

Software Technology Parks of India

Newsletter

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Pitchfest' 2021 is a huge opportunity for startups to participate in developing products/solutions in FinTech Domain



In Partnership with



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Message from Director General

“

Moving forward to the next decade, the tech startup ecosystem can play a pivotal role in addressing the myriads of challenges of industry & society by developing ground-breaking technology products & solutions and making India a leader in technology innovation. ”

Dr. Omkar Rai | Director General, STPI

COVID-19 has been generating unprecedented responses from governments and corporates. During the pandemic Indian IT industry has mobilised resources with greater agility to ensure continued business for critical client services world-wide. IT Industry moved swiftly to work-from-home model in last one year and now it has become new normal for this industry.

Tech demand rise, buoyed by the need for cloud, collaborative workplace technologies, mobility and cyber security will rule the roost. The sterner the pain points inflicted upon the conventional industries, Indian tech startups took bull by the horns. India tech industry has become wiser, resilient, futuristic, more agile and innovative in building path-breaking technology products & solutions for various industry verticals & society at large. A NASSCOM-Zinnov report unfolds that the digital maturity of Indian enterprises has spurred to 55% from 34% in 2018, 19% of all startups are leveraging deep tech to build more complex & smart solutions for industries, and India has added the highest number of unicorns ever in a calendar year with 58% B2B additions. A NASSCOM-Zinnov report unfolds that the digital maturity of Indian enterprises has spurred to 55% from 34% in 2018, 19% of all startups are leveraging deep tech to build more complex & smart solutions for industries, and India has added the highest number of unicorns ever in a calendar year with 58% B2B additions.

Indian tech startup ecosystem has added 1,600 new startups in its bucket along with 12 unicorns in 2020, making India a gargantuan tech startup ecosystem with 11,000-12,000 startups and 38 unicorns while over 55 startups are in the potential unicorn pipeline. 50% of the startups are concentrated in five critical domains including EnterpriseTech, HealthTech, FinTech, EdTech & RetailTech. During pandemic, startups in these domains have witnessed massive growth in India as the use cases triggered by the pandemic further fuelled the growth momentum. Comprising 30% of India's unicorn pie, the five FinTech unicorns have a total valuation of \$22

billion. Piggybacking on UPI platform, digital payments have grown 10.5 times over the last five years, clocking an annual payment run-rate of \$450 billion, and the pith of the growth demonstrates that 75% of UPI payments are executed through FinTech platforms.

The pandemic also infused a paradigm shift in education & healthcare sectors by encouraging EdTech & HealthTech startups build innovative solutions to address the real-life challenges while bringing in a new normal in how learning is imparted, and healthcare services are delivered. Telemedicine & tele-consultation platforms witnessed 2.2x growth while online pharmacy startups marked 2.5x growth because of pandemic. Similarly, in EdTech space the registered users spurred 1.9 times during the lockdown period underlining how online K-12 education, gamified learning, live streaming, and virtual classes have crept in the system to thwart the impact of pandemic. Unquestionably, FinTech, HealthTech & EdTech startups in India have brought in a transformational change in the conventional operations & practices in finance, education & healthcare and have infused trust among the end-users of these platforms for sustainable adoption.

Moving forward to the next decade, the tech startup ecosystem can play a pivotal role in addressing the myriads of challenges of industry & society by developing ground-breaking technology products & solutions and making India a leader in technology innovation. Startups can leverage zillions of use cases that government, industry, academia, and society are throwing out while coming in terms with the new reality and technology evolution. Any challenge that we face today is a boon in disguise for the tech startups to analyse and build a solution that can be scaled to match the global requirements. India has already established the legacy of industry-grade IT infrastructure, the largest talent pool, and a collaborative ecosystem for nurturing startups. Startups are now leveraging the ecosystem, transforming their ideas into futuristic products.



FinTERRACT'2021 Conference

FinTERRACT'2021, a global FinTech conference, was organised by STPI-Chennai during January 27th to January 29th 2021 in association with industry, state government & academia with an objective to reach out to all stakeholders to develop a common approach to address business, regulatory, and technical challenges faced by FinTech companies.

Focused on the theme "Redefine FinTech", the conference intended to get closer to the ecosystem and bring all stakeholders together to discuss and deliberate about the emergent strategies in the FinTech space under FinBlue's six pillars such as Buyer Needs, International Partnership, VC Funding, Benchmarking Products, Policy & Technology, and Mentoring & Training.

Touted as India's first global FinTech event, FinTERRACT'2021 was replete with keynotes, panel discussions from global FinTech leaders, domain experts, venture capitalists, bankers, decision makers, thought leaders, and visionaries from across the Industry.

Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, MeitY, Govt of India was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the event and launched FinBlue Sandbox and FinBlue Marketplace on 27th January 2021. Shri Sawhney underlined, "Setting up of FinBlue is an extraordinary feat & ecosystem developed with multilateral collaboration among various stakeholders and is primed for growth in 21st century. FinBlue Sandbox sets apart this CoE from all other ecosystems. FinBlue Market Place will help startups showcase their products to the global consumers and industry-specific buyers."

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI delivered a special address and highlighted that FinTERRACT'2021 is a first-of-its-kind event for FinTech startups getting benefited from the three-days conference on cross-border technology collaboration, funding, international partnership, data protection architecture, collaboration with banks & upskilling."

Shri Hans Raj Verma, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of IT, Govt. of Tamil Nadu delivered a special address and mentioned, "FinBlue in partnership with ELCOT, IT Dept. of Govt. of TN is a fantastic example for a pioneering & visionary approach of STPI. The FinTERRACT'2021 event will showcase the potential of the state and India as a whole."

Shri Arun Jain, CMD, Intellect Design Arena and Chief Mentor, FinBlue delivered the welcome address and highlighted, "Celebrating the best practices in the FinTech sector, connecting and catalysing them are the key drivers of FinTERRACT'2021 event. India can take a lead in establishing the FinTech ecosystem for over 100 countries across the world and also address the financial challenges of 1.3 billion citizens inside the country."

The FinTERRACT'2021 inaugural session started with the introduction of the event by Dr. Sanjay Tyagi, Director, STPI-Chennai & CEO, FinBlue.

During valedictory session on 29th January 21, Dr.Omkar Rai Director General, STPI launched FinBlue Pitchfest-2021 and delivered a special address for on-boarding of startups for the second cohort of FinBlue.

Shri Devesh Tyagi, Sr. Director, STPI; Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI and MD & CEO, STPINEXT; Shri Mahesh Ramachandran, Partner, Pontaq and Dr. V. Kamakoti, Associate Dean, IC & SR, IIT Madras delivered special addresses during the valedictory session.

Highlight of the Event

- FinTERRACT'2021 conference was conducted over three days with three sessions each day having eminent national and international speakers who deliberated on various dimensions of FinTech and shared their experiences
- 23 speakers from leading banks, financial institutions, and VCs along with international FinTech experts from UK and Singapore participated in the event
- 3,423 participants attended this virtual conference worldwide
- Mr. Sopnendu Mohanty, CFO, Monetary Authority of Singapore and Ms. Susanne Chisthi, CEO, FinTech Circle and FinTech Circle Institute showed interest to partner with FinBlue
- The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of the City of London Alderman William Russell was the key note speaker on "International partnerships to foster better FinTech ecosystems"
- The key note address from the leading industry experts in FinTech space for various topics included in the session

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Fourth SEB Meeting

The 4th Standing Executive Board (SEB) meeting was conducted on 12th January 2021 under the chairmanship of Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI. The growth of IT/ITeS/ESDM exports, performance of TechNEST incubation facility, implementation of IBPS, FinBlue, performance of data communication services & progress of setting up of incubation facility at Tirunelveli & Coimbatore have been reviewed.

Shri Arun Jain, CMD, Intellect Design Arena Ltd.; Shri M. Ramesh, Joint Commissioner, Office of Principal Chief Commissioner for Central Excise and GST; Smt. Jayanthi Angayarkanni, Additional Commissioner for Income Tax; Smt. B. Srividhya Lakshmi, Joint Deputy Director, Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau; Shri D. Ravichandran, Managing Director (FAC), Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Sanjay Tyagi Director, STPI-Chennai and Smt. Manjusha Chourasia, Joint Director, IPS & IT, MeitY participated in the meeting.

Launch of Apiary

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) launched Apiary, a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain technology at STPI-Gurugram on 23rd March in association with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India, Government of Haryana, Government Blockchain Association, several blue-chip companies, and top tier academic institutions. Apiary can revolutionise Blockchain incubation ecosystem by fostering R&D, innovation & entrepreneurship while nurturing startups to build indigenous products. The most exciting feature of Blockchain is that it significantly reduces the possibilities of a data breach. With all the fraud resistant features, this technology holds the potential to catalyse various business sectors and make processes smarter, secure, transparent, and more efficient compared to the traditional business processes.

Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, MeitY, Govt. of India inaugurated Apiary in the august presence of Ms. Jyoti Arora, Special Secretary & Financial Adviser, MeitY, Govt. of India; Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI; Shri Pankaj Thakar, Chief Mentor of Apiary & Founder, Padup Venture Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Rajneesh Agrawal, Director, STPI-Noida; Dr. Ajay Garg, Director, MeitY and Dr. Anil Wali, MD, FITT, IIT Delhi.

At the launch of Apiary, Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, MeitY, Govt. of India underlined, "Apiary is taking shape by bringing together all stakeholders. We can put India stack in blockchain. Let's seek those use cases where we can provide the solutions. 2020 is the time to become ambitious; it's time for us to change. We have 35 unicorns – more than that the Europe has. India has become a factory for unicorns & soonicorns."

Ms. Jyoti Arora, Special Secretary & Financial Adviser, MeitY, Govt. of India underscored, "We have a lot of expectations from this CoE. We have to bring the young people to the fore and empower them to create path-breaking solutions in blockchain."

Expressing his thoughts on the launch of STPI Apiary, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI accentuated, "The kind of leadership

we have for Apiary can help us achieve the mandate of this CoE and succeed by translating the ideas of startups into world-class blockchain products. Our programmes will disperse the tech startup ecosystem to Tier-II/III cities and we are trying to reach the unreached by facilitating support for democratising product innovation.”



Outcome of 1st Cohort of Apiary

Apiary invited applications from startups/ budding entrepreneurs for Idea Challenge Program in Blockchain Technology in domains like supply chain, agriculture, finance and e-governance with use cases pertaining to land records, public health, labour, service record, pension delivery and law enforcement & evidence management. Ten best startups are on-boarded, selected from 100+ applications received in the 1st cohort of Apiary.

Selected startups are representing multiple industries including financial services, healthcare, government, travel and hospitality & retail. Startups including TraceFood, Jal Jaivik Bazaar & SATV Emerging Technology are from food supply chain domain; Swapnet & Trustless Capital are from Fintech domain; Calculus & Sofocle Innovation Labs are from eGovernance & digital records; Sofexsto Technologies and Procure+ are working in healthcare sector and last but not the least CredibleMe (A subsidiary of Snapper Future Tech) is from education & banking domain. These startups are mentored by technocrats & domain expert. India will soon realize the massive potential of this technology and it will drive a new wave of decentralized applications.

The 7,000 sq. ft. Apiary CoE at STPI-Gurugram targets 100 startups in coming 5 years. The centre aims to provide blockchain as a service and allow all stakeholders to benefit from shared learning, experiences, and resources. The startups will be mentored by a group of accomplished industry and academic pioneers, led by Shri Pankaj Thakar, Chief Mentor, Apiary & Founder, Padup and aided by a strong Governing Council (GC) & Project Management Group (PMG) consisting of top technology industrialists, investors, and academicians. Several corporate and academic partners have already come on board, including IBM, Intel, Padup Venture, Indian Angel Network, Vinnars Angel Group, Padup Syndicate and Venture Catalyst. Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer, FITT- IIT Delhi/Sonepat Campus will be participating as academic partner.

Visit of IT-Secretary, Dadra and Nagar Haveli to STPI-Pune

Shri Danish Ashraf, IT-Secretary, UT Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Govt. of India visited STPI-Pune office on 27th February 2021. During his visit, he discussed setting up a new STPI centre at Dadra and Nagar Haveli in collaboration with UT government to cater the needs of local industries, startups, entrepreneurs, and academia.

Shri Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Director, STPI-Pune briefed him about various activities of STPI across Maharashtra and deliberated on the MOTION initiative.



Meeting with Vice-Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur

Shri Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Director, STPI-Pune had a meeting with Dr. D.T. Shirke, Vice-Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. During the meeting, he explained him about Centre of Excellence (CoE) being created by STPI across the country in emerging technologies like AI, IoT, Big Data, FinTech, Blockchain, MedTech, Robotics, Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality. He also extended the proposition to leverage similar expertise to create new CoE in Data Science domain at Shivaji University.



Launch of 2nd Cohort of Open Challenge Program of NEURON

The 2nd cohort of Open Challenge Program of NEURON was launched virtually to encourage startups to develop path-breaking products in the areas of education, agriculture, healthcare, smart cities & electric mobility by leveraging emerging technologies like AI, IoT & Data Analytics by leveraging the ecosystem of the CoE. Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI; Sh. Alok Shekhar Srivastava, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Punjab; Sh. I S Paul, Chairman, Drish Infotech & Chief Mentor, NEURON, Sh. Rajneesh Agrawal, Director, STPI-Noida; Sh. Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI & MD & CEO, STPINEXT INITIATIVES and Sh. Teja Gudena, SVP, Netradyne shared their insightful thoughts during the launch program.



HYSEA Unveils Campaign to Reduce Single-use Plastic in IT Corridor

Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association (HYSEA) Infrastructure Forum launched an initiative to reduce single-use-plastic in the IT corridor on Wednesday. A round table meeting of IT companies was organised and at the launch of this initiative, a comprehensive handbook, authored by Wing Commander B Srikanth, director – APAC, Real Estate & Facilities, Pegasystems Worldwide India and Mohammad Sharfoddin, head – Centre of Excellence, Environment Health and Safety, Cognizant Technologies, was released. Shri C V D Ramprasad, Director, STPI-Hyderabad participated in HYSEA's campaign launch initiative on "Reduction of single use plastic in the IT Corridor" on 13th January 2021.

This guide is designed to assist businesses in meeting their commitments to be single-use-plastic free and thereby contribute positively towards the betterment of the city. Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, ITE&C Dept, Govt. of Telangana, congratulated HYSEA for launching this initiative and said, "IT Industry has always been supportive of environment and sustainability initiatives in the past whether it was Haritha-Haram or ground water recharge initiative and I wish this new initiative a grand success."

Online Screening for Final Selection of 2nd Cohort of Startups for MOTION

An online pitching session for the final selection of 2nd cohort of startups for MOTION was organized during 5th-6th & 8th-9th March, 2021 by STPI-Pune in association with TiE-Mumbai. Total 82 applications were received till the end date of the second Open Challenge Program (OCP) of MOTION. During these four days, 41 decks were presented by startups/entrepreneurs from different parts of India.

The final round of startup selection for MOTION was conducted by the eminent jury members such as Shri Randeep Khokhar, SGM, Tata Motors; Shri Prashant Maniar, MD, Encito Advisor; Shri Ashok Chandkya, Senior Director, NXP Semiconductor; Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, Executive Director, IESA and Prof. Rajesh Solanki, Manipal University, Jaipur in the presence of Shri Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Director, STPI-Pune and Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI and MD & CEO, STPINEXT.



STPI Participated at 28th Convergence India 2021 Expo

STPI participated at 28th Convergence India 2021 Expo at Pragati Maidan and showcased its services, schemes, programs, and new initiatives like Centres of Excellence in emerging technologies to the larger audience. The 3-day expo was an international platform where exhibitors showcased the latest technologies in the verticals of telecom, broadcast content production, management and delivery: wire & wireless technologies including broadband, 4G/5G networks, IT solutions like cloud, smart homes, smart solutions, security & surveillance, M2M, IoT, etc.

The expo witnessed a total of 500 participating brands, 50+ conference sessions (on-ground and virtual), and 250 eminent speakers speaking co-currently across a vast range of topics in the first live and in-person event conducted between 24th and 26th, 2021 at Pragati Maidan, Delhi.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI participated in the session of 28th Convergence India 2021 Expo on "The Changing Landscape of Emerging Technology" and shared his insightful thoughts on the evolution of IT industry across the value chain & deliberated on how STPI is playing a pioneering role in nurturing tech startup ecosystem by establishing Centres of Excellence focused on various emerging technologies on a pan-India scale. "Indian IT industry has played a credible role in addressing the global challenges through tech solutions and in that process has created the 3rd largest tech startup ecosystem. The ecosystem is already on the table. STPI is further expanding the dimension by establishing a robust startup ecosystem through Centres of Excellence by roping in industry leaders," underlined Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI.

With theme of 'Digital India - Connecting the Unconnected', Convergence India expo created a platform for players to promote Brand India, and further gave impetus to 'Make in India' and 'Digital India' campaigns globally. The three-day event provided an opportunity for professionals, digital innovators, international businesses, telecom and broadcasting players, as well as leaders from IT, internet, IoT, & embedded technology industries to interact and carry business with each other.



TiECON Chandigarh 2021 & STPI Annual IT Export Awards

STPI participated in three day TiECON-2021 Chandigarh from 18th-20th March 2021, an entrepreneurial event in the north region. STPI extolled TiE Chandigarh in creating dynamic synergies and providing a conducive environment for the success of start-ups.

IT Export Awards under various categories at the STPI Awards Ceremony of TiECon Chandigarh 2021 were provided to winners in presence of Dr Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI; Shri Rajneesh Agrawal, Director, STPI-Noida; Shri Ajay P. Shrivastava, Director & Center Head, STPI-Mohali and Shri Harit Mohan, Founder & CEO, Signicent Information Solutions LLP.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI as chief guest congratulated the winners & addressed during STPI Awards Ceremony at TiECon Chandigarh 2021, and shared his thoughts on the contribution of IT industry in the region in creating innovative products, generating employment opportunities, boosting exports & making the place a potential region with promising opportunities for the future entrepreneurs.

“Tri-city in Chandigarh is a unique place. The ecosystem comprising R&D institutions, IT companies, pharma companies & academia exists in this region is tremendous. The first semiconductor company in the region was established three decades before. This place has been well recognised as a potential place for serious works. The ecosystem of partners & stakeholders is already there. I am very optimistic about the future that will emerge from here & the upcoming startup ecosystem can leverage it,” accentuated Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI.

STPI awards were announced in multiple categories. The list of awardees included marquee names like eClerx Services Ltd. (Highest Export IT Enabled Services from Tricity), Grazitti Interactive (Highest Export Software Development from Tricity), Bebo Technologies Pvt. Ltd (Highest Export Software Development Chandigarh), Basware India Pvt. Ltd. (Highest Export IT Enabled Services Chandigarh), Zscaler Softech India Pvt. Ltd. (Highest Export Software Development Punjab), CRM Services India Pvt. Ltd. (Highest Export Electronic Hardware Export Punjab), Continental Device India Pvt. Ltd. (Highest Export Electronic Hardware Export Punjab), Intelligaia Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (Highest Export Software Development Haryana), and Webart Softech (Highest Export IT Enabled Services Haryana).

The theme for TiECON Chandigarh 2021 was “Adapt, Overcome and Improve”. TiE Chandigarh strives to create an enabling entrepreneurial environment for startups by bringing together diverse stakeholders – all under one roof. The collective ecosystem of entrepreneurs, mentors, innovators, investors, startups, educationists, the government, journalists, and policy makers converge to create synergies that will empower and facilitate a robust entrepreneurial environment for all.

The conference was followed by a very informative session by Mr. Vivek Sunder, COO Swiggy, on VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity) termed as “Being Agile in Vuca Environment”. The key takeaway of his address was that how Swiggy helped spread its footprints in the country by adding more and more cities and towns by optimizing its operational capacities and how the company coped up with the challenge of COVID 19 wherein the restaurants were closed and from being a food delivery solution the company moved into delivery of many other utilities like grocery, stationary, medicines thereby opening up new verticals. The key was to focus on its people and drawing out various strategies to be completely customer centric.

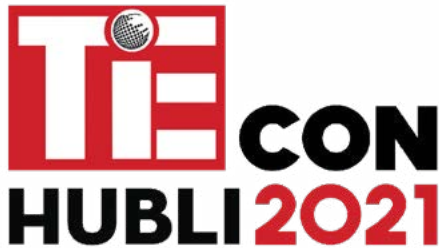




Sarthak EduVision 2021 National Expo & Conference

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI as keynote speaker addressed at National Expo & Conference 2021 of Sarthak EduVision 2021 and shared his thoughts on the role of technology in implementing National Education Policy, expanding the inclusion of education across demographic diversity, transforming India into a self-reliant nation, and bolstering economic progress on 17th March 2021 at Bhopal.

While deliberating on the role of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI underscored “NEP is highly technology intensive. We can drive esteem & self-reliance from this policy. NEP can be implemented by leveraging technology. Various dimensions of the NEP such as credit transfers, administrative aspects, pedagogy, and interaction among students can be actualised through use of technology. If we want to expand the impact of NEP across the length & breadth of the country, it’s imperative to leverage the power of emerging technologies like AR/VR and animations.” He further added, “Technology can play a catalytic role in enabling the government to implement NEP in a more successful & effective manner by infusing access & affordability.”



The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Hubli, Karnataka organised TiECON Hubli 2021 during 27th -28th February 2021. STPI sponsored the virtual conference which was mainly focused to inspire entrepreneurs and impacting the entrepreneurial ecosystem. It showcased North Karnataka as an attractive destination for business, a land of opportunities on the national and global level.

TiECON Hubli has carved a programme called PitchHUB, which will provide a platform for idea stage, pre-revenue and post-revenue companies to pitch their business plan and raise capital or seek strategic resources. After a rigorous 10 weeks of mentoring, 19 companies have made to the top and will be pitching to investors at TiECON. Of the 19 startups, 3 companies are from North Karnataka. Expo Alpha – The first virtual exhibition in North Karnataka, which will help exhibitors to showcase their products and services by sitting at their homes or offices.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI as keynote speaker underlined that, “We have seen the new normal has emerged – whether it’s WFH culture or co-creation, or our renewed attention towards transforming the legacy system & conventional means & ways to deliver our services to target audience, and that’s how we have resorted to digital platform to deliver education, health services, information, ecommerce platform to deliver the essential consumable goods to our households when there were lockdowns, and to communicate to our countrymen to stay connected, we have used IT in a big way.”

“There are many bright spots in India’s Tier-2/3 cities like Hubli. The most of value & wealth and inclusiveness has to come from these Tier-2/3 cities, and therefore everything we do has to be inclusive so that young boys & girls of those locations are also brought on the same page. Keeping the view of MeitY, STPI is working towards infusing inclusive, creating platforms, schemes, and offerings to ensure the same services & infrastructure to young boys & girls of smaller towns, which are available to Tier-1 young boys & girls. Therefore, when the Ministry resolved India to become software product nation from IT services leader, we resolved to nurture about 10,000 startups from across the country by 2025. At the same time, we also resolved to have 1,000 startups from Tier-2/3 cities especially for which we have taken measures to achieve this resolve. We have initiated NGIS, which has provisions to incentivise

the young boys & girls of Tier-2/3 cities by establishment of world-class labs, provision of seed funding, incubators. Therefore, to start with 12 locations in this country, we conducted CHUNAUTI hackathon program in chosen industry domains and we received applications, it's under screening process, and very soon we will announce the successful screened startups, which will be afforded with infrastructure, access to capital, access to world-class mentors and laboratories in our 12 locations," underscored Dr. Rai.

STPI-Bhubaneswar Launched SCOUT-2021

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI launched SCOUT-2021, a pan-India contest for startups/innovators focusing on solutions for Smart Cities on 10th February 2021, in presence of Shri Manoj Kumar Mishra, Secretary, Electronics & IT Department, Govt of Odisha; Shri Manas Ranjan Panda, Director, STPI-Bhubaneswar; Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI and MD & CEO, STPINEXT; Shri Pradeep Gupta, Chief Mentor, Electropreneur Park, Bhubaneswar; Shri Prem Chandra Chaudhury, CEO, Bhubaneswar Smart City Ltd.; Shri Sameer Garde, President (India & SAARC), Cisco India; Shri Stanley Chan, Senior VP, Excelexport Technologies; Shri Dinesh Tiwari, Director-Business Development, Singapore IoT Consortium-SGloTC and Ms. Lopa Mishra Jana, COO, Electropreneur Park, Bhubaneswar.

"SCOUT-2021 is a critical initiative by Electropreneur Park-Bhubaneswar to encourage startups, budding entrepreneurs, innovators, and educators to translate their ideas into path-breaking solutions for addressing the challenges of smart cities. I am sure startups can leverage the robust ecosystem, labs & infrastructure, and mentoring to succeed in their projects," underscored Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI.



International Women's Day Celebration at STPI

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) joins its voice to the global clamour by celebrating 2021 International Women's Day at headquarters. Along with the celebrations at headquarters, STPI-Bhubaneswar and STPI-Guwahati also celebrated International Women's Day 2021 on 8th March 2021. Indian IT industry has set high standard in gender inclusivity as women constitute 35% of total IT Workforce. Women are a key and vital part of workforce, and their participation in the workforce is seen as a critical enabling factor for continued growth of the industry which is a matter of celebration.

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI was Chief Guest and Smt. Susmita Bagchi, Chairperson Mo School, Odisha, Padma Sri Shanti Devi, Smt. Rekha Lohani, IPS, Addl. Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar joined as Guests of Honour to grace the Inaugural ceremony at Bhubaneswar.

STPI Guwahati also celebrated International Woman's Day by organising a workshop on "Startup Opportunities for Women in OctaNE."

Marking the occasion, Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI said, "International Women's Day is an occasion to celebrate the progress made towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment but also to critically reflect on those accomplishments and strive for a greater momentum towards gender equality."

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI; Shri Prabir Kumar Das, Director, STPI-Guwahati; Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI; Shri Gautam Kumar, Dy. Director, STPI-Guwahati; Smt. Nandinee Kalita, Deputy Director General, Federation of Industry & Commerce of NER; Smt. Urmi Buragohain, Director, Bioztra Science & Technology Pvt Ltd.; Smt. Shanta B Sarma, Director & Head CII Assam & Manipur and several participants were present during the event.

Success Story

Arista Vault

Redefining Intelligent Wallets



From the vantage point of rising incidents of theft and pickpocket in society, Arista Vault endeavoured to address these challenges by developing smart, intelligent products. Founded on 23rd April 2018 by Ms. Purvi Roy, Col. K.K.Singh and Mr. Atul Gupta, Arista Vault is poised to create a unique brand by developing smart products for daily life by ensuring safety. With over a range of 110 products, Arista Vault manufactures smart wallet-bots, anti-lost business bags, Y-pods, and Shuddhi Box & Basket. Recently Arista Vault has launched a smart wallet called 'SheBot' for women which can be tracked through the phone in case of theft or loss. The smart wallet is connected through an app with the smartphone via BLE 4.1 wireless which sends a notification to the user and tracks its location. The startup has received mentorship and financial assistance under the Electropreneur Park—a collaboration of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), University of Delhi and India Electronics and Semiconductor Association.

SheBot was launched during International Women's Day to underscore the startup's commitment towards women's safety through leveraging best-in-class technology. A part of the wider smart wallet series, SheBot's outer covering is made of leather and is priced from Rs 4,000 onwards. The product is available on the Arista Vault website and Amazon. "The unique wallet underscores our commitment to redefine the technology landscape and ensure a safe and hassle-free experience for women," Arista Vault co-founder and CEO Purvi Roy said.

Arista Vault was incubated at Electropreneur Park-Delhi, the first #SDM CoE by STPI in January 2020 and received funding of Rs. 29 lakh from Electropreneur Park and SASACT (Scheme for Accelerating Startups around post Covid Technology Opportunities). The startup got multidimensional growth support and disruption to get the shape and to roll out in the domestic as well as global market, and today with all these support Arista Vault's products are available in India and 17 countries in the world.

Arista Vault had earlier developed 'Shuddhi Box'—a disinfectant device at half the price of conventional devices to sterilise items such as mobile phones, currency notes and masks. The startup is awarded ISO9001 and ISO 14001 and CE. Valuated at Rs. 10 crore, Arista Vault clocked Rs. 80 lakh revenue in 2020. The company has filed 6 patents and also has received several awards like TIE Global Award, Amazon Award, Start Up India, MSME, AGNI & Safe India Hackathon.



Ms. Poorvi Roy
Founder & CEO, Arista Vault



We are team of technologists, designers & business professionals who came together to build revolutionary highly intelligent product which will save you in the daily hustle.

The biggest award for an entrepreneur is that its product has been accepted by the market. We got orders from Dubai, Egypt, Middle east, and we started exporting it and got this 'Made in India' product placed there. We learned from this Journey that you must accept your failures, then eliminate what is wrong, change with time and make inventions every day. Success is never owned; it is rented, and the rent is due every day. Hard work never goes waste, one can be smart worker but then also they need to work hard to get what is desired, it is typically seen that people leave the work when they reached 90% to achieve the success, they become impatient and leave it when only 10% of rest is left. So, you have to be consistent may be with mediocre pace, but be consistent.

Ms. Roy concludes.



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