



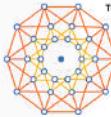
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MINISTRY OF
ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB



Event Highlights



INNOVATE IN TN

IP CONCLAVE

Intellectual Powerhouse: Transforming Tamil Nadu
into the Innovation Capital of India



July 30, 2025



Anna Centenary Library, Chennai

Ecosystem Partners

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Event Sponsors



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TVSnext



MoU with NRDC



MoU with CDAC



MoU with BOSCH



MoU with ASME



MoU with I-STEM



MoU with Mahindra



MoU with GCT



LoI Highlight



Tech Transfer 1



Tech Transfer 2



Tech Transfer 3



Tech Transfer 4



Foundation Fund

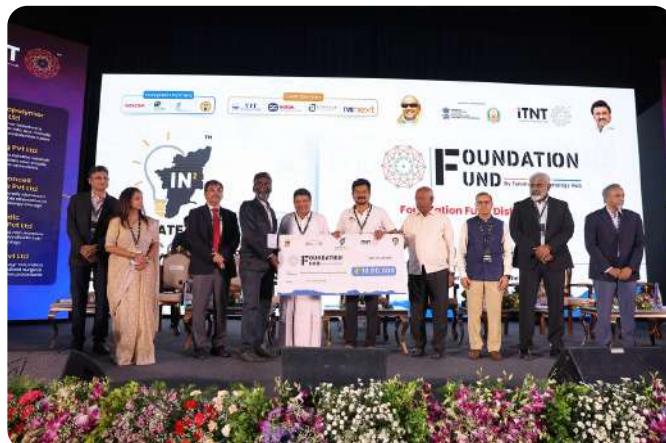
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Defining Moments

- ▶ 30-minute interaction of the researchers with the Hon'ble DCM and Hon'ble IT Minister, and other dignitaries with their tech showcase. This tech showcase was organised in collaboration with AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education), GoI
- ▶ The Foundation Fund announced during Umagine 2025, had its first disbursal to startups – marking a significant milestone in to support innovation from lab to market.

Key Outcomes

- ✓ 1,000+ attendees spanning academia, startups, legal experts, and corporates
- ✓ 16 cutting-edge deep tech showcases featuring IP-backed innovations and prototypes with 37 high-impact speed mentoring sessions conducted in collaboration with NASSCOM, connecting 16 researchers with 10 industry mentors
- ✓ 4 technology transfers facilitated with Anna University, NIoT & NRDC
- ✓ 6 MoUs with partners viz., NRDC, CDAC, ASME, BOSCH, Mahindra & Mahindra, and I-STEM
- ✓ 4 LIs with leading IP law firms – Puthiran & Associates, A.K. Mysamy & Associates, IP Dome & KIRA Law to support filing and commercialisation
- ✓ 25 researchers and startups were onboarded into the iTNT Incubation Program
- ✓ MoU with Government College of Technology towards the expansion of iTNT Hub in Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities
- ✓ MoUs' with 12 Investors viz., Enlighten Angel Fund, Pontaq, Keiretsu Forum, IN44 Capital, 4i Airavat Ventures, Campus Angels, Malabar Angels, Lead Angels, Peaceful Progress , IvyCap Ventures, Algram Labs, Artha99, and Artha Venture Fund (ArthaVC)

MoU Highlights

MoU with NRDC



- Technology Transfer Management & Mentoring Support
- Linking to Start-up India Mission and technology sourcing support from GoI Labs/Institutions
- Facilitation of Technology Marketing in India and abroad
- Support in IPR Awareness & sensitisation in Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities
- Technology Readiness Level Certification through NRDC - NETRA Program

MoU with CDAC



- Access to Supercomputing facilities such as PARAM Utkarsh and other quantum infrastructure.
- Enable joint research & product development in technology domains such as HPC, AI, Cybersecurity, IoT, Quantum, and Strategic Electronics.
- Access to labs & technical mentorship from CDAC Technology experts

MoU Highlights

MoU with BOSCH



- Corporate led co-incubation support programs.
- Collaborate on joint innovation challenges for solution identification and acquisition.
- Access to Bosch's technical mentorship and advanced labs.

MoU with ASME



- Deeptech Hardware Product Design support
- Preferential access to ASME's flagship programs such as International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition (IMECE) and iShow.
- Strengthening the hardware product design ecosystem through sensitisation events for TN Tier 2 & 3 cities
- Joint hardware and product design challenges.

MoU Highlights

MoU with I-STEM



Linking Researchers and Resources

- Facilitating access to (Pan-India Govt) lab equipment via the I-STEM portal
- Create focussed "Women-in-Tech" program & Lab-to-Market Discovery Tours
- Supporting in TN Startup & (pan-India) Researcher mentor matching

MoU with Mahindra



- Corporate led co-incubation support programs.
- Collaborate on joint innovation challenges for solution identification and acquisition.
- Access to M&M's technical mentorship and advanced labs.

MoU Highlights

MoU with GCT



- Facilitating access to (Pan-India Govt) lab equipment via the I-STEM portal
- Create focussed "Women-in-Tech" program & Lab-to-Market Discovery Tours
- Supporting in TN Startup & (pan-India) Researcher mentor matching

LoI Highlights

LoI with



- Strengthening the Intellectual Property (IP) ecosystem for startups, researchers, and other stakeholders.
- Promoting IP awareness to enhance protection mechanisms and facilitate commercialization of innovations.
- Structured delivery of IP masterclasses, legal advisory sessions and virtual IP clinics for Tier 2 & 3 cities.

Speaker Insights



Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd.), CMD, NRDC

Acknowledged that the footprint of NRDC is now expanding in TN through iTNT Hub. iTNT Supported deep tech startups can now avail the NRDC schemes and TRL Certification. He also stressed on technology innovation as an enabler to high growth economy, re-affirming our CM's vision that IP is an imperative enabler for a trillion dollar economy.

Dr. Shankar M. Venugopal

(Mahindra & Mahindra) highlighted key trends and the need for synergy in the innovation ecosystem and gave his insights on the significant shift from hardware-centric innovations to *software-powered innovations like Software Defined Vehicles. He also gave a 4-point framework– Focus, Leap, Orient and What Next to ensure iTNT's success in supporting & scaling deep-tech innovations and startups



Mr. Naved

(BOSCH Global Software) has re-iterated their commitment for supporting innovators and enablers through its ecosystem, especially in Tier 2 & 3 cities

Mr. Siva Kumar Padmanabhan

(AstraZeneca) acknowledged Tamil Nadu as the first state to introduce a dedicated GCC policy, recognising their strategic role in the economy.



Mr. Josh Foulger

(ZETWERK) emphasized Tamil Nadu's manufacturing edge in Hardware Innovations as the state is the most industrialised state in the country and applauded the efforts of iTNT Hub for supporting researchers and startups in IP protection and commercialisation.

Panel Discussion

Investing in IP-Led Innovation – Opportunities, Risks & Pathways to Scale



Mr. Manu Iyer

Co-founder & Managing Partner
Bluehill VC



Mr. Vignesh Shankar

Founder & Managing Partner
A99 VC



Ms. Naveena Reddy

Vice President
Lead Invest



Ms. Anju Gupta

Partner
IvyCap Ventures

The investor panel led by Manu Iyer, look at early-stage IP-based investments – from virtual semiconductor chips to AI-powered stethoscopes and even magnet-free motors. These stories showed how IP-led innovation is already shaping bold, disruptive ventures. The panel also emphasised the need to define the problems, demonstrate value, and deliver a unique technology solution needed to ensure the success of the startups.

Investing in IP-Led Innovation – Opportunities, Risks & Pathways to Scale



Mr. Kewyn George

GCC Head
Expeditors



Shri. Rajeshwar Singh Jenwar

Director & HoD, Software Industry
Promotion Division – MeitY, GoI



Thiru. Sivarajah Ramanathan

MD & CEO
StartupTN



Prof. Dr. S. Vincent

Member Secretary
TNSCST

The panel led by Kewyn George from Expeditors, along with Dr. Rajeshwar, Rajeshwar Singh Jenwar; Director & HoD, Software Industry Promotion Division - MeitY, GoI; Sivarajah Ramanathan; MD & CEO, Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN) Prof. Dr. S. Vincent; Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology delivered powerful insights on how both the State and Central Governments are actively supporting innovation through dedicated IP programs. The panel stressed why IP literacy is no longer optional for startups – it's the foundation for protecting ideas, attracting investors, and building long-term value. Prof. Vincent, Member Secretary, TNSCST indicated the IP Policy under works and extended his invite to iTNT to work with them on the same.

Dr. Bhavya Manjeera Patruni



(Scientist & DM, NRDC and In-charge Head, NRDC-TISC, Visakhapatnam) explained the activities of the WIPO – TISC centre in Visakhapatnam (Technology & Innovation Support Centre) and their support in IP protection; IP management; IP licensing and technology transfer and new product development. She further explained the case studies of the innovation readiness tool and various technologies that have been facilitated and globalised.

Mr. Suresh Sambandam

(CEO, Kissflow) appreciated the GoTN for their initiatives and stressed on the need for startups & student on upskilling with AI. He underscored the importance of IP & its associations with software development and brand building (Trademarks & copyrights). He stressed on the need for international patents for software development and encouraged innovators and researchers to plan for overseas patent applications early in the journey.



Mr. Srinath Ravichandran



Co-founder & CEO, Agnikul Cosmos started with the humble beginnings of Agnikul and their mission to build space launch vehicles from India. He emphasised that filing the first patent gave his team a sense of legitimacy and confidence, marking their transition from “college project” to a serious space-tech venture. He urged innovators to think boldly, protect their innovations early, and leverage IP not just for legal cover but as a catalyst for growth, investment, and global scale.

Mr. Sasikumar from ELCINA

emphasised the need for Made in India and how we are moving away from the nation of assembler to component manufacturers to leading in Design and aspire to be the manufacturing of electronics products. The case study of smart ring that is designed, and manufacturing in Chennai is inspiring with 8+ patents and setting the stage for India to lead in the global stage.



Mr. Satish Gokhale

Founder & Director, Design Directions Pvt. Ltd stressed on the need for hardware product design as a convergence of form, function, engineering, aesthetics, technology and business viability

Masterclass

The IP Masterclasses, attended by 250+ participants covered Basics of IP Filing and Protection, Copy Rights and Trademark, Building a culture of Design Led Innovation in Academia and Licensing and Commercialising



Strategic Next Steps

- Operationalise the Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC)
- Activating the MoU partnerships with our collaborators to enable Tier 2 & Tier 3 startups & researchers
- Institutionalise Legal Support for IP through the onboarded legal partners
- Deepen Research–Industry Engagement for the 37 researcher-industry interactions

This is not the end of a conversation – it is the beginning of a movement. Let's transform every idea into impact, every innovation into IP, and every IP into public value. Together, let's position Tamil Nadu as a global beacon of IP-led innovation

