

# SAROJINI NAIDU VANITA PHARMACY MAHA VIDYALAYA (Co-Ed.)

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**UGC AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION**

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## **REPORT ON VISIT TO THE INCUBATION CENTERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD**

An official institutional visit was conducted to the Technology Business Incubator (TBI) and BioNEST incubation centers at the University of Hyderabad (UoH) on May 19, 2026. The visiting team comprised four faculty members: Dr. S. Anuradha, Dr. P. Vivek Sagar, Dr. P. Ravi Kumar, and Dr. T. Vani. The arrival at the location was clocked at 11:00 AM.

The primary discussions and observations from the visit are structured in the report below.

### **1. Meeting with the CEO of Technology Business Incubator (TBI)**

A meeting was held with Dr. Rama Krishna, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of TBI, HCU. The historical evolution of the incubation center over the past ten years was outlined, and the various facilities provided to entrepreneurs were detailed. Currently, approximately 300 companies are being incubated at the university.

The specific structural and operational guidelines shared during the briefing are detailed below:

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Operational Requirement / Guideline</b>
<b>Infrastructure Setup</b>	A dedicated area of approximately 10,000 square feet is recommended. Centralized facilities must be established separate from the regular academic institution to provide dedicated working spaces for innovators.
<b>Financial Model</b>	Individual laboratory setups are provided to each firm, and a nominal monthly rental fee is charged per square foot.
<b>Project Timeline</b>	Innovators are allotted a standard period of 3 to 5 years to achieve commercialization of their products, during which the shared infrastructure of the incubator can be fully utilized.
<b>Screening Process</b>	New ideas are formally invited and subsequently evaluated by a technical screening committee to assess scientific feasibility and commercial viability.

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Furthermore, institutional registration on the I-STEM (Indian Science, Technology, and Engineering facilities Map) portal was strongly recommended. Such registration enables access to high-end, capital-intensive equipment available across various national incubators at nominal rates. It was noted that numerous industries are active members of the I-STEM network. The delegation was also advised to explore funding opportunities under the Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Park (STEP) scheme offered by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

## 2. Tour of Facilities and Meeting at BioNEST

Following the initial briefing, a guided tour of the TBI and BioNEST campuses was conducted. BioNEST operates as a specialized incubation facility dedicated exclusively to life sciences startups. A meeting was convened with Dr. Anil Kondreddy, the CEO of BioNEST, to discuss specialized bio-incubation models.

The key strategies and recommendations discussed during this session are detailed below:

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Recommendation / Strategy</b>
<b>Space Optimization</b>	In scenarios where total physical area is restricted, a co-working space model can be implemented with nominal charges to accommodate and encourage a larger number of startups.
<b>Mentorship &amp; Training</b>	The incubation center must actively mentor students and faculty members who possess innovative ideas. A structured six-month training program is provided to support these early-stage firms.
<b>Legal Framework</b>	The formal and legal registration of the incubation center as a separate legal entity was highly recommended.
<b>Facility Utilization</b>	It was explicitly stated by both CEOs that all laboratory and administrative facilities within the incubation center must be reserved exclusively for the use of the startups.

## 3. Collaborative Outcomes and Next Steps

Several positive avenues for institutional collaboration were established during the visit:

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- A positive response was received regarding entering into a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ASPIRE, the umbrella organization covering both TBI and BioNEST. This agreement will facilitate student internships and collaborative projects based on the specific technical requirements of the incubated companies.
- Both CEOs consented to deliver invited lectures at the institution to educate faculty and students on the initiation of incubation centers and startup-related programs.

A visit to the incubation center at the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) was suggested as an immediate next step, given its direct relevance to the institutional profile.



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