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Rayat Bahra University partners with Shukra Pharma to launch Rs 10 Lakh student startup fund

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Strategic MoU establishes dedicated incubation ecosystem for healthcare, biotechnology, and agri-tech ventures

The Entrepreneurship & Startup Support Cell (ESSC) of Rayat Bahra University (RBU) has signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ahmedabad-based Shukra Pharmaceuticals, a publicly listed pharmaceutical company, committing Rs 10 lakh in seed capital alongside incubation services and expert mentorship for student-led ventures.

The agreement marks a rare example of a corporate entity providing a named pre-seed fund directly to a university startup cell outside India's major metro hubs.

The collaboration will support student ventures across healthcare, pharmaceuticals, medical technology, agriculture, and biotechnology, providing direct industry exposure for RBU's School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Students will gain access to manufacturing insights, patent development, regulatory affairs, and innovation challenges, bridging the gap between academic research and commercial enterprise.

"Under the MoU, RBU (ESSC) and Shukra Pharmaceuticals will jointly organise startup boot camps, hackathons, entrepreneurship development programmes, faculty workshops, and innovation challenges to identify and nurture high-potential projects. The collaboration will also facilitate joint research initiatives, consultancy projects, and participation in funded programmes aligned with healthcare innovation and pharmaceutical entrepreneurship." said Dr Simmi Prakash, Group Director, ESSC, Rayat Bahra University.