

SEICOM DEGREE COLLEGE

(AFFILIATED TO SV UNIVERSITY)

(ACCREDITED BY NAAC)

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL (EDC) (2020–21)

Objectives: In 2020–21 the EDC had to adapt to pandemic constraints. Objectives were modified to continue entrepreneurship training online and to help students build digital ventures. Key aims included virtual entrepreneurship mentoring, promoting e-commerce business ideas, and sustaining student engagement with start-ups despite lockdowns.

Composition: The committee structure remained similar, though meetings and coordination shifted online. The EDC Coordinator and members used video-conferencing to plan events. Two student representatives (from BBA and BCA) were appointed specifically to manage digital outreach (social media updates, webinar invites).

Initiatives & Activities: All major activities were held virtually. The cell organized a series of Entrepreneurship Webinars on topics like "Starting an Online Business" and "Digital Marketing Basics." Faculty volunteers created online mentoring groups, pairing small student teams with a faculty guide for weekly virtual sessions. A notable online event was a guest lecture by a tech start-up founder, live-streamed to 150+ attendees from SEICOM and partner colleges. An online Innovation Challenge was also launched: students formed teams and submitted 3-minute video pitches of a business idea; submissions were reviewed by external judges from industry.

- Online mentor-mentee pairing (faculty guided 20+ student teams).
- Virtual entrepreneurship quiz and e-certificates.
- Digital "Idea Bank": an online repository where students posted and voted on startup ideas.

Collaborations/MoUs: In 2020–21 the EDC relied on digital collaborations. The college signed an MoU with an educational technology company (as reported by the R&D Cell) to conduct training webinars and teacher development. Although this MoU was for faculty training, the EDC leveraged the company's webinar platform to host stripent events. Additionally, alumni entrepreneurs were invited virtually as mentors, effectively expanding the cell's industry network. Plans were discussed to

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formalize online internship schemes with IT firms, recognizing the shift to remote work.

Student Participation & Outcomes: Virtual mode actually increased outreach: over 100 students attended at least one online EDC event. Several students were inspired to develop pandemic-relevant start-up ideas (e.g. an e-learning portal concept). In the Innovation Challenge, 6 teams presented ideas; the winning idea (a low-cost sanitizer dispenser design) was forwarded for prototype funding support from a tech grant. Importantly, the cell tracked that students improved digital business skills (surveyed via an exit quiz after webinars).

Funding & Support: The shift online reduced certain costs (e.g. travel, catering). Most funding (approx. ₹30,000) was reallocated to prizes for the virtual competitions and minor digital subscriptions. The college provided access to its e-learning tools (Zoom, Google Workspace) at no extra cost. No new external funding was secured, but the EDC's success in virtual events helped secure a small internal grant (₹20,000 from IQAC) for a "Start-up Software" license.

Key Achievements & Impact: Despite the lockdown challenges, the EDC maintained momentum. Student engagement was a key achievement; many students reported high satisfaction with the webinars. The online Innovation Challenge, in particular, demonstrated adaptability. The year also showed that entrepreneurship activities could be sustained digitally, aligning with SEICOM's broader push for ICT integration Overall, the EDC in 2020-21 succeeded in keeping the in education. entrepreneurial spirit alive and preparing students for e-business ventures.

Plans & Recommendations: For 2021-22, the EDC planned a blended approach (both online and offline events). It recommended establishing a formal "Entrepreneurship Cell Platform" on the college intranet to continue idea-sharing and resource dissemination. The cell also proposed leveraging the pandemic experience to connect with global virtual programs (e.g. tie-ups with online start-up boot camps) and to incorporate entrepreneurship projects into regular coursework,

ensuring continuity of the EDC's mission.

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