Report on National Entrepreneurship Conclave (NEC) 2023

Event Dates: 8, 9, and 10 March 2023

Introduction

LEAD College of Management, Dhoni, Palakkad, is one of Kerala's premier stand-alone NBA-accredited business schools. The institution is widely recognized for its commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial talent and transforming young minds into job creators rather than job seekers. LEAD's vision extends beyond conventional management education by providing a comprehensive entrepreneurial ecosystem that includes business incubation, mentoring, acceleration, and industry support. The institution aspires to transform the traditional Business School model into an Entrepreneurial School, fostering innovation, enterprise creation, and sustainable economic development.

Background and Rationale

In the current landscape, entrepreneurship in India is receiving unprecedented support from government agencies, educational institutions, and the business community. Recognizing this momentum and the growing importance of entrepreneurship as a driver of economic growth, LEAD College of Management organized the National Entrepreneurship Conclave (NEC) 2023 as a significant initiative to promote entrepreneurial thinking and action among students and aspiring entrepreneurs.

Event Overview

The three-day National Entrepreneurship Conclave (NEC) 2023 was held from 8 to 10 March 2023 at LEAD College of Management, Kerala. The conclave served as a national platform to inspire, educate, and empower emerging entrepreneurs by providing them with the knowledge, skills, networks, and opportunities necessary to transform innovative ideas into viable business ventures.

Collaborating Organizations

The conclave was organized in association with several prominent organizations, including:

- Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM)
- Kerala Institute for Entrepreneurship Development (KIED)
- Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)
- Palghat Management Association (PMA)
- National Institute of Personnel Management (NIPM)

The event also received valuable support from:

- Kochi Business School (KBS)

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IEDC)
- LEAD Business Incubator (LEAD-BI)
- LEAD-BI incubated ventures

Objectives of NEC 2023

The primary objectives of the conclave were to:

- Promote entrepreneurship among students and aspiring entrepreneurs.
- Provide a structured platform for idea validation and business model development.
- Enable participants to analyze market opportunities and assess business feasibility.
- Facilitate the creation of scalable and sustainable business models.
- Offer mentorship and exposure to investors, industry experts, and entrepreneurial ecosystems.
- Encourage innovation-driven enterprise creation.

Participation and Eligibility

The conclave was open to graduates and students pursuing their final or pre-final year of graduation. It offered participants a unique opportunity to refine their business ideas, evaluate market potential, and develop a comprehensive understanding of the desirability, feasibility, and viability of their proposed ventures.

Key Highlights

Participants were guided through a structured entrepreneurial journey that included:

- Idea generation and validation
- Opportunity analysis
- Business model development
- Feasibility and viability assessment
- Preparation of investor-ready presentations
- Pitching before an investors' forum

This immersive process enabled aspiring entrepreneurs to transform innovative concepts into actionable business plans.

Outcomes and Opportunities

The conclave culminated in an exciting pitch competition, where participants presented their business ideas before investors and industry experts. Winners were awarded attractive cash prizes, along with fee waivers for pursuing higher studies at LEAD College of Management.

More importantly, the event provided aspiring entrepreneurs with a valuable opportunity to connect with investors, secure potential funding, and gain access to mentorship and incubation support for scaling their ventures.

Conclusion

NEC 2023 successfully reinforced LEAD College of Management's commitment to building a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem. By bringing together aspiring entrepreneurs, industry leaders, investors, and institutional partners, the conclave created a dynamic platform for innovation, collaboration, and venture creation.The event marked another significant milestone in LEAD's journey toward becoming a leading Entrepreneurial School, empowering the next generation of business leaders and job creators.

