

For Immediate Release

Aarambh, the incubation centre of Anant National University, sets up 'Tinkering Lab', fostering creativity among student

Ahmedabad, 12th Feb 2022: Anant National University, today inaugurated the Tinkering Lab, a workspace for students to learn, experiment and develop their ideas into prototypes. The Tinkering Lab is a part of Aarambh, the recently established incubation centre of the university. The lab was inaugurated by Mr M. Nagarajan, IAS, Commissioner Higher Education, Mr Hiranmay Mahanta, CEO, ihub.

Along with the Makerspace – a multidisciplinary workshop and specialised studios, the Tinkering Lab aims to nurture innovation and build a problem-solving mindset among the students. The Lab comprises equipment like Laser cutting machines, 3D Printers, Zigsaw, Arduino kits, soldering station and much more. Tinkering Lab is intended to be a fully functional student-run Lab set-up in the Student Housing facility, thus allowing access to work around the clock at their convenience.

Also, at the event, 27 student ideas receiving prototyping support from Aarambh were felicitated. These ideas were selected entries from '**The IDEA CONTEST**', launched by Aarambh in collaboration with Student Startup Innovation Policy (SSIP), Govt of Gujarat. These ideas are offering innovative and sustainable solutions in sectors like health, education, waste management, sustainable fabric, urban farming, educational toys and games, among others.

Speaking on the launch of the Lab, Dr Anunaya Chaubhey, Provost, Anant National University said, "Experiential learning is an integral part of the governing pedagogy at Anant National University. Tinkering Lab will be a space for students, fellows and incubatees to give shape to their ideas. Along with entrepreneurial thinking, this lab will also help students learn collaboration, so they adopt a holistic approach to build sustainable solutions".

Aarambh incubation centre aims to become the preferred destination for the students and budding entrepreneurs to use Design Thinking in creating sustainable solutions. Aarambh promotes entrepreneurship culture by offering various platforms to budding entrepreneurs, facilitating mentorship from recognised entrepreneurs, interactions with investors, government and non-government agencies. In future, the incubation centre plans to develop co-working spaces, conduct capacity building programmes, industrial visits, ideation workshops and organise a national-level Idea Contest.

About Anant National University:

Anant National University (AnantU) is an educational institute, bringing together students, faculty and the community in the act of learning and designing sustainable solutions. The university offers undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes in Design, Architecture and Visual Arts. It also offers Fellowship in Built Environment and Fellowship in Climate Action along with Executive Education programmes. The academic approach in the university focuses on experiential learning, relevant research and devising solutions using cutting edge technology.
