ICE - Innovation, Creativity, Entrepreneurship Report

Business Practices department and entrepreneurship students of Third Year B. Com. organized ICE - Innovation, Creativity, Entrepreneurship on 5th Feb' 2024. The event is organized every year starting in 2019 to celebrate and instill the entrepreneurial spirit in the students.

The event was a panel discussion and experience sharing session where students got a chance to listen to various entrepreneurs and their stories. They had an interactive Q & A session with them. The event was organized in the Dr. Cyrus Poonawala Hall of the college. Entrepreneurs who graced the occasion were-

- Abhishek Thatte from Agraj Food Processor Pvt Ltd.
- Jay Panchpor from Crustworthy Gourmet Breads.
- Swati Otari from Swati Arts.
- Sushrut Waghmare from Shreyas Electro Medicals.

The program started with an introduction of the guest by the students, followed by the ceremonial lamp lighting. The guests were formally welcomed and facilitated by principal Dr. R. P. Kuchekar sir.

The first speaker, Mr. Abhishek Thatte talked about his entrepreneurial journey to when he joined his family business in 2013. He emphasized that entrepreneurship is a continuous learning process and in the initial 5 years of starting as an entrepreneur, one has to work without thinking about work-life balance. He also mentioned the challenges he faced as a new part of his family business. He also mentioned his passion for football for which he has started an organization called 'ground zero' for the players like him.

The second speaker was Jay Panchpor. He started his speech with the journey of being a Mechanical Engineer, who had to leave his admission in US due to Covid-19 lockdown issues. He mentioned how during the period of Covid Lockdown, he identified the problem of foreign people who live in India but they do not get the kind of food what they are habitual to eat. This led to his interest towards the world of Breads and after a lot of experiments and trials; he started Crustworthy Gourmet Breads to fill the gap in the market. He did experiment about almost 5000 types of breads out of which generally the market doesn't even know about 20 types. Further he motivated students to be an entrepreneur saying that the core idea and your interest level in that idea-these are the things which will keep you on your toes and you will never get bored or tired. He said only Entrepreneurship is an area where you are your own boss and you are your own employee.

Third speaker Mrs. Swati Otari told her inspirational story that she didn't want to do what others do! She told that how hard it was to gain the trust of people, being alone and being a lady in her profession. She said that experiences and learning made her able to handle pressure until the work is done. Since her work is not automated at all, the art work should be performed by the

individual only. Further she added that she had been self-confident throughout this journey and that makes her perfect in her work. At last, she blessed the students to be successful in life.

Fourth speaker was Sushrut Waghmare, a BMCCpreneur. He had been a student of BMCC. He started his speech sharing his dream. He told how two years ago he dreamt of being at the ICE session as a guest and here is the day! He told his journey from his school life when he started the panti stall with his friends where they tripled the capital on Diwali, to the point when he joined his family business. Further, he told how he tackled the situation of hostile workers' strike of 3-4 weeks in his factory at the initial stage of his journey as an entrepreneur. He highly focused on mental and physical health and advised the students to have a positive outlook towards the world and to control their minds to deal with the given distractions.

The second part of the event was Q & A session, where the entrepreneurs answered the questions of students regarding how to deal with failures in the beginning, how to get into the business without any family background, how they deal with their organizational creativity, and many more. The event provided an insight to students and motivated them not to shy away from taking the initiative. All the speakers focused on the initiation aspect of entrepreneurship. The event ended with the formal vote of thanks given by the team. We would like to thank our Principal Dr. Rajesh Kuchekar sir, and our mentors Dr. Rajeshree Gokhale ma'am, Prof. Neetika Sharma ma'am, and Dr. Ranjana Gujrati ma'am from the Department of Business Practices for their valuable guidance and support.



