

Seminar Report on Innovation and Startup Opportunities

Event Information

Event Name: Looking beyond the drawing board: Innovation & Startup opportunities for the Modern Architect

Institution and Organiser: ICFAI School of Architecture, IFHE Campus, Hyderabad

Speakers: Dr. Sainath M and Ms. Anjali Bhatt

Date: 20 July 2026, Monday

Time: 2:30–4:30 PM

Venue: Studio V, Room 201, 2nd Floor, ICFAI School of Architecture

Event Duration: 2 hours | Mode: In person | Participants: 48

Introduction

ICFAI School of Architecture organised the seminar to introduce students to entrepreneurial pathways beyond conventional architectural practice and to the innovation and incubation ecosystem at IFHE. The programme combined a session on opportunities for the modern architect with an overview of innovation and entrepreneurship at the university.

Objectives of the Programme

- To expose students to innovation and startup opportunities relevant to architects and designers.
- To create awareness of the innovation and entrepreneurship framework at IFHE.
- To introduce the support offered by the ICFAI Incubation Centre to student and early-stage ventures.
- To encourage students to view design problems as opportunities for enterprise.

Proceedings and Key Themes

Looking beyond the drawing board

Dr. Sainath M, Executive Director, IFHE Innovation & Entrepreneurship Council, addressed the opportunities available to architects who combine design thinking with an entrepreneurial outlook. He encouraged students to consider roles beyond traditional architectural firms and to recognise how spatial thinking, problem solving and visual communication can contribute to new ventures.

Innovation and entrepreneurship at IFHE

Ms. Anjali Bhatt, Senior Manager, ICFAI Incubation Centre, presented an overview of the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem at IFHE. She explained the role of the Incubation Centre and how students can take ideas forward through the structures available within the university.

Interaction and Participation

The sessions were followed by an interactive discussion in which students engaged with the speakers. A total of 48 participants attended the seminar, held from 2:30 to 4:30 PM in Studio V, Room 201, on the 2nd Floor of ICFAI School of Architecture.

Learning Outcomes and Conclusion

The seminar introduced students to entrepreneurial pathways for architects and to the innovation and incubation support available at IFHE. It encouraged participants to consider how design ideas could develop into projects, products or ventures during their course of study.

The programme broadened students' understanding of possible architectural careers. ICFAI School of Architecture thanks Dr. Sainath M and Ms. Anjali Bhatt for sharing their expertise, and the faculty and students for their participation.

Report prepared by: Nikita Manvi

Photographic Documentation

ICFAI Foundation
for Higher Education
(Deemed-to-be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)
Category I Autonomous Institution • Accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade

ICFAI School of
Architecture

ICFAI School of Architecture IFHE Campus, Hyderabad

Seminar on

*Looking beyond the drawing board:
Innovation & Startup opportunities
for the Modern Architect*

*Innovation & entrepreneurship
at IFHE and overview*

SPEAKER

DR. SAINATH M
Executive Director,
IFHE Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Council

SPEAKER

MS. ANJALI BHATT
Sr. Manager
ICFAI Incubation Centre

**20TH
JULY 2026**

**FROM 2.30 PM
TO 4.30 PM**

**STUDIO V, ROOM 201, 2ND FLOOR,
ICFAI SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE**

Scan to view
ISArch. Events

ICFAI School of Architecture, IFHE campus, Donthanapally, Shankarapally Road, Hyderabad - 501203, Telangana

Figure 1. Official seminar announcement with the speakers, date, time and venue.

Photographic Documentation



Figure 2. Group photograph at ICFAI School of Architecture on 20 July 2026.