## **CIED-IUST Foundation celebrates National Startup Week**

16.01.2025: As part of National Startup Week celebrations from 10-16 January 2025, CIED-IUST Foundation organized a one-day Entrepreneurship Development Program for the interns of IUST which was presided over by CEO, CIED-IUST Foundation, Prof. Parvez A. Mir. Around 60 interns participated in the event. During the program, Prof. Parvez interacted with the interns and emphasized on the importance of setting actionable goals. He elaborated on the critical role of skill development in todays' world and mentioned that a strong skill set is essential for fostering innovation, solving problems and driving business growth. He pointed out that starting a business early offers significant benefits, helping entrepreneurs build a solid foundation for long-term success.

Mr. Syed A. Basit Andrabi, CEO, DST i-TBI, also interacted with the participants, stressing on the importance of understanding the dynamic startup ecosystem. He further discussed several initiatives and schemes launched by CIED, such as SIDBI's STEM programme, SISFS and DST NIDHI, which play a crucial role in supporting and nurturing early-stage startups. He also mentioned about the various skill programs that are being planned by CIED in future.

The main aim of celebrating National Startup week is to recognize and promote the importance of entrepreneurship in driving economic growth, innovation and job creation. The event serves as a platform to highlight the contributions of startups and encourages aspiring entrepreneurs to embark on their business ventures.