

Director CSIR-IMTECH Visits CIED–IUST Foundation

20-08-2026: Dr. Alka Rao, Director, CSIR–Institute of Microbial Technology (CSIR-IMTECH), visited the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED–IUST Foundation) at IUST Innovation Campus.

Dr. Alka Rao was warmly welcomed by Prof. Parvez A. Mir, CEO, CIED–IUST Foundation. During the interaction, Prof. Mir provided an overview of the Foundation’s various initiatives, achievements and activities aimed at nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship among students, researchers and young professionals. A detailed presentation highlighting the operational framework, key interventions and impact of CIED–IUST Foundation was also shared.

As part of the visit, Dr. Rao toured several innovation and technology laboratories established under the Foundation, including the iFactory Lab, D&D Lab, AICTE IDEA Lab, Fab Lab and UltraTech Cement Lab, besides other state-of-the-art facilities. She was briefed on the various services available and their role in providing an enabling ecosystem for innovation, prototyping, research and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Rao also visited the Department of Food Technology and the Watson-Crick Centre for Molecular Medicine (WCCMM) at IUST, where she interacted with faculty and researchers and was apprised of the ongoing research activities, facilities and areas of scientific interest.

The visit provided an opportunity for meaningful interaction and exchange of ideas on strengthening institutional collaboration and creating greater opportunities for students and young innovators. The visit concluded with a shared emphasis on exploring avenues for future collaboration and leveraging institutional expertise and resources to promote a stronger culture of innovation, scientific research and technology-led entrepreneurship.