



GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

**REPORT ON FACULTY CAPACITY BUILDING
PROGRAMME**

“NISHTHA”

(Noble Initiative to SHarpen Teacher's Holistic Abilities)

A Faculty Capacity Building Program – AY-2025-26

Dates: 2nd to 8th November 2025

Venue: Nilkanth Dham Swaminarayan Temple, Poicha, Gujarat

1. Introduction

In accordance with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, capacity building of faculty members across various disciplines is essential for enhancing teaching effectiveness, research competencies, professional development, and holistic growth. Faculty development initiatives play a significant role in promoting innovative pedagogical practices, interdisciplinary research, technology-enabled education, and a culture of continuous learning in higher education institutions.



In this context, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Gujarat Technological University (GTU) organized a Faculty Capacity Building Programme titled **“NISHTHA” (Noble Initiative to Sharpen Teachers’ Holistic Abilities)** from 2nd to 8th November 2025. The programme was designed for faculty members of GTU Schools and GTU-ITR. Total 95 faculty members were actively participated in the programme.

The programme aimed to strengthen faculty competencies through expert-led academic sessions, research-oriented discussions, exposure to emerging technologies, and activities supporting personal well-being and professional effectiveness.

2. Objectives of the Programme

The major objectives of the programme were:

1. To enhance the teaching, research, and professional competencies of faculty members in alignment with NEP 2020.
2. To develop understanding of advanced research methodologies and contemporary research practices.
3. To strengthen pedagogical skills for effective teaching in the digital era.
4. To promote the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in research and academic activities.
5. To develop skills in research proposal preparation, funding opportunities, and consultancy.
6. To encourage quality research publications and writing for high-impact journals.
7. To promote industry–academia collaboration and knowledge exchange.
8. To encourage emotional intelligence, mindfulness, and holistic well-being among educators.

3. Programme Schedule and Academic Sessions

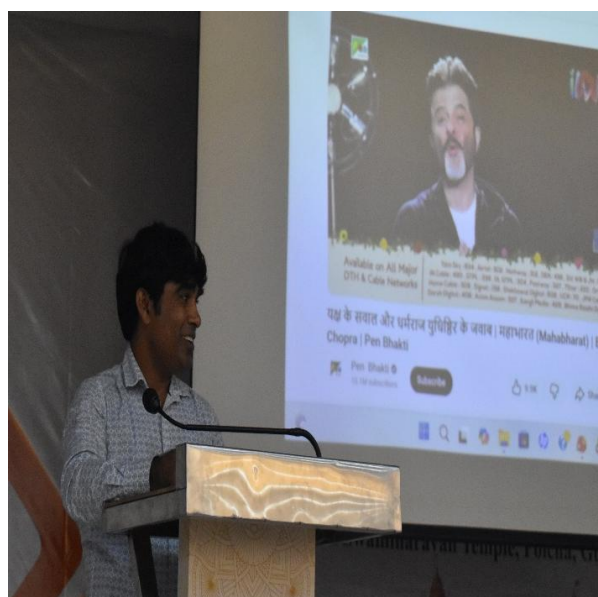
The programme schedule included academic sessions by experts from reputed academic and research institutions, along with activities supporting physical well-being and informal interaction.

Day-wise Programme Details

2nd November 2025 – Inauguration and Research Methodology

All the faculties reached the venue of the event (Nilkanth Dham Swaminarayan Temple, Poicha), after a joyful bus ride from GTU-Chandkheda premises. Upon arrival, the faculties were allocated rooms on sharing basis with fellow faculties, from different discipline, to encourage *bon-homie* and better interaction.

The academic session focused on “**Multivariate Research Techniques**,” delivered by Dr. Rudra Prakash Pradhan, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur. The session was intended to strengthen participants’ understanding of advanced statistical techniques used in research.



3rd November 2025 – Pedagogy and Research Funding

The day began with yoga and pranayam, followed by academic sessions on the following topics:

- **Effective Pedagogy in the Current Dynamic Digital Era** – Dr. Rajat Agrawal, Professor and Head of Department, IIT Roorkee.



- **Write to Win: Turning Research Ideas into Funded Projects** – Dr. Vipulkumar Tanna, Scientific Officer, Institute of Plasma Research.



These sessions were designed to enhance teaching effectiveness in the digital environment and provide insights into converting research ideas into fundable projects. The schedule also included an excursion within the temple premises and opportunities for informal interaction among participants.

4th November 2025 – Artificial Intelligence in Research

The morning activities included trekking in the surroundings of the temple premises, followed by the academic session on “**Applications of AI in Research,**” delivered by Dr. Dhaval Maheta, Professor, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University.



The session focused on the relevance of Artificial Intelligence in research and its potential applications in academic and scholarly activities. The programme at Poicha was scheduled to conclude with checkout formalities and the return journey to the GTU Chandkheda Campus.

6th November 2025 – Industry–Academia Collaboration

An online expert session was scheduled from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM on “**Industry Academia Collaborations and Consultancy,**” delivered by Dr. Rohit Bansal, Associate Professor, Accounting and Finance, Dean – Resource and Planning In-charge, RGIPT, Bengaluru Campus.

The session aimed to highlight opportunities for collaboration between academic institutions and industry, including consultancy and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

7th November 2025 – Research Writing and Publication

An online session was scheduled from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM on “**Writing and Publishing in High Impact Journals,**” delivered by Dr. Dhaval Pujara, Provost (Vice Chancellor), Adani University.

The session was intended to enhance participants’ understanding of scholarly writing and publication practices, with emphasis on publishing research in high-impact journals.

8th November 2025 – Emotional Intelligence and Mindfulness

The programme schedule concluded with an online session from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM on **“Emotional Intelligence and Mindfulness for Educators,”** delivered by Dr. Neera Singh, Associate Professor, Balaji Institute of Modern Management, Pune.

The session focused on the importance of emotional intelligence and mindfulness in supporting educators’ personal well-being, interpersonal relationships, and professional effectiveness.

4. Key Focus Areas

The programme covered the following major areas of faculty development:

- Advanced research methodologies and statistical techniques.
- Innovative teaching approaches and digital pedagogy.
- Research proposal development and funding opportunities.
- Application of Artificial Intelligence in research.
- Industry–academia collaboration and consultancy.
- Academic writing and publication in high-impact journals.
- Yoga, pranayam, mindfulness, and emotional intelligence.

The combination of academic sessions and well-being activities reflected the programme’s holistic approach to faculty capacity building.

5. Conclusion

The Faculty Capacity Building Programme **“NISHTHA” (Noble Initiative to Sharpen Teachers’ Holistic Abilities)** was designed as an initiative of IQAC-GTU to support the continuous professional development of faculty members in alignment with the objectives of NEP 2020.

By bringing together diverse themes such as research methodology, digital pedagogy, Artificial Intelligence, research funding, academic publishing, industry–academia collaboration, and educators’ well-being, the programme schedule reflected a comprehensive approach to faculty development.

The initiative underscores the commitment of IQAC-GTU towards strengthening academic quality, promoting research excellence, encouraging innovative teaching practices, and fostering the holistic development of faculty members across GTU Schools and GTU-ITR.

Glimpse of the Event







