

Mr. Hiranmay Mahanta, Electronics and Communications engineering graduate

PILLS II

By Aayush H. Kubavat

Introduction

- Time: The event began at 1:30 PM with an introductory speech by Aayush Kubavat.
- Venue: The lecture took place in the auditorium of the LJ college of Architecture.
- Audience: Students from the second, third & fourth year of BPharm who had taken part in Innovation Village were present along with LJIP teaching faculties.

Mr. Hiranmay Mahanta

- Mr. Mahanta completed his graduate course from SVNIT Surat in Electronics and Communication Engineering.
- He co-founded Techpedia to showcase innovation across universities in public domain.
- As a result of this, he received an award by the former president, DR. A.P.J Abdul Kalam at IIM-A.
- Mahanta sir has been a member of the global shaper community which an initiative of world economic forum.
- At present, he is the honorary director of GTU Innovation Council and student start-up support system, which has been built to support over half a million youth across 500 professional colleges.
- For his work in the field of innovation in the last five years, GTU has awarded him with a special gold medal for his contribution to the state of Gujarat on GTU Innovation Sankul day.

- Currently, he is employed as an adviser to student start up and innovation policy (SSIP).
- He is also a member of AICTE start up policy implementation committee at MHRD where he is working to bring the innovation moment to 10,000 + colleges.
- Mahanta sir has been nominated to contribute to over a dozen technology-business incubation centers.
- Along with this, Hiranmay sir is an adviser to 5 different state governments in India to develop innovation and start up eco-systems.

His movement in the field of innovation and his desire to instill this knowledge in students can clearly be seen from his qualifications.

Overall, he delivered an educational lecture to the students who wish to become entrepreneurs.

The Lecture.

The session began with the introductory speech and was followed by the gift of a Tulsi pot, a sign of purity, by Dr. Shreeraj shah. This is the normal tradition of LJIP.

Hiranmay sir's lecture began slightly late and he promptly apologized for it. His reasoning for this was quite fair as he was helping out an 8th std. Drop out student in the field in which he was skilled.

The session was for promoting innovation and guiding the students of LJIP regarding the entire process of an innovation from an idea to an actual product.

He started of the session by asking a definition of "innovation". Some people replied that innovation is something novel whereas some said that innovation is something that is utilitarian. He quite rightly applauded both the answers as they were both true.

Further on he went to discuss and compare Ramayana with the process of innovation. He compared god Rama to an innovator as he had used his army of animals to find a way to get Sita back.

He described something called the "Hanuman Syndrome" which basically said that every person has the power to do virtually everything, the only thing they require is to remember their power.

Mr. Mahanta is not of the pharmaceutical field but he used the pharma-language very fluently and frequently as if he had worked in the field for years.

He also gave real life examples of various companies such as P & G company and their formation of C & D department (creativity and development).

He encouraged the students to participate in co-debates with their faculties and even sometimes have informal conversations with them so as to develop a relationship where ideas could be nurtured.

He discussed about the herbal medicinal field and its lack of validation parameters.

He gave examples of people he had met over the years and how he tried to develop a hunger for innovation by giving them the task of finding a new problem in any pharmaceutical industry.

“Observation is the precursor of innovation.”

Mahanta sir said that you need to find the problem in order to find the solution and to achieve this, you may have to behave in a different manner than you usually do.

He also discussed about the Null hypothesis which basically followed the famous Thomas Alva Edison quote: *“I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that won't work.”*

He also explained the Null hypothesis by giving the example of the Michelson-Morley experiment which ended up proving Albert Einstein correct which was actually not their intention. Yet, they ended up winning a Nobel prize for it.

The gist of what the speaker was trying to say is that regardless of the final destination, it is the process of innovation that matters.

He talked about innovation as if it had an X-Y axis, meaning that it may require skills relating to a 100m sprint as well as skills required in a 400m marathon.

To relate on a real-life basis, he gave the examples of real life incidents like the Meghalaya Mine collapse and the Thailand cave rescue, stating that it required deep divers rather than quick swimmers. He was trying to show that innovations require both sort of skill sets.

His session was both inspiring and innovative. It was short in such a way that students could enjoy and learn without feeling as if it was being stretched.

Q/A

There were just a couple of questions through which he clarified the misunderstandings of the students.

Conclusion and Memento

The memento was given by Dr. Dilip Maheshwari to Mr. Hiranmay Mahanta in the form of a Charkha reminding him of the Indian culture wherever he went.

This short PIILS was an extremely informative session especially to the students who wished to become entrepreneurs in the future or those who simply wished to showcase or develop their ideas as innovations.

By this second session, the students of LJIP managed to learn more about the innovation process which would hopefully be seen in Innovation Village 2019.