

Newsletter

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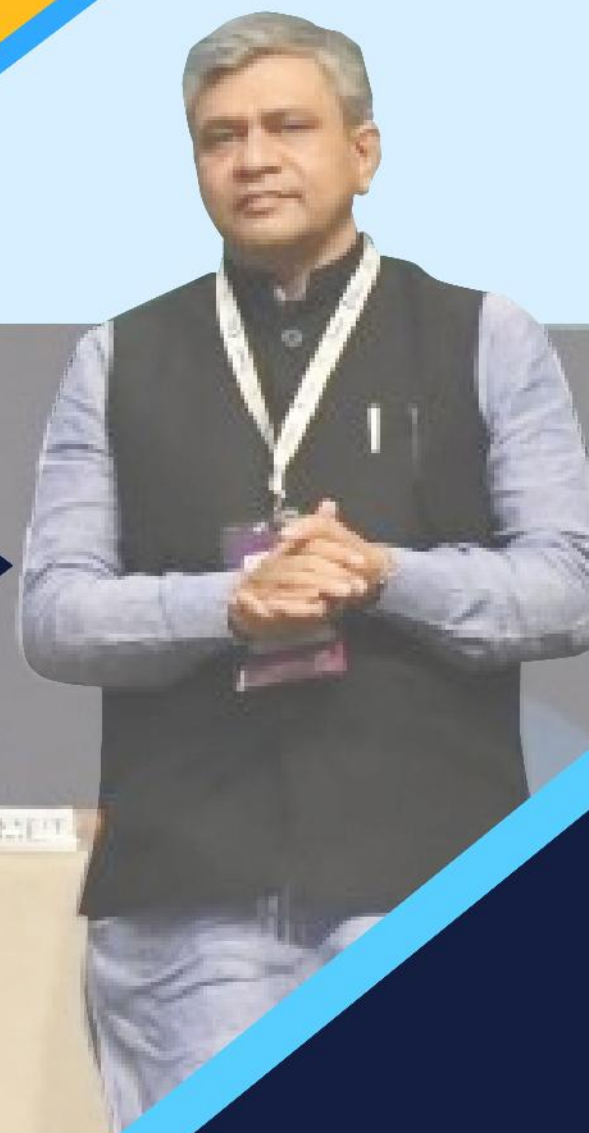
Software Technology Parks of India

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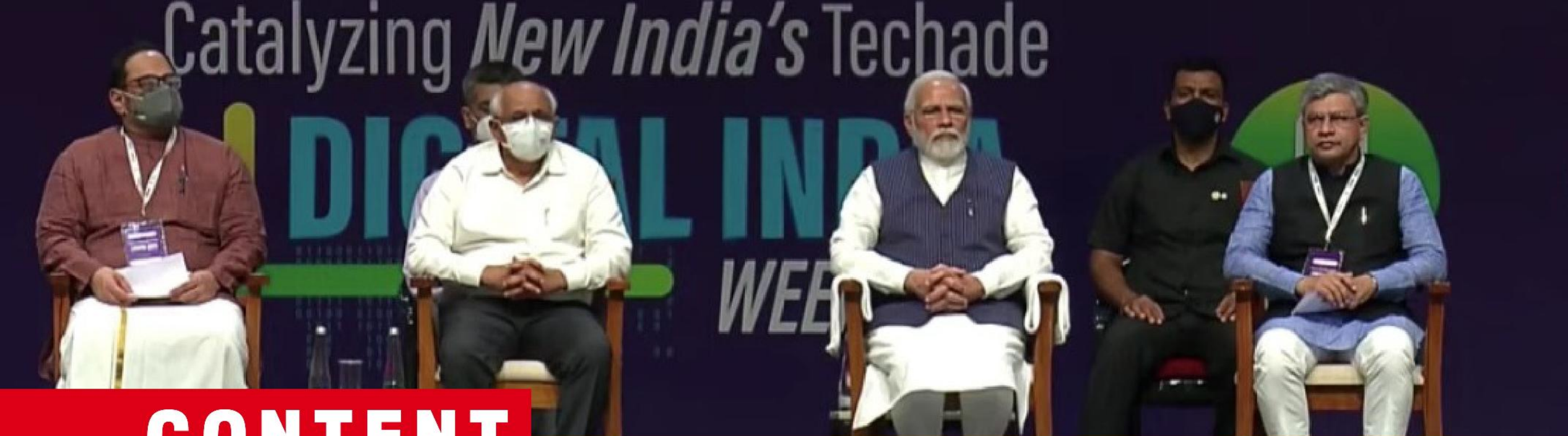
Soft
Launch of
STPI CoE



Building
THE NEXT
UNICORN...



Catalyzing *New India's* Techade
DIGITAL INDIA
WEEK 2022



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हिंदी पखवाड़ा का आयोजन



भारत सरकार, गृह मंत्रालय, राजभाषा विभाग के निर्देशानुसार सॉफ्टवेयर टेक्नोलॉजी पार्क्स ऑफ इंडिया के सभी केन्द्रों और उपकेन्द्रों पर विगत वर्षों की तरह इस वर्ष भी दिनांक 14/09/2022 से 29/09/2022 तक हिंदी पखवाड़े का आयोजन किया गया। इस दौरान राजभाषा से सम्बंधित विभिन्न कार्यक्रम एवं गतिविधियाँ आयोजित की गयी। हिंदी पखवाड़ा 2022 के अंतर्गत परियोजना के समस्त कार्मिकों हेतु निबंध प्रतियोगिता, नोटिंग—ड्राफ्टिंग प्रतियोगिता तथा श्रुतलेखन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। इस हिंदी पखवाड़े के समय परियोजना के कार्मिकों ने सभी प्रतियोगिताओं में बढ़-चढ़ कर प्रतिभाग किया। विजयी प्रतिभागियों को पुरस्कृत किया गया तथा सरकारी कामकाज में हिंदी भाषा का अधिकाधिक प्रयोग करने का संकल्प लिया गया।

Message from **ARVIND KUMAR**

Director General, STPI



The growth of Indian digital entrepreneurship accelerated the digital adoption across a wide range of industries like Finance, Commerce, Healthcare, Real-Estate, and more.



Millions of Indian across rural and urban regions have access to the internet powered by one of cheapest data prices in the globe. Rapidly-changing consumer behavior coupled with the growth of Indian digital entrepreneurship accelerated the digital adoption across a wide range of industries like Finance, Commerce, Healthcare, Real-Estate, and more.

Our country celebrates 75th Independence Day on 15th August 2022 and it's a matter of pride for all us. Since independence, India has made monumental progress on fronts like technology, healthcare, automotive, amongst others.

Growth of India@100 in 2047 will be catalyzed by rapid advancements in all business sectors, with technology being the key enabler of the progress. Rapid Smartphone penetration, faster & affordable internet fuelled by 5G, and wider adoption of emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning etc. is expected to enable India leapfrog in the years to come.

In country like India for an all round development, the potential of emerging technologies must be harnessed effectively to build product and services. This will eventually result in closing in of the still existing rural-urban technological divide. The silver lining is that rural India continues to lead the way in digital adoption, with 13 percent increase in internet users compared to steady 4 percent on the urban front. The impactful Digital India programme is further filling up this gap.

The Digital India Week 2022 with the theme 'Catalyzing New India's Techade' commemorated the path-breaking journey of the flagship initiative of the Digital India Programme that was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. The event came in the backdrop of India emerging as the 3rd largest ecosystem for startups globally. Backed by the strong tailwinds created under the umbrella of the Digital India programme and successive campaigns, India has more than 73000 startups and 100+ unicorns. After the watershed year of 2021 which saw a record addition of 44 unicorns despite the Covid onslaught, six months into 2022, has seen 17 startups entering the unicorn club with a total valuation of \$ 22 billion.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in tandem with the well-laid down objectives of Digital India, Startup India and AtmaNirbhar Bharat has been working relentlessly on a mission to fast-track the tech startup ecosystem. MeitY through its various schemes and initiatives is supporting more than 2000 startups with a yearly budgetary outlay of 100+ crores. With its slew of initiatives especially tailor-made for Tier II & Tier III cities and semi-urban areas, MeitY is paving the way for massive penetration into these areas helping the next league of entrepreneurs to join the bandwagon.

During Digital India Week 2022, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) enabled funding to promising start-ups through the Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) and Centres of Entrepreneurship (CoEs) programs in order to enable the digital start-ups to scale operations and commercialize their products.

SUCCESS STORY



0522 Axiotech Pvt. Ltd.

The Startups Axiotech Pvt. Ltd. also known as Hastag Bazar is founded in 2020. HashTagBazaar is India's first of its kind socially-impacting Group-buying e-retail platform; where the sales is generated by resident women of tier-2 and below cities on 'work from home' basis who largely come from less socio-economic backgrounds; eventually making them 'Atma-Nirbhar'.

In the current online and offline retail system the micro-retailers are unable to secure better margins from the wholesaler & manufacturers as they buy in 'smaller quantities', eventually loosing on profits. As a solution HashTagBazaar's 'Group Buying' methodology & algorithms help aggregate multi micro-orders into a single mega-order which helps secure 'higher margins' for our retailer community, resulting in better profitability. Currently, operating in Lucknow and planning to expand in other cities of India viz. Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Chennai, Bhubaneswar, etc. as well as in USA. Currently, startup is working with employee base of 32 (direct & indirect employment). The startup is also supporting women empowerment initiatives in the form of "#b साथी", connect & communicate with retailers and get orders for the startup.

As a Product: HashTagBazaar's machine learning and recommendation-based engine stimulates and pre-aggregate B2B 'micro-demands' into 'mega-demand' thru its algorithms thus, attracting high-volume discounts for the customers and promoting Community Group Buying.



Key Achievements:

- Month on month (mom) growth of 50%, 10K+ orders served with average order value INR10,000+ and have helped buyers save more than INR 1 crore+ on margins.
- Current company valuation is US\$4million next round open at US\$10million valuation
- Awarded 'Fastest Growing' startup by Ekana & The Lucknow Tribune 2021
- Awarded 'Gaurav Samman' by IBF 2022
- Awarded 'Top 5 startups' during UP State Conclave under "Mission to USA" initiative by STPI
- Raised institutional funds from 5 Unicorns, Rapid Bloom Ventures, NextGen Technology Fund-I (NGIS Fund of STPI/STPINEXT managed by Fund Manager, Pontaq)



We at HashTagBazaar deeply grateful for the mentorship by STPI. STPI has been very forthcoming when it comes to giving a helping hand to budding startups. Learning's from STPI and bootcamp/mentoring by Wadhwani has greatly enhanced our capabilities & skill set and has brought about a substantial change in our business growth. The mentorship & training to our top management has given us a fresh perspective on how to improve company operations, which has help us gain the confidence to lead an effective business model. We truly appreciate everything STPI has done for our organisation and hope to continue learning from STPI."

Ankush Arora, MD & CEO



Catalyzing *New India's* Techade

DIGITAL INDIA WEEK 2022

Prime Minister

Shri Narendra Modi

inaugurated Digital India Week 2022
at Gandhinagar

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Digital India Week (DIW) 2022, on 1st July 2022 in Gandhinagar. Theme of this DIW 2022 was 'Catalyzing New India's Techade'. During the programme, he also launched multiple digital initiatives aimed at enhancing the accessibility of technology, streamlining service delivery to ensure ease of living and giving a boost to startups. He also announced the first cohort of 30 Institutions to be supported under the Chips to Startup (C2S) and Digital India GENESIS' – Gen-next Support for Innovative Startups Programme. Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel, Union Minister, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Minister of State, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, people's representatives, startups, and other stakeholders of the sector were among those present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said today's programme gives a glimpse of continuously modernizing India in the 21st century. Through Digital India, India has exemplified how revolutionary the correct use of technology is for the growth of humanity. "I am glad that this campaign, which started eight years ago, has been expanding itself with the changing times", he said.

The Prime Minister said, with the passage of time, the country which does not adopt modern technology, time moves ahead leaving it behind. India was a victim of this during the Third Industrial Revolution. But today we can proudly say that India is guiding the world in the fourth industrial revolution, Industry 4.0. The Prime Minister praised Gujarat for taking the lead in this regard also.

Remembering the conditions of 8-10 years ago. The Prime Minister said that from the situations of lines for birth certificate, bill payment, ration, admissions, result and banks, India has removed all these lines by getting online. So many services like, life certificate, reservation, banking etc have become accessible, fast and affordable. Similarly,

through technology, under Direct Benefit Transfer, more than 23 lakh crore rupees have been directly transferred in the accounts of the beneficiaries, in the last 8 years.” Due to this technology, 2 lakh 23 thousand crore rupees of the country have been saved from falling into the wrong hands”, he added emphasizing role of Digital India in curbing corruption. Digital India has brought the government to the doorsteps and phones of the citizens. More than 1.25 lakh Common Service Centres and Grameen Stores are now taking e-commerce to rural India, the PM said. Similarly, property documents for rural properties are being provided by use of technology.

On the use of technology during the pandemic the Prime Minister said that the power that Digital India has created in the country in the last eight years has helped India a lot in combating the Corona global pandemic. “We have transferred thousands of crores of rupees to the bank accounts of crores of women, farmers, labourers of the country at a single click. With the help of One Nation One Ration Card, we have ensured free ration to more than 80 crore countrymen.” We have run the world’s largest and most efficient covid vaccination and covid relief program.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister said “India’s FinTech endeavour is truly a solution by the people, of the people, for the people. The technology in it is India’s own i.e. by the people. The countrymen made it a part of their life i.e. of the people. It made the transactions of the countrymen easy i.e. for the people.” 40 percent digital transaction at global level takes place in India, the Prime Minister added. “There is scale, security and democratic values in our digital solutions”, he said.

The Prime Minister informed about the focus of skilling, upskill and reskilling the 14-15 lakh youths for Industry 4.0 in the coming 4-5 years. He said “be it space, mapping, drones, gaming and animation, many such sectors which are going to expand the future of digital technology, they have been opened for innovation. Provisions like IN-SPACe and new drone policy will give new energy to India’s tech potential in the coming years in this decade.”

The Prime Minister informed “today, India is working on the target of taking electronics manufacturing to more than \$ 300 billion in the next three-four years. India wants to become a chip maker from a chip taker. Investment is rapidly increasing in India to increase production of semiconductors”.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that Digital India Campaign will keep on adding new dimensions to itself and will keep serving the citizens of the country.

Key Highlights:

- Hon’ble Prime Minister has also launched ‘Digital India Bhashini’ that will enable Indians an easy access to the internet and digital services in vernacular languages.
- He also launched ‘Digital India GENESIS’ – Gen-next Support for Innovative Startups- a national deep-tech startup platform. The total budget of 750 crore rupees has been envisaged for these schemes.
- The Prime Minister has also dedicated ‘MyScheme’, which will provide access to government schemes at a single place.
- India is working on the target of taking electronics manufacturing to more than \$ 300 billion in the next three-four years”
- The Digital India Week 2022 programme exhibited the digital platforms like Aadhaar, UPI, Cowin and Digilocker among others which have provided ease of life to the citizens. Startups, government leaders and industry and academia experts participated in this programme. An exhibition with more than 200 stalls has been set up at Mahatma Mandir by Indian unicorns and startups. Prime Minister Modi also visited this exhibition and interacted with the people connected with startups and unicorns.

**SAMRIDH Scheme Implementation Partners
TIDE Scaleup Fund-Startup Beneficiaries
STPI Challenge Program
STPI Seed Fund-Start-ups Beneficiaries**



STPI announced 14 Challenge Programs to select more than 150 start-ups in different focus areas across the country

STPI has launched a series of Open Challenge Programs (OCPs) and announcements of seed funding to startups under NGIS and CoEs at the Digital India Week 2022. The program was launched with a vision to identify, recognize and reward aspiring, and early-stage tech entrepreneurs in the country.

“The Indian tech startup ecosystem has been revolutionized with several government initiatives like Startup India, MSH, NGIS, etc. Aligned with the vision of the government, STPI has further contributed to the growth of the startup ecosystem in Tier 2 & 3 cities by implementing NGIS. Moreover, STPI CoEs are another step towards accelerating innovation and product development in emerging technology domains, since the launch of Digital India”, said Arvind Kumar, Director General, STPI.

STPI announced 14 Open Challenge Programs to select more than 150 start-ups in different focus areas across the country which include:

Launch of “Build for Bharat IoT Start-up Challenge” in association with Jio Things Ltd. (JTL) to support 20 start-ups & entrepreneurs for building the next generation consumer/business-centric innovative solutions.

Two Challenge Programs wherein, one is the Open Challenge Program (OCP) for ESDM CoE at Bhubaneswar and another is the Idea Challenge Program (ICP) for Blockchain CoE at Gurugram.

OCP for ESDM CoE at Bhubaneswar.

ICP for Blockchain CoE at Gurugram.

11 OCPs for CHUNAUTI– Pan India from eleven STPI Jurisdictional Directorates with different themes.

These programs cover the entire spectrum of emerging technology and most of the states of the country. Under “Build for Bharat IoT Start-up Challenge program”, JTL will provide mentorship & support around Tech, Product Strategy, Go-To-Market along with funding support of Rs 26 Lakh in the form of monetary and non-monetary benefits to the selected start-ups. Under ICP & OCP programs, the selected start-ups and aspiring entrepreneurs shall also be facilitated through strategic networking, financial assistance, mentoring, support for training, marketing, patenting, and access to the labs, tools, software, and state-of-the-art incubation facility.

Till date, STPI has launched 42 OCPs/cohorts for the selection of start-ups for 20 operationalized CoEs in the emerging technology domains such as FinTech, Blockchain, ESDM, ACES Mobility, MedTech, AgriTech, IoT & AI, etc. across the country along with three CHUNAUTI (Challenge Hunt Under NGIS for Advanced Uninhibited Technology Intervention) under Next Generation Incubation Scheme. The vision is to drive the rise of India as a Software Product Nation so as to make India a global player in the development, production, and supply of Innovative, Efficient, and Secure Software Products thus facilitating the growth across the entire spectrum of the ICT sector as envisioned in the National Policy on Software Products (NPSP) – 2019.

STPI also announced seed funding to 28 beneficiaries of CoEs and NGIS programs with funding up to Rs 25 lakh. Seed funding will significantly help the startups to realize their product dreams.

During Digital India Week 2022, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) enabled funding to promising start-ups through the Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) and Centres of Entrepreneurship (CoEs) programs in order to enable the digital start-ups to scale operations and commercialize their products. During Digital India Week, 28 promising start-ups were provided seed fund/financial help of Rs 342.5 Lakh. Under NGIS 15 start-ups have been provided seed funds of up to Rs 25 Lakh. Additionally, 13 start-ups under CoEs program have been provided with funding support up to Rs 5 Lakh. With this, STPI achieves another significant milestone in supporting the start-up ecosystem.

In the formal presence of Dr Rajendra Kumar, Additional Secretary, MeitY, Government of India, Shri Amit Agrawal, Additional Secretary, MeitY, Dr Jaideep Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, MeitY, Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, MeitY and Shri Arvind Kumar, DG, STPI announced the 28 recipients of seed fund. These start-ups are working in the fields of HealthTech, EdTech, FinTech, IoT, Electronics, Semiconductors, Robotics, Autonomous linked Electric vehicles, Mobility, and Gaming & Animation. In accordance with their plans. STPI at present is the nation's biggest ecosystem for tech startups which offers a state-of-art incubation facility, cutting-edge technological labs, mentoring, market connections besides other services to nurture start-ups to make them ready for the market. Seed funding is provided to startups for concept validation, prototype development, market research, skill training, marketing, and other preliminary startup-related tasks.

STPI Celebrates Innovation Spirit through Startups in DIW 2022

In the 75th year of India's Independence, touted as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', STPI, an autonomous society under the MeitY showcased its 75+ innovative startups in ongoing Digital India Week 2022. STPI's startup contingent was the largest exhibitor of futuristic digital solutions and emerging technology products. The expo attracted students, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and common people from across India. It was a real celebration of the innovation spirit of India through startups. Hon'ble PM Sh. Narendra Modi along with Hon'ble MEIT Sh. Ashwini Vaishnaw and Hon'ble MoS MeitY Sh. Rajeev Chandrasekhar visited STPI Startup Pavilion and interacted with startups.

Sventy-five plus start-ups from Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities associated with Software Technology Parks of India's Centers of Entrepreneurship (CoEs) and Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) programs exhibited their innovative products/prototypes at the Digital Mela. The revolution of the Indian startup ecosystem goes beyond the conventional hubs i.e, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and NCR. Startups from smaller cities like Lucknow, Bhubaneswar, Mohali, Bhopal, Imphal, Tonk, Raipur, Vadodara, Belagavi, Dehradun, Agra, Patna, Rourkela, Indore, Thane, Haridwar, Nawa, Kotha Pet, Paramathi Velur, Kochi etc., are solving more local problems at scale, ranging across healthcare, education, agriculture, financial services etc. This kind of participation corroborates that nearly 50 percent of the recognized startups are from Tier II and III cities. Recognized startups are spread across over 640 districts and have reported the creation of more than 7 lakh jobs.

"The 75 startups under NGIS & CoEs showcasing their products/prototypes at Digital Mela are not symbolism of the celebration of 75th years of Aazadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav, but they are the potential unicorns of future who can shape India's techade in building path-breaking products not only for India for also for the world at large," underscored Shri Arvind Kumar, DG, STPI.

"The tech startup movement created by STPI through NGIS & CoE can further strengthen the startup ecosystem in Tier-2 & 3 cities of India and play a transformational role in creating massive employment opportunities and contributing to the innovation-led economy of the country," underlined Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, Innovation & Startup Promotion, STPI.

Startups are using emerging technologies to make life easier for others in the real world. Startups have used a spectrum of technologies of the future like AI for healthcare & governance, IoT for smart cities and manufacturing, Drones for defence & agriculture, AR/VR for education, tourism & entertainment, Robotics for industrial automation & manufacturing, EV for smart mobility, and blockchain for education, healthcare, and banking & finance.

Building THE NEXT UNICORN...



Taking Indian innovative
tech **start-ups** to global shores



Keeping in view of the emergence of tech Start-ups as an important pillar of economic growth, STPI in collaboration with Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) have jointly launched the Start-up Initiative, named “Building The Next Unicorn-Mission to USA”. The initiative has been supported by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, Ministry of Electronics & IT, Government of India & Consulate General of India, San Francisco, USA.

Dubbed as a pioneering initiative encompassing beneficiary start-ups in establishing a cross-border footprint has become critical for Indian start-ups looking to expand globally. However, in order to grow effectively in cross-border markets, Indian start-ups must understand the economic landscape in which there are strong investment incentives and a thriving ecosystem. Innovations and new technologies are changing the world and the daily lives of each and every one of us. Many things that were mere visions of the future yesterday are now reality. Meanwhile, we are surrounded by technology at every moment and it's important to be global.

“Realizing the wind of growth is blowing in the direction of creating a significant cross-border presence for promising Indian start-ups, the current initiative – Building The Next Unicorn Mission to USA will help in expanding their wings globally and also to raise funding for their expansion,” accentuated, Shri Arvind Kumar, DG, STPI.

This initiative will involve a three-tier approach as follows:

1

STATE CONCLAVES

At the first tier, state-level conclaves are being organized in association with state governments / STPI / local Industry Bodies / Academic Institutions and other stakeholders. Technology start-ups of the state are being invited to join the conclave that will allow them to interact with tech experts, industry veterans, and other stakeholders. This is followed by a “Pitching Session” which will help the participating start-ups to present themselves to the Jury Panel.

Start-ups joining the state conclaves will submit their business proposition/plans. From amongst the Start-ups joining the State Conclaves, a few (up to 25) will be invited to attend the National Conclave that will be held later this year.

2

NATIONAL CONCLAVE

The second tier of the initiative will be the National Conclave of start-ups in November this year. All start-ups shortlisted at State Conclaves (up to 25 from each State Conclave) will be invited to join the national event. In addition, a few promising start-ups, who may not have joined any of the State Conclaves but have the potential, will be invited to join the final selection process at National Conclave. The final composition of the startup Mission to the USA will be finalized (around 30 to 40) out of the start-ups selected from the State Conclaves.

To all the qualified start-ups at the National Conclaves will be given appreciation/acknowledgment in the form of Certificate of Participation, complimentary participation at Indiasoft 2023, etc.

3

MISSION TO USA

The delegation of selected Tech Start-ups shall visit the United States with pre-fixed agenda with a visit to a leading Technology Event and meetings with global start-ups in the USA to understand market dynamics, marketing strategies, and potential from the export market perspective. While in the USA, visiting Indian Start-ups will also get a chance to meet some High Net-worth Individuals (HNIs), Investors, and Venture Capitalists (VCs) who have shown interest to be a part of Indian Start-ups Success Story by investing in promising Indian Start-ups.

First start-up State Conclave has been organised at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on September 6, 2022 for selecting potential startups for National Conclave.

Smart FARM GRANT CHALLENGE

10 SUCCESSFUL TEAMS GET SMART FARM GRANT CHALLENGE GRANT

STPI distributed Rs. 5 Lakhs each to 10 shortlisted Teams under the Smart Farm Grant Challenge Programme. The grant distribution and the award ceremony were held at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, New Delhi, where Sh. Alkesh Kumar Sharma, Secretary, MeitY, handed over the cheques to the winning teams. The award ceremony was attended by Sh. Arvind Kumar, DG, STPI, Dr Saurabh Srivastava, Chairman Emeritus, TiE Delhi-NCR and former Chairman NASSCOM, Sh. Roshan Lal Tamak, Executive Director, DCM Sriram and senior officials from the Ministry and STPI.

The 10 shortlisted teams were A2P Energy Solution Private Limited, AgAutomate Private Limited, Aigret Innovations India Pvt. Ltd, ARMS 4 AI Pvt. Ltd, BharatRohan Airborne Innovations Private Limited, Plaksha University, G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Innosapien Agro Technologies Pvt Ltd, Satyukt Analytics Pvt Ltd and TFBOT Private Limited.

"Last-mile innovations focused on small farmers are key for India's Agri & allied ecosystem and Agri startups should develop their products keeping small farmers in mind," said Sh. Alkesh Kumar Sharma, Secretary, MeitY. "Agriculture is one of the key economic sectors of the country & innovation through ICT enablement for this sector will help in achieving the target of \$5 trillion economy by 2025," mentioned Shri Arvind Kumar, DG, STPI on the occasion. "Increasing productivity of Agriculture is a critical requirement of our farmers. I am delighted that MeitY has come up with the SFGC which focuses on their problem statement and invite Start-ups to find solution in an innovative way and financially support them," accentuated Dr Saurabh Srivastava, Chairman, Emeritus, TiE Delhi-NCR (former Chairman NASSCOM). "Optimum time of Sugarcane Harvest can be predicted using technologies like AI & ML etc," said Sh. Roshan Lal Tamak, Executive Director & CEO, DCM Shriram.



The Smart Farm Grant Challenge (SFGC) programme was launched on 9th May 2022 by the MeitY with grant-in-aid of Rs. 2.54 Cr. STPI is the designated implementation agency with Neuron CoE at Mohali as the anchor CoE. The challenge programme was launched to identify path-breaking solutions from startups, Innovators, Entrepreneurs etc. to address the problem statements identified for sugarcane harvest. Sugarcane is an important commodity for human consumption as well as trade. ICT in agriculture has the potential to significantly impact the agriculture sector by utilizing ICT tools.

The programme received an overwhelming response and received a total of 474 applications. 108 applications found suitable were further screened and 25 selected were pitched before the Jury committee of members from Industry, Academia, Domain experts and stakeholders. The Jury's recommendation of the 10 best proposals that have shown innovation and technological acumen to predict the optimum time of sugarcane harvest in a given plot area with reasonable accuracy are being provided financial support of INR 5 Lakhs each to develop a working prototype of the proposed solution within three months duration. These 10 teams will now have to develop a working prototype of the proposed solution within three months and compete again to enter the next critical phases of the Smart-farm Grant Challenge. As part of the next phases, they will demonstrate the prototype, get selected for Stage-2, receive Rs. 20 lakh support, develop final product and compete again for the grand award of Rs 50 lakh along-with support of INR 10 lakhs per year for next 2 years towards Operations & Maintenance. Teams having innovative approaches, solutions which are reliable having accuracy in percentage, correlation with the real time data etc. and can cater to scalability, usability, ease of deployment & roll-out, have a great chance to progress further.

FICCI Rajasthan IoT Summit

Advances in Artificial Intelligence coupled with improved connectivity, and real-time communication are enabling exponential growth inefficiencies generated by IoT. India is already matching the pace and at times leapfrogging in adopting new technologies like IoT, 5G, AI, and cloud to drive new business models. The start-ups are also using these technologies to create new and innovative business models. Rajasthan is a leading state in leveraging technology for governance and service delivery.

STPI signs MoU to establish Electopreneur Park (EP) 2.0 in Delhi

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between STPI, as the Managing Partner, Technology Innovation Hub at Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi (IHub Anubhuti) as Ecosystem Partner, India Electronics and Semiconductor Association as Implementation Partner, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi as Associated Academic Institute and AIC STPINEXT INITIATIVES as SPV of STPI on 19th September 2022 at IIIT Delhi for establishing the proposed EP 2.0. Five partners have come forward and have signed a MoU to create an ecosystem for fostering start-ups and entrepreneurs in the field of electronics system design and manufacturing (ESDM) and related fields.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Arvind Kumar, Director General, STPI said, "In order to create unicorns in the ESDM industry, the proposed EP innovations centre "EP 2.0" will scale up its current operations and offer startups and MSMEs a complete ecosystem, including infrastructure, network, mentors, and funding."

Prof. Ranjan Bose - Director IIIT Delhi said, "IIIT Delhi shall provide the best possible support in terms of infrastructure and involvement of students and faculty of the institute in this project."





Soft Launch of KALPATARU a Centre of Entrepreneurship (CoE)

**on Industry 4.0 at RINL-VSP, Visakhapatnam and Announcement
of Open Challenge Program (OCP-1).**

The Soft Launch of Kalpataru CoE on Industry 4.0 was done by Shri. Arvind Kumar, Director General, STPI & Chairman, STPINEXT and Shri. Atul Bhatt, CMD, RINL-VSP & Chief Mentor, Kalpataru CoE launched the Open Challenge Program (OCP) 1.0 of Kalpataru CoE for inviting the applications from prospective startups working in Industry 4.0 on 20th September 2022 at Visakhapatnam.

STPI is setting up this 21st CoE on Industry 4.0 at Rashtriyaspat Nigam Limited– Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (RINL-VSP) at Visakhapatnam under the guidance of MeitY, Govt. of India, in collaborative manner with partners from RINL-VSP, Andhra Pradesh Innovation Society, Industry, Industry Association Partners, Academia, and Funding agencies. This CoE has named as “KALPATARU” and will nurture around 175 innovative startups over a period of five years with a total budgetary outlay of Rs. 20.32 crores.

Kalpataru CoE facility is being set up in an area of 6,000 sq. ft with the state-of-the-art incubation facility housed on the campus of RINL-VSP. This CoE has domain-specific physical laboratories like IIoT, AI/ML & AR/VR and Industrial Automation, Robotics, Drone & 3D Printing setup with the required equipment and software in the domain to support the startups for PoC, Products & Solutions and subsequent validation and standardization in the most integrated fashion.

This CoE facilitates aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators and their success through strategic networking, seed funding, mentoring, providing support for training, marketing, patenting, access to the CoE labs, tools, software and state-of-the-art incubation facility. Also, the project fund will be provided by the PSUs to the selected Startups.

Shri. Arvind Kumar, Director General, STPI & Chairman, STPINEXT delivered the key note address and said, “This CoE will become the mother CoE to all the other 20 CoEs. The reason is that STPI has CoEs on AI, Bigdata Analytics, etc., whatever technologies being developed across any CoE will be required for Industry 4.0 because it is an amalgamation of all the technologies available today.”

He also mentioned, “Industry v4.0 means a combination of SMART Connectivity and SMART Automation and it is about intelligent devices which can keep learning like humans using algorithms and can take decisions based on the actions based on the data and trained algorithm.”

Prof. P V G D Prasad Reddy, Vice Chancellor, Andhra University has emphasized, “The need of CoE and appreciated RINL-VSP for providing the problem statements. He mentioned that the concept of Kalpataru CoE is an excellent initiative from MeitY, Government of India, STPI, RINL-VSP and other stakeholders. He also stressed that Kalpataru CoE may help to meet expectations of rising the growth rate of manufacturing Industry by 25% by 2025.

Shri. Atul Bhatt, CMD, RINL-VSP & Chief Mentor, Kalpataru CoE, said, “Kalpataru CoE was created for innovation and high end technology by bringing in the best of minds from startups, industries, PSU’s and academia. RINL-VSP has identified few problem statements which will enable the startups to shift their orientation towards solving the most important problems facing by steel industry. The solutions provided by the startups can be offered to the steel fraternity at large. This project is to drive the culture of promotion and co-creation to find solutions to accelerate technology development of India. Collaborative work with this CoE will not only benefit startups but also all the industrial activity around Andhra Pradesh. He requested all PSU’s like NTPC, BHEL-HVPV, HSL, HPCL, VPT, BARC,... etc., to make use of this opportunity by providing their problem statements to this Kalpataru CoE.”



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