Technology Business Incubator (TBI)
Govt. Engineering College, Palakkad

Activity Report as on 31-03-2022

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Technology Business Incubator (TBI) is one of the flagship projects of Govt. Engineering College, Palakkad. The facility provides infrastructural, academic and technical support to the upcoming entrepreneurs to fulfill their dreams. The team of academicians, industry experts and mentors provide the necessary guidance and motivation to create the pathway to success for anyone who steps into the facility. TBI is committed to inculcating the knowledge and skills to foster young engineers to become successful entrepreneurs, providing employment, developing innovative products and services and thereby building up an indigenous self-reliant nation.

Within the last five years, TBI at GEC Palakkad was able to set up Infrastructure to hold 8 physical units, a seminar hall, a mini fabrication lab and an amenity area for the incubatees. It also provides basic IT infrastructures like Personal Computers, sharable Printers, high-speed Internet services, etc.

Currently, four firms are working at TBI and 3 firms conk out this year. The reason for dropping out is opting for higher studies by the applicant. Despite the market drop by the COVID-19 pandemic, our incubatees performed well and made remarkable progress. M/s. TeQlot Innovantz was the only firm that conducted its business throughout the pandemic period. Epoz Zero and Exelarc developed software and Mobile applications to support Learning Management Systems which turned out to be a helping hand to students and teachers at the time of lockdown. These applications are still on the market which shows the usability and relevance of the products.

The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown had completely affected the market and become difficult for any business to survive. As beginners who lack experience in the market and do not have enough resources to fuel up, it is a herculean task for an entrepreneur to run a business fairly. With proper guidance both technical and management, mentoring and constant supervision, we were able to sought-out this problem to an extent. Collaboration with pioneer institutions and industries like IIT Palakkad, NIT Calicut, IISc Bangalore, HAL, etc. helped a lot. We are grateful for the timely support and mentoring they offered free of cost.

This year after coming out of the COVID-19 standstill, we started offline training programs and conducted 3 Short Term Training programs and 2 Hand-on Training programs. We had also participated in several offline and online programs hosted by prestigious institutions like IIT Palakkad, IISc. Bangalore, HAL, DRDO, MSME-DI Trissur and many more. Our students participated in Flipkart GRiD 3.0 - Robotics Challenge – a national-level robotics hackathon. Students also participated in MSME IDEA Hackathon 2022 for seed funding.

A comprehensive list of training programs hosted at TBI GEC Palakkad is as follows.

Offline Training Programs Hosted at TBI sponsored by DTE, Govt. of Kerala.

Sl. No	Name of the program	Venue	Date	Amount
01	Entrepreneurship for beginners	TBI GEC Palakkad	19-21 Jan 2022	35,735.00
02	PCB Design & Fabrication	TBI GEC Palakkad	27-29 Jan 2022	17,736.00
03	Introduction to PIC Microcontrollers	TBI GEC Palakkad	14-16 Jan 2022	49,417.00
04	Introduction to 3D design using Autodesk Fusion 360	TBI GEC Palakkad	09-11 Feb 2022	17,736.00
05	Introduction to Django – Python web framework	TBI GEC Palakkad	02-03 Feb 2022	17,710.00

List of training programs hosted at TBI GEC Palakkad

Sl. No	Course Title	Organized by	Date	Mode	No. of Participants (Approx.)
01	SAMBHAV (eNLAP) National Level Awareness Program on Entrepreneurship and Support of Ministry of MSME Govt. of India	MSME DI Thrissur	18 Nov 2021	Online	150
02	Business Plan for Startups	Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India and SIMAT	25 May 2021	Online	20
03	National Workshop on Bioplastics - Technology, Opportunities, Policies & Challenges	SIMAT	22 Sept 2021	Online	20
04	PCB Fabrication using KiCAD	IISc-HAL	28-29 Sept 2021	Online	30
05	UPSCALE 2021	IEEE & GEC Palakkad	07-13 Dec 2021	Online	135
06	Roadshow as a part of YIP 2021	Kerala Development & Innovation Strategy Council (K-DISC)	01 Feb 2022	Online	70
07	IEDC SUMMIT	Kerala Start up mission	05 Mar 2022	Offline	11
08	SAMASTHA - Technical workshop	TECHIN - IIT Palakkad	05-16 Mar 2022	Online	25
09	Webinar on IPR and Patenting rules in India	MSME-DI Thrissur	16 Mar 2022	Online	20

Sl. No	Title of Program	Organized by	No. of Participants
01	Flipkart GRiD 3.0 – Robotics Challenge	Flipkart	15
02	MSME Idea Hackathon 2022	MSME Govt. Of India	10

Flipkart GRiD 3.0 - Robotics Challenge is Flipkart's Flagship Engineering Campus Challenge which provides you the opportunity to apply your technical knowledge and skills, to compete and complete key challenges bringing Live Problem Statements from the world of E-Commerce to the brightest minds of India and lets you put your capabilities to the ultimate test. A team of 15 students participated in the challenge and cleared up to level II. The experience and knowledge gained in this challenge triggered the passion for doing scientific experiments among the students.

This year will be recorded in golden letters in the history of TBI GEC Palakkad. We were recognized as the Host institution of the Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India. By this, we are entitled to provide seed funding for the entrepreneurs of the region under the MSME-DI Thrissur. The selection process is done combined by the GEC Palakkad and Domain Expert Committee of MSME. Selected candidates will get a seed fund of up to Rupees 15 lakhs as a grant and up to 1.5 crores as Institution development fund.

This year, we have conducted a screening test "**TBI Drive 2022**" for selecting potential incubatees for the six vacancies in the TBI (four companies desiccated, one converted to virtual incubation, and one firm selected for seed funding at IIT Palakkad). Applications were invited through our website, media, and notice boards on 17-12-2021. The last date was extended till 30 Jan 2022. The selection for MSME seed funding was also invited during the same period. So the TBI Management committee decided to conduct the screening of both applications at the same venue. For seed funding, we received 13 applications (some applied for both incubation and seed fund). The selection committee is constituted by the Principal, TBI Coordinator, HoDs of various departments (Domain Experts), Manager of Nationalized Bank (Financial Expert), Extension Officer – Dept. of Industries and Commerce, Govt. of Kerala.

We received 16 applications (both incubation and seed fund) and 13 applicants presented their ideas before the Screening Committee. The screening session was conducted on 28 March 2022 at the Seminar Hall of CSE, GEC Palakkad. The 07 selected applications were forwarded with comments and recommendations by the Institute Selection Committee to the MSME via the Idea hackathon 2022 portal for further scrutiny.

Firms currently working at our TBI

Sl. No	Name of the Firm	Name of the CEO	Description of the project/product
01	TeQlot Solutions www.teqlotinnovantz.com	Mr. Krishnadas T	Development and modernization of kitchen accessories. Automatic Hand Sanitizer Dispenser
02	Peddle City	Mr. Sandesh S	Hardware and software platform for bicycle rentals.
03	Automs.io	Mr. Syamraju	Product Based Building Automation For Economically Small And Middle Business
04	PRO THOUGHTS	Mr. Jishnu J	AI-based interior automation for home and office.
05	INDUCTIO	Mr. Jishnu P	AI-based LMS for students
06	Hawker	Mr. Saad Hafiz C	Active suspension system for two-wheelers
07	PROHealth	Ms. Sreelakshmi	Secured Telemedicine based on IoT and WBAN
08	SNS Associates [**VIRTUAL 2020 ONWARDS**]	Mr. Sreerag N S	Pilot study and planning for the manufacturing of Indigenous Defense equipment /parts.
09	Viento Technologies [**VIRTUAL 2020 ONWARDS**]	Mr. Wilson George	Renewable energy systems, windmill guidance system
10	Trouvailler www.trouvailler.com [**VIRTUAL 2022 ONWARDS**]	Mr. Roy Antony	Cloud Platform for integrating tourism activities

Expenditure 2021-22

In 2021-22 fiscal, five lakh rupees were sanctioned by the DTE. (Ref No. L4/17624/20/DTE Dated: 10-12-2021). Complying with the store purchase rules we had completed the procedures of E-Tender for the air conditioner system, but very few vendors participated and the rate quoted was much high than the market price. There was not enough time for doing a re-tender and hence the procurement could not be completed. The allotment for the training programs and others was almost spent. The total expenditure for the fiscal is `219198.00. In addition to this `225684.00 were also spent on infrastructure development from the institution fund. This amount was utilized for reworking wooden furniture for Mini Fabrication Lab and minor civil works.

Activities planned for 2022-23

Sl. No	Item/ Description	Estimate Amount
01	AC for seminar hall, Split AC for Mini fab lab and electrical accessories, wiring, etc.	` 3.5 Lakhs
02	Hi Intensity Training programs, IPR.	` 1 Lakhs
03	Surveillance security system	` 0.5 Lakhs
TOTAL		` **5 Lakhs**

Glimpse of activities 2021-22

Entrepreneurship for beginners

Introduction to Django – Python web framework

Shri. Naseer (TBI Coordinator) addressing students

Dr. Ashish delivering session on self-development

Introduction to 3D design using Autodesk Fusion 360

Mr. Sujesh (Local Inventor) presenting Hybrid Fuel Engine

TBI Drive 2022/ MSME Selection Screening