

# IIM Raipur hosts Kickstart Entrepreneurship Competition

Raipur, Jan 14:

IIM Raipur played host for Kickstart an idea-pitching platform provided by Headstart Foundation in association with Consulting and Entrepreneurship Club of IIM Raipur. The event hosted on January 13 at IIM Raipur premises welcomed participants from Chhattisgarh to pitch their startup ideas in front of a jury consisting of top Investors, Incubators and Accelerators from the city.

The event saw an inflow of more than 50 startup ideas from the city for the competition. The team from Headstart shortlisted 10 startups for the campus round after careful scrutiny of the applicants. The startups were then given a chance to pitch the idea and business proposal for their startups in front of a jury of investors from the city in a closed door event.

The jury consisted of eminent personalities like Neha Tandon Sharma, Founder & Partner at Aeterno Partners; Anshul Dave, CEO & Partner at Ocean's Bridge; Bharat Kapoor, Investor with 50K Ventures; Satish Premchandani, Owner of Homewalks Realtors; Manish Agrawal Founder & CEO of Techment Technology; Manish Mohta, Director of



Learning Spiral Pvt Ltd.; Ashutosh Tripathi, Executive director of Krishna Public School; Gaurav Agarwal, Director at 50K Ventures and Arun Patro, Chief Ministers Fellow from Chief Secretary's Office. The startups were related to diverse functional domains like Education and Edu.

Tech., Drone Technologies, Additive Manufacturing Technologies, HealthTech, Building Solutions, Hyperlocal Groceries, Solar Energy and Analytics and Tech. A competition started with a brief introduction to

the program which was followed by the idea pitching rounds for the competitors.

Each team was given 5 minutes for pitching their ideas followed by a question and answer round from the judges.

The pitching rounds were interspersed into two sessions separated by a networking break where the budding entrepreneurs were given a chance to interact with the investors and incubators and gain insights from their experiences as well as build repertoire with them.

As Ajay Jadhav, a member of one of the two finalist

● **By Headstart Foundation**

teams from IIM Raipur puts it, "It was unreal presenting in front of 10 highly qualified and experienced investors. The wealth of talent experience was reflected in the incisive questions and insightful suggestions. Overall the experience has proven helpful in further refining our business model and making it more practical."

The participants were put to test by the industry experts on the viability and sustainability of their business models and valuable experience sharing from the investors.

The winners of the competition will be declared shortly and would get a chance to compete at the National Finals in Bangalore. The event was a first of its kind closed door entrepreneurship event made possible by the efforts of Headstart Foundation and CEC Club of IIM Raipur to invigorate the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in the state and region.

The untapped potential of rapidly growing Chhattisgarh and the possibilities it provides to budding business enthusiasts was highlighted during the event.