J.B. INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
(UGC AUTONOMOUS)
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DEPARTMENTS OF AI&DS - CSE(DS)

DATA WRANGLERS

Workshop on
"Raising Capital and Managing Finance for Startups"

17 SEPTEMBER 2025
MNR AUDITORIUM-JBIET
10:00 AM

INSTITUTION'S INNOVATION COUNCIL
(Ministry of Education Initiative)

WRANGLE

PRODUCTION-4

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INTRODUCTION

The Workshop on "Raising Capital and Managing Finance for Startups" at JB Institute of Engineering and Technology (JBIET), organized by the Data Wranglers Club and held at the MNR Auditorium on 17th Sept 2025, was designed to equip aspiring entrepreneurs with vital skills in securing funding and managing finances—key factors for any startup's success. The workshop aimed to inspire the next generation of innovators by providing practical knowledge on financial strategies needed to transform ideas into sustainable ventures. Participants learned about various funding sources, investor relations, budgeting, and resource allocation through expert talks, real-life case studies, and interactive sessions. This comprehensive approach not only offered theoretical insights but also hands-on experience, fostering entrepreneurial confidence among students. By emphasizing the importance of financial management in today's competitive and fast-evolving startup ecosystem, the event prepared attendees to face challenges with greater clarity and readiness. Overall, the workshop served as a valuable platform for nurturing creativity, business acumen, and strategic thinking, essential qualities for young entrepreneurs at JBIET.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

The Data Wranglers Club of JBIET is a student-driven community under the Department of Data Science that has rapidly become a hub for creativity, innovation, and collaboration. Since its inception, the club has worked tirelessly to nurture both technical and non-technical skills among students by hosting events, workshops, competitions, and publishing initiatives.

The club's vision is to empower students with exposure to real-world technologies, creative thinking, and teamwork, thereby bridging the gap between classroom learning and industry requirements. Its mission revolves around promoting a culture of problem-solving, leadership, and peer-to-peer learning.

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KEY TOPICS COVERED

- The session was comprehensive, covering a wide array of topics that are essential for anyone aspiring to launch and scale a startup. The speaker carefully broke down complex financial concepts into simple and relatable ideas, making them accessible to students of varied academic backgrounds. The key topics included:
- Stages of Startup Funding – Exploring seed funding, Series A, B, and beyond.
- Different Sources of Capital – From personal savings to angel investors, venture capital, and crowdfunding.
- Financial Planning and Budgeting – How to design budgets that align with business goals and investor expectations.
- Cash Flow Management – Understanding the lifeline of a startup and the strategies to maintain liquidity.
- Equity Distribution – Sharing ownership fairly while retaining control over the business.
- Risk Management – Identifying financial risks and strategies to mitigate them.
- Investor Relations – Building trust and maintaining transparency with potential and existing investors.
- Pitch Deck Preparation – Crafting a compelling presentation to attract funding.
- Market Validation – Demonstrating the feasibility of an idea to strengthen funding opportunities.
- Long-Term Financial Strategies – Planning for scalability, sustainability, and profitability.

THE SPEAKER AND THEIR INSIGHTS

MR. VIKAS KATRAGADDA

VENTURE CAPITALIST

The keynote address by Mr. Vikas Katragadda stood as the centerpiece of the workshop. As a venture capitalist with extensive experience in mentoring and investing in startups, Mr. Katragadda shared valuable lessons from his professional journey.

He began by highlighting the importance of vision and discipline, stating that while innovation attracts attention, it is financial management that sustains growth. He explained how startups often fail not because of a lack of ideas, but due to poor cash flow management and inability to scale effectively.

Some of his key insights included:

- Cash Flow is King: No matter how strong the idea, without proper cash flow management, businesses cannot survive.
- Investor Perspective: Investors look for scalable business models, market validation, and committed founders rather than just unique ideas.
- Networking and Mentorship: Success often comes through building the right connections and learning from mentors who have walked the path before.
- Transparency Builds Trust: Investors are more likely to fund businesses that demonstrate honesty, accountability, and consistent reporting.
- Personal Experiences: He shared stories of startups that thrived because of strong financial strategies and others that collapsed despite innovative concepts, underscoring the need for balanced growth.

The session was highly interactive, with students raising questions on topics such as equity division among co-founders, approaching angel investors, and creating effective financial models. Mr. Katragadda responded with practical advice, making the learning both engaging and insightful.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Student involvement played a pivotal role in making the “Raising Capital and Managing Finance for Startups” workshop a resounding success. The event was designed to be highly interactive, encouraging students to actively engage with the content and each other throughout the sessions.

- **Interactive Discussions:** Students enthusiastically took part in Q&A segments, where they clarified doubts and shared their perspectives on startup financing. Their thoughtful questions and real-life examples enriched the learning experience for all participants.
- **Group Activities and Case Studies:** Collaborative exercises and case study analyses were central to the workshop, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios. These activities fostered teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills crucial for managing startup finances effectively.
- **Networking and Mentorship:** The workshop also offered valuable opportunities for students to connect with industry experts and peers, building a supportive entrepreneurial network within the JBIET community.
- **Positive Feedback and Reflections:** Many attendees expressed their appreciation for the hands-on approach, noting how the workshop boosted their confidence in pitching to investors and managing financial operations.

This enthusiastic participation not only made the workshop vibrant but also reinforced the spirit of innovation, collaboration, and practical learning among the students.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of the workshop would not have been possible without the support and contributions of many. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Vikas Katragadda for taking time out of his busy schedule to guide the students with his expertise and industry knowledge.

We are deeply thankful to the management of JBIET for their encouragement in promoting such initiatives that enrich student learning. Our appreciation also goes to the faculty mentors of the Data Wranglers Club, whose guidance and constant support ensured the smooth execution of the event.

Lastly, we acknowledge the hard work of the student organizing team, whose dedication and teamwork brought this workshop to life. Above all, we thank the students for their enthusiastic participation, which truly made the event a success.

CONCLUSION

The workshop on “Raising Capital and Managing Finance for Startups” was a resounding success, leaving students enriched with knowledge and inspired to explore the world of entrepreneurship. By addressing both the opportunities and challenges of funding and financial management, the session provided a realistic yet encouraging perspective on startup growth.

The insights from Mr. Vikas Katragadda served as a guiding light for students, reminding them that while ideas ignite innovation, it is financial discipline and strategic planning that drive long-term success. The event not only fulfilled its objective of imparting knowledge but also sparked entrepreneurial curiosity among the participants.

As the world continues to witness the rise of startups as engines of economic growth, this workshop proved to be timely and impactful, motivating students of JBIET to aspire for greatness and contribute meaningfully to the entrepreneurial ecosystem.