

ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT CELL 2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT



Faculty-in-Charge: Mrs. Divya Lalwani

Members:

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The **Entrepreneur Development Cell (EDC)** of R.A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics had an extraordinary year filled with remarkable achievements and groundbreaking initiatives. This year marked a historic milestone as we collaborated with the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** and **Young Indians (Yi)**, two highly esteemed organizations, to bring about transformative opportunities for students. For the first time ever,

the EDC hosted a large-scale event outside the college premises, at the prestigious **Trident Hotel** in **Mumbai** on **15th November 2024**. The event, named '**PitchRight: Turn Your Ideas into Reality**' and inspired by the globally popular Shark Tank, became a resounding success, attracting participants from across the country.

The event received over 60 registrations, drawing aspiring entrepreneurs eager to showcase their innovative ideas. It was designed to evaluate and nurture business ideas through a structured three-round process.

First Round: Interested participants submitted their business names and ideas through a form to register for the event. The team at R.A. Podar College held the responsibility of communicating with colleges and universities for creating awareness and bringing in these registrations.

Second Round: required the submission of a concise PowerPoint presentation, limited to five slides, outlining the business idea in greater detail. Based on the evaluations by a distinguished jury, ten teams were shortlisted for the final round. These two rounds were held online.

Third Round (the final round): It was held on 15th November 2024. This was held in the presence of high-profile jury members, participants pitched their business ideas to an audience that included active industry investors, foreign trade consulates, CII officials, and leading venture capitalists from India. Each team was allotted ten minutes to present and address questions, with winners receiving prizes of ₹1,00,000, ₹50,000, and ₹25,000 respectively. The selected participants were trained by our team, and they had to present their ideas in front of the distinguished jury members. This training took place in the span of two weeks.

The jury comprised renowned figures such as:

Mr. Rishi Kumar Bagla – Chairman & Managing

Director of BG Electricals and Electronics India Ltd.

Mr. Nishant Mehta – CA, Lawyer, Entrepreneur, Financial Coach, MBA

Mr. Karan Khetarpal – CEO of Indian Express Commercial Ventures & Projects Limited

Mr. Abhishek Agarwal – Founder and Managing Partner at Rockstud Capital

Ms. Shilpa Sehgal – Partner, Equanimity Investments

Dr. Atisha Keswani – Bharat Vibhushan, Women Mentor of the Year 2023, India's 100 Women Achiever in 2023, Image Coach, Public Speaker

Their expertise and constructive feedback added immense value to the participants' entrepreneurial journeys.

The event would not have been possible without the efforts of our former principal, **Dr. Mrs. Shobana Vasudevan**, and our faculty-in-charge, **Mrs. Divya Lalwani**. Dr. Vasudevan's guidance and encouragement gave the EDC the confidence to dream big and execute a landmark event like PitchRight.

Mrs. Lalwani was the driving force behind every detail, from building collaborations with CII and Yi to planning each phase of the competition. Her efforts ensured the event brought valuable insights and connections to our students, while her dedication set a new benchmark for hosting impactful events that bridge the gap between academia and industry.

The EDC team of R.A. Podar College also played a central role, serving as the backbone of the event. We were the mediators between the participants and CII, ensuring seamless communication and coordination. From designing brochures and digital creatives to crafting engaging content, we took charge of all promotional and creative elements. Additionally, our team managed CRM, promotions, and documentation, creating flyers, capturing moments through photos and videos, and handling related tasks with great dedication and professionalism.

This collaborative effort demonstrated the potential of our team to execute large-scale events and set a new standard for what our college can achieve in the future.

Link to the brochure: <https://shorturl.at/vDzXM>

This year we also focused on encouraging innovative ideas and teaching students the importance of sustainability and responsible entrepreneurship.

Overall, the 2024-25 year was transformative for the Entrepreneurship Development Cell of R.A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics. The initiatives undertaken, particularly the landmark event PitchRight, have ratified EDC's role in fostering innovation and leadership among students.