



Khoj - Chandiwala Innovative Startup Challenge 2024

The Khoj Hospitality Startup Competition, held on **24th November 2024** during the Chandiwala Hospitality Ensemble, showcased innovative business ideas from hospitality students across India. Hosted at the Banarsidas Chandiwala Institute of Hotel Management, the event aimed to inspire and empower young entrepreneurs to redefine the future of the hospitality industry.

Over the course of two hours, nine dynamic teams pitched their ideas, focusing on enhancing guest experiences, streamlining operations, and promoting community support. The competition was judged by esteemed industry leaders, including Mr. Gaurav Gupta (Sona Sweets), Mr. Harish Thakkan (Sky Sails Hospitality), and Mr. Himanshu Arora (The Punjabi House). Teams were evaluated on **innovation, market relevance, scalability, and practicality**.

Award-Winning Concepts:

1. **1st Place: Globe Rides**

Prem Bhagchandani and Vilina Bhojawala (Auro University)

An all-in-one platform simplifying international road trips with visa assistance, route planning, and fuel logistics.

2. **2nd Place: B-Calm**

Harshita Gulati and Bhavya Kaur Sahni (Vedatya Institute)

A wellness platform addressing mental and physical health challenges for hospitality employees.

3. **3rd Place: Kitne Kilo**

Chahhat Soni and Khushi Jain (BCIHMCT)

A cloud kitchen offering affordable bulk vegetarian meals, perfect for urban family gatherings.

This competition highlighted the industry's evolving landscape, emphasizing sustainability, technology, and community engagement. The event concluded with an awards ceremony, celebrating the participants' creativity and their potential to transform hospitality through innovative and responsible business models.



Startup Pitch Competition

The **Startup Pitch Competition**, organized by the *Incubation and Start-Up Cell* at Banarsidas Chandiwala Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, took place on **30th September 2024** in the College Banquet Hall. The event, an institutional-level activity, aimed to encourage entrepreneurship within the hospitality and tourism sectors by providing students with a platform to present their innovative business ideas to a panel of industry experts.

The competition commenced with an inaugural address by Dr. Manish Malhotra, highlighting the significance of entrepreneurship in driving innovation and economic growth. Thirteen students participated, pitching their ideas in 5–7-minute presentations, followed by a Q&A session. The judges evaluated the pitches on innovation, market potential, business model viability, and presentation quality.

Winners and Highlights

- **1st Place: Khushi and Chahhat**
Their idea, “KITNE KILO,” proposed a food delivery service specializing in bulk orders for home and office catering. Judges praised their innovative approach to pricing challenges in large-scale food delivery but suggested focusing on operational logistics.
- **2nd Place: Dhruv**
Presented a wholesale bakery supply model targeting local bakeries in Dehradun. The judges appreciated the cost analysis and scalability but recommended further research into capital expenses.
- **3rd Place: Iqbal and Suhail**
Proposed a catering equipment rental and sale business with PAN India operations. The team’s comprehensive services, including equipment setup and staffing, earned recognition for flexibility and client-centric solutions.

The competition successfully fostered entrepreneurial spirit, providing participants with critical feedback and inspiration to refine their ventures, laying a solid foundation for future innovation in the hospitality industry.

