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**Institute Innovation Council (IIC)**

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**IEDC & IIC Organized Cornell Maha60 Outreach Program**

The Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Development Cell (IEDC) and Institute Innovation Council (IIC) of Finolex Academy of Management & Technology (FAMT), Ratnagiri, in association with the District Industry Centre (DIC), Ratnagiri, organized a business accelerator awareness program called "Cornell Maha60 Outreach Program."

Cornell Maha60 is an initiative of the Maharashtra Government's Ministry of Industry Department aimed at providing training to new entrepreneurs. The Maharashtra government has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Cornell University, New York, and XED (the Indian partner of Cornell University) to provide training to entrepreneurs.

Cornell Maha60 brings together 60 bright entrepreneurs to nurture the next generation of leaders driving Maharashtra's entrepreneurial success. Participants gain knowledge in domains such as business, leadership, innovation, digital marketing, finance, and more through a hybrid (online and offline) learning pedagogy and program structure. Key program highlights include a certificate from Cornell University, learning from Cornell faculty and industry experts, benefits worth ₹ 20 lakhs, access to capital-raising opportunities, free co-working space, networking with fellow innovators to drive future success and partnerships, and year-long access to 1700+ electives from Cornell.

The event was honoured by Dr. Kaushal Prasad, Principal of FAMT; Shri. Prakash Hambar, Manager DIC Ratnagiri; Shri. Ashok John, Executive Director of XED; Shri Sandesh Kamble, Manager XED; Mr. Ninad Behre, Director of Dhruv Enterprises, Ratnagiri; Dr. Sandeep Chawda, Dean (R&D) of FAMT; and Prof. Kishor Bhosale from the Training and Placement Office of FAMT. 161 students from FAMT participated in the program.

The program commenced with the lighting of Maa Saraswati by the esteemed guests. Dr. Kaushal Prasad and Prof. Kishor Bhosale felicitated the guests. Dr. Sandeep Chawda shared insights into the functioning of IEDC and IIC at FAMT and provided a brief overview of the program. Dr. Kaushal Prasad expressed his thoughts on entrepreneurship and its relevance in the current scenario. Shri. Prakash Hambar elaborated on the necessity of such programs, highlighted how awareness at the graduate level is beneficial, and discussed DIC's support for entrepreneurs. Shri. Ashok John and Shri. Sandesh Kamble provided detailed information about the Maha60 program. Mr. Ninad shared his entrepreneurial journey, the challenges faced, and strategies to overcome them. Queries from students were addressed by Shri. Ashok and Shri. Ninad. The session concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Sandeep Chawda, effectively spreading awareness of the Maha60 Cornell Program.

For more detailed information about the program, visit <https://cornellmaha60.org>.



Dr. Kaushal Prasad addressing the audience.



Shri Prakash Hambar addressing the audience



Shri Ashok John addressing the audience



Shri Ninad Behre addressing the audience



Dr. Sandeep Chawda addressing the audience