

BITS Leadership Revamps New Venture Creation (NVC) Course Across Five Campuses

After 16 years of successfully delivering the New Venture Creation (NVC) course in a multi-campus setting, BITS leadership further revamped the course offered in 1st Semester 2026-27. Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Vice Chancellor, BITS Pilani, Mr. Sid Mookerji, BITS Alumnus and Founder & Managing Partner of Silicon Road Ventures, Prof. Arya Kumar, Dean Alumni Relations and Mr. Sachin Arya, CEO – Incubation & Entrepreneurship at BITS Pilani envisioned this initiative and inaugurated the NVC orientation session on 6th August 2026.

The NVC course is distinctive in its pedagogy, being purely experiential learning based. Student founders/co-founders work in teams on their real startup ideas. This time, the course is offered simultaneously across 5 campuses (Pilani, Dubai, Goa, Hyderabad and Design School – Mumbai) to first degree and PhD DRIVE students.

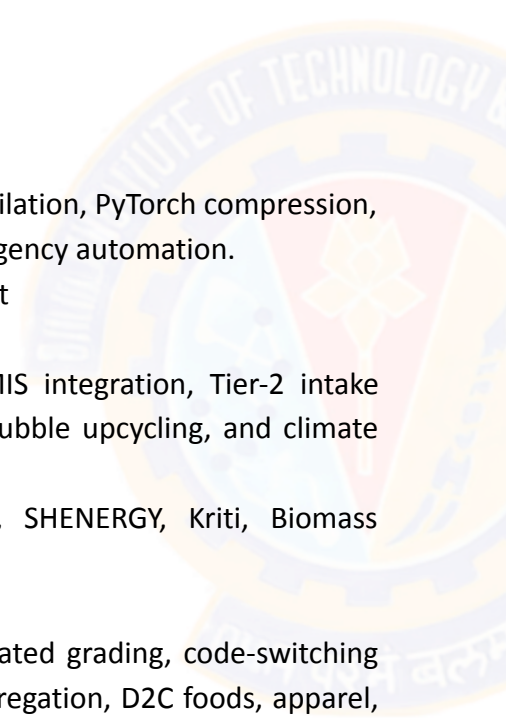
For revamping and steering the course, BITS Leadership collaborated with Dr. Paul Lopez (Co-Founder, 11-11 Ventures, and Board Chair of TiE Atlanta), Mr. Gordon Grant (Managing Partner, Grant Consulting, Atlanta), Mr. Eric Ensor (Advisor & Mentor at Duke University and Tulane University Innovation Centers, Atlanta) and Mr. Pradeep Yuvaraj (Managing Director, StoryMatters by Prezantim, Coimbatore.) The team strengthened the course through a rigorous screening and selection process, dedicated weekly one-on-one mentorship by illustrious alumni mentors, well-curated weekly lecture sessions/workshops and continuous structured evaluations and expert feedback mechanisms.

BITS leadership and the NVC team are very thankful to its accomplished alumni all over the globe who have voluntarily signed up as mentors in the course and giving their significant valuable time to each startup team registered in the course. By mid-semester, within two months, 32 NVC teams and mentors logged a total of 184 mentoring sessions for 10,800 minutes and rated the value at 9.7/10 by mentees and 9.0 by mentors!

Snapshot of NVC Cohort 2026

Out of 133 total applications, 32 high-potential startups cleared the rigorous AI and expert screening process spanning all 5 BITS campuses and the PhD DRIVE program. In total, 77 active mentors were onboarded, out of which 76 mentors are BITS Alumni. The 32 startups participating in NVC 2026 cohort belong to four different domains:

- **DeepTech, Hardware & MedTech (8 Startups):** EMG prosthetics, microneedle delivery, quantum models, EV thermal twins, MEMS sensors, Wi-Fi fall tracking, and neuro-diagnostics.
Startups: AI-Prosthetic Arm, Custom Prosthetic Socket, Nidelle Delivery Systems, Vani NeuroTech, NovAtom Labs, Eco-DriveTwin, SAP FLOW, Phasor

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- **AI Infrastructure & Enterprise SaaS (7 Startups):** Edge AI cross-compilation, PyTorch compression, agentic data center cooling, social media simulation, LegalTech, and agency automation.
Startups: EdgeOS, Tracefold, ENERVIA, CURO, Telosight, PA ji, WebNest
 - **Healthcare Systems, AgriTech & Climate (8 Startups):** ABHA HMIS integration, Tier-2 intake automation, IoT vitals, adolescent health, FPGA crop diagnostics, stubble upcycling, and climate analytics.
Startups: LifeLine Bharat, Time-Matters, Myeasypharma, Antara, SHENERGY, Kriti, Biomass Upcycling Facility, pinRisk
 - **PropTech, EdTech, Supply Chain & Consumer (9 Startups):** Automated grading, code-switching learning, off-campus housing, 3D solar micro-climates, customs aggregation, D2C foods, apparel, regional networking, and sports watch parties.
Startups: Assessify, The Hinglish Method, ApnaKamra, BlindSpot, ShipMitra, Ultimate Chicken, Pranava Socks, Anivra, PUZZLES

Faculty Instructors-in-Charge at each campus can be reached for information about the NVC course: Prof. Archana Srivastava (Hyderabad Campus), Prof. Himanshu Seth (Goa Campus), Prof. Vilas Gaidhane (Dubai Campus), Prof. Khusboo Jogani (BITS Design School, Mumbai), Prof. Jyoti (Pilani Campus) and Ms. Rimi Das (Incubation & Entrepreneurship Office, Pilani Campus).

BITS NVC Team 2026-27
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