SEICOM DEGREE COLLEGE

(AFFILIATED TO SV UNIVERSITY)

(ACCREDITED BY NAAC)

9-66/14-A, New Maruthi Nagar, Extension, Tirupathi. Ph : No. 0877-2241094, 2242606

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL (EDC)
(2022–23)

Objectives: In 2022–23 the EDC's objectives were to institutionalize the entrepreneurship ecosystem. This meant developing formal policies (e.g. offering elective credits for startup projects), and ensuring sustainability (e.g. permanent faculty coordinators). The cell aimed to broaden its outreach to all students by integrating awareness into freshman orientation. Continuing the momentum, the goal was to help at least one or two student teams formally register a startup by year-end.

Composition: The composition was formalized in the college's Institute Development Plan. A faculty member of BBA (Honors) was appointed as full-time EDC Coordinator for a two-year term, supported by a committee of six faculty (including one from Commerce, one from Computer Science, one from Biotech) and two student incubate representatives. This multi-disciplinary team reflected SEICOM's varied programs and emphasis on innovation across fields.

Initiatives & Activities: The EDC launched several flagship programs. A "Startup Incubation Fellowship" was offered to top project teams, providing them guidance and seed support over a six-month period. Regular entrepreneurship clubs (e.g. the SEICOM E^2 Club) were revived with EDC coordination, hosting monthly talks on finance, marketing, and product development. Workshops on patent filing and business registration (in collaboration with a city IP attorney) helped demystify the startup process.

- Monthly entrepreneur meet-ups (peer group learning sessions).
- Annual Technology-Entrepreneurship Fair: student projects from all departments were exhibited to outside visitors.
- Business plan clinic days, where students could get one-on-one advice from volunteer mentors.

Collaborations/MoUs: The EDC continued to build partnerships. The incubator MOU (from 2021) yielded student placements for prototype work. A new MoU was signed with a Tirupati IT park to provide internships and campus-talk opportunities. The cell also joined the All-India Startup India Yatra network, enrolling SEICOM to host one of the Yatra's regional entrepreneurship outreach

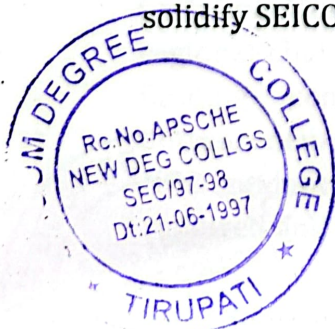PRINCIPAL

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events. These collaborations expanded resources and visibility for student entrepreneurs.

Student Participation & Outcomes: Participation became widespread — an estimated 150 students attended EDC events during the year (covering multiple departments). Outcomes were stronger: two student teams formally incorporated small ventures (one in digital marketing services, another in food- tech). Both received mentorship through the incubator program. Five teams participated in a state-level business-plan competition, winning a total of ₹25,000 in prize money (split among them). These successes underscored the cell's impact in moving students from ideas toward real startups.

Funding & Support: With growing activity, funding increased. The college committed a recurring budget for EDC (₹100,000/year) to run larger programs. The alumni association funded one fellowship grant (₹25,000) for a female-led startup team. The EDC also facilitated student applications to national schemes (e.g. DIC seed fund), and at least one team received an external ₹50,000 grant for product development. Thus, support now blended internal budget and external seed funding opportunities.

Key Achievements & Impact: The institutionalization of the EDC was a key achievement: the cell's inclusion in official college plans and dedicated staffing ensured continuity. Tangibly, SEICOM saw its first student- founded companies emerge, validating the cell's long-term impact. Overall, the entrepreneurship culture had taken root; as SEICOM's outreach notes, the college nurtures graduates excelling in entrepreneurship and technology, a trend reflected in this year's outcomes.

Plans & Recommendations: Looking ahead to 2023–24, the EDC planned to launch a Formal Incubation Program (with a structured application and mentoring process) and to partner with national innovation bodies (e.g. to set up an Institution's Innovation Council). It recommended bringing in entrepreneurship into the curriculum more formally (for example, proposing a certificate in Entrepreneurship under NEP). The EDC also aimed to host a larger Entrepreneurship Summit on campus, involving students, faculty, industry, and government stakeholders, to solidify SEICOM's role as a hub of innovation.

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