation. **Dr. O. P. Tiwari**, Regional Director, proposed the vote of thanks. The programme provided learners and aspiring entrepreneurs with **practical insights** into **opportunity identification**, **planning and execution**, while encouraging them to explore **entrepreneurship**, **innovation** and **self-employment opportunities**. The programme successfully reinforced IGNOU's commitment to promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, skill development and self-employment-oriented learning among its learners and stakeholders.



RC- Shimla

WEBINAR PROMOTES AWARENESS ON CANCER PREVENTION AND ORGAN DONATION



An **online webinar** on **cancer awareness** and **organ donation** was organised by **IGNOU Regional Centre Shimla** on **24 August 2026**. The programme was headed by **Dr. Sandeep Gupta**, Regional Director, **IGNOU Regional Centre Shimla**, and coordinated by **Dr. Swapnil Gupta**, Assistant Regional Director.

Dr. Devendra Yadav, Resource Person, provided insights into **cancer prevention**, **early detection** and **timely intervention**. He explained the distinction between **screening** and **early diagnosis** and discussed the prevailing cancer scenario in India. He also highlighted the importance of awareness and **preventive practices** in reducing the impact of cancer.

Staff members from IGNOU Regional Centres Jammu, Varanasi, Raipur and Ahmedabad, along with staff of Regional Centre Shimla, participated in the webinar. An **interactive discussion** was held after the session, with participants raising queries and sharing their views on **cancer awareness**, prevention and **early detection**. The discussion provided useful insights that could be further shared with learners and the wider community. The webinar concluded by emphasising the importance of **collective efforts** to promote **cancer awareness**, **preventive**

RC- Lucknow

Workshop Guides Students on IGNOU Programmes for July 2026 Admission Cycle



An **awareness workshop** on IGNOU programmes for the **July 2026 admission cycle** was organised by the Regional Centre Lucknow on **25 August 2026** at **Nari Shiksha Niketan Post Graduate College, Lucknow**, under the guidance of **Dr. Anil Kumar Misra**, Senior Regional Director and Head, IGNOU Regional Centre, Lucknow, as part of the "**Shiksha Se Sarvochchata**" campaign.

The programme was chaired by **Prof. Sunita Kumar**, Principal, Nari Shiksha Niketan PG College, and attended by **around 115 students**. **Dr. Jai Prakash Verma**, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Lucknow, delivered the keynote address and apprised students of IGNOU's academic, vocational, skill-oriented, certificate, diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, along with the **admission process** for the **July 2026 cycle**.

The programme was coordinated by **Prof. Vandana Sant**, In-charge, Career Counselling and Guidance Cell, while **Dr. Divya Pal**, Assistant Professor, proposed the vote of thanks. The workshop concluded with an **interactive session** and was well received by the participating students.



RC- Lucknow

Skill-Based Programmes and Career Options Explored at Awareness Workshop



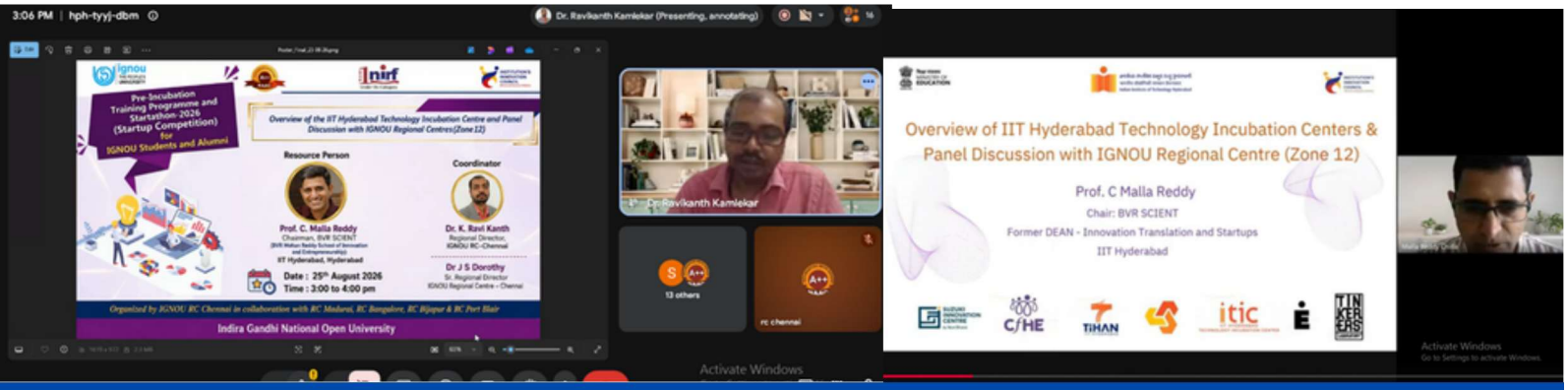
Regional Centre Lucknow organised an awareness workshop on **skill-based programmes** and **career counselling** on **21 August 2026** at **Maharaja Bijli Pasi Government PG College, Lucknow**. The workshop aimed to familiarise students with IGNOU's skill-oriented programmes and help them make informed career choices. Senior Regional Director and Head **Dr. Anil Kumar Misra**, Regional Directors **Dr. Reena Kumari** and **Dr. Jai Prakash Verma**, Coordinator **Dr. Ajeet Kumar Singh** and students of the college attended the programme.

Dr. Misra highlighted the importance of skill development and vocational education in enhancing employability and professional growth. Dr. Kumari briefed participants on IGNOU's skill-based and certificate programmes, including eligibility requirements, admission procedures, programme duration, and the flexibility offered by the Open and Distance Learning system. A career counselling session was also conducted to help students identify suitable career options based on their interests, abilities, educational qualifications and future goals, with emphasis on acquiring relevant skills, continuous learning and informed career planning.



RC- Chennai

Webinar Introduces Students to Technology Incubation and Startup Opportunities



Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), **Regional Centre Chennai**, in collaboration with **Regional Centres Madurai, Bangalore, Bijapur and Port Blair**, organised a webinar on **technology incubation** and **startup opportunities** on **25 August 2026** as part of the **Pre-Incubation Training Programme and Startathon–2026** for **IGNOU students and alumni**. The session focused on **entrepreneurship**, **innovation**, **incubation opportunities**, and the **support ecosystem** available to help develop innovative ideas into viable ventures.

Prof. C. Malla Reddy, Chairman, BVR SCIENT, BVR Mohan Reddy School of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, IIT Hyderabad, shared insights into **technology incubation** and entrepreneurial development, with an overview of the **IIT Hyderabad Technology Incubation Centre**. **Dr. J. S. Dorothy**, Senior Regional Director, IGNOU **Regional Centre Chennai**, delivered the Presidential Address and highlighted the importance of fostering **innovation** and **entrepreneurship** among IGNOU learners. **Dr. K. Ravikanth Kamlekar**, Regional Director, introduced the speaker and set the context for the session.

The webinar was followed by an **interactive discussion** on incubation and **startup opportunities**, enabling participants to engage with the speaker and gain a better understanding of the **startup ecosystem**. **Dr. Dorothy** proposed the **vote of thanks**. The session provided students and alumni with exposure to incubation and entrepreneurial opportunities and encouraged them to explore **innovative ideas and startup ventures**.

