

Engineering Students Pitch Innovative Ideas at Hatch: A Step Towards Entrepreneurial Excellence

A team of undergraduate engineering students from the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, recently visited Hatch — one of Sri Lanka's premier startup incubators — to pitch their business ideas and gain invaluable insights from industry experts.

Bridging Academia and Entrepreneurship

The Engineering Technology Incubation Center (ETIC) of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, continues to foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among its students. In line with this mission, a group of enthusiastic undergraduate engineering students recently embarked on an inspiring visit to **Hatch** (hatch.lk), a leading organisation dedicated to empowering budding entrepreneurs across Sri Lanka.

Hatch has established itself as a cornerstone of the country's startup ecosystem, providing aspiring founders with **funding opportunities, expert mentorship, and comprehensive educational programmes** designed to transform innovative ideas into scalable businesses.

Pitching Ideas, Gaining Perspective

During the visit, the students had the unique opportunity to **pitch their business ideas directly to the experienced team at Hatch**. This hands-on experience allowed them to present their concepts in a real-world startup environment and receive constructive, actionable feedback from seasoned professionals who have guided numerous successful ventures.

The Hatch team provided **valuable positive feedback** on the students' proposals, highlighting strengths, suggesting improvements, and offering strategic guidance on market viability, business model refinement, and scaling potential. The session proved to be an eye-opening experience, bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical entrepreneurial execution.



A Platform for Future Founders

Hatch's comprehensive support ecosystem — encompassing seed funding, structured mentorship, networking opportunities, and tailored educational workshops — offers a model that ETIC actively encourages its students to engage with. The visit underscored the importance of early exposure to entrepreneurial frameworks and the value of receiving feedback from industry veterans.



Looking Ahead

ETIC remains committed to nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit within the Faculty of Engineering. Initiatives like this visit to Hatch are integral to preparing students not just as engineers, but as **innovators and problem-solvers ready to tackle real-world challenges** through technology-driven enterprises.

The Centre extends its sincere gratitude to the team at Hatch for their warm welcome, invaluable time, and encouraging feedback. ETIC looks forward to strengthening this partnership and creating more opportunities for students to engage with Sri Lanka's vibrant startup community.



For more information about ETIC and upcoming entrepreneurial programmes, stay tuned to our website and follow our announcements.

Engineering Technology Incubation Center (ETIC)

<https://eng.pdn.ac.lk/etic/>

Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya