భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

itic
IIT HYDERABAD
TECHNOLOGY INCUBATION CENTER

I TIC FOUNDATION IIT HYDERABAD

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

ANNUAL REPORT
2023 - 2024

Index

1. Preface

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the annual report of iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad. This report showcases the progress and achievements of our incubator, as well as the vision and goals we have set for ourselves to foster a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem within and beyond the institute.

In this report, we provide updates on the various initiatives and activities undertaken by iTIC to support startups and entrepreneurs. We also measure our progress through meaningful indicators and share the milestones achieved, as well as the challenges faced along the way.

We recognize that the success of iTIC is due to the tireless efforts of our team, composed of professionals from different backgrounds, as well as the guidance and support of our board members and mentors. We are also grateful to our incubatees, whose progress defines the success of the incubator.

We have designed this report to be easily understood by external readers, providing a comprehensive overview of the operations and initiatives of iTIC Incubator. We hope you find this report informative and engaging, and we look forward to your continued support as we strive towards our mission of fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

2. Leadership Messages

2.1 Message from President

Prof B. S. Murty
President, I TIC Foundation
IIT Hyderabad
Director, IIT Hyderabad

The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) has made innovation a central component of its ethos. We have developed a vibrant ecosystem at the institute to support entrepreneurship and moving forward to excel as a global leader through a number of entrepreneurship avenues such as eCell, Department of Entrepreneurship & Management, SCIENT (BVR Mohan Reddy School of Innovation and Entrepreneurship), Intellectual Property Facilitation Center (IPFC), Technology Transfer Office (TTO), Technology Innovation Park (TIP), Technology Research Park (TRP), and incubators such as iTIC, Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE), TiHAN and FabCI. To coordinate these efforts, we also have a dedicated Dean position(Innovation, Translation and Startups).

The aforementioned academic, research, technology development and startup initiatives of the Institute bring IITH closer to meeting societal demands and assisting the Nation in building the Atmanirbhar Bharat and moving towards a global leader. The flexible course structures of IITH in line with the NEP-2020 allow the students to tailor the pace and phases of their study progression. Several academic programs in the field of entrepreneurship, such as Minor in Entrepreneurship, Double Major in Entrepreneurship, Dual degree (BTech+MTech) in Techno-Entrepreneurship and an MTech in Techno-Entrepreneurship have been introduced at IITH. A student working on innovative projects through BUILD (Bold and Unique Ideas Leading to Development) projects can not only get funding from IITH, mentorship from its faculty but also can take a semester break with 6 credits to focus on his/her project. The industry oriented interdisciplinary and online academic programs allow more and more practicing professionals to upgrade and update their skills and knowledge.

Thanks to this ecosystem and these activities, IIT Hyderabad secured the third position in the NIRF ranking for Innovation this year. The innovation category assigns grades to institutions based on factors like the number of startups, the accessibility of prototype facilities for startups, the funding they received, the volume of technologies created and shared, the TRLs of technologies, the filing of IP and patents, etc. I have no doubt that IITH will accomplish many more significant milestones in the future.

2.2 Message from Vice-President

Prof Suryakumar S
Vice-President, I TIC Foundation
IIT Hyderabad
Dean - Innovation, Translation and Startups
Professor - MAE, IIT Hyderabad

Today there is a lot of aspiration amongst the youth to make it big in the startup world. There is also a lot of belief and conviction in the policy circles that these aspirational youth hold the key to India's success story in the coming years. Now, situated in an academic institution, what exactly is our role as an Incubation unit in making that happen?

We believe our role is that of facilitators, making sure there are no hurdles and impediments in that journey. They have the necessary passion and aspiration to run the mile; we just need to make sure that the track is clean and give timely support! This needs a complete ecosystem support to help them in technology realization, prototyping labs, patenting, team building, regulatory compliances, funding etc. This is what we have been trying to do at IITH. Success in our understanding is derived from paying attention to those basics and fundamentals, however boring and tedious they may sound.

Retaining the 3rd rank in innovation category of NIRF has been a booster for us, indicating robust and positive performance on a wider range of parameters. While these rankings and indicators give us the occasional boost of confidence to move ahead, in a manner typical of academicians, for things to get rooted, the system as a whole needs to be internalize and improve these. Seeking the support and participation of all in that journey.

2.3 Message from General Secretary

Dr. Aravind Kumar Rengan
General Secretary,
I TIC Foundation IIT Hyderabad
Faculty In Charge - iTIC Incubator
Associate Professor - BME,
IIT Hyderabad

At IIT Hyderabad, innovation is the driving force behind everything we do. We recognize that innovation is not just about creating something new; it's about bringing those creations to the marketplace where they can make a tangible difference. This commitment to turning ideas into impactful solutions defines our approach to entrepreneurship and research.

Our ecosystem is designed to support innovators at every stage, from ideation to commercialization. We've built a robust network of resources, including incubation centers, specialized academic programs, and industry collaborations. These efforts are all interconnected, working together to make an environment where students, faculty, and entrepreneurs can translate their ideas into real-world applications.

This comprehensive approach has earned IIT Hyderabad a strong reputation for innovation, including a top ranking in the NIRF's Innovation category. But beyond these accolades, our focus remains on cultivating a culture where creativity and entrepreneurship can flourish. We aim to provide the tools, mentorship, and opportunities needed for our community to succeed in bringing their visions to life.

Looking ahead, we are committed to further enhancing our support for innovators and entrepreneurs. By continuously evolving our programs and infrastructure, we ensure that IIT Hyderabad remains a leader in driving technological advancements and contributing to the broader goal of self-reliance for India. Our journey is ongoing, and with the collective effort of our community, we are poised to achieve even greater heights.

3. About iTIC Incubator

3.1 Overview

iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad is a non-profit organization established by the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad to foster and promote innovation and entrepreneurship not only within the institute but also in the wider community. Over the past eight years, iTIC Incubator has emerged as the premier incubator in India for deep tech startups. It has played a pivotal role in supporting startups that develop cutting-edge products and services in areas such as AI/ML, Quantum Computing, GenAI, Digital Twin & Simulation, Low & No Code, AR/VR/XR, Cybersecurity, Robotics, Industry 4.0, Blockchain, Digital Communication, Advance Materials, Drones, Biotechnology, and many others.

Since its inception in 2015, iTIC has provided a comprehensive platform for startups and entrepreneurs to create sustainable and scalable profit-making business ventures. iTIC offers a range of resources, including access to a strong mentor pool, financial aid, co-working space, software tools, IITH technological infrastructure, and a state-of-the-art prototyping lab. iTIC also provides guidance on intellectual property matters and networking opportunities with other ecosystems, industries, and venture capitalists.

Over the past eight years, iTIC has supported more than 192 startups through various programs which includes germination, pre-incubation, incubation, advanced incubation, and acceleration programs, and has sanctioned more than INR 10 crores to startups. The startups incubated by iTIC have generated over INR 1400 crores of revenues and created more than 1100 jobs. The annual report of the iTIC Foundation IIT Hyderabad provides a comprehensive overview of the incubator's achievements, milestones, and challenges in the past year.

3.1.1 Focus Areas


Robotics


3D Printing


Cybersecurity


Quantum Computing

Industry 4.0


Sensors

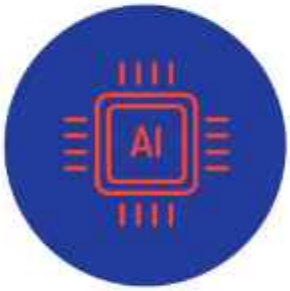

Digital Manufacturing


Electric Vehicle


Chip Design


Blockchain


Advanced Materials



AI/ML

AR/VR


Biotechnology


Autonomous Navigation


IOT

3.1.2 iTIC in Numbers

21
Startups Onboarded in 2023 - 24

11
Startups Graduated in 2023 - 24

37
Active Startups in 2023 - 24

INR 3.39 Crore
Fund sanctioned to startups in 2023 - 24

4000+
Prototypes made in 2023 - 24

70+
Office hours conducted in 2023 - 24

160+
Mentors associated

INR 1400 Cr+
Cumulative revenues by startups

1100+
Total jobs created by all startups till date

INR 12.7
lakhs Commercial revenues

3.1.3 Startup Journey at iTIC

A startup can approach iTIC at multiple stages during their journey. We have categorized the support in 5 basic stages:

◦ Germination

A student entrepreneur presents a startup idea and receives 12 months of support from iTIC's partner incubators to develop a working prototype and take their first step into the startup ecosystem.

◦ Pre-Incubation

A startup approaches with proof-of-concept of the technology and is provided support for 12 months to build a working prototype that demonstrates form, function and interaction.

◦ Incubation

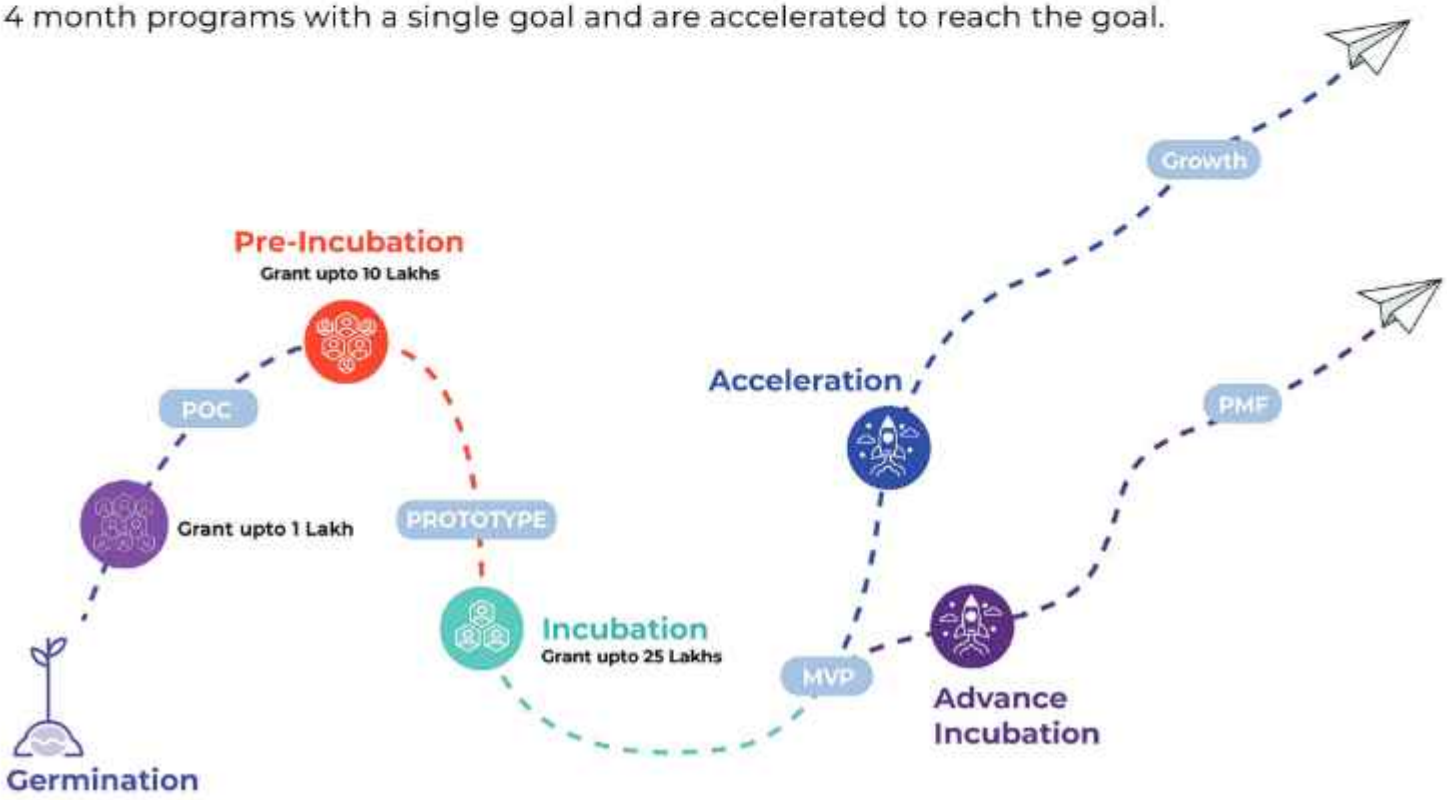
A startup with a working prototype (capable of showing form, functionality and interaction of the product) is supported for 24 months to build a Minimum Viable Product and gain early feedback from the market.

◦ Advance Incubation

Startups with Minimum Viable Product and early traction are supported for 12 months to make finer refinements in the product to achieve a Product-Market Fit.

◦ Acceleration

Startups with Minimum Viable Product and/or early traction are supported for cohort based 4 month programs with a single goal and are accelerated to reach the goal.



3.1.4 Startup Support

Structured Mentorship and Guidance

iTiC engages with a diverse set of global mentors who bring in expertise, knowledge, and experience from various domains and geographies. These global mentors offer valuable insights into different markets, technologies, and industries, providing startups with a broader perspective and enabling them to navigate the challenges of scaling their businesses. The network of mentors includes successful entrepreneurs, industry experts, investors, and academics, who are committed to supporting the growth of deep tech startups. Their contributions to iTIC's programs have been instrumental in the success of many of the startups that have been incubated and accelerated through iTiC.

iTIC offers structured mentoring support to associated startups, organizing relevant expert mentor sessions, case studies, seminars, and workshops. In the year 2023-24, we organized more than 12 such sessions where startups learnt from industry experts. Additionally, we arranged for one-to-one mentoring sessions, with over 20 mentor meetings conducted during the same period.

Office Hours

To ensure continuous handholding and support, we conduct Office Hours where core iTIC team members interact with startup founders to do course corrections, and help them overcome challenges and hurdles. In 2023-24, we conducted more than 70 Office Hours with the startups, guiding them towards their goals.

Access to Vendors and Stakeholder Collaborations

Building a functional product and a successful company requires collaborations with multiple stakeholders. To fulfill the requirements of our associated startups, we build connections with different vendors regularly. Through iTIC, startups gain access to vendors in domains such as legal, compliances, accounting, graphic designing, website and app development, hardware prototyping, component suppliers, testing and certification agencies, fundraising advisors, valuators, and many more.

Access to IITH Ecosystem

Partnering with iTIC opens a plethora of opportunities for startups, including access to the extensive resources of IITH. Our incubation support includes access to IITH laboratories, workshops, libraries, auditoriums, as well as opportunities to engage with our experienced faculties who serve as advisors and mentors. Our talented students are also available to be hired as interns, freelancers, or team members.

Investor Connects

Preparing startups for investments is a crucial part of our incubation support at iTIC. We share our tools and learnings, including the Fundenable toolkit by IAVC, guidance to prepare financial plans, and other necessary resources to make startups investment-ready. Once the startup is investment ready, we facilitate interactions with investors and provide opportunities for startups to participate in Demo Days. In this financial year, we established connections with 25+ Venture Capital firms and made 40+ startup introductions.

Networking Opportunities

We believe that networking is a crucial aspect of startup success, and that's why we provide numerous opportunities for our founders to connect with industry experts, government officials, and other entrepreneurs. Our networking opportunities include entrepreneurs' meets, startup showcases, physical workshops, and many more. Through iTIC, startups can unlock new avenues for growth and build meaningful connections.

3.1.5 iLAB

iLAB is designed to cater to the needs of early-stage startups by providing them with the maximum support they require. The upgraded iLAB is equipped with advanced amenities to create prototypes and facilitate batch production, making it a one-stop-shop for all the necessary services.

iLAB boasts over 100 different materials, including plastics, soft metals, foams, wood, and composites, making it a versatile lab that can handle a wide variety of mechanical jobs. It also offers top-of-the-line facilities for electronic, communication, and high-end computing development and testing. With these advanced facilities, iLAB can help startups create products that meet their specific requirements and specifications.

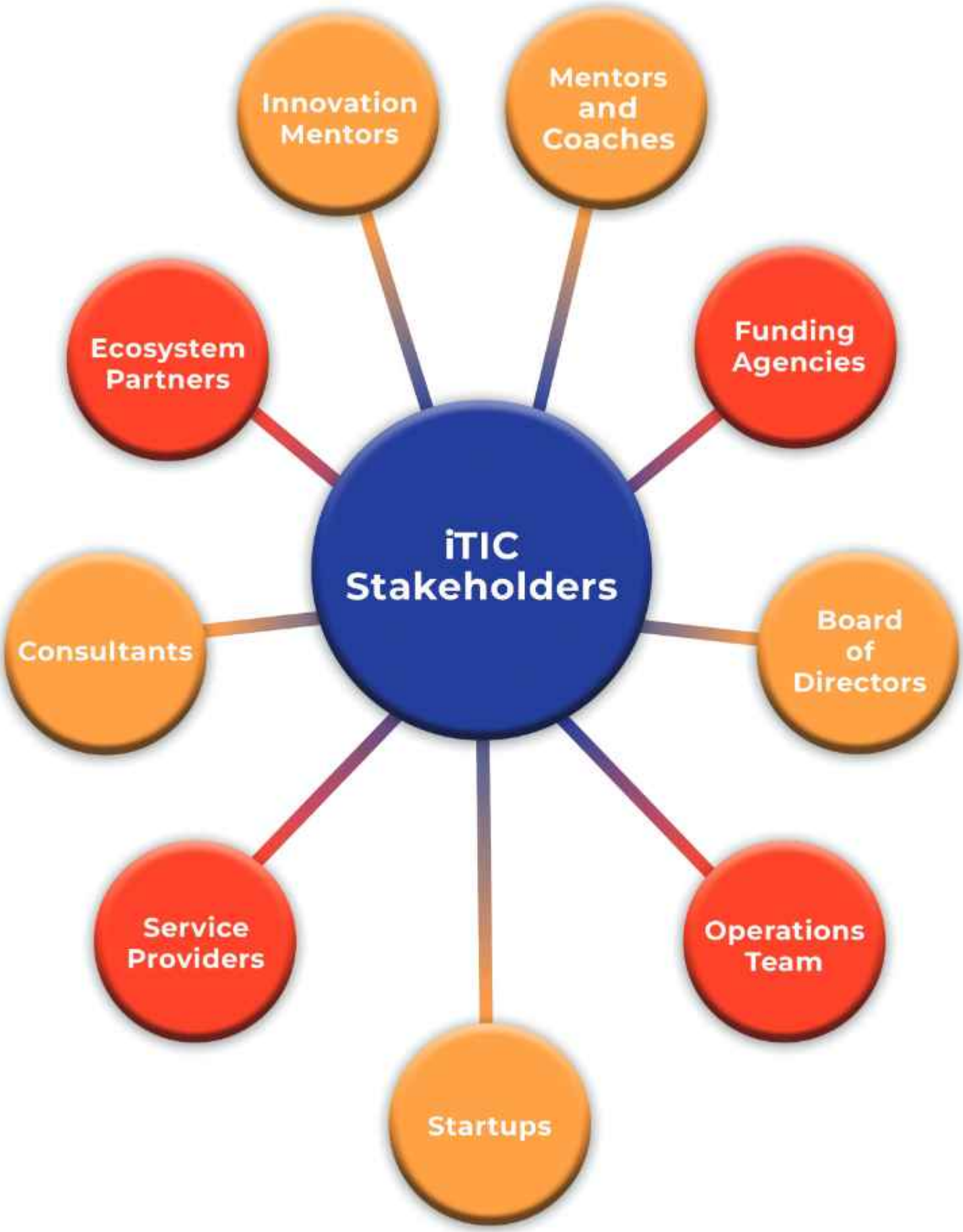
While most of the iLAB's facilities are accessible round the clock, some equipment and machines require trained personnel to operate them. This ensures that safety is maintained and the equipment is used efficiently. The lab offers different rates for incubated startups, IITH affiliates, and external organizations. The charges for accessing the maker lab amenities and tools are subject to the user's affiliation status.

In conclusion, iLAB provides startups with a perfect environment to create and produce prototypes and products, thanks to its advanced amenities and top-of-the-line facilities. The lab's charges are flexible and affordable, making it accessible to a wide range of users.

3.1.6 Infrastructure

iTIC provides facilities to startups that includes office space, shared workspaces, meeting rooms, research labs and testbeds. By providing startups with these facilities, incubators can help them reduce their overhead costs and access resources that they might not have been able to afford otherwise. In addition to physical space, incubators also often provide startups with access to administrative services such as accounting and legal support, as well as mentoring and coaching from experienced entrepreneurs and business leaders. By providing these facilities and resources, incubators can help startups focus on their core business operations and accelerate their growth and success.

3.2 iTIC Stakeholders



3.2.1 Board Members

iTIC has a dedicated and experienced Board that provides strategic guidance and support to the incubator. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise have been instrumental in the success of iTIC. The board members bring in their experience and insights from different domains like academia, industry, finance and entrepreneurship to create an effective ecosystem for startups. Their constant support and guidance have helped iTIC in achieving its mission of fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. Their continued involvement and support are essential for iTIC to continue creating a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Prof. Murty B. S.
President
Director, IIT Hyderabad

Prof. Suryakumar S
Vice President
Dean - Innovation, Translation and Startups, IIT Hyderabad

Dr. Aravind Kumar Rengan
Vice President
FIC - iTIC Incubator
Associate Professor - BME, IIT Hyderabad

Prof. Siva Rama Krishna Vanjari
Joint Secretary and Treasurer
Professor, Electrical, IIT Hyderabad

Ms. Anita Gupta
Invited Member
Scientist G, DST-NSTEDB

Mr. Pradeep Mittal
Member
CEO, GreatFour Systems Inc

Dr. G. Nageswara Rao
Member
Founder, L. V. Prasad Eye Institute

Ms.Deepanwita Chattopadhyay
Member
Chairman & CEO, IKP Knowledge Park

Ms. Anuradha Acharya
Member
CEO, Mapmygenome and Ocimum Bio Solutions

3.2.1 Board Members

Prof. Ramesh Loganathan
Member
Professor, IIIT Hyderabad

Prof. C Krishna Mohan
Member (ex-officio)
Dean PCR, IIIT Hyderabad

Prof. Tarun Kanti Panda
Member (ex-officio)
Dean IR, IIIT Hyderabad

Prof. Ramesh G
Member (ex-officio)
Chair, Rural Development Center

Dr. Mudrika Khandelwal
Member (ex-officio)
Dean ACR, IIIT Hyderabad

Prof. Chandrashekhar Sharma
Member (ex-officio)
Dean SRC, IIIT Hyderabad

3.2.2 Team

iTIC team is a group of professionals from diverse backgrounds who work tirelessly to support startups at various stages of their development. Their expertise and dedication have been instrumental in the success of iTIC and the startups they support. Teamwork is highly valued at iTIC, and their collaboration has led to impactful interventions and initiatives that have benefited the startup ecosystem.

Dr. Aravind K Rengan

Faculty-in-charge

Dr. Aravind Kumar Rengan, an Associate Professor at IIT Hyderabad, completed his PhD from IIT Bombay in 2015. A medical doctor turned biomedical engineer, he specializes in nanomedicine and cancer nanotechnology. He has received numerous accolades, including the INSA & NASI Young Scientist Awards (2017 & 2018).

Dhruv Gupta

Chief Operating Officer

Dhruv Gupta is a computer scientist and a design thinker. He has founded and consulted multiple tech startups, excelling in machine intelligence, user experience, and revenue models. Dhruv was awarded the Gandhian Young Technology Innovator Award 2016 by Dr R. A. Mashelkar at Rashtrapati Bhavan and is dedicated to helping organizations grow through his concept of CoRise.

Keyur Punjani

Manager - Programs

Keyur Punjani is a Mechanical Engineer who founded Stardust, a 3D printing company. After his entrepreneurial journey, he moved on the other side of the table to help startups and has worked with accelerators and incubators. He is also a Rajeev Circle Fellow which is run by Motwani Jadeja Family Foundation.

Rohit Thakur

Manager - Ecosystem

Rohit began his career at 16 in direct selling, building a team of over 100 leaders. After completing his graduation in business administration, he founded a hyperlocal delivery startup supported by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, achieving over 1 crore INR in revenue. He also has IT sales experience.

3.2.2 Team

Sagar Panchal

Manager- Operations (Till May 2023)

Sagar is an experienced business and marketing professional with expertise in managing operations, programs, and communication at Incubators, Accelerators, Startups & Student-focused programs. He is trained in Incubator Management under the nexus innovation hub at the IC2 Institute and has worked with a-IDEA, an emerging Agritech incubator/accelerator. Sagar also has entrepreneurial experience and holds a Postgraduate Diploma in International Business Management.

Yogesh Tawde

Manager- Operations (May to Dec 2023)

Yogesh Tawde is a seasoned leader with a Master's degree in Electronics & Telecommunications, dedicated to empowering startups and fostering a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem. Specializing in securing funding, managing government grants, and driving impactful CSR initiatives, he has collaborated with MSMEs, educational institutions, and key players in the startup community.

Anshik Hota

Manager- Operations (March 2024 onwards)

With over 8 years of experience in consulting, Anshik excels in government consulting, startup management, entrepreneurship development, MSME cluster development, business development, and stakeholder liaison. He is skilled in value chain analysis, product development, marketing linkage, procurement, and preparing RFPs and detailed project reports.

Mohd Sajjad Ali

Assistant Manager - Operations

Sajjad has more than 9 years of professional experience in multiple domains. Before joining the iTIC, he served in various positions under Technical (R & D), Administration, and Project Management domains with teams associated with both Private and Government aided organizations.

3.2.2 Team

Ritu Chaturmutha

Executive - Outreach and Programs

Ritu Chaturmutha is a multi-talented professional who excels in event management and set design. She possesses a unique ability to conceptualize ideas, visualize every detail and convey them with a creative edge. With over 7 years of entrepreneurial experience, she has successfully built two businesses specializing in event management and program design for toddlers.

Divya Bansal

Executive - Media

Divya bansal is an artist by passion and designer by profession. Her expertise lies in printmaking, including old conventional printing methods such as linocut, woodcut, and etching. She has completed her Bachelor's from the College of Art, Delhi University. She explores new ways and methods to broaden her creative field.

Naveen Kumar

Executive - Programs

Naveen Kumar has 7 years of experience in hospitality administration and facilities management in both government and private organizations. He has worked in various positions, including guest house management, project administration, and facility executive. Naveen is a Hotel Management Graduate from Osmania University with excellent team-working skills and enjoys collaborating with others.

M.Mallaeshm

Executive - Accounts

M Mallesham, a JNTUH University graduate, has 7 years of experience working in various roles in stores & purchase and R&D projects in the government sector, as well as administrative operations in the private sector. He is known for being punctual, hardworking, and having excellent team-working skills.

3.2.2 Team

Govind Raj Goud

Executive

With a postgraduate degree in Marketing & Human Resources, has over 12 years of diverse experience. Transitioning to the private sector, Govind took on administrative roles where he applied his knowledge in dynamic corporate environments, demonstrating adaptability, leadership, and a strong commitment to success.

Vamshi Chidhurappa

Maker Lab Technical Assistant

Vamshi is a Mechanical Engineer by profession, and is very enthusiastic about learning new things and technologies. He always tries to experiment with 3D printing and other fabrication technologies which results in some amazing products. He is the go-to guy for startups for helping them in their prototyping needs.

Vishnu Gomaskar

Maker Lab Technical Assistant

Gomaskar Vishnu has 20 years of experience as an Electronics and Electrical Technician. He is a Graduate and ITI Diploma holder in Electrician Trade. He is self-motivated, adaptable and enjoys learning new things to keep up with market changes.

Shiva Ramulu

Office Attendant

Shiva Ramulu B has 12+ years of experience in the position of service attendant. He is a multi-tasker and enjoys juggling between tasks and completing them with utmost dedication and focus. He loves interacting with people around him and takes care of arrangements and maintenance whenever required.

3.2.3 Innovation Mentors

The Innovation Mentors representing each department at IITH, serve as a primary resource for students seeking advice on entrepreneurship matters. Furthermore, they offer guidance and support in technical aspects to the startups.

Ankita Roy
Design

Dr. Abhinav Kumar
Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Ambika S
Civil Engineering

Dr. Arabinda Haldar
Physics

Dr. Gunjan Mehta
Biotechnology

Dr. Mahati Chittem
Liberal Arts

Dr. Meduri Praveen
Engineering Science

Dr. Mohan Sangeneni
Advisor - Innovation & Translational Research, IIT Hyderabad

Dr. Mohd Suhail Rizvi
Biomevdical Engineering

Dr. Mudrika Khandelwal
Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering

Dr. Narasimha Kumar
Mathematics

Dr. Satish Kumar Regonda
Climate Change

Dr. Saurabh Kumar Singh
Chemistry

Dr. Sayak Banerjee
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering

Dr. Siva Vanjari
Electrical Engineering

Dr. Sobhan Babu
Computer Science

Dr. Suhanya Duraiswamy
Chemical Engineering

3.2.4 Grant Agencies and Program Partners

We appreciate the commitment of our partners and funders in building an innovation ecosystem at IITH. These collaborations have also boosted the quality and quantity of startups in our incubators. We look forward to continuing our partnerships to drive entrepreneurship and innovation in the country.

Action For India

Astra Microwave Products Limited

Bharat Electronics Limited

Department of Science and Technology

GreenKo

HDFC Bank

Hindustan Shipyard Limited

3.2.4 Grant Agencies and Program Partners

iDEX - DIO

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

MeitY Startup Hub

National Mineral Development Corporation

NIDHI PRAYAS

NXP Semiconductors

TiHAN

3.2.5 Ecosystem Partners

iTIC Incubator has established partnerships with various ecosystem partners in diverse domains, including industry, government agencies, investors, service providers, and other incubators. These partners provide iTIC startups with access to various services, funding, mentorship, and networking opportunities, helping them to build and grow their businesses.

AIC-CCMB

AIC-GTU

AIC-Banasthali Vidyapith

Border Security Force (BSF)

BRTSIF

Canva

CIIE

Derbi Foundation

Eagle10 Ventures

E-Cell IIT Hyderabad

Engro

EnKash

FabCI

FICCI Flo

FIST, IIT Patna

3.2.5 Ecosystem Partners

Fundenable

Grammarly

Indian Academy of Venture Capital

Innocity

ISBA

iStart

IWIL

K & S Partners

Legalwiz

Manipal University Jaipur

Ministry of Social Justice

NSRCEL

Propel Incubator, BMU

Ramoji Group

RICH

3.2.5 Ecosystem Partners

SERS

SFS Advisors

ShAIp

Slack

Startup Oasis

T-hub

TSIC

Venture Development Centre

VJ Hub , VNR VJIET, Hyd

WIN Foundation

3.3 Startup Success Stories at iTIC

The impact of iTIC on startups goes beyond just financial aid. iTIC has been actively providing startups with technical and business handholding to ensure they have access to the resources and expertise needed to succeed. A glimpse of a few startup support is provided below:

Qoptars

Qoptars is an AI-driven drone startup specializing in payload-swappable drones for aerial videography, mapping, and surveillance. Unlike conventional drones with fixed payloads that limit their functionality, Qoptars' drones allow users to easily swap sensors for different applications, enhancing versatility. Equipped with onboard AI, these drones are smarter, capable of avoiding crashes and flying without GPS, addressing key limitations in the industry while also complying with India's restrictions on foreign-manufactured drones.

For the past three years, Qoptars has been operating in the co-working space at iTIC, progressing from prototype development to achieving their MVP. They have built drone parts in the prototyping lab with expert assistance and received extensive mentorship. Currently, they have generated a revenue of 67 Lakhs INR and are preparing to scale their operations to further expand their market presence. They have received mentorship support on multiple fronts like product development, Go-to-market strategies, fundraising, Intellectual Property, etc.while also complying with India's restrictions on foreign-manufactured drones.

3.3 Startup Success Stories at iTIC

Avisa Automotive

Avisa is dedicated to creating opportunities for street vendors by developing sustainable utility vehicles designed specifically for their needs. Startup's mission is to empower vendors with eco-friendly, efficient solutions that support business growth and environmental sustainability. Their flagship product, the Electric Utility Scooter, is a versatile mobile shop featuring a modular design and ample storage space, making it adaptable to a wide range of vendor requirements.

With the help of iLAB's Foam Cutter, Avisa crafted the initial structure of its electric vehicle using thermocol, achieving a precise fit for the human body. Numerous components were also manufactured using 3D printers in the prototyping lab. Additionally, through iTIC's summer internship drive, Avisa onboarded a product design intern and a mechanical engineering intern to support their development efforts.

3.3 Startup Success Stories at iTIC

Pavakah Energy

Pavakah Energy is developing thin-film solar cells in the form of paint, known as bulk-heterojunction solar cells. This innovative technology has the potential to convert any surface into a solar panel. Pavakah's development is not only cost-effective but also recyclable, making it a promising solution for sustainable energy.

Pavakah Energy

Pavakah has utilized iTIC's facilities for R&D and product development, successfully building their major prototype. They have established their office in the TIP Building while being incubated under the Nidhi Prayas Scheme. With iTIC's support, Pavakah has also secured investments from institutional investors. They are now preparing to scale their operations and bring their innovative solutions to the market.

4. Programs at iTIC

4.1 iTIC Incubation Program

About

The iTIC Incubation program offers up to 3 years of support to IITH students, faculty, and staff looking to transform their research into startups. It provides essential resources and guidance to help convert research into technology and ultimately into a commercial product. With a focus on fostering deep-tech ventures, the program is open to startups across all sectors.

Benefit to startups

The iTIC Incubation program provides entrepreneurs and startups with a wide array of resources and support. This includes structured mentorship, financial aid, access to co-working spaces, IITH infrastructure, and the Makerlab. Additionally, it offers valuable networking opportunities, investor connections, and participation in iTIC seminars and events to foster growth and innovation.

Eligibility criteria

- At least one founder should be an Indian citizen.
- The startup should have a Pvt. Ltd. company.
- The founder(s) should be current faculty, student, or staff of IITH.

Startups under Incubation program

Eka-SurfEx Private Limited

Plasma surface sterilization, cleaning, activation, and coating solutions for healthcare, biotech, industrial, and pharmaceutical applications. This technology is highly effective, eco-friendly, scalable, and cost-efficient.

Sector: Nanotech

Pranahita Biotronics

Pranahita Biotronics is developing AI-powered low-cost testing kits for Covid-19 and other viruses.

Sector: Health-Tech

Osure Care Pvt. Ltd.

An innovation-focused medical technology startup dedicated to addressing unmet clinical needs in hospitals across tier 2 and tier 3 cities, as well as small towns. Through their in-house R&D and quality engineering, they aim to provide affordable and fast healthcare solutions.

Sector: Artificial intelligence

Skelregen

SkelRegen is a life technology start-up with unique therapeutic technology for society in the field of bone tissue engineering. Currently developing biological maxillofacial bone implants which can completely reconstruct the commuted bone defects.

Sector: 3D Printing, Health-Tech

WiSig Networks Pvt Ltd

WiSig Networks provides 3GPP 5G NR-based PHY and Protocol Stack solutions. Their IoT product line includes 3GPP Release 13/14 compliant Narrowband-IoT (NB-IoT) SoC, featuring integrated GNSS/GPS to support a wide range of IoT applications across diverse verticals.

Sector: Wireless Communication

4.2 iTIC Advance Incubation Program

About

iTIC Advance Incubation program is tailored for accomplished startups and entrepreneurs who have progressed beyond the incubation stage but haven't yet attained operational breakeven. The main objective of this sector-agnostic program is to facilitate rapid discovery of Product-Market fit and bolster the Go To Market strategy of deep-tech companies.

Benefit to startups

iTIC Advance Incubation program offers structured mentorship support, financial aid, co-working space, access to IITH infrastructure, Makerlab, networking opportunities, investor connections, and access to iTIC seminars and events. These benefits help guide entrepreneurs and startups towards success.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the iTIC Advance Incubation program, the following criteria must be met:

The startup must be a Private Limited company adhering to the definition of Startups given by DPIIT, Government of India.

The startup must be working at the MVP stage with early traction and at least one paying client.

Preference will be given to second-time entrepreneurs.

Preference will be given to startups that have raised an initial funding round from external investors.

Startup/s under Advance Incubation program

Tekra Solution Private Limited

A tech-driven startup focused on solving mobility challenges for people with disabilities and the elderly, enabling independent living. Their product is designed to meet the mobility needs of 30 million disabled and 140 million elderly individuals, many of whom rarely leave their homes. Startup addresses key issues of mobility, assistance, and accessibility through a single app that brings together all necessary services to enhance inclusion and independence.

Sector: Mobility

Deusexvolt Electric Pvt. Ltd.

Persist is making transportation affordable to the micro entrepreneurs of India by making EV technology affordable and suitable for the infrastructure of India through localization, indigenous platform development, fostering supporting ecosystem and flexible battery ownership.

Sector: Mobility

4.3 NICE

About

NICE, or the NMDC Innovation and Incubation Centre, is a cutting-edge incubation center for deep tech startups that provides fellowship and incubation support through the iTIC Incubator in partnership with NMDC Limited. The program is sector agnostic, but has a deep tech focus, including areas such as AI/ML, Quantum Computing, AR/VR/MR, Cybersecurity, Robotics, IoT, Industry 4.0, Blockchain, Advance Materials, Drones, and Biotechnology.

Benefit to startups

NICE offers entrepreneurs and startups structured pre-incubation/incubation support, including financial aid, mentorship, co-working space, access to IITH infrastructure and Makerlab, networking opportunities, investor connections, and access to iTIC seminars and events.

- NICE Fellowship is a funded fellowship program that supports entrepreneurs at the idea/PoC stage in domains of interest to NICE with INR 9.6 Lakhs for 12 months.
- NICE Incubation is a grant program that supports prototype stage startups in areas of interest to NICE, providing financial aid of up to INR 25 Lakhs (in exchange for up to 3% equity).

Eligibility Criteria

To apply for the NICE Incubation and Fellowship program, the founder/s should be Indian citizens and working on a deep tech venture.

NICE Fellowship Eligibility Criteria

- Founder should be between the age of 18 to 35 years
- Must be willing to work full-time with no predictable source of income

NICE Incubation Eligibility Criteria

- The startup should be at the prototype/MVP stage
- The startup should have technology with a possible IP
- The startup should be a Private Limited company adhering to the definition of Startups given by DPIIT, Government of India.

Startups under NICE program

NICE Fellowship

Genflow AI Pvt. Ltd.

GenFlow AI offers comprehensive services and solutions spanning prevention, treatment, and care. Its goal is to revolutionize livestock healthcare by digitizing the process through telemedicine technology and leveraging qualified veterinary experts to deliver a full-stack service.

Sector: Agri-Tech

PlebC Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

The Tele-Operated Robotic Ultrasound System allows remote operation of ultrasound machines, enabling medical professionals to perform exams from a distance. With imaging needed for 80-90% of diagnoses and 2 in 3 people lacking access, this system is particularly beneficial in rural India, where 68.84% lack radiologist access. It provides a safe, secure, and affordable solution with a low learning curve, expanding access to essential diagnostic services.

Sector: MedTech, Robotics

Greenpod Labs Pvt. Ltd.

GreenPod Labs is an agri-biotech company focused on reducing post-harvest losses by activating the natural defense mechanisms in fruits and vegetables with their proprietary, easy-to-use, and cost-effective solutions. Their innovative approach ensures longer shelf life and improved quality, benefiting both farmers and consumers.

Sector: Agri-Tech, Materials

Humus Biosystems LLP

Humus Biosystems offers smart, adaptive wastewater treatment systems that reduce energy costs by 95% through advanced biotechnology, machine learning, and IoT platforms. Unlike traditional, energy-intensive plants, Humus delivers modern, efficient solutions. Their innovative approach brings sustainability to wastewater management.

Sector: Water Treatment

ManaliSwing Adventures Pvt. Ltd.

Caters to nature lovers, thrill-seekers, and travelers looking for more exciting and safer adventure options. Manali Swing offers one of the world's most innovative and secure Giant Swings, featuring over 100 jump styles and a 70-meter free fall, powered by AI to ensure unparalleled safety and an unforgettable adrenaline rush.

Sector: Travel & Tourism, AI

Octarange Technology Pvt. Ltd.

Specializes in cutting-edge battery pack solutions for electric vehicles and grid storage applications. Their technology includes a liquid-based thermal management system, advanced battery management systems, and a comprehensive battery analytics framework.

Sector: EV, Energy Storage

LiqSure Systems Pvt. Ltd.

LiqSure has developed a system for the treatment of industrial wastewater. This system can treat any kind of industrial effluent at an affordable cost. It is energy efficient and cost effective in terms of Capex & Opex as compared to existing technologies in the same area.

Sector: Water Treatment

Learn and Empower Pvt. Ltd.

Learn and Empower Pvt. Ltd is creating Resonate Learning - India's first games + Augmented Reality based teaching-learning & assessment platform that helps the deaf & hard of hearing kids to practice & understand concepts 4-6 times faster & enables the educators to use it as a teaching & assessment tool.

Sector: AR, Ed Tech

Milatronics Pvt. Ltd.

Milatronics is a company extensively focused on solving the problems of aqua farmers by introducing an automatic feeder and pond automation devices. It aims to create an ecosystem where the traditional practices are made effective with the support of technological advances.

Sector: IoT, Aquaculture

NICE Incubation

Elkemie Materials and Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Elkmie is working on synthesizing five-element nanowires and customizing five-element alloys with different compositions and morphologies for Magnetic memory devices, Biomedical, Sensors, Energy, and Automobile sectors.

Sector: Nanotech, Materials

MediG Inventions Pvt. Ltd.

MediG inventions is developing advanced and early care for the cardiac arrest medical condition with smart integration of technology to increase the survival rate.

Sector: Health-Tech, Robotics

4.4 TiHAN

About

TiHAN is a Technology Innovation Hub sanctioned by the Department of Science and Technology in India, focused on autonomous navigation and data acquisition systems. It collaborates with iTIC Incubator to offer startup support programs at the pre-incubation and incubation level.

Areas of Interest

- AI/ML frameworks for autonomous navigation and multi-sensory data aggregation using UAVs, ROVs, etc.
- IoT and CPS architectures for efficient use of UAVs, ROVs, etc.
- Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems
- Edge computing architectures for multi-sensory information processing
- Control Engineering
- Aerodynamics and Mechanical Design for efficient UAVs, ROVs, etc.
- Robotics for autonomous systems
- Design for Smart Mobility (aerial/terrestrial)
- Efficient image processing techniques
- Autonomous vehicle swarms and their applications
- Drone Components (Make in India)

Benefit to startups

- Funding support of up to INR 10 Lakhs under TiHAN EiR/PRAYAS program
- Funding support of up to INR 25 Lakhs (in exchange of 3% equity) under TiHAN Incubation program.

Other than benefits provided by iTIC, special support for startups working under TiHAN, includes access to:

- Test Tracks
- Emulation of Real-World Scenarios
- State of the Art Simulation Technologies
- Road Infrastructure
- V2X Communication
- Drone Runways and Landing Area
- Mechanical Integration Facility
- Centralized Control Room/Ground Control Station
- Hangars and many more

Eligibility Criteria

- Idea should be in the areas of interest for TiHAN
- Founder of the startup should be an Indian citizen
- For TiHAN PRAYAS/EiR program, entrepreneurs should have an idea or a Proof of Concept (POC)
- For the TiHAN Incubation program, entrepreneurs or startups should have a prototype.

Startups under TiHAN program

TiHAN EiR/PRAYAS

Avisa Automotive

Avisa is a visionary company dedicated to creating opportunities for people by providing sustainable utility vehicles specifically designed for street vendors. Their mission is to empower street vendors with environmentally friendly and efficient solutions, enabling them to thrive in their businesses while contributing to a cleaner and greener environment.

Sector: Mobility

Atlast Motor Corporation

Atlast Motor Corporation is an automotive startup focused on revolutionizing the transportation industry through sustainable and eco-friendly solutions. Atlast is dedicated to designing and producing Hydrogen Fuel cell Motorcycles that meet high standards of safety, reliability, and performance.

Sector: EV, Fuel cell

Eythor Private Limited

Eythor is an innovative solar panel cleaning robot designed to overcome the difficulties of manual cleaning and water consumption. Powered by renewable solar energy, it offers an eco-friendly solution to maintaining solar panels.

Sector: IOT, Robotics

TiHAN Incubation

Canorx Motors Pvt. Ltd.

The startup promotes the adoption of sustainable, clean renewable energy electric tractors for agriculture and commercial use, aiming to enhance efficiency and minimize environmental impact. Their multi-purpose Canorx solar-powered electric tractor offers a transformative solution to the longstanding challenges of traditional agriculture.

Sector: EV

Heavity Automation Pvt. Ltd.

The startup designed an automatic weight-balancing stair climber with a 500 kg payload capacity, capable of effortlessly navigating stairs and various terrains. Designed for versatility, it enhances mobility solutions in diverse environments, improving accessibility and efficiency.

Sector: Mobility

Qoptars Pvt. Ltd.

Qoptars, an AI-based drone startup, develops payload-swappable drones for aerial videography, mapping, and surveillance. Unlike traditional drones with fixed payloads and limited capabilities, Qoptars' drones feature interchangeable sensors, including Sony mirrorless cameras, Flir cameras, and multispectral sensors, for versatile applications.

Sector: UAVs, Video Analytics

Autonomous Logistics Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

They aim to create autonomous, AI-driven machines capable of making smart decisions and performing tasks without human intervention. Existing drones in India rely heavily on GPS and lack the autonomy needed for real-time applications like detecting cracks or reading barcodes. Their AI-first, intelligent, and modular drones with swappable payloads offer improved control, safety, and capabilities, ensuring accurate and efficient mission execution.

Sector: AI, Robotics

4.5 iDEX

About

iDEX is a program initiated by the Ministry of Defense, Government of India, with the aim of fostering innovation and technology development in the Defence and Aerospace sectors. It engages various industries, including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes, and academia. Through grants/funding and other forms of support, iDEX enables these innovators to carry out R&D activities that have the potential for future adoption in Indian defense and aerospace needs. As a Partner Incubator (PI) for iDEX, IIT Hyderabad, with the help of iTIC as the implementation body, plays a crucial role in supporting innovators and startups in this sector.

Area of Interest

iDEX focuses on identifying and supporting startups that can contribute to the defense sector by developing innovative solutions in areas such as robotics, drones, autonomous systems, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and other emerging technologies. The program aims to promote entrepreneurship and innovation in the defense sector and encourage startups to develop products that can enhance the capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces.

Benefit to startups

Startups, MSMEs, individual innovators, R&D institutes, and academia are engaged through Open Challenges, DISC challenges, and PRIME challenges. These engagement opportunities offer financial aid, product co-development with the military, certification, facilitation of pilots, and integration of technologies and products into military applications. The program also includes mentorship support, access to workshops and seminars, and infrastructure access by iTIC/IITH, which helps innovators develop their ideas without any fear of failure and bring ready products to the market.

Funding benefits include:

- Startups selected under iDEX Open Challenge gets financial aid of upto INR 1.50 Crores.
- Startups selected under iDEX DISC Challenges gets financial aid of upto INR 1.50 Crores.
- Startups selected under iDEX PRIME Challenge get financial aid of upto INR 10 Crores.

Eligibility Criteria

- Start-ups, as defined and recognized by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Any Indian company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956/2013, primarily a Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) as defined in the MSME Act, 2006.
- Individual innovators are also encouraged to apply (research & academic institutions can use this category to apply).

Organizations under iDEX program

Company Name	Problem Statement
Aditya Precitech	4-Axis Stabilised Antenna for C & Ku Band
Aditya Precitech Pvt. Ltd.	Indigenous Loitering Munitions
Aeromobix Systems Pvt Ltd	Portable Hydraulic Metal Cutter
Anawave Varuni Systems and Solutions	Long Range Communication Technology for locating Torpedoes
Anawave Varuni Systems and Solutions LLP	Noise Augmentation Unit for submarine
Anvation Labs Pvt. Ltd.	Secure Hardware Encryption Device
ApexPlus Technologies	FMCW Real time RADALT Tester
Arbudamba Consultancy Pvt Ltd	Long Range Communication Technology for locating Torpedoes
Arka Aerospace	Hand-held hard kill counter UAS system
Avantel Limited	Beam Steering Ku band SATCOM Antenna over IN SATCOOM network for MR Aircraft
Avantel Limited	Portable (Handheld/Manpack) Ku band Terminal for IN SATCOM Network
Binford Research Labs Pvt. Ltd.	Hand-held hard kill counter UAS system
CoreIoT Technologies	Helmet Mount Conformable Antenna
CoreIOT Technologies	Development to achieve uniform circular polarization in designing a Cavity Backed Spiral Antenna (1-18 GHz)

Company Name	Problem Statement
Dhanavanthri Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	Deep Fat Fryer Gimbaled Frame
Edgeforce Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	Fog Penetration RADAR Long Range Communication Technology for locating Torpedoes
Elmot Alternators	Implementation of Inertial Energy Storage System (IESS)
Extreme Definition Defence Systems Pvt. Ltd	Blue Green lasers for underwater applications
Extreme Definition Defence Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Blue Green laser Technology based on Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) to establish communication from a ship or an aircraft to submarine
Guardinger Technologies (OPC) Pvt. Ltd.	AI based adaptive Noise Cancellation for SONARs of Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs)
IPHIPI Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	Voice Recognition Software to mitigate cyber frauds
Jisnu Communications Pvt Ltd	ASIC Based Space Communication using Software Defined Antenna
MQS Technologies Pvt Ltd	Automation of track adjustment mechanism of BMP-II
NimbusParc Technolabs Pvt. Ltd.	High definition video data streaming engine capable of overcoming High latencies and packet loss over limited bandwidth
NimbusParc Technolabs Pvt. Ltd.	Next Generation File Transfer Solution Capable of overcoming High latencies and packet loss over limited bandwidth
Raphe mPhibr Pvt Ltd	AI-enabled Floatation Device disposal drone

Company Name	Problem Statement
Nitro Dynamics Aerospace & Defence Private Limited	Light weight indigenous ELINT/COMINT System for NSUAS /MULE Class RPA
Saif Automations Services LLP	Autonomous Beach Check Survey Device
SPM India Ltd	Development of equipment capable of automatic weighing and filling of powder like substance explosives within 2 mg tolerance (i.e 28-30 Mg.)
SPM India Ltd	Design of Active Hydro Pneumatic Suppressions with Variable dampening characteristics to meet different road profiles
Symtronics Automation Private Limited	AI Based Remote Monitoring System to access wear down of Outboard Shaft Bearing (A & P Bracket, outer and inner stern tube bearing)
Tardid Technologies Private Limited	AI based multi-Radar signal conversion, distribution and multi-target tracking for IN ships based on particle filtering
Varuni Systems Pvt Ltd	AI based Adaptive Noise Cancellation for SONARs of Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs) and Shipborne SONARs
Unnayan Defence Technologies LLP	Hand Held Hard Kill Counter UAS (Net Grenade)
Vasbeam Pvt. Ltd.	30mm proximity fuze
Veera Tactical Dynamics LLP	Moisture Wicking Hydrophobic Weapon Cover
Veera Tactical Dynamics LLP	Achieving IR and Ultrasonic S
Velmeni Research and Development Pvt. Ltd	Non hull penetrating connectivity solution for submarines at harbour

Company Name	Problem Statement
Vimal Fire Controls Pvt. Ltd.	Aerogel based fire proximity suit for better efficiency in fire-fighting.
Vimal Fire Controls Pvt. Ltd.	Fire Suppressant material that can suppress fire in the initial stages only
Vimal Fire Controls Pvt. Ltd.	Environmentally Benign fixed firefighting (Suppression) system for machinery spaces
Zebu Intelligent Systems Privatet	Compact Drones for operations at sea boarding & Spill response management

4.6 NIDHI PRAYAS

About

NIDHI PRAYAS is a pre-incubation initiative under the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India's NIDHI program, which aims to nurture ideas and innovations into successful startups. Specifically, NIDHI PRAYAS supports young innovators in the hardware domain by providing them with resources and guidance to turn their ideas into working prototypes. This initiative is part of DST's broader efforts to promote science and technology in the country and foster the development of cutting-edge technologies that can benefit society.

Area of Interest

The areas of interest for NIDHI PRAYAS include manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, education, infrastructure and transportation, environment and cleantech, energy solutions, biotechnology, water, and emerging technologies such as IoT, AI/ML, and others.

Benefits

Prototyping grants of up to INR 10 lakhs to entrepreneurs with hardware ideas that have the potential to create deep tech startups. In addition, startups associated with NIDHI PRAYAS at iTIC can benefit from co-working space, mentorship, IP support, prototyping support, and financial aid.

Eligibility Criteria

- Founder/s should be Indian citizens
- Demonstrate the potential to establish a deep tech startup
- Possess technology with potential for intellectual property (IP) development.

Startups under Nidhi Prayas program

Pavakah Energy Pvt. Ltd.

Pavakah Energy is a clean energy start-up that has developed a nano-colloidal photovoltaic paint, which can turn any surface into a solar panel. This technology has the potential to greatly increase the accessibility of solar energy, while promoting sustainable energy practices and minimizing the need for new infrastructure.

Sector: Cleantech & Advanced Sustainable Materials

Cane Man

The harvester is designed for coastal areas and is easy to operate, providing farmers with an affordable solution to harvest sugarcane fields on time with minimal cane weight loss to the factory. They are focused on developing a low-cost, farmer-friendly sugarcane harvester.

Sector: Agri-Tech

Theta Additive Pvt. Ltd.

Theta Additive is developing extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) devices, which along with heart lung machines, are globally utilized for cardiopulmonary bypass management, during open heart surgeries, to convert venous blood into oxygenated blood.

Sector: Healthcare, Medical Devices

eAkrishya Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

eAkrishya Innovations aims to establish an ecosystem for electronic assets to undergo their entire lifecycle. The asset tracking solution, based on Blockchain technology, monitors the second phase of an asset's life cycle until it is collected or reaches its end-of-life.

Sector: Clean-tech

Bloom

Bloom is creating a spatial computing device emphasizing advanced hardware, featuring a novel operating system and processor. Tailored for defense use, it also serves industrial design and education, introducing a new era of computing.

Sector: Clean-tech Robotics

Brela Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

Brela Innovations concentrates on introducing ergonomic solutions to women's healthcare and medicine, particularly in the creation of a breast care device for use at home.

Sector: AI/ML, Medical Devices

Auto Coolant Manager

The company leads in innovative smart manufacturing solutions, focusing on automated coolant supply, smooth mode switching, and wireless machine control. Prioritizing real-time monitoring, it aims to enhance manufacturing efficiency and accuracy.

Sector: Manufacturing, IoT

Klvin Technologies Labs Pvt. Ltd.

KLVIN.AI is a pioneering startup specializing in integrating IoT, AI, and Blockchain technologies to enhance industrial safety and efficiency. Their solution focuses on preventing unexpected machine breakdowns in industries, thereby reducing product losses and ensuring worker safety.

Sector: IOT, AI/ML, Industry 4.0

Extrive Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

Extrive Innovations makes special exoskeletons for India. These exoskeletons help people work better and safer in different jobs. They're designed very carefully to fit well and be comfortable. Extrive's exoskeletons change how people work, making them more efficient and healthy.

Sector: Robotics

Esyacura Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

The company offers an integrated solution for pathology diagnostics, connecting remote areas with expert pathologists for real-time and accurate diagnoses, prioritizing affordability and accessibility in underserved regions of Africa and Asia.

Sector: Health-tech

Taramandal Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Taramandal is leading the way in space exploration with innovative and eco-friendly solutions that will change how we explore space. The co-RTV (Cross Orbital Reusable Transition Vehicle) is a reusable spacecraft that will make orbital operations more efficient and affordable.

Sector: Space-tech, IOT

4.7 MeitY TIDE 2.0

About

MeitY TIDE 2.0 is a program initiated by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) that aims to provide financial and technical support to ICT startups focused on emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Blockchain, Robotics, etc.

Area of Interest

The areas of interest for MeitY TIDE 2.0 program are Education, Agriculture, Financial inclusion, Infrastructure and transportation, Environment and cleantech, Clean energy, and other emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Blockchain, Robotics, etc. with a focus on supporting ICT startups.

Benefit to startups

- Startups at the Idea/PoC stage can receive an EiR stipend of up to INR 4 Lakhs and pre-incubation support for one year to validate and develop their idea.
- Prototype stage startups can avail grant support of up to INR 7 Lakhs and pre-incubation support for one year.

Eligibility criteria

- To be eligible for the EiR stipend, the applicant must be an Indian citizen with an idea or PoC, and have at least one co-founder committed to pursuing the idea full-time.
- For the grant position, the applicant must be an Indian citizen with a Proof of Concept (POC) or Prototype.

Startups under MEITY program

Merosa Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

AILusion is building a solution to enhance the visual experience through AI/ML-based platforms particularly in virtual reality (VR) by providing cutting-edge products in the sub-premium segment.

Sector: AI/ML, AR/VR

Winvestors Consultants Pvt. Ltd.

Nivesh.ai enables users to invest more intelligently with the assistance of AI technology. Its personalized portfolio creation and precise monitoring allow users to relax, knowing that Nivesh.ai takes care of the complex tasks, allowing them to focus on their priorities.

Sector: AI/ML, Fintech

Umla Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Umla is transforming social networking by integrating online interactions with real-world experiences. The platform enables users to purchase and share experiences such as coffee or movie tickets, connecting them with similar individuals. Meet face-to-face at partner locations, transforming digital connections into authentic relationships.

Sector: AI/ML

4 .8 ABCD 2

About

The Acclimatization Boot Camp for Defence Startups (ABCD) is an innovative program initiated by iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad in collaboration with iDEX-DIO. Our mission is to bridge the gap between civilian startups and the defence sector by identifying promising technological innovations and realigning them for defence applications.
In Cohort 2, we are building on the success of our inaugural cohort, leveraging our experience and expertise to provide even greater support to startups looking to make a meaningful impact in the defence industry. The program is designed to help startups explore the potential of their existing technologies in addressing critical defence challenges.

Program Structure

After the startup are selected under ABCD program, they go through a structured bootcamp consisting of 4 modules as under:

- In the first module, startups submit technical and product documentation.
- The documentation is shared with knowledge partners including institutions from our armed forces and veterans in the second module. iTIC also assigns mentors for one-to-one mentoring for each ABCD cohort startup.
- In the third module, startups work on modifying their product for defence applications with access to prototyping labs and other IITH labs.
- In the last module, startups are supported in writing proposals for various grants and direct procurements.

Benefits to Startups

- Access to the defense market
- Feedback from the defense ecosystem
- Access to iTIC and IITH infrastructure

Eligibility

- A working prototype
- An Indian entity with majority stakeholder of Indian citizen/s
- A team with technical expertise.

Startups under ABCD 2 program

AquaAirX

Developing an amphibious drone that operates in air, on surfaces, and underwater, streamlining inspections and reducing maintenance costs with advanced project management and data analysis software.

Heavity Automation

Created an automatic stair climber with a 500 kg payload capacity, automating weight balancing to safely handle heavy loads on stairs and rough terrains, enhancing safety and productivity.

AkinAnalytics

Introduced the Nano Recon Drone, an ultra-portable device for covert aerial reconnaissance, providing soldiers with real-time situational awareness and bridging the gap between ground sensors and larger UAVs.

IndiMeat

Produces preservative-free meat protein products, such as bars and powders infused with immunity-boosting herbs, to address the nutritional needs of soldiers and health enthusiasts, focusing on quick, nutritious solutions.

Karman

Designs and manufactures advanced autonomous UAVs, including high-endurance and VTOL fixed-wing drones, to meet the growing demands in defense, commercial, and security sectors.

Beebotapp

Developing a Facial-Scene Contour Detection Model that efficiently analyzes surveillance footage by integrating facial recognition with scene detection, offering faster, more accurate results and reducing data storage needs.

Octobotics Tech

Provides autonomous robotic solutions for industrial asset inspections, automating tasks like weld scanning and hull cleaning, reducing downtime, and improving safety and data accuracy.

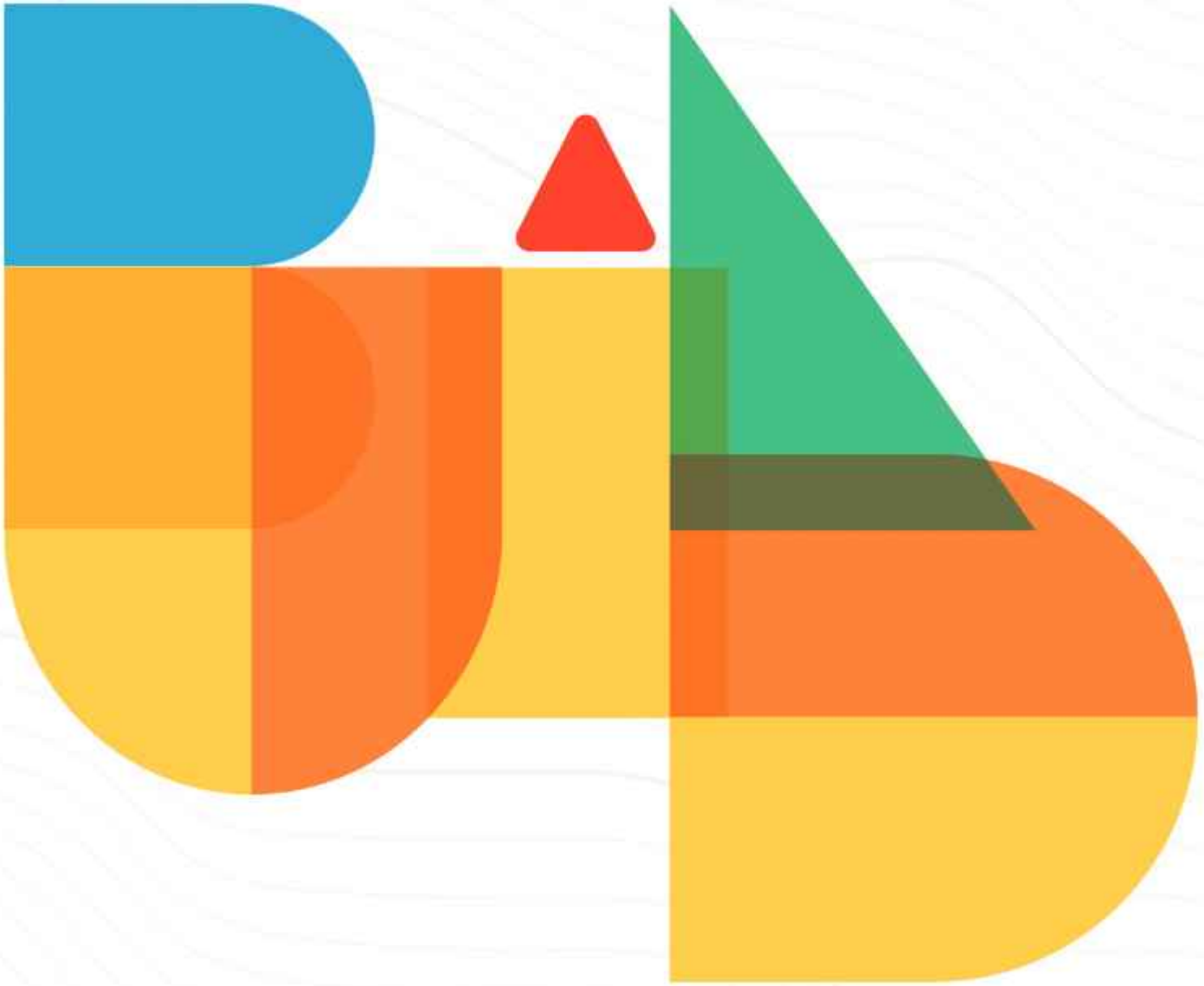
Corrosion Intel

Offers AI-based corrosion monitoring systems to enhance industrial asset management, providing reliable detection and optimizing maintenance for improved safety.

EDS

Supplies TE-60 helmet-mounted cameras for real-time video capture on ships and BeaconPro devices for man-overboard detection and soldier tracking, improving safety and operational efficiency.

4.9. BUILD



About

The BUILD Program was an initiative aimed at fostering innovation among undergraduate students and recent graduates across India. By providing financial support of up to INR One Lakh per startup, the program empowered 75 students to develop their early-stage ideas into viable concepts. Partnering with 13 institutes and incubators, the program offered access to two intensive bootcamps and comprehensive mentorship in design, fabrication, and business development. BUILD aimed to create a robust ecosystem for young innovators, bridging the gap between academic learning and entrepreneurial success.

Area of Interest

The BUILD program was designed to foster entrepreneurship and innovation among undergraduates and recent graduates with early-stage startup ideas focusing on comprehensiveness, feasibility, innovation, capabilities, viability, and sustainability, helping them develop these concepts into a proof of concept (POC) or prototype by

Benefit to Startups

Student entrepreneurs in the early stages can receive a grant of INR 1 Lakh along with one year of mentorship from partner incubators to help turn their ideas into a Proof of Concept (PoC) or Prototype.

Winners get to participate in boot camps and mentorship sessions aimed at boosting their skills and knowledge for further development.

Eligibility criteria

- To be eligible for the BUILD program an entrepreneur must be under graduation or a recent graduate with a tech startup idea.

- Founder/s should be an Indian citizen.

Top Performers from this program

Anik Panja

HydroGravitricity offers innovative kitchen wastewater filtration systems that are compact, chemical-free, and easy to maintain, ideal for generating biodiesel. Their advanced technology allows for simple water quality monitoring through secure, cloud-based applications.

Current Stage - Prototype

Anoushk

Neuspine is a wearable device that tracks spinal posture in real-time using sensor data, offering users clear insights to improve their spine health and posture. Its advanced algorithms ensure accurate monitoring and analysis.

Current Stage - Proof of Concept

G VISHNU SAI

Their idea is transforming the custom clothing industry with AI-powered virtual try-on technology, enabling customers to easily visualize and personalize their designs. By focusing on sustainability and influencer collaborations, they provide a seamless and innovative custom clothing experience that celebrates individuality.

Current Stage - Prototype

Irshad Albadar j

By utilizing the Plant Microbial Fuel Cell approach, they capture electrons and protons from plants with the help of an anode and cathode, assisted by microorganisms. This method offers an optimized and renewable way to generate electricity for small-scale applications, providing a more sustainable alternative to other resources.

Current Stage - Proof of Concept

Jampala Rishi Krishna

The Driver Safety System is a machine learning and deep learning-based product that detects driver drowsiness and alerts them with a buzzer, helping to prevent fatigue-related accidents.

Current Stage - Prototype

Kommana Satya Manikanta

Heavy metal contamination in water bodies is a serious environmental problem that can be tackled using marine macroalgae like Ulva lactuca for bioremediation. Through a process called biosorption, the algae naturally bind heavy metals to their surface, effectively removing them without harming the aquatic environment, thus helping restore healthier and more sustainable ecosystems.

Current Stage - Prototype

◦ Lavanya Muddu

The Automated Material Dispenser enhances efficiency in disorganized setups by replacing manual labor. With innovative features like voice command, motion detection, and AI integration, it ensures quick, accurate material dispensing while minimizing cross-contamination.

Current Stage - Proof of Concept

◦ Mathukumilli Lochan

StemQuest offers a monthly subscription service that delivers immersive and interactive educational kits to children. Each kit includes captivating comic stories, hands-on experiments, AR-VR technology, engaging worksheets, and a fun assessment platform, creating a unique learning experience that fosters creativity and strengthens parent-child interaction while keeping kids excited and educated.

Current Stage - Prototype

◦ Naijith Rai

Our idea is a lightweight, modular, and autonomous parachute ejection system designed for crash detection. This passive safety feature protects people, property, and payloads, addressing the growing need for drone recovery systems as drone usage increases.

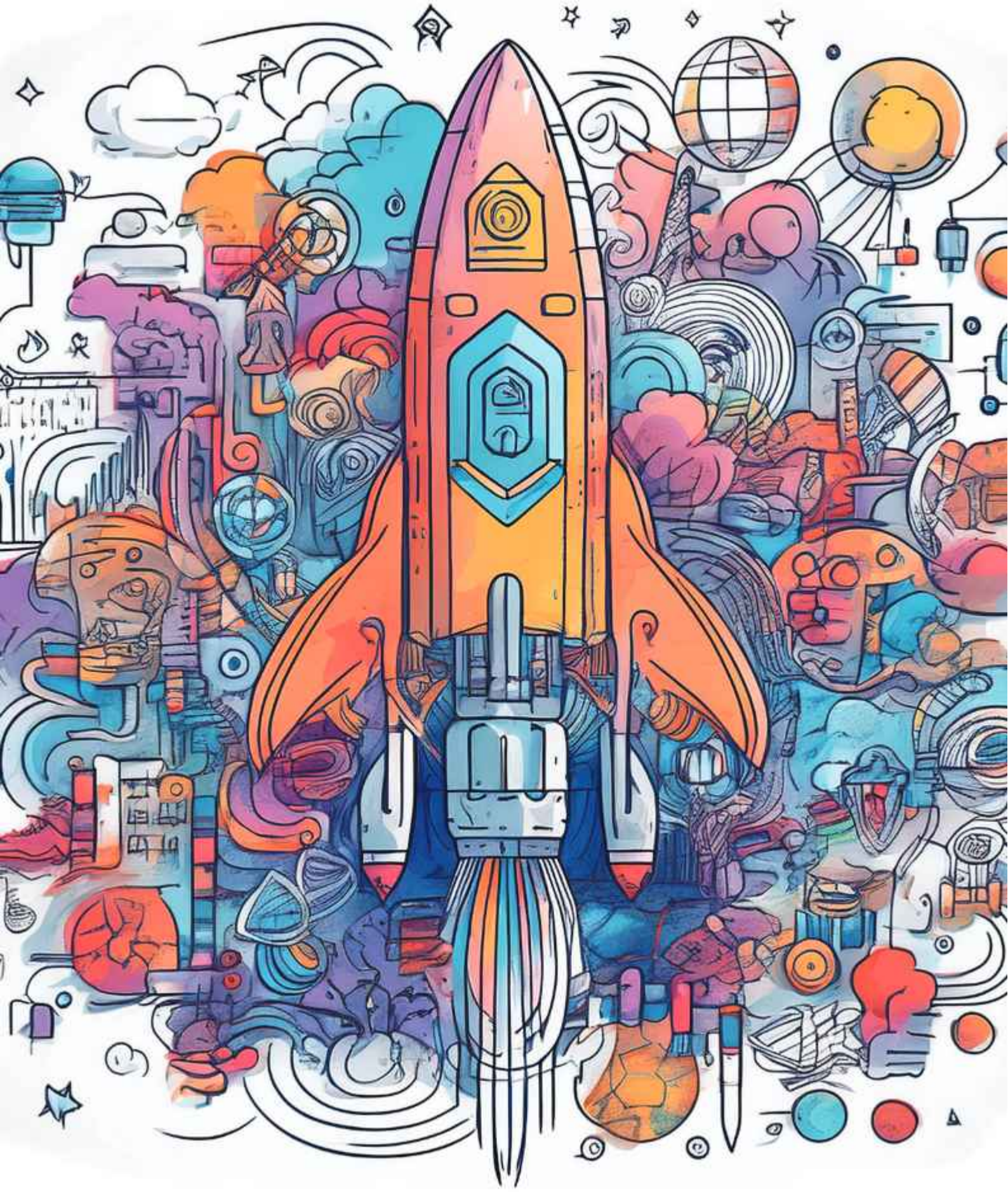
Current Stage - Prototype

◦ Nishanth Kumar Martha

In India, 14 crore women suffer from pelvic floor dysfunction, with symptoms such as difficulty in urination, bowel movements, or sexual function, often caused by childbirth, menopause, or heavy lifting. The startup aim to create an affordable device to help women perform strengthening exercises easily and effectively.

Current Stage - Prototype

5. Events and Activities



5.1 Innovation and Collaboration Events

5.1.1 ABCD Cohort 1 Graduation and Showcase Event

Event Overview

On May 29, 2023, iTIC organized the graduation of Cohort 1 startups under the ABCD program at the College of Defence Management (CDM). The event marked a significant milestone for the seven active startups, providing them with a platform to showcase their growth and innovations achieved through the program, supported by the CDM team.

Morning Session

The day began with a closed-door dialogue involving leadership teams from IIT Hyderabad (IITH), CDM, and the startups. Key attendees included the Director of IITH, Registrar of IITH, Dean Innovations of IITH, Head of Faculties from CDM, mentors from CDM, and representatives from the startups. The primary objective of this session was to gather feedback on Cohort 1 and explore ways to further enhance the program.

Afternoon Session

In the afternoon, all seven active startups—Rovonize, Vajra-CRETE, Prayogik, Arka Aerospace, Enord, Qoptars, and Binford Labs—took the stage to present their innovations and discuss the growth they achieved through the ABCD program. The startups shared how the support from the CDM team played a crucial role in their journey. The presentations were attended by over 150 defense officers participating in CDM courses, providing the startups with valuable exposure and motivation to pursue their ideas in the defense sector.

Showcase and Demonstration

Following the presentations, the startups demonstrated their prototypes at the CDM facility, offering a hands-on experience to the attending defense officers. This interaction opened new doors for the startups, inspiring them to further explore opportunities in the defense sector.

Conclusion

The ABCD Cohort 1 Graduation and Showcase Event was a resounding success, fostering connections between startups and defense stakeholders. The event not only celebrated the achievements of the startups but also motivated them to continue their journey of innovation in the defense domain.

5.1.2 Indo-US CrossLinX Accelerator Inaugural Program

Overview

On August 25, 2023, at the Grand Hyatt in Hyderabad, the Indo-US CrossLinX Accelerator Inaugural Program, organized by iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad and H4XLabs under the INDUS-X initiative, celebrated a major step forward in bridging the Indian and US defense ecosystems. The event, attended by 40 participants, was designed to empower defense startups with the tools and insights needed for global expansion, specifically targeting entry

Key Speakers and Dignitaries

The program featured esteemed guests, including Jonathan Mangrum, Policy Advisor for South Asia; Alan Johnson from the US Embassy, New Delhi; Ellen Chang, Program Director at H4XLabs; Erik Azulay, Founder and President of ACIR; Prof Suryakumar S from IITH, and Captain Roy from iDEX.

Accelerator

INDUS-X, initiated by iDEX, the Ministry of Defence, and the US Department of Defence, acts as a vital innovation bridge between India and the United States. A key component of this initiative is the CrossLinX Accelerator, designed to prepare Indian defense startups for global expansion, particularly in the US defense market. This six-month accelerator program, structured into four phases, provides startups with the knowledge, resources, and connections needed to successfully enter and navigate the US defense sector. The program is a collaborative effort between iTIC Incubator and H4XLabs.

Conclusion

The Indo-US CrossLinX Accelerator Inaugural Program served as a launching pad for a transformative journey, bringing together key stakeholders, experts, and defense startups. The collaborative efforts of iTIC Incubator, H4XLabs, and the INDUS-X initiative showcased a commitment to fostering innovation, collaboration, and global expansion in the defense sector.

5.1.3 iTIC BNV Startup Demo Day

Overview

On August 29, 2023, iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad, in partnership with Beyond Next Ventures (BNV), hosted a virtual Startup Demo Day via Zoom. The event showcased five innovative deep tech startups supported by iTIC, with BNV, a leading deep-tech venture capital firm, co-organizing the session. This platform allowed the startups to connect with investors, corporate partners, and potential collaborators from India and Japan, aiming to secure funding and explore collaborative opportunities in the Japanese market.

Persist Energy develops cost-effective EV technology to make transportation affordable for micro-entrepreneurs in India, focusing on localization and flexible battery ownership.

Octarange provides advanced battery pack technology for EVs and grid storage, featuring a liquid-based thermal management system and a battery analytics framework.

SmartKosh creates next-generation battery management systems for EVs, aiming to improve efficiency and reliability.

UAVIO Labs designs autonomous machines capable of smart decision-making in real-world scenarios.

Scichip Robotics develops modular and affordable surgical assistant robotic systems that require minimal training.

Conclusion

Organized jointly by iTIC and Beyond Next Ventures, the iTIC BNV Startup Demo Day successfully showcased five deep tech startups, forging valuable connections between these innovative ventures and investors from India and Japan. The event not only highlighted the potential for cross-border collaboration but also provided a crucial platform for startups to engage with key players in both markets. This significant event paves the way for promising relationships and groundbreaking collaborations, and as we reflect on this enriching experience, we eagerly anticipate the future opportunities that these connections will foster.

5.1.4 8th Anniversary of iTIC Foundation Day

Overview

On October 31, 2023, the 8th Anniversary of iTIC Foundation Day was celebrated with enthusiasm at the TIP Lawns, IIT Hyderabad. The event highlighted the milestones, achievements, and innovations that have defined the iTIC ecosystem, marking a significant moment in its ongoing journey and impact.

Highlights

Startup Pitching Session

Six startups—Persist, Learn & Empower, Adiabatic, Octarange, Liqsure, and MyUdaan—took the stage to deliver compelling presentations, each showcasing groundbreaking ideas that resonated with the audience. These pitches highlighted the entrepreneurial spirit and innovation that lie at the heart of iTIC's mission. The startups demonstrated the diversity and strength of ideas being nurtured within the incubator.

Cake Ceremony

A symbolic cake-cutting ceremony served as a joyful reminder of the milestones achieved over the past eight years. This moment captured the collective progress, dedication, and shared successes of the iTIC community, celebrating the journey of growth and impact.

Dinner and Live Music

The evening was further enlivened with a sumptuous dinner, where attendees enjoyed a variety of culinary delights. A live music band added a vibrant touch to the celebration, creating an atmosphere of joy, energy, and camaraderie among all present.

Distinguished Guests

The event was honored by the presence of distinguished guests, including Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt, VSM, Commandant of the College of Defence Management (CDM), Ashwani, Vishnu Rajiv, B. Hari, and Vaishali Neotia, along with iTIC board members. Their participation added to the significance and prestige of the occasion, reflecting the strong support for iTIC's mission.

Engaged Audience

The celebration was attended by a diverse and influential audience, including startup founders, investors, mentors, the iTIC team, board members, and faculty from IIT Hyderabad. The presence of these key stakeholders underscored the event's importance and fostered an environment of collaboration and networking.

Conclusion

The 8th Anniversary of iTIC Foundation Day was a resounding success, celebrating past achievements while looking forward to future opportunities. The event embodied iTIC's commitment to promoting innovation and technology within the startup ecosystem, setting the stage for continued growth and success in the years to come.

5.1.5 Green Tech Mixer

Overview

On December 27, 2023, the Green Tech Mixer was held at Draper Startup House in Hyderabad, with over 40 participants attending. Hosted by iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad in collaboration with FITT IIT Delhi, the event successfully brought together key stakeholders from the green tech and mobility sectors. The mixer aimed to foster collaboration and share insights to advance sustainable innovations.

The event featured a comprehensive platform for discussing green tech advancements and mobility solutions. iTIC representatives provided insights into their incubation processes, while FITT's Mr. Anubhav Sen and Mr. Ganesh Abhishek highlighted their roles in promoting innovation. Hala Mobility showcased their efforts in developing India's electric vehicle ecosystem. The evening concluded with a vibrant networking dinner, hosted by Draper Startup House, allowing participants to connect and explore potential collaborations.

Acknowledgments

We extend our sincere gratitude to all participants, speakers, and partners for contributing to the success of the Green Tech Mixer. Special thanks to Draper Startup House for providing an excellent venue and fostering a conducive networking environment.

Conclusion

The Green Tech Mixer successfully set the stage for future advancements in the green tech and mobility sectors. The event not only facilitated valuable knowledge exchange but also laid a strong foundation for upcoming initiatives and collaborations. iTIC and FITT remain dedicated to supporting and nurturing startups in these crucial areas, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to all participants. We eagerly anticipate continued innovation and collaboration in the journey ahead.

5.1.6 FUTURITHM : iTIC & FTCCI Collaborate to Foster Future-Ready Industries

Overview

On January 11, 2024, the launch of FUTURITHM took place at Hotel Radisson Blu, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. Organized by iTIC Incubator under the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) in partnership with the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), the event marked the beginning of a strategic collaboration aimed at tackling societal and industrial challenges through cutting-edge technology and innovation. FUTURITHM is set to showcase future technologies and drive industrial innovation, highlighting the commitment of both organizations to fostering advancements in these fields.

Key Highlights

Launch Event:

- The event was graced by Mr. Uday Desai, Founder Director of IIT Hyderabad, as the Chief Guest.
- Mr. Uday Desai emphasized the importance of collaborations between academic institutions and industry, particularly highlighting IIT Hyderabad's strengths in AI and ML.

Objectives of FUTURITHM:

- To create a unique platform encompassing a Global Conference, an Industrial Challenge, and an Exhibition.
- To bring together thought leaders, innovators, and industry leaders to share insights and visions for the future of technology and innovation.
- To address real-world challenges through a Grand Industrial Challenge Competition and showcase cutting-edge technologies and innovations.

Speakers and Attendees:

- The launch event saw participation from various industry leaders, including Mr. Meela Jayadev, President of FTCCI, and Ms. Kathleen Davey from the American Chambers of Commerce.
- Mr. Sujit Jagirdar, Chief Innovation Officer at T-Hub, highlighted the government's efforts in creating a supportive ecosystem for industrial development.

Focus Areas:

- Digital Sector: Emphasis on AI and ML as vital components of future job markets and technological advancements.
- Quantum Computing: Exploration of new technologies with significant research potential but limited immediate industrial application.
- Life Sciences: Discussion on CRISPR-Cas9 technology, with Hyderabad positioned as a leading hub for life sciences in India.

Collaboration Benefits:

Joint ownership between academic R&D and industrial applications.

Synchronization of innovation activities, from idea generation to commercialization.

Encouragement of entrepreneurship among students, aligning with IIT Hyderabad's innovation policy.

MoU Signing:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was exchanged between FTCCI and iTIC, marking the formal beginning of their collaboration.
- The collaboration aims to bridge the gap between academic innovations and industry needs, solving future problems and imagining the future through experiential zones showcasing non-existent technologies.

Vision and Future Steps:

- FUTURITHM aims to reach out to 1200 institutions and 700 organizations to gather problem statements for innovative minds to address.
- The event will feature an interactive experience zone, offering realistic and adoptable AI solutions.
- Plans to develop proof of concept (POC) solutions from shortlisted ideas, to be showcased at the main event.

Conclusion

The collaboration between iTIC and FTCCI represents a significant step towards fostering innovation and making industries future-ready. By combining academic research with industry needs, this partnership aims to solve real-world challenges and shape the future of technology and innovation.

5.1.7 Zinnov Webinar on The India Tech Start-up Landscape Report 2023

Overview

On March 20, 2024, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM IST, the Department of Entrepreneurship and Management (EM) and iTIC at IIT Hyderabad, in collaboration with Zinnov, hosted a debriefing session on "The Indian Tech Start-Up Landscape Report 2023." The session provided a detailed analysis of the Indian tech start-up ecosystem, highlighting its emergence as the third-largest technology start-up hub worldwide. It focused on key trends, challenges, and opportunities that have defined the sector over the past decade, offering valuable insights into its evolution and current dynamics.

Key Highlights

Welcome and Context Setting: The session began with a brief welcome note, setting the context for the discussion on the resilience and innovation of the Indian tech start-up ecosystem despite the global economic slowdown in 2023.

Report Readout: Vikalp Sharma, Engagement Manager at Zinnov, presented a detailed readout of the Indian Tech Start-Up Landscape Report 2023, offering insights into the impact of funding fluctuations, sectoral shifts, and emerging trends in DeepTech.

Panel Discussion: A thought-provoking panel discussion on "Transcending the Tech Legacy: Can India Be a Global DeepTech Powerhouse?" was moderated by Dipanwita Ghosh, Principal at Zinnov. Panelists included Praveen Roy, Scientist 'G' and Advisor at the Department of Science & Technology, and Vishnu Rajeev, Investment Principal at Speciale Invest. The discussion explored India's potential to lead in the DeepTech sector.

Outreach Efforts: To ensure wide participation, a significant outreach effort was undertaken, with over 7,000 emails sent to potential attendees across the tech start-up ecosystem.

Open Discussion and Q&A: The session concluded with an open discussion and Q&A, allowing participants to engage with the panelists and delve deeper into the report's findings.

Conclusion

The event successfully brought together industry experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to reflect on India's evolving tech start-up ecosystem. The insights shared during the session underscored India's growth potential and its trajectory toward becoming a global DeepTech powerhouse.

5.1.8 Virtual iDEX Roadshow

Overview

On Thursday, March 28, 2024, starting at 03:00 PM, the iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad hosted the Virtual iDEX Roadshow. This virtual event offered an in-depth exploration of the innovation landscape within the Indian Defence and Aerospace sectors. It highlighted the support mechanisms provided by the Indian Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX) for startups and MSMEs, showcasing available funding opportunities and avenues for collaboration.

Highlights

DISC 11 Challenges: Attendees learned about 22 specific challenges under the Defence Innovation and Startup Challenge (DISC) 11, with grant opportunities up to ₹1.5 Crores. These challenges aim to foster innovation and solve critical problems within the defence sector.

ADITI 1.0 Challenges: The event also highlighted ADITI 1.0, featuring 17 challenges with grants available up to ₹25 Crores. These challenges are designed to drive advancements in aerospace technologies and support the growth of innovative solutions.

Objective

The roadshow aimed to provide valuable insights into the funding and support available for startups and MSMEs involved in defence and aerospace technologies. By highlighting the various challenges and grant opportunities, the event facilitated connections and encouraged participation from the innovation ecosystem.

Conclusion

Participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the opportunities offered by iDEX, enabling them to strategically align their innovations with the needs of the defence and aerospace sectors. The event fostered greater engagement and set the stage for future collaborations and advancements in these critical fields.

5.2 Skill Development And Mentorship Activities

◦ Tech Entrepreneurship Ecosystem & Trends

Speaker: Prof. Nakul Parameswar

Summary: Prof. Nakul Parameswar led a session on the current landscape and emerging trends in the tech entrepreneurship ecosystem. The discussion focused on how startups can navigate the evolving market dynamics, leveraging innovation and technology to stay competitive.

◦ Design Thinking

Speaker: Anay Mashruwala

Summary: Anay Mashruwala facilitated a workshop on Design Thinking, highlighting the importance of a user-centered approach in product development. The session emphasized ideation, prototyping, and testing as critical stages in solving complex problems creatively.

◦ Case Study: Hotel VP

Presenter: Dhruv Gupta

Summary: Dhruv Gupta presented a case study on Hotel VP, providing insights into the strategic decisions. The case study explored challenges in operations, customer service, and brand positioning.

◦ Intellectual Property (IP) Session

Speaker: Pooja Rawal

Summary: Pooja Rawal conducted an informative session on Intellectual Property, covering key aspects of IP protection, patents, trademarks, and copyrights. The session was designed to help startups safeguard their innovations and navigate the complexities of IP law.

◦ How to Make an Elevator Pitch!

Speaker: Rakesh Bhatia

Summary: Rakesh Bhatia provided valuable tips on crafting an effective elevator pitch, focusing on clarity, brevity, and impact. The session was aimed at helping entrepreneurs convey their ideas succinctly to potential investors and partners.

◦ Case Study: Goli Vada Pav

Presenter: Prof. Nakul Parameswar

Summary: Prof. Nakul Parameswar led a detailed analysis of the Goli Vada Pav case, highlighting the business strategies that enabled the brand to scale rapidly in the competitive Indian fast-food market.

◦ Branding & Storytelling

Speaker: Prashant Pansare

Summary: Prashant Pansare emphasized the importance of branding and storytelling in building a strong business identity. The session covered strategies for creating a compelling brand narrative that resonates with the target audience.

◦ How to Design a Pitch Deck!

Speaker: Shaik Yaseen Shareef

Summary: Shaik Yaseen Shareef provided a step-by-step guide on designing a pitch deck, focusing on key components such as problem statement, solution, market opportunity, and financial projections. The session aimed to equip entrepreneurs with the tools to present their business ideas effectively.

◦ Proposal Writing Session - ABCD Program

Speaker: Saquib Khan

Summary: Saquib Khan conducted a session on proposal writing, tailored specifically for the ABCD program participants. The workshop covered essential elements of a successful proposal, including structure, content, and alignment with program objectives.

◦ One-to-One Sessions

Facilitator: Rahul Bagga

Summary: Rahul Bagga led weekly one-to-one sessions, providing personalized mentorship and guidance to participants. These sessions were instrumental in addressing individual challenges, refining business strategies, and ensuring sustained progress throughout the program.

5.3 Showcase Events

5.3.1 IInvenTiv 2024: A Mega R&D Fair

About

IInventiv 2024 marked a significant milestone as the first-of-its-kind, mega R&D fair, bringing together premier institutions such as IITs, NITs, IISERs, IIITs, and the top 50 NIRF-ranked institutions across India. This landmark event provided an unparalleled platform for showcasing cutting-edge research and development taking place at these esteemed institutions.

iTIC's Participation

iTIC, representing the innovation ecosystem of IIT Hyderabad, actively participated in the event. The iTIC team highlighted a range of initiatives that contribute to the vibrant innovation culture at IIT Hyderabad. These included various startups incubated under iTIC, the policies and programs supporting innovation, and the overall impact of these efforts on fostering entrepreneurship and technology development.

Key Highlights

Inauguration: The two-day event was held at IIT Hyderabad and was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Education Minister, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. His presence as the guest of honor underscored the vital role of research and development, along with innovation, in shaping the future of India.

Showcasing Innovation: iTIC's participation involved showcasing some of the groundbreaking work being carried out by startups within its ecosystem, demonstrating the strength of IIT Hyderabad's innovation capabilities.

Collaborative Platform: The event facilitated a unique opportunity for collaboration among various institutions, fostering a collective approach to solving some of the most pressing challenges through research and innovation.

Conclusion

IInventiv 2024 served as a crucial platform for connecting researchers, innovators, and policymakers, highlighting the importance of a strong R&D foundation for India's growth. iTIC's active involvement not only showcased IIT Hyderabad's innovative spirit but also positioned it as a key player in the national innovation landscape.

5.3.2 India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023

About

The 9th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 was held at Faridabad, Haryana, from January 17th to 20th, 2024. The event took place at the Campus of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and the Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) of the Department of Biotechnology. The theme of this year's festival was "Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal," aimed at making scientific exploration accessible to the public and fostering creativity in Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Event Overview

IISF 2023 attracted participation from 22 countries, celebrating the global spirit of scientific wonders and innovation. The event served as a dedicated platform for inspiring individuals with diverse interests, including students, educators, scientists, researchers, industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and science communicators.
The festival featured 17 themes showcasing scientific achievements, offering a wide range of benefits to participants and the general public. The event included various activities such as seminars by national and international experts, interactions with speakers, exhibitions, competitions, workshops, knowledge-sharing activities, and technology shows.

iTIC's Participation

iTIC actively participated in IISF 2023, showcasing the potential of its startups, including LiqSure Systems and myUDAAN. These startups found an incredible platform for their growth journey through this event. Their participation not only highlighted their innovations but also provided them with valuable exposure to a broader audience.

Engagement and Notable Visitors

The exhibition witnessed significant engagement from various universities, government officials, and politicians. Notable dignitaries who visited the iTIC booth included Praveen Roy from the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Dr. Anita Gupta from DST, along with many other distinguished guests. Their presence underscored the importance of the innovations presented by iTIC startups and provided opportunities for meaningful interactions and collaborations.

Conclusion

The participation of iTIC in the 9th IISF 2023 marked a significant milestone in its journey toward fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. The event, initiated under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi through the collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Earth Sciences, continues to grow as a mega science festival, providing a crucial interface for stakeholders across the science and technology spectrum. Since its inception in 2015, IISF has expanded its reach, and iTIC's involvement in this prestigious event reinforces its commitment to advancing a prosperous India through science, technology, and innovation.

5.3.3 AESI Exhibition

About

iTIC Incubator proudly showcased its contributions to innovation at the AESI Exhibition 2024. A highlight was the visit of President Smt. Droupadi Murmu to the iTIC stall, where she interacted with our studentpreneur, Shabarishan Chinnaswamy Manikyae. Shabarishan, a winner of the iTIC Greenko BUILD program, presented his groundbreaking innovation—the toroidal propeller. This advanced design, featuring circular blades, reduces noise, boosts lift, and enhances thrust efficiency for UAVs and drones. President Murmu praised his efforts, underscoring the significance of such innovations in shaping India's technological future.

Overview of AESI Exhibition

The Aerospace and Electronic Systems India (AESI) Exhibition is a key event focused on advancements in aerospace and electronic systems. It brings together industry experts, researchers, and organizations involved in aerospace technologies, defense, and electronics.

Key Aspects of the AESI Exhibition

Showcasing Innovations: The exhibition presents cutting-edge technologies, including aircraft systems, avionics, and defense equipment.
Industry Networking: It provides a platform for professionals and organizations to collaborate and exchange knowledge.
Conferences and Seminars: Experts discuss current trends and challenges, fostering valuable discussions on the future of aerospace and electronic systems.

Conclusion

iTIC Incubator's participation in the AESI Exhibition 2024 highlighted its role in driving innovation at IIT Hyderabad. The recognition received during the event underscores iTIC's commitment to supporting the next generation of technological advancements in India.

5.4 Miscellaneous Events and Activities

5.4.1 Hexagon GNSS Installation at iTIC Incubator, IIT Hyderabad

Hexagon has significantly upgraded the iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad by introducing advanced GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) capabilities. This cutting-edge installation integrates state-of-the-art hardware and software to deliver unparalleled precision and accuracy in positioning tasks. The newly established GNSS center is set to become a key resource for startups and entrepreneurs focused on mobility, autonomous navigation, and related fields. By leveraging Hexagon's innovative tools, we are enabling the creation of solutions that will define the future of these industries.

Precision Centre Metrology Lab: A Partnership with Hexagon

In addition to the GNSS installation, iTIC Incubator has partnered with Hexagon Capability Center India to launch the Precision Centre Metrology Lab. This cutting-edge facility offers access to precision measurement tools and provides upskilling opportunities for students, entrepreneurs, and startups. The lab is a transformative addition to our innovation ecosystem, driving forward research and development at IIT Hyderabad. It equips our community with the resources needed to achieve groundbreaking advancements in various technological fields.

Conclusion

Hexagon's contributions, through the GNSS capabilities and the Precision Centre Metrology Lab, are poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of technology at IIT Hyderabad. These advancements not only bolster our existing infrastructure but also enhance our capacity to support innovation and entrepreneurship, further solidifying iTIC's position as a leading incubator in India.

5.4.2 Delegation Visits at iTIC

iTIC regularly welcomes visitors from diverse fields to foster knowledge exchange and explore collaborative opportunities. This year, we had the privilege of hosting several distinguished delegations, highlighting our commitment to global engagement and innovation. Some of the notable visits include:

- Hosted the VP of Hardware Engineering from Google.
- Welcomed GITAM University students for a campus visit and an introduction to the startup ecosystem.
- Received students from the Tongali Project in Japan to explore the iTIC incubation process.
- Hosted a visit from the ATLAS Design Institute, Mumbai.
- Engaged with Dr. Sakairi from Mitsubishi Electric, Japan.
- Connected with Yuki Sugiue from Sony People Solutions Inc., Japan.
- Welcomed a Sri Lankan delegation of studentpreneurs, winners of Sri Lanka's SPARK competition.

6. Roadmap 2023-24

iTIC is gearing up for the future by working closely on the development of new infrastructure facilities. With plans to expand its physical capacity to accommodate over 100 startups, iTIC is committed to enhancing its capabilities and is making strategic investments this year to prepare for upcoming challenges. Simultaneously, iTIC is dedicated to upgrading itself to offer cutting-edge amenities and support the entrepreneurial ecosystem at IITH.

Goals

- Opening of international offices of iTIC.
- Organize international programs for market access and soft landing for startups.
- Enhance knowledge repository and add international resources.
- Building a robust investment support system
- Development of new infrastructure and lab facilities.

7. Conclusion

In the fiscal year 2023-2024, iTIC has demonstrated substantial growth in its operational and internal structural maturity, prioritizing quality over quantity. iTIC extended financial support totaling INR 3.39 Crores to startups across various schemes. This year, the number of startups benefiting from iTIC's support has surpassed 192. The startups in return, have generated a collective revenue of more than INR 1400 Crores.

These accomplishments are a testament to iTIC's robust mentorship network and its dedicated support ecosystem designed to nurture these startups. Furthermore, iTIC has actively engaged with over 3000 aspiring entrepreneurs on a national scale through various events and activities.

In the upcoming year, 2023-24, iTIC is committed to enhance the quality of its services for startups while simultaneously working towards increasing the number of beneficiaries. It remains steadfast in pursuing additional goals it has set for itself.

iTIC Guest Gallery

Visit of Dr. Sakairi from Mitsubishi Electric

Visit of Yuki Sugiue from Sony People Solutions Inc, Japan

Japnese Students from Tongali Project!

ATLAS Design Institute, Mumbai, Students Visit

iTIC & Hexagon launch the Precision Centre Metrology

Winners of Sri Lanka's SPARK competition

iTIC FOUNDATION IIT HYDERABAD

TIP building,IIT Hyderabad,Kandi,Sangareddy,
Telangana,India-502284

office.itic@iith.ac.in

+91 83310 36155

itic.iith.ac.in

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24