

**NATIONAL SEMINAR**  
**ON**  
**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR STARTUPS IN INDIA**

Date: Feb 18, 2017(Saturday)

Venue: Seminar Hall, AIMT Campus, Greater Noida

The one day National Seminar on “Opportunities and challenges for Startups in India “was successfully organised on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Army Institute of Management and Technology, Greater Noida which witnessed an enthusiastic response and participation from students .

The seminar started with lighting of the lamp by the honourable guests. Maj Gen Rajesh Sahai, AVSM, SM (COS HQ Delhi Area & Chairman AIMT) Welcomed the dignitaries.. He emphasised on the theme of the Seminar and how startups are playing pivotal roles in the growth of the Indian economy. He said that startups are not only meant for youngsters, but for all. He quoted the example of Col. Harland David Sanders who started KFC at the age of 65 after his retirement. The General concluded his address by giving message that “don’t get rejected with the rejections”, and he added “failures are the pillars of success “.

In his Key Note address Let. Gen MM Naravane-AVSM, SM, VSM (GOC, Delhi Area & Patron AIMT) highlighted the importance of startups, in generation of income, employment & in fulfilling the needs of society by solving the existing problems. He substantiated this by quoting couple of examples like the success story of Infosys and how five people with total 1500 dollars started their business and now counted as one of the best IT companies and of Richard Branson that how he transformed his small idea of starting his own airline into a big brand i.e. Virgin Airlines.

The seminar continued with the thematic address by Dr. RK Panigrahi, Director MSME-DI. He highlighted the role of government on the stand up start ups India & that of entrepreneurs who according to him are different& strong enough to execute an idea ,for them money is not a constraint . He concluded his address with saying “jo jeeta wohi Sikandar”.

Mr. Ajay Lavakare(Angel Investor.) delivered his Guest of Honour address. He talked about three FFF’s, the three essential things needed for building up startup – FREINDS FAMILY & FOOLS and continued with brief discussion about who are angel investors, what are their criteria to evaluate business plans and funding decisions.

Then, our Chief Guest, Mr Praveen Sinha – ( MD Pincap & Co-Founder Jabong) shared his entrepreneurial journey . He highlighted the execution part as the most difficult part in the

journey of an entrepreneur. He said that if we are passionate about our work then no one can stop us. He concluded his talk by “always be yourself.”

The inaugural session ended with felicitations of dignitaries by Maj Gen Rajesh Sahai and with vote of thanks by advising students to keep their ideas short and simple

The first session of seminar began with Mr.Saurabh Kaushik (founder-peopleist India) Session Chair & Moderator .His talk highlighted on the importance of opportunities and Challenges for Startups in India and how execution was the most important part of it.

Mr Manik Mehta (founder- Leaf Wearables) spoke about the challenges which an entrepreneur faces and suggested that the government should reduce the complexity of the licensing policies,excessive paper works, stringent environmental norms etc which act as deterrents for start-ups.

Mr Ravi Kumar (Udchalo.com) in his speech spoke about finding opportunities in problems. He cited his own example as one who had achieved success after many failures. He shared his experiences and commented that his army background has made him so determined. At last he said ‘challenges are nothing but the paves the way for the success.

Ms. Mandeep Kaur Sidhu (founder and CEO of smile.care,Simbacart) shared a very heart touching story of her life. She discussed the challenges of rural startups. Highlight of her talk was that when she mentioned that she wanted create 10 Mandeep Kaur Sidhu’s in her village

Dr Shruti Gupta proposed the vote of thanks. Chairman AIMT after thanking the speakers asked to give standing ovation to the speakers

The post lunch session was initiated by the by Mr Gurudarshan Singh who made everyone take a pledge on Learning. He remarked that innovation is always created in the ambit of constructive conflict. He quoted various examples of people finding success despite several constraints.

Ms Sadiya Naseem (Founder@ Glamstudios )& her Co founder Ms Darkshan Hussain shared their entrepreneurial journaey and how creativity & innovation led to their success.

Ms. Tithi Tiwari she(Co-Founder & MD- Smart VIZX) articulately crafted the idea that managing creativity and showing business credibility should always be embroiled in the soul of entrepreneurs for startup.

Dr Pawan Gupta ,Director AIMT thanked the speakers and dignitaries. General Rajesh Sahai,Chairman AIMT highlighted the takeaways and thanked the Director & faculty members of AIMT for making this event a success. Dr Monika Jain –Convener National Seminar proposed the vote of thanks.

