



Department of Computer Science and Engineering **SESSION ON THE IBM Q2D PEARL PROGRAM**

Title of the seminar	Seminar on IBM Q2D
Venue	CSE Seminar Hall , St. Thomas College of Engineering & Technology, Kozhuvallur, Chengannur
Date of seminar	14th October 2026 (Wednesday)
Time	1.00 PM -2.40 PM
Resource person	Akhil Retnakumar
Participants	S7 CSE Batch 1 and Batch 2
Number of students	82
Faculty coordinator(s)	Prof SanthyMol T, Prof. Nimisha Philip
POs and PSOs mapped	PO10, PO12, PSO1

1. Introduction

Seminars by industry professionals help engineering students look beyond the syllabus and understand the skills, technologies and opportunities that shape their careers. With this aim, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering organised a seminar on IBM Q2D on 14 October 2026 at the Seminar Hall, of the college. The session was handled by Akhil Retnakumar and was attended by students and faculty members of the department. The seminar introduced students to the IBM Q2D initiative and the opportunities it offers to students.

2. Overview of IBM Q2D

IBM Q2D is an academia–industry initiative working with IBM. As described in public announcements, it aims to build industry-ready professionals by embedding current information technology and industry-domain skills into university curricula, and to bridge the gap between traditional syllabi and real-world industry experience. Programmes under the initiative are reported to include IBM-recognised certifications and digital badges, access to industry-aligned content and innovation labs, live projects, and internship and placement opportunities. Technology domains reported for the undergraduate programmes include Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Data Science, Cloud Computing, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Internet of Things (IoT), and Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

3. Objectives of the Session

- To introduce students to the IBM Q2D initiative and its association with academic institutions.
- To make students aware of the opportunities available to them through IBM-recognised learning and certification pathways.
- To provide insight into emerging technology domains and the skills expected by industry.



- To give students an opportunity to interact with an industry resource person and clarify their doubts.
- To motivate students towards continuous skill development and career readiness.

4. Session Details

Mr. Akhil began by introducing himself and IBM, then explained the purpose and scope of the Q2D Pearl Program. He described how the programme helps students develop practical, industry-relevant skills alongside their academic curriculum. The session was delivered in an interactive manner, with students encouraged to ask questions throughout.

The programme offers pathways in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Data Science, Cloud Computing, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Internet of Things (IoT), and Entrepreneurship & Innovation. Participants are exposed to several disciplines, from design thinking and entrepreneurship to emerging technologies, through a gamified learning experience that also helps them build a portfolio for universities, scholarships and careers.

5. Learning Outcomes

Through the seminar, students are expected to be able to:

- Understand the purpose and scope of the IBM Q2D initiative.
- Identify the learning, certification and career opportunities available to students through the programme.
- Become aware of emerging technology domains and the skills in demand in the industry.
- Interact with an industry professional and communicate their queries effectively.
- Recognise the need for continuous learning to remain relevant in a changing technology landscape.

6. PO and PSO Mapping and Justification

The seminar is mapped to the following Programme Outcomes (PO) and Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO). Only outcomes supported by the content of the seminar are mapped. The statements of all POs are given in Annexure A.

Outcome	Justification
PO10 Communication	Students attended a technical presentation by an industry professional and interacted with the resource person to clarify their doubts.
PO12 Life-long learning	The session on opportunities for students and emerging technologies showed which skills are in demand and why continuous learning is needed.
PSO1 Professional skills	Awareness of IBM-recognised certifications and industry skill pathways supports the development of professional skills.

7. Photographs



Fig. 1: Students and faculty members attending the seminar



Fig. 2: Resource person addressing the students



Fig. 3: Interactive session in progress



Fig. 4: Presentation slide on Opportunities for Students

8. Student Feedback

Student feedback was collected on a five-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree) using the form given in Annexure B. Of the 82 students who attended the seminar, 57 (69.5%) submitted feedback. The number of responses received for each rating is given below and the corresponding response charts are shown in Fig. 5 to Fig. 9.

No.	Statement	Outcome	Resp.	1	2	3	4	5
1	I understood the purpose of the IBM Q2D initiative and the opportunities it offers to students.	PO12	57	4	2	5	22	24
2	I could follow the session and interact with the resource person effectively.	PO10	57	3	3	6	26	19
3	The session helped me recognise the importance of continuous learning in emerging technology areas.	PO12	57	2	4	7	25	19
4	The session improved my awareness of industry-relevant professional skills and IBM-recognised learning or certification opportunities.	PSO1	57	2	4	7	25	19
5	I am motivated to explore relevant learning and certification opportunities to improve my professional skills.	PSO1	57	3	3	8	23	20

I understood the purpose of the IBM Q2D initiative and the opportunities it offers to students (PO12).
57 responses

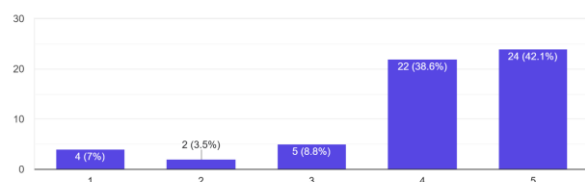


Fig. 5: Response chart for Statement 1 (PO12)

I could follow the session and interact with the resource person effectively (PO10).
57 responses

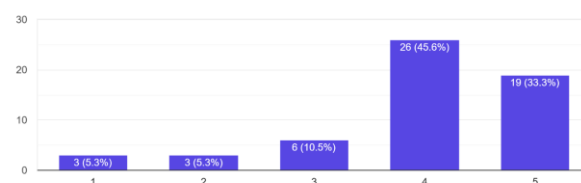


Fig. 6: Response chart for Statement 2 (PO10)

The session helped me recognise the importance of continuous learning in emerging technology areas (PO12)
57 responses

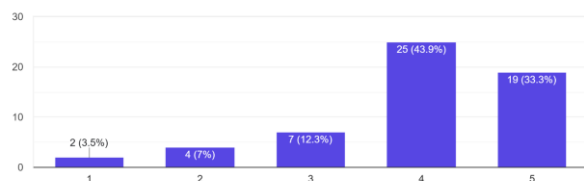


Fig. 7: Response chart for Statement 3 (PO12)

The session improved my awareness of industry-relevant professional skills and IBM-recognised learning or certification opportunities (PSO1)
57 responses

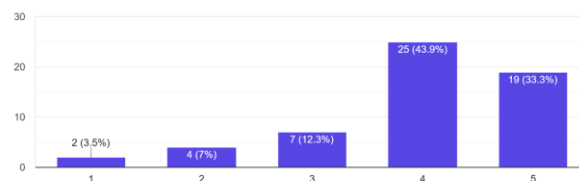


Fig. 8: Response chart for Statement 4 (PSO1)

I am motivated to explore relevant learning and certification opportunities to improve my professional skills (PSO1)
57 responses

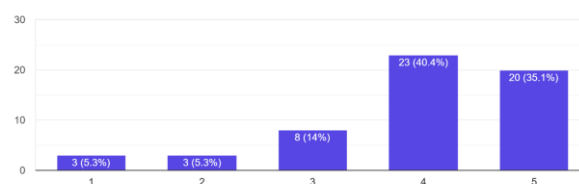


Fig. 9: Response chart for Statement 5 (PSO1)

9. Indirect Attainment of POs and PSOs

Statement-wise results:

No.	Outcome	Statement (short form)	Mean (of 5)	Favourable (%)	Attainment (out of 3)
1	PO12	Understood purpose and opportunities of IBM Q2D	4.05	80.7	2.43
2	PO10	Could follow the session and interact with the resource person	3.96	78.9	2.38
3	PO12	Recognised importance of continuous learning	3.96	77.2	2.38
4	PSO1	Improved awareness of professional skills and certifications	3.96	77.2	2.38
5	PSO1	Motivated to explore learning and certification opportunities	3.95	75.4	2.37



Outcome-wise indirect attainment:

Outcome	Statements used	Responses	Mean rating (of 5)	Favourable (%)	Indirect attainment (out of 3)
PO10	2	57	3.96	78.9	2.38
PO12	1, 3	114	4.01	78.9	2.41
PSO1	4, 5	114	3.96	76.3	2.37

The indirect attainment of POs and PSOs for this seminar is listed below (on a scale of 0 to 3):

PO10	PO12	PSO1
2.38	2.41	2.37

10. Conclusion

The seminar on IBM Q2D gave students an introduction to the initiative and the opportunities available to them, along with a chance to interact with an industry professional. The Department of Computer Science and Engineering thanks Mr. Akhil Retnakumar for sharing his time and knowledge with the students, and the faculty members for coordinating the seminar. Student feedback on the session was largely positive, with an indirect attainment (out of 3) of 2.38 for PO10, 2.41 for PO12 and 2.37 for PSO1.

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Coordinators

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Annexure A: Programme Outcomes (NBA) and Mapping

Outcome	Statement	Mapped
PO1 Engineering knowledge	Apply the knowledge of mathematics, science, engineering fundamentals, and an engineering specialization to the solution of complex engineering problems.	—
PO2 Problem analysis	Identify, formulate, review research literature, and analyze complex engineering problems reaching substantiated conclusions using first principles of mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering sciences.	—
PO3 Design/development of solutions	Design solutions for complex engineering problems and design system components or processes that meet the specified needs with appropriate consideration for the public health and safety, and the cultural, societal, and environmental considerations.	—
PO4 Conduct investigations of complex problems	Use research-based knowledge and research methods including design of experiments, analysis and interpretation of data, and synthesis of the information to provide valid conclusions.	—
PO5 Modern tool usage	Create, select, and apply appropriate techniques, resources, and modern engineering and IT tools including prediction and modeling to complex engineering activities with an understanding of the limitations.	-
PO6 The engineer and society	Apply reasoning informed by the contextual knowledge to assess societal, health, safety, legal and cultural issues and the consequent responsibilities relevant to the professional engineering practice.	—
PO7 Environment and sustainability	Understand the impact of the professional engineering solutions in societal and environmental contexts, and demonstrate the knowledge of, and need for sustainable development.	—
PO8 Ethics	Apply ethical principles and commit to professional ethics and responsibilities and norms of the engineering practice.	—
PO9 Individual and team work	Function effectively as an individual, and as a member or leader in diverse teams, and in multidisciplinary settings.	—
PO10 Communication	Communicate effectively on complex engineering activities with the engineering community and with society at large, such as, being able to comprehend and write effective reports and design documentation, make effective presentations, and give and receive clear instructions.	Yes
PO11 Project management and finance	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the engineering and management principles and apply these to one's own work, as a member and leader in a team, to manage projects and in multidisciplinary environments.	—
PO12 Life-long learning	Recognize the need for, and have the preparation and ability to engage in independent and life-long learning in the broadest context of technological change.	Yes
PSO1 Professional skills	Ability to understand the architecture and working of computer hardware and software system.	Yes
PSO2 Design and development skills	Ability to design and develop software for technology application to fulfill industrial and social needs.	—



Annexure B: Student Feedback Form (PO/PSO-mapped statements)

Students rate each statement on a five-point scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree. The form also records the student's name and roll number, an overall rating of the seminar (1 to 5) and optional suggestions.

No.	Statement (rated 1 to 5)	Outcome
1	I understood the purpose of the IBM Q2D initiative and the opportunities it offers to students.	PO12
2	I could follow the session and interact with the resource person effectively.	PO10
3	The session helped me recognise the importance of continuous learning in emerging technology areas.	PO12
4	The session improved my awareness of industry-relevant professional skills and IBM-recognised learning or certification opportunities.	PSO1
5	I am motivated to explore relevant learning and certification opportunities to improve my professional skills.	PSO1