

NABARD Delegation Visits CIED-IUST Foundation to Explore Collaboration for Rural Entrepreneurship & Innovation

02-12-2025: A high-level delegation from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) visited the CIED–IUST Foundation IUST Innovation Campus -III, Awantipora today to explore areas of collaboration for strengthening rural innovation, entrepreneurship, and livelihood-based enterprises in Jammu & Kashmir.

The delegation was led by Shri Vikas Mittal, General Manager, NABARD J&K, accompanied by Shri Manohar Lal, Deputy General Manager, NABARD Jammu, Shri Surinder Singh, Deputy General Manager, NABARD Srinagar, and around twenty team members from NABARD. The programme was presided over by Prof. A. H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST and was attended by coordinators from different verticals of the CIED–IUST Foundation, faculty members, and supported entrepreneurs.

The visit began with a tour of various incubation and innovation facilities at the CIED–IUST Foundation, followed by a formal interaction with the coordinators of CIED verticals, startup founders, entrepreneurs from the Bat Cluster Association, and beekeepers & apiarists from the region.

During the interaction, Shri Vikas Mittal, GM/OIC NABARD J&K, appreciated the impactful initiatives of IUST in supporting young innovators and creating opportunities for rural communities. He said that NABARD looks forward to meaningful collaboration with CIED–IUST Foundation to empower rural entrepreneurs and strengthen value chains in J&K.

Prof. A. H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs in his presidential remarks, emphasized the importance of innovation and community engagement and said that CIED is a model initiative that bridges academia, society, and industry.

Earlier, Prof. Parvez A. Mir, CEO CIED–IUST Foundation, delivered a comprehensive presentation highlighting the achievements of the incubation centre and the impact of government-supported programmes on entrepreneurship development.