

An Assessment of Perception of Engineering Students towards Entrepreneurship Incubation

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Abstract: This research aimed at identifying the role of business incubators in developing entrepreneurship and creation of startups. Furthermore, it also studied the perception of Engineering Students towards incubation centers. As Mehran UET, has a very progressive incubation center that attempts to help, and inculcate entrepreneurial spirit among the university students. Data was collected from 635 students in various departments of the University. As Mehran UET consists of 5 faculties with various departments therefore Random sampling was used. The Reliability was analyzed by cronbach alpha and was within High in range, Normality Analyzed through Histogram bell shape then One-Way ANOVA, was performed to test hypotheses. As the Mehran UET students are more technically versed therefore the results were varied in several dimensions and had both positive and negative perception towards incubation. But that could be explained in the manifestation of entrepreneurship itself as they were less familiar with the business concepts. The implications for education managers are that inclusion of enterprise courses into the study plans of engineering students should be considered. The study extends insights from also considering the perception of students and has a key limitation as it was cross-sectional data and collected from only one engineering University.

Keywords: Incubation Centers, Engineering Students, Perception, Entrepreneurship

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The platform of Business incubation is the most important part for job creation and economic. This platform can be developed by three components: Incubation Service, awareness and financial support. Business Incubation is a unique procedure for nurturing startup Projects. Business Incubators help startup to enhance their capacities so as to encourage startup progressively in this way, innovation and entrepreneurship are two main elements of hatcheries and assume significant jobs for employment creation... The number of business incubation grow quickly in the previous two decades. Everywhere all over the world and in each area, business incubation is a way of creating strong economy. The most alluring field for business incubation is Awareness and communication. Which depend on the human capital and infrastructure. Sean & David, (2004) assumes that Business incubation are tool for employment creation. Thomas O'Neal, (2005). Broadens the advantages of business incubation is "to achieve a bigger targets" which are the requirement employment creation in the society, advancement of financial independence, transfer of innovation from academia to industry, There is no doubt that whatever the motivation of business incubation , it is a support for the society for creating employment.

Elaydi et al (2009) argued that Business Incubation plays a significant role job in diminishing the hazard and expanding the limit of entrepreneurs to develop startups projects. It is the framework of empowering strategies and guidelines, proper financing, a culture of hazard (Risk) taking, and quality instruction that makes a sustaining domain where individuals can change over imaginative plans to social and economic worth. A lot of the endeavors in Pakistan focuses on universities and graduates and attempts to reduce unemployment rates among graduates and guarantee a simple access to markets. A few Pakistani Universities stimulate the activities found in business Incubation and provide specialized training for preparing projects in order to prepare students build up their skills and improve their potential. In spite of the fact that these activities provides entrepreneurs with financial support and infrastructure. So it is an assessment of Perception of Engineering students towards Entrepreneurship incubation "at MUET Jamshoro Sindh Pakistan.

II. RESEARCH MATERIAL AND METHOD

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The previous chapter examined the literature review; this chapter focuses on the research Material & methods, which were applied in order to achieve the research Objectives. Research Method is important because it is the way that determines the success or failure of a research, while it guides the logical arrangements for data collection and analysis so that a conclusion can be drawn. (Phoofolo, 2006) It is an arrangement to investigate with most extreme control over any factor that may impede or influence the validity of the findings. This is an exploratory study, which utilizes both quantitative and qualitative research methods. The techniques used for data collection were semi structured interviews and questionnaires.

2.1 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

(Rajasekar, Philominathan, & Chinnathambi, (2006) States That the study of methods through which Data is collected research methodology enables the researchers to use appropriate procedure to describe, explain and predict the phenomenon This study was consist of quantitative approach as under:

2.2 QUANTITATIVE APPROACH:

For Objective 01, Quantitative approach was used 700 questionnaire were distributed and 635(90.7%) response were achieved randomly selected departments of Mehran UET Jamshoro and students were motivated by the researcher and their teachers to fill questionnaire the Data was analyzed through Social Packages for Social Science (SPSS).

A. Study Area

- Jamshoro Education hub was selected a case study.
- MUET students were selected studying from various Departments.



Fig 2.1 Mehran UET Jamshoro

2.3 STUDY POPULATION:

Haralambos and Holborn (2008) States the assortment of individuals who have at least one than one qualities is known as population. This study comprised of Departments of Mehran University of Engineering Technology Jamshoro,

2.4 STUDY SAMPLE:

The expression "test" signifies an example or part of an entire populace which is attracted to show what the rest resembles the term "sample" means a specimen or part of an entire population (Naoum, 1998). The advantage of using a sample is that it is more practical and less costly than collecting data from all of the population. The study Sample consists of engineering students of MUET Jamshoro of selected faculties. These faculties are, Electronics, Electrical & Computer system, Engineering, Civil & Architecture, USPAWS, and CEAD.

Table 2.1 MUET Departments

S.No	Faculty	Departments	Female Students	Male Students	Total
1.	Electronics, Electrical & Computer system	Electronics Engineering	23	78	101
		Telecommunication Engineering	48	71	119
		Computer system Engineering	49	34	83
		Bio Medical Engineering	56	12	68
		Software Engineering	13	24	37
2.	Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	0	52	52
		Textile Engineering	11	17	28
		Electrical Engineering	5	30	35
3.	Civil & Architecture	Civil Engineering	1	40	41
		Architecture Engineering	0	10	10
4.	USPAWS	USPAWS	5	3	8
5	CEAD	Communication Design	6	2	8
		Architecture Design	10	15	25
		Fine Arts	7	1	8
		Textile Design	12	0	12
Total			246	389	635

2.5 DATA COLLECTION

In this research, a Quantitative method was used to collect data and data was collected through adopted scale.

2.6 SAMPLING PROCESS:

The random sampling technique used to select a sample from the population. Practically, the researcher gets permission from HOD/Chairman of the department fulfilling the formal requirement then filled then questionnaire was distributed among students. 700 questionnaire were distributed and 635 response were achieved from selected departments. (Graduate and Master). The researchers had a return rate of (635)90.7%. The views of the respondents are presented below:-

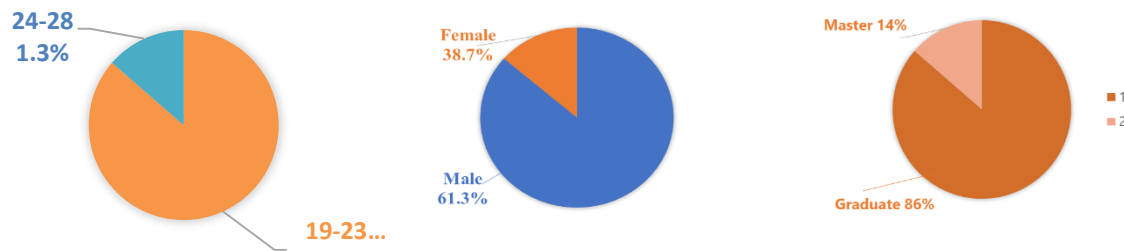


Fig 2.2 Respondent's demographic Population

2.7 Questionnaire Construction:

The questionnaire was adopted and then adapted from the article (Dahleez K.A 2009) and that help in achieving the study objectives. It was also introduced with an opening paragraph explaining the purpose of the study, the aim of the research, and the security of the information in order to encourage high response rate. It was designed in English version was developed and attached in (Annex).

The developed questionnaire for achieving study objective consists of three parts as explained in the following points:

- The first part consists of demographic information including faculty, Year of Study age, and gender.
- The third part depicts information about Business Incubation.
- The second part consists of twelve items and aims at exploring the respondent self-evaluation in regard to Perception of Engineering students towards Business Incubation.

The 5 point Likert scale was taken based on following rank (1=strongly disagree, 5=strongly Agree. Table 2.1 depicts the used scale.

Table 2.2: Likert Scale used in the research

Item	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Scale	1	2	3	4	5

III. RESULTS

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the data collected for this study, exhibits the analyses and interprets the results obtained in accordance with the research study.

3.1 Innovation & Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC) Mehran UET Jamshoro

- The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) is part of the vision and perspective Plan of National Science & Technology Innovation Policy 2012.
- Functional at Mehran university of Engineering Technology Jamshoro in 2017.

3.2 Role of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (IEC)

The role of IEC is to provide facility for developing University based Startups, Harnessing creative mind set and building the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem through trainings, incubator Support system and mentorship.

3.3 Exiting work of IEC

- Create awareness of entrepreneurship
- Promote students to bring their unique ideas in the market.
- Provide Trainings
- IP Rights
- Create Industry Linkages.

3.4 Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) Startup Project

3.4.1 Services provided by Startup project at IEC

Construction, Technology, Manufacturing, Consulting service etc.
IEC Launched many projects i.e. RINU, SSBC etc.

3.4.2 Research in incubation center (RINU) Project

- RINU Project Cohort-I launched in 2017.
- Seed money 600000/=
- 20 startup Projects has been graduated In RINU cohort-I.

3.4.3 Student Startup business competition (SSBC) project

- SSBC Project Cohort-I Launched in 2017.
- Seed Money 100,000/=
- 5 startup Projects has been graduated from SSBC Project cohort-I.

START-UP SELECTING CRITERIA

Table 3.1 Startup Selecting Criteria		
MUET		
Students	Faculty	Officers
3rd & 4th Year Students	Professors/Lecturers	Management Staff
Innovative Idea	Innovative Idea	Innovative Idea
Meets SDGC	Meets SDGC	Meets SDGC
Social Impact	Social Impact	Social Impact
Employment Creation	Employment Creation	Employment Creation
Startup Selecting Criteria		
Outsiders		
Domicile: Hyderabad & Jamshoro		
Innovative Idea		
Meets SDGC		
Social Impact		
Employment Creation		

3.5 Start-Up after Establishing Of IEC

3.5.1. ABM

ABM is Stands for Automated Brain Machine is working on Brain computer Interface (BCI) it allows humans to communicate with computer through their thoughts. Its aim is to help disorder patients to move accordingly.

3.5.2. I Drean U:

Bookio is the center point for book lovers, who mean to dispatch book rental benefits so you witness a gainful and agreeable book lover's society. Other than this, Bookio give you a stage where you can make companions who offer the adoration for books with you, get many book suggestions, and get book reviews.

3.5.3. BIZZTASK BIZZ offers wide range of services including, Web Designing, Web Development, LOGO, Graphics, SEO, Android App Development, outsourcing through which they can lessen neediness and give wellspring of pay to people, gatherings and organizations to help their vocation, training and wellbeing.

3.5.4. EDIFY EDIFY is stage where students emerge their hypothetical or theoretical learning and their abilities. We give extensive instructive training and arrangements in different fields of engineering. We likewise serve the general public by free advising and procuring local talent.

3.5.5. GREEN ENERGY REVOLUTION: GER is sorted by various utilization designs that will be useful for local target clients in order to serve energy crisis in the country. The item incorporates biogas plants and solar energy system for family units and business and furthermore the consultancy services.

3.5.6. FOOD CRAFT: Food Craft is company which provides catering and event management service. It provides job opportunities for household women to prepare food for our customers. Additionally it provides facility for Hostellers, Bankers, NGOs, working ladies, Health Conscious individuals, and Patients situated sustenance to collect the food at door step.

3.5.7. NanoClo: NanoCLO is a new business that makes imaginative Nano materials items dependent on its own R&D and IPs for various markets. Its devoted group has been working and putting untiring endeavours to provide food the national and worldwide needs. Its product offering incorporates fly trap that kills fruit fly, membranes for microbe's free water, water proof breathable and Nano fiber N95 Mask.

3.5.8. OVue Tech: OVue Tech is a technology based start-up company that plans, creates and sells research based electronic items. This start-up company focuses on displays for versatile applications such as Mirror based products, 3D Bill boards, automotive displays, and 3D Building models. Its real goal is to overcome the issues in visuals and meet their needs with digital display arena.

3.5.9. Wasche Tech /Claritac. Its Japanese name this start-up provides dry-cleaning services. In the present time of advanced revolution, competitions has increased and it has likewise made new markets and along with employments. Claritac associates laundries through application. It will encourage individuals who need to profit clothing office at doorstep. There would likewise be a rating arrangement of every clothing and clients can pick clothing of their decision. We will dispatch bundles on limits which clients can tailor their package on their choice.

3.5.10. Envi Grow: Chem The expanding living level and green food demand, most farmers aiming to improve the market competition and willing to apply organic fertilizer to improve crop quality. Hence, organic fertilizer production amount also to meet the market need. Starting organic fertilizer production line needs take many factors, for example, planning and design, creation and innovation, and market analysis.

3.5.11. Messiah: Messiah is an application that will convey medicinal facilities to the common citizen. Messiah mainly focuses on to facilitate their customers in purchasing medicines or getting appointments for checkups/treatment regularly just with one single touch of button. Savior can be useful in broadcasting awareness/precautions among people in national emergencies e.g. virus breakouts such as influenza.

3.5.12. Art Point: Art Material are difficult to get, it will settle the issue of getting art material and stationary also. It will encourage students as well as artist, designers, architects living in small cities particularly Jamshoro and Hyderabad. Art Point will likewise sell Craft Painting, and sculpture, any Artistic product of students and Traditional craft of Women / ladies belonging from ruler areas.

There will be Stationery and Art Material on ground floor and Display Gallery on First floor.

3.5.13. Smart Tech: SmartTech is a one stop shop for all sort of IT services like web developing, Networking, CCTV, hardware, and Consultancy services

3.6 Cronbach's Coefficient Alpha

Cronbach's alpha is used to measure of internal consistency ("reliability"). We wish to determine if the scale is reliable or not. The statistical analysis computer program SPSSS was used to calculate the Cronbach's Alpha and is presented in the below table. The value of for Perception of students towards business incubation is 0.709 that is in the satisfactory range of reliability.

Table 3.3:

Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.760	12

Table 3.3: Descriptive Analysis

Business Incubation	Yes	No
1. Do you have Information About Business Incubation?	314	321
2. Do you know MUET has an Incubation?	413	222
3. If yes, How did you get that Information?		
Source	Frequency	Percentage
Academic Course	87	13.7
Seminar/work shops	108	17.0
Brochue	69	10.9
Self-Learning	36	5.7
TV Program	108	17.0
social Media	142	22.4
Other(Friends)	72	11.3
Total	622	98.0
System	13	2.0
Total	635	100.0
Business Incubation	Yes	No
4. If you given an oppourtunity to join IEC will you avail it?	503	132

Table 3.4 Mean Statics by Gender analysis:

Table 03 : Mean Statics Perception													
Gender		Q:1	Q:2	Q:3	Q:4	Q:5	Q:6	Q:7	Q:8	Q:9	Q:10	Q:11	Q:12
Male	Mean	2.80	2.83	2.87	2.81	3.07	3.30	3.06	3.11	3.24	3.19	3.29	2.94
	N	387	387	387	387	387	387	387	387	387	387	387	387
	Std. Deviation	1.504	1.352	1.492	1.447	1.367	1.411	1.342	1.395	1.401	1.400	1.442	1.418
Female	Mean	2.53	3.15	3.13	2.77	3.42	3.54	3.34	3.32	3.67	3.36	3.20	2.68
	N	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	246	246
	Std. Deviation	1.339	1.341	1.418	1.369	1.182	1.214	1.173	1.333	1.229	1.253	1.353	1.354
Total	Mean	2.70	2.95	2.97	2.79	3.21	3.39	3.17	3.19	3.40	3.25	3.25	2.84
	N	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633
	Std. Deviation	1.447	1.356	1.468	1.416	1.308	1.341	1.285	1.374	1.353	1.347	1.408	1.398

Table 3.5 ANOVA by Gender analysis:

ANOVA by Gender						
Statement		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
I tend to start business because my family wants.	Between Groups	11.174	1	11.174	5.370	.021
	Within Groups	1312.980	631	2.081		
	Total	1324.155	632			
Often, I wait to take the agreement from family and friends to do something important.	Between Groups	14.857	1	14.857	8.175	.004
	Within Groups	1146.814	631	1.817		
	Total	1161.671	632			
I rely on my fathers decision to attend social events.	Between Groups	10.227	1	10.227	4.775	.029
	Within Groups	1351.369	631	2.142		
	Total	1361.596	632			
I feel, I won't find suitable job after graduation.	Between Groups	.172	1	.172	.086	.770
	Within Groups	1267.717	631	2.009		
	Total	1267.889	632			
My colleagues and friends consult me in solving their own problems.	Between Groups	18.741	1	18.741	11.123	.001
	Within Groups	1063.149	631	1.685		
	Total	1081.889	632			
I always feel, people trust me and respect my opinions.	Between Groups	8.072	1	8.072	4.511	.034
	Within Groups	1129.191	631	1.790		
	Total	1137.264	632			
Seek Employment	Between Groups	11.529	1	11.529	7.044	.008
	Within Groups	1032.702	631	1.637		
	Total	1044.231	632			
Self Employment.	Between Groups	6.799	1	6.799	3.614	.058
	Within Groups	1187.072	631	1.881		
	Total	1193.870	632			
Further studies and part-time business.	Between Groups	28.536	1	28.536	15.964	.000
	Within Groups	1127.931	631	1.788		
	Total	1156.468	632			
Employment and part - time Business.	Between Groups	4.645	1	4.645	2.568	.110
	Within Groups	1141.405	631	1.809		
	Total	1146.051	632			
Plan to create own business.	Between Groups	1.265	1	1.265	.637	.425
	Within Groups	1251.797	631	1.984		
	Total	1253.062	632			
Starting own business is relatively easy.	Between Groups	9.784	1	9.784	5.037	.025
	Within Groups	1225.780	631	1.943		
	Total	1235.564	632			

Key Findings:

- The Higher mean between Gender group on Perception of Mehran UET Students for Business Incubation is (M=3.40) Further studies and part time job.
- No significance in difference in mean value of male and female respondents regarding perception towards business incubation was found except for questions 1,2,3,5,6,7,9, and 12 .Where P < 0.05.

Table 3.6 Mean Statics by Age analysis:

Table : 5 Mean Statics Perception													
Age		Q:1	Q:2	Q:3	Q:4	Q:5	Q:6	Q:7	Q:8	Q:9	Q:10	Q:11	Q:12
19-23	Mean	2.69	2.95	2.97	2.79	3.20	3.39	3.17	3.19	3.40	3.25	3.25	2.84
	N	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625
	Std. Deviation	1.452	1.359	1.468	1.418	1.314	1.347	1.291	1.379	1.360	1.353	1.413	1.399
24-28	Mean	3.13	3.50	3.00	3.13	3.50	3.88	3.25	3.50	3.63	3.50	3.63	2.50
	N	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
	Std. Deviation	.991	.926	1.512	1.356	.756	.641	.707	.926	.518	.756	.916	1.414
Total	Mean	2.70	2.95	2.97	2.79	3.21	3.39	3.17	3.19	3.40	3.25	3.25	2.84
	N	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633	633
	Std. Deviation	1.447	1.356	1.468	1.416	1.308	1.341	1.285	1.374	1.353	1.347	1.408	1.398

Table 3.7 ANOVA by Age analysis:

ANOVA by Age						
Statement		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
I tend to start business because my family wants.	Between Groups	1.497	1	1.497	.714	.398
	Within Groups	1322.657	631	2.096		
	Total	1324.155	632			
Often, I wait to take the agreement from family and friends to do something important.	Between Groups	2.414	1	2.414	1.314	.252
	Within Groups	1159.258	631	1.837		
	Total	1161.671	632			
I rely on my fathers decision to attend social events.	Between Groups	.005	1	.005	.002	.961
	Within Groups	1361.590	631	2.158		
	Total	1361.596	632			
I feel, I won't find suitable job after graduation.	Between Groups	.893	1	.893	.445	.505
	Within Groups	1266.997	631	2.008		
	Total	1267.889	632			
My colleagues and friends consult me in solving their own problems.	Between Groups	.696	1	.696	.406	.524
	Within Groups	1081.194	631	1.713		
	Total	1081.889	632			
I always feel, people trust me and respect my opinions.	Between Groups	1.867	1	1.867	1.038	.309
	Within Groups	1135.397	631	1.799		
	Total	1137.264	632			
Seek Employment	Between Groups	.049	1	.049	.030	.863
	Within Groups	1044.182	631	1.655		
	Total	1044.231	632			
Self Employment.	Between Groups	.773	1	.773	.409	.523
	Within Groups	1193.098	631	1.891		
	Total	1193.870	632			
Further studies and part-time business.	Between Groups	.394	1	.394	.215	.643
	Within Groups	1156.073	631	1.832		
	Total	1156.468	632			
Employment and part - time Business.	Between Groups	.489	1	.489	.269	.604
	Within Groups	1145.562	631	1.815		
	Total	1146.051	632			
Plan to create own business.	Between Groups	1.132	1	1.132	.571	.450
	Within Groups	1251.929	631	1.984		
	Total	1253.062	632			
Starting own business is relatively easy.	Between Groups	.930	1	.930	.476	.491
	Within Groups	1234.634	631	1.957		
	Total	1235.564	632			

Key Findings:

- The Higher mean between age group on Perception of Mehran UET Students for Business Incubation is (M=3.40) Further studies and part time job.
- No difference in mean value was found for different age groups of students regarding perception towards business incubation. Where $P < 0.05$

Table 3.8 Mean Statics by Education analysis:

Table 7: Mean Statics Perception by Education													
Your Education		Q:1	Q:2	Q:3	Q:4	Q:5	Q:6	Q:7	Q:8	Q:9	Q:10	Q:11	Q:12
Graduate	Mean	2.69	2.95	2.97	2.79	3.20	3.39	3.17	3.19	3.40	3.25	3.25	2.84
	N	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625
	Std. Deviation	1.452	1.359	1.468	1.418	1.314	1.347	1.291	1.379	1.360	1.353	1.413	1.399
Masters	Mean	3.13	3.50	3.00	3.13	3.50	3.88	3.25	3.50	3.63	3.50	3.63	2.50
	N	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
	Std. Deviation	.991	.926	1.512	1.356	.756	.641	.707	.926	.518	.756	.916	1.414
Total	Mean	2.70	2.95	2.97	2.79	3.21	3.39	3.17	3.19	3.40	3.25	3.25	2.84
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Key Findings

- The Higher mean between Education group on the Perception of Mehran UET Students towards business incubation is (M=3.40) Further studies and part time job.
- No difference in mean value was found for different based on level of education regarding perception towards business incubation. Where $P < 0.05$.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

- Information about Business Incubation:

314(49.4%) Students have knowledge about business incubators. Whereas 321(50.5%) don't have.

- Business Incubation Present at Mehran UET Jamshoro:

413(65%) knows that Business Incubation Present at Mehran UET Jamshoro. whereas 222(34.9%) Don't.

- Source about Business Incubation present at MUET.

142(22.4%) social Media, and 87(13.7%) academic course.

- If you give an opportunity to join IEC will you avail it?

503(79.2%) Students want to avail it. Whereas 103(20.8%) Students don't want to avail it.

Reason:

The main reason is that the present education system, even the PEC does not include entrepreneurial development, training on entrepreneurship and capacity building programs for Employment Creation. The majority of perception the students of Mehran UET agreed on further studies and part time business. Now a day it is really hard to get job so further study and part time job is good option for them. However, to lack of resources make restrictions for starting own business.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

The majority of students agreed further studies and part time job then Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) should add Entrepreneurship subject as a course outline and University has to introduce programs and activities for entrepreneurial oriented projects to increase awareness regarding Business Incubation and motivate them towards Business Incubation.

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