

Deep Dive

October 2025



An E-Newsletter from Tamil Nadu Technology Hub

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Foreword

At the heart of the Naan Mudhalvan initiative lies a singular vision – to empower every youth of Tamil Nadu with the skills, exposure, and confidence to shape their own future. Guided by the Hon'ble Chief Minister's foresight, Naan Mudhalvan has transformed Tamil Nadu's learning landscape by integrating industry-endorsed, credit-linked skill courses within higher education, ensuring that every learner's journey leads to employability and innovation.

Today, Naan Mudhalvan stands as India's largest and most impactful skilling movement, having reached over 41 lakh students, trained more than one lakh faculty members, and collaborated with 2,000 + institutions across the State. With its AI-powered Tamil Nadu Skill Registry, sector-specific Centres of Excellence, and strong global industry partnerships spanning domains such as AI, EV, semiconductor, and green skills, the initiative has become a national model - a blueprint for how skilling can be made accessible, industry-aligned, and future-ready.

Among its many pioneering efforts, hackathons have emerged as a powerful engine of creativity and applied learning. They inspire students to convert classroom concepts into real-world solutions, fostering innovation, teamwork, and entrepreneurial spirit. Niral Thiruvizha 2.0, conducted under Naan Mudhalvan, exemplified this drive - bringing together thousands of young minds from across Tamil Nadu to tackle real-life challenges using technology and design thinking.

Recognising the potential of these innovators, iTNT Hub and Naan Mudhalvan have partnered to nurture promising student teams from Tier II & III cities and guide them from ideation to entrepreneurship. The BEACON Cohort, hosted by iTNT Hub for 31 innovators from 15 top Niral Thiruvizha 2.0 teams, was a significant step in this journey - a four-day power-packed bootcamp on market validation, business modelling, and startup readiness. Several of these teams have now progressed to incubation under iTNT Hub's PATHFINDER Programme, demonstrating a seamless progression from skill development innovation entrepreneurship.

This integrated pathway truly captures the spirit of Naan Mudhalvan: enabling every student, irrespective of geography or background, to become a creator of opportunities. I deeply appreciate iTNT Hub's continued commitment to fostering Deep and Emerging Tech entrepreneurship and thank all partners, mentors, and institutions who are collectively building Tamil Nadu's innovation ecosystem.

Together, we are not just preparing youth for the future – we are empowering them to lead it.



Dr. M. Jayaprakasan, ISDS.

Chief Executive Officer
Naan Mudhalvan, TNSDC

Hon'ble IT&DS Minister's Diary

A roundup of the Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan's key events in October 2025 – including the achievement of a new milestone in Tamil Nadu's internet revolution; Honouring of freedom fighters with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu; & the upcoming AI Centre of Excellence in Coimbatore.

New Milestone in Tamil Nadu's Internet Revolution



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin addressed and participated in Grama Sabha Meetings at more than 10,000 Village Panchayats across Tamil Nadu through video conference on October 11. Thanks to Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) internet connectivity to more than 11,800 Panchayats across the State through TANFINET, a part of the Tamil Nadu Information Technology & Digital Services (IT & DS) Department.



The Hon'ble Chief Minister in his address appreciated the contribution of the IT & DS Department for achieving this milestone. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan while addressing a press meet in this regard on October 9 stated that this new milestone in Tamil Nadu's internet revolution was achieved through the "Bharat Net" project launched in 2022. The State is striving for high-speed internet connectivity without differentiating rural & urban areas, the minister added.

Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar Remembered

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin garlanded the statue of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, on his 118th Birth Anniversary on October 30. The Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services and MLA of Madurai Central Assembly Segment Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, who accompanied the Chief Minister, lauded Pasumpon Muthuramalingam as an exemplar of selfless service throughout his life in the national liberation struggle, social progress, and spiritual service.



Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. K.N. Nehru (Municipal Administration); Thiru. I. Periyasamy (Rural Development); Thiru. K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran (Revenue & Disaster Management); Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu (Finance & Environment Climate Change); Tmt. P. Geetha Jeevan (Social Welfare & Women Empowerment); Thiru. R.S. Rajakannappan (Forests & Khadi); Thiru. P. Moorthy (Commercial Taxes & Registration); Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi (School Education); T.R.B. Rajaa (Industries); and Thoothukudi MP Tmt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi was present on the occasion.

Hon'ble Vice President of India in Madurai

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan received the Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri. C.P. Radhakrishnan on the latter's arrival at the Madurai International Airport on October 30, 2025, and presented him with a book.



CII Connect 2025 in Coimbatore



The Hon'ble Minister said that the Government issued an order recently for a 2 million sq.ft. facility that will come up in Coimbatore, he said and added that youth will be empowered with AI skills through the institute, which will also nurture innovation. He highlighted Tamil Nadu's leadership in adopting AI and emerging technologies through initiatives like iTNT Hub and India AI Mission partnerships. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan also launched the CII-ICT Ai Academy - to build a future-ready workforce with comprehensive AI knowledge, hands-on learning experience, and globally aligned certification programmes and also presented the 17th Edition of CII Connect Awards.

The Tamil Nadu Government will set up a Centre of Excellence in Coimbatore for Artificial Intelligence under



the public-private-partnership model, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said in his keynote address at the valedictory of the CII Connect 2025 in Coimbatore on October 17, themed "TransformAltion into the Next Era of Intelligence", connecting the Present and Future of Emerging Tech.

Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO of iTNT Hub, in her Special Address highlighted the Hardware Product Design Scheme by iTNT Hub that will bring together innovators, designers and MSMEs. She also pointed out the role of iTNT Hub's Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech Innovations that is redefining research to commercialisation through industry connections.



Lol: iTNT x University of Melbourne

In the presence of the Hon'ble Minister Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, iTNT Hub exchanged a Letter of Intent (LoI) with the University of Melbourne, Australia, at the Hub in Chennai on October 9. The LoI was signed and exchanged between Prof. Micheal Wesley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor University of Melbourne, and Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT Hub. Thiru. Brajendra Navnit, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Information Technology & Digital Services Department; and Ms. Silai Zaki, Consul - General, Australia, graced the occasion.



Marudhu Pandiyars Remembered



Freedom Fighters Marudhu Pandiyars were honoured at the memorial event organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the occasion of their 224th Memorial Day at Marudhupandiyar Memorial Hall in Tirupathur, Sivagangai District, Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan along with Thiru. I. Periyasamy, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development; Thiru. K.R. Periakaruppan, Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation; Thiru. R.S. Rajakannappan, Hon'ble Minister for Forests & Khadi; Thiru Siva. V. Meyyanathan, Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare; and Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa, Honourable Minister for Industries; honoured the Marudhu brothers by garlanding their statues.



iTNT Hub x University of Melbourne



iTNT Hub x University of Melbourne

In a significant step towards strengthening international collaboration to foster Tamil Nadu's innovation ecosystem, iTNT Hub exchanged a Letter of Intent (LoI) with The University of Melbourne, Australia, on October 9, 2025, to foster cross-border research, entrepreneurship, and knowledge exchange. In the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, the LoI was signed and exchanged between Prof. Micheal Wesley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor University of Melbourne, and Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT Hub.

Thiru. Brajendra Navnit, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Information Technology and Digital Services; Ms. Silai Zaki, Consul - General, Australia; and delegates from the University of Melbourne, Prof. Moira O'Bryan, Dean, Faculty of Science; Prof. Ampalavanapillai

Nirmalathas, Dean, Faculty of Engineering; Prof. Muthupandian Ashokkumar, Deputy Pro Vice-chancellor International and Director, Melbourne Global Centre - Delhi; and Mr. Kailesh Gunesh, Business Development Director, Research, Innovation and Commercialisation, graced the occasion.

The LoI will facilitate the establishment of long-term collaboration in supporting researchers, students, startups, innovators, companies and investors, to create a holistic ecosystem for advancements in innovation between Australia and India. This collaboration marks a new chapter in connecting Tamil Nadu's vibrant innovation landscape with one of Australia's leading academic and research institutions, paving the way for joint initiatives that drive global impact and inclusive growth.

Chief Guest Address

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS



The Hon'ble Minister recalled that his association with the University of Melbourne goes back about three years when he spent some time at the university with many senior officials. He noted that the varsity is one of the best not just in Australia but in the world ranking in the sciences and social sciences. He expressed delight with the sense of fulfilment that the iTNT Hub has entered a LoI with them.

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan noted that himself, the IT & DS secretary, the CEO of iTNT Hub have been encouraging these kinds of global academic and industry partnerships. Foreseeing that for the next 30 years Indians will be roughly a fifth or fourth of the working age population, he expressed the need for a lot of people to help us bring this

talent to the right level of productivity for the benefit of the global economy.

Lauding Prof. Michael and the management of the University of Melbourne for expressing great interest in India and the collaboration, the Minister expressed confidence that the varsity will make this commitment translate to outcomes.

Keynote Address

Thiru. Brajendra Navnit, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, IT & DS Department

The scale in India and when we talk about any field we always say that 3S for the Indian system - Speed, Skill and Scale. The Principal Secretary noted that the flexibility that the University of Melbourne and iTNT Hub have gives more freedom to innovate in bringing new products and new processes. He suggested sharing problem statements, possible solutions and the majority of those solutions at different levels in both the systems towards accelerating and making it available for the people.

Thiru. Brajendra Navnit noted that Tamil Nadu provides an opportunity for those startups located in Australia to think India for upscale. Tamil Nadu has the ecosystem of

a vast network of MSMEs which are into manufacturing and IT software talent. For any Australian startup thinking of upscaling and going for mass production for their products, Tamil Nadu can be the base where they can manufacture at competitive cost and they can have a very good domestic market as well as the potential to export from here.

“Let us work together to further leverage on the economic partnership and innovation partnership, aiding people from Australia and India enjoy and benefit from this long term partnership,” he concluded.



Special Address

Prof. Micheal Wesley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne



Expressed great delight to have signed a Letter of Intent and to be moving towards the MoU at the University of Melbourne. He regarded the Tamil Nadu State Government as being one of our key relationships here in India.

Founded about 172 years ago, the University of Melbourne has been constantly seeking to have a positive impact on society. “Our new research strategy that was launched about 3 weeks ago concentrates on research for impact and we seek to translate our research to have a positive social impact wherever we can. That's one of the prime reasons the varsity is in India and in Tamil Nadu,” he said.

“We would like to apply our expertise in our research to situations here in India and in the broader world along

with partners here in India. We love the idea of iTNT Hub because it aligns very closely with the University of Melbourne's approach to research,” he said and recalled that their main campus the Parkfield Medical Precinct (or Biomedical Precinct), is on some counts the 3rd largest biomedical precinct in the world.

He stated that a place like iTNT Hub that brings together university expertise with industry expertise aligns exactly with the university, as he looked forward to the years ahead, celebrating successes together. “Because that's really why we're here and really what we want to do,” he concluded.

Special Address

Ms. Silai Zaki, Australia's Consul-General in Chennai, India



Recalling her early career as a lawyer working with the Patent and Trademark attorneys at a law firm in Sydney, she said it was always fascinating for her every time a new piece of technology came through. "We were getting the patent for it," she exclaimed and said that she has been deeply interested in innovation and "you know how you push the boundary and the lever to the next stage."

The Australian Government is heavily invested in our bilateral relationship with India. We are celebrating 5 years of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which was signed in 2020. And the Government really wants to take our relationship to the next level. We want to deepen our partnership in many industries and areas of engagement with India. Tamil Nadu is a State that we see

as a natural partner for Australian companies and institutions, in many ways making it easier to do business and do work here, she said.

We wished the Lol to get the MoU and that both iTNT Hub and University of Melbourne succeed in bringing this partnership to another level.

Welcome Note

Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT Hub

Earlier in her welcome address, the iTNT Hub CEO said that the Lol outlines the shared vision and intent of the University of Melbourne and iTNT Hub to explore opportunities in innovation research and technology development. "We recognise the value of this kind of a partnership combining academic excellence and industry driven innovation and the impact that increases across different emerging technology domains," Ms. Vanitha Venugopal said.

The collaboration aims to promote knowledge exchange, joint research initiatives and commercialization pathways that benefits not just the students, researchers

and startups, but the bigger, broader community for the ecosystems, the CEO said and highlighted that the JIGSAW platform of iTNT Hub has more than 6,200 researchers including 2,546, as many as 2,758 patent applications filed and 476 granted patents.

"So we have around a gold mine of researchers and patents that are sitting with us that are looking to see how we can take these products from the lab market," she added.



Quick Talks by University of Melbourne Delegates

Prof. Ampalavanapillai Nirmalathas, Dean, Faculty of Engineering

This (Lol) is actually a significant step. In our work with the innovation sector here, the last couple of years we focused on building academic links with academic institutions and I think this is a major milestone for us. As a co-creator of the Melbourne accelerator program many years ago, it is really pleasing to see the Tamil Nadu Government investing in this because as India marches towards the 3rd largest economy, I think there's going to be massive expectation of India to deliver on the innovation capacity of the nation. And also Australia and the whole world is going to look for entrepreneurial talent from this region. So I think this is going to be a beginning for that and my vision to the hub for making it happen.



Professor Moira O'Bryan - Dean, Faculty of Science

There are some relationships that are easier and more productive than others and the relationship between Indians and Australians is one that starts strong and gets better. I genuinely look forward to deep and multi-level partnerships, whether it be across agriculture, quantum technologies or pharmaceuticals or disaster management and many other areas. Thank you for partnering with us.



Prof. Muthupandian Ashokkumar - Deputy Pro Vice-chancellor, International & Director, Melbourne Global Centre - Delhi

Together working in this phase for us to strengthen the Australia, Tamil Nadu relationship, in the technology area, it's really honourable, he said and recalled the strides taken by Mr. Kailash Gunesh in initiating the conversation that led to the Lol and the impact it would have in the decades to come to deliver something that is impactful.



Mr. Kailesh Gunesh - Business Development Director, Research, Innovation and Commercialisation

I don't think we could be any prouder of the hard work that this team has been working in late night calls, considering the time difference between Australia and India, but always very responsive. And I think that's just an indication of the nature of the relationship as well. We are here to really look at the impact of the work that we do. It's not just a transaction, but it's very translational and transformational as well for both economies. So, I think the hard work starts now.



Tamil Nadu Startups in Dubai

GITEX Global & Expand North Star 2025



For the 3rd year in succession, iTNT Hub took our startup delegation to GITEX Global & Expand North Star 2025, the 45th edition of the annual mega startup and innovation extravaganza. As the world's most established and iconic large-scale tech exhibition, GITEX for over four decades,

has been the premiere gateway for tech creators, investors, and enthusiasts to collaborate. iTNT Hub team led a sponsored delegation of 10 innovative Deep & Emerging Tech startups from its portfolio and those incubated at its incubators.

Startup Delegation

Nodlehs AI 256 | Kenesis | Neurosense Labs | Cogno Valley Labs | Neorains Technologies |
Tensorhub Technologies | Aerolyt | Fincorpx | Reude Technologies | OrzuLife

The startup founders and co-founders met potential investors and clients and had interactions with global counterparts in similar fields of expertise. The international exposure enabled them to understand overseas markets and adapt their solutions to

demographic regulations and demands. The experience empowered Tamil Nadu startups to scale globally, forge meaningful collaborations, and showcase the State's growing innovation potential on a world stage



Startup Testimonies

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Praveen, Co-founder, Authenta

We had a wonderful learning experience at GITEX 2025, we understood how the Dubai Startup Ecosystem works, had discussions with many accelerators and individuals from the Dubai government and even got some pilot offers.



Reginald, Founder & CEO, REUDE Technologies

Through iTNT Hub's support we were able to showcase our technology at GITEX 2025, we interacted with potential clients and investors, we are hoping that these interactions will convert into a positive note.



Nachiyappan Vellaiyan, Co-founder & CEO, FincorpX

I am so proud to represent iTNT Hub, Tamil Nadu and India in the global tech stage GITEX 2025. It has given us an opportunity to exchange ideas with like-minded entrepreneurs and potential investors. I have received more than a hundred business cards and had so much fun.



Prajeen C.K., COO, Kenesis

We had an amazing time at GITEX 2025, we got the chance to witness so many innovators and their products and solutions and also got an opportunity to showcase our technology at a global stage. We were happy to receive such appreciation and validation for our product. We thank iTNT Hub for giving us this opportunity.



Suresh Rajagoapl, Founder, Neorains Technologies

We thank iTNT Hub for putting us on an international arena, we met a lot of international clients, investors and partners. This event was an eye opener for us as we were able to interact with potential clients from Dubai, Europe and America, this opportunity has helped us go beyond borders and explore international market trends.



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iTNT Hub @ TNGSS

Building an Innovation-Driven Entrepreneurial Ecosystem



iTNT Hub was proud to be part of the Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit organised by Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN) at the CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex, in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, on October 9 & 10. The dynamic platform inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K. Stalin brought together more than 72,000 innovators, entrepreneurs, investors, startup aspirants and ecosystem leaders shaping the future of the innovation-led ecosystem of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan interacted with the iTNT Hub portfolio startups - Healtether, Kenesis, IBT Aura, Spacetug, Inniram, NOLSA Ventures, and Dr. Powerfactor. iTNT Hub startups

showcased cutting-edge solutions to global investors, industry leaders, & ecosystem enablers, exchanged innovative ideas, and explored collaboration opportunities, strengthening Tamil Nadu's presence on the international innovation map.

iTNT Hub CEO Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, moderated a Fireside Chat with Mr. Kumar Vembu, Founder & CEO, Mudhal Partners; Mr. Natarajan Malupillai, Group CEO, IIT MRP, and Prof. Thillai Rajan, Professor, Management Studies, IIT(M). The summit served as a global platform in highlighting iTNT Hub's pivotal role in fostering global partnerships and creating opportunities for startups and researchers through joint programs and innovation-driven initiatives.

Startup Testimonials



Dixit, Co-founder, Kinesis

"We are grateful to iTNT Hub for giving us this opportunity and providing a space at the TNGSS to showcase our technology. We had the opportunity to connect with investors and industry experts and interacted with tech enthusiast and industry leaders."



Adithisri, Co-founder, IBT Aura

"At TNGSS we made a lot of connections and have received 150+ pre-orders for our product. Our stall was visited by Government officials, Industry leaders, students and potential investors."

Anna University Roundtable

Fuelling Research Commercialisation



iTNT Hub in collaboration with Anna University organised a Roundtable and sensitisation program exclusively for Directors, Deans, HoDs, faculty and researchers of the varsity, at the Anna Centenary Library in Chennai on October 7, 2025. The deliberations paved the way for forging a strong foundation in the march towards 'Innovate In TN' & 'Build The Future'. Dr. J. Prakash, Registrar - Anna University, in his special address lauded iTNT Hub's efforts in creating a robust innovation ecosystem in Tamil Nadu and encouraged the faculty, researchers, and students at Anna University to leverage the services of iTNT Hub.

iTNT Hub CEO Ms. Vanitha Venugopal and team led the 110 Anna University participants into a comprehensive outlook on key programs initiatives and support systems designed to propel research into market ready solutions. The CEO & iTNT Hub representatives gave a walk-through of the Draft Tamil Nadu Deep Tech Startup Policy, Tamil Nadu DeepTech Hardware Design Scheme, Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre for Deep Tech Innovations, iTNT Foundry (Venture Studio), FOUNDATION Fund, and Research to Startup grant.



Draft Tamil Nadu State DeepTech Startup Policy

Key Highlights of the Draft Tamil Nadu State DeepTech Startup Policy was presented by Ms. Vanitha Venugopal. The policy positions Tamil Nadu as India's premier DeepTech Hub, fuelling innovation, industrial growth, and MSME empowerment while establishing a cutting-edge deep tech and emerging tech ecosystem that accelerates our journey toward a \$1 trillion economy, she said.



Tamil Nadu DeepTech Hardware Design Scheme

Mr. Nikhil Muppavarapu, Vice President - Incubation, iTNT Hub, detailed on the interconnection of various ecosystem partners and initiatives in translating research to startup. The BEACON curriculum was presented, and a practical model of the Deep Tech Product Design Scheme was rendered to the participants to give a clear overview of the state's support system for Deep Tech product development.

iTNT Foundry

He also provided an overview of iTNT Foundry, venture creation arm of iTNT Hub. This Co-founding platform systematically builds and scales Deep & Emerging Tech ventures. The high-touch sector agnostic engagement & ownership model enables researchers to translate their research projects into startup ventures that create, deliver, and capture real market value. By blending scientific depth with entrepreneurial design, we help innovators move from publishing papers to building products, from grants to growth.

Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre

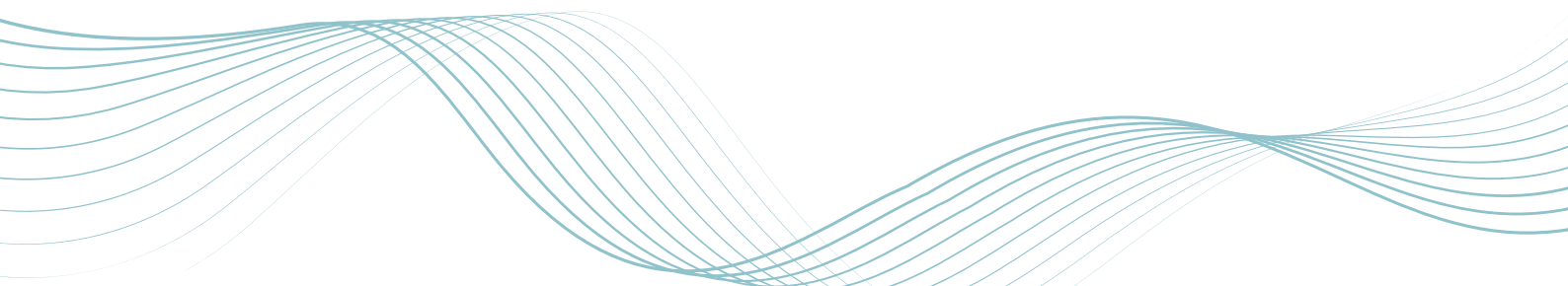
Mr. Daniel Prabhakaran, Associate Vice President – Partnerships, iTNT Hub, provided an overview of the various activities and support systems of TNTFC, including Masterclasses, IP Clinic, IP Management, Innovation Spotlight, Technology Transfer, TRL

Assessment and Research 2 Revenue curated to enable researcher and patent holder reach their goals of commercialisation and venture creation.

iTNT Funding Support for Research and Startups

Mr. Nirmal Paniker, AVP, Investments shone light on the investment support system of iTNT Hub, the quantum of investment for startups and the stage of investment for both iTNT FOUNDATION Fund and the Research 2 Startup Grant.

The presentation was followed by a roundtable discussion where faculty members and researchers engaged in discussions towards further enhancing the support systems of iTNT Hub and identifying drawbacks towards making the University into a bedrock of innovation.



iTNT Hub x AeroDefCon 2025

Powering Deep-Tech Collaborations



iTNT Hub and its portfolio startups were excited to be part of AeroDefCon 2025, held at the Chennai Trade Centre, from October 7 to 9 - a premier platform connecting innovators, manufacturers, and leaders across the aerospace and defence sectors. The one-of-its-kind meeting was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K. Stalin.

Our Aerospace & Defence innovators - Spacetug, Tospace, Aeroin SpaceTech, Dream Aerospace

Technologies, Cogno Valley Labs - engaged with investors and international delegations, and showcased their DeepTech Innovation creating the possibility for future collaborations.

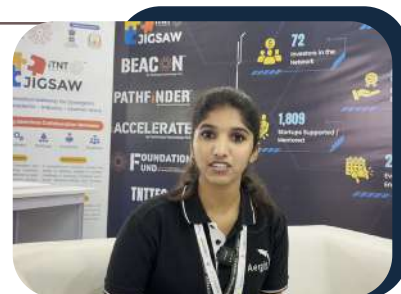
The event served as a vibrant stage for meaningful discussions, technology showcases, and strategic partnerships, reinforcing iTNT Hub's mission to accelerate Deep & Emerging Tech innovations in the march towards "Innovate in Tamil Nadu" & "Build The Future".

Startup Testimonies

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Sunita, Associate Engineer, Areion Technologies

AeroDefCon'25 gave us a broad exposure in keeping up with the latest developments in the defence sector. Meeting fellow innovators served as a good platform for knowledge sharing. It also served as a premier platform to showcase our innovation.





Lena Harini, Propulsion Engineer, Dream Aerospace

It was a privilege to be part of AeroDefCon'25 under the iTNT Hub Pavilion. We gained so much knowledge and critical insights regarding R7D from various stakeholders and industry experts we met during the event.

Adnaan, Founder, Tospace

AeroDefCon'25 served as a platform to interact with a broad spectrum of people. We met potential investors, industry experts and a large number of students who were interested in knowing the latest developments in the aerospace sector.

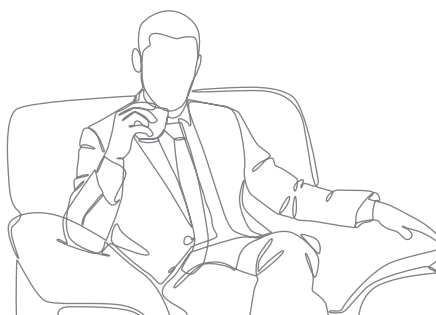


Hari Shankar, Co-founder & CEO, Space Tug

At AeroDefCon'25 we got many leads for our motor purchase and composite structures. We also got many investor connects by showcasing our technology at the event.

Bernard Shaw, Co-founder & CEO, Cogno Valley

We were able to connect with a lot of Industry leaders and Government Officials by showcasing our technology at AeroDefCon'25. We also got to meet individuals from the defence sector and understood their focused requirements.



Kenesis Labs shines at Indian Mobile Congress 2025, Delhi

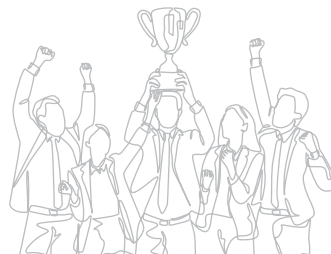


Kenesis Labs, a DeepTech startup incubated at iTNT Hub, was awarded the “Most Innovative Startup Display of the Year” at 9th Edition of the Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025, held in New Delhi from October 8 to 11, 2025. The India Mobile Congress (IMC) is Asia’s largest digital technology and innovation forum, jointly organized by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

iTNT Hub facilitated the participation of four incubated startups – Kenesis, Spacerolls, Tryneutera, Zaifi – at the event to showcase their innovations in Emerging Technologies. Among 400+ exhibiting startups, industry leaders, and innovators, with 157 nominations across 15 award categories, Kenesis Labs distinguished itself through its AI-powered assistive technology for the differently-abled, receiving national-level recognition.



This milestone underscores the growing visibility of Tamil Nadu’s DeepTech innovation ecosystem at premier national technology platforms. Kenesis Labs has been actively supported by iTNT Hub through multiple initiatives that strengthened its product development, market readiness, and visibility.



What's Brewing @ iTNT Hub

Innovate UK Delegation



iTNT Hub welcomed a urban systems delegation from Innovate UK, comprising innovation leaders and startups from the UK at its Chennai office on October 8. The UK Delegation evinced interest on working with India specifically on renewable energy, smart cities and geospatial mapping, with focus on Chennai. They also interacted with innovative PATHFINDER and iAccelerate startups from iTNT Hub.

The delegation comprised Mr. James Taplin, International Innovation Lead - Urban Systems Net Zero Innovate UK; Ms. Charlie Fraser, Partnership Manager - India Innovate UK; Mr. Nathan Lawes, GBIP Lead- Innovation & Growth Specialist Innovate UK Business Growth; Mr. Ludo Arnaud, GBIP Event Lead -Support Officer Innovate UK Business Growth; Mr. Richard Coutts, Founder - Director, BACA Aquitecture; Ms. Gemma Sutherland, Director of Global Impact; Mr. John Cloughley, Director - E4 Structures; Mr. Kevin Prescott, Managing Director - Hodos Media; Ms. Nishika Mehta, COO - Mistify AI; Mr. Gopal Jeyasundra, CEO - Organicco; Ms. Sarah Bunney, CEO - Our Rainwater; Ms. Roxana Montazerian, CEO- Roxid; Mr. Nathan Woodruffe, Director - Stoic Holmes; Ms. Sarah Bishop, Co-founder, COO - Temperate; Mr. Henry Reilly-Collins, Founder - Fish Friendly Hydro Co; Dr. Mo Hajhashem, CCO - Urbanchain; and Ms. Vanessa Ambler, CEO - We Care for Air.

Setting Boundaries for Safe AI deployment



Ms. Subathra Mysamy, Managing Partner of A.K Mysamy & Associates LLP, led a dynamic masterclass focused on "Safe Intelligence: AI Guardrails for Startups and Inventors" on October 6, 2025, at iTNT Hub, Chennai. Drawing on her expert legal perspective, she explored the pressing need for robust governance and ethical practices in the deployment of artificial intelligence, especially as startups interface with generative AI technologies.

Participants gained strategic insight into global AI standards and learned best practices for privacy, security, and risk management tailored to startups. The masterclass highlighted real-world examples of how ungoverned AI can lead to legal, ethical, and reputational consequences, urging entrepreneurs to build trustworthy, fair, and transparent AI solutions. Startup founders got a much-needed roadmap for ethically navigating the rapidly evolving AI landscape, empowering innovators to turn compliance into a competitive advantage.

A Critical Map on The Basics of Contracting



Mr. Sanjay Mehta, Partner, Surana & Surana International Attorneys, rendered foundational insights on the basics of contracting for startups during his session at iTNT Hub on October 16, 2025. He drew a clear picture on the difference between running a business as a Sole Proprietor, Limited Liability Partnership, Private Limited and Public Limited.



He highlighted the Pros and Cons of different types of establishing business ownership and provided a detailed overview on steps involved in establishing your company as a Private Limited. Mr. Sanjay advised startups to eventually convert into a Private Limited, which creates trust and ease of doing business while attracting investments and partnerships with other companies.

iAccelerate: Understanding Equity & Valuation



iTNT Hub conducted a Masterclass on Understanding Equity and Valuation by Mr. Chandrashekar Kupperi, Founder, ANOVA, M&A and Fundraise Advisory, on October 25, 2025. The session exclusively for iAccelerate Cohort 2.0 highlighted various forms of risks and benefits in shareholding in correlation with investor and founder ethics, covering:

- Types of share holdings
- Types of capital investment
- Liquidation clauses
- Critical terms and its meaning
- Equity Values & Enterprise Value
- Need for Valuation and its technicalities

The masterclass offered the founders a comprehensive understanding of the financial and ethical dimensions of equity management. Through real-world insights and practical frameworks, Mr. Chandrashekar Kupperi equipped participants with the knowledge to make informed decisions on valuation, investment structures, and long-term growth strategies. The session empowered startups to navigate investor relations with confidence and align their financial strategies with sustainable business goals.



iAccelerate: Understanding Term Sheets



A Masterclass on Understanding Term Sheets was conducted by Mr. Dinesh Subburaj, Associate Vice President, iTNT Hub, exclusively for the iAccelerate 2.0 founders. The session served as a concise guide to mastering term sheets, focusing on investor economics, governance, and protection rights.

Topics Discussed in the Session

- Term sheets as a template for legal documentation
- Binding exceptions, confidentiality, and the no-shop period
- ESOP formation, and founder share vesting practices
- Reviews liquidation and reimbursement terms

By breaking down binding and non-binding clauses, explaining ESOP formation and founder vesting, and highlighting the importance of strategic negotiation, the session equipped founders with actionable knowledge for navigating investment deals confidently and aligning expectations with investors.

The Masterclass helped startups grasp the intricacies of term sheets, demystifying essential concepts such as investment terms, valuation, equity structures, liquidation preferences, governance rights, and investor protections.

IP Clinic by TNTTC at iTNT Hub



The Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTC) for DeepTech Innovations, at iTNT Hub, in collaboration with Puthran & Associates conducted an IP Clinic on October 24, 2025. The IP Clinic helped Deep & Emerging Tech startups and innovators navigate the complexities of Intellectual Property, benefited from this IP Clinic and received mentorship on IP protection, IP filing request, IPR, and Clarity on Trademarks.

Register Now for the Next IP Clinic (November 28, 2025):

<https://forms.gle/71NyQ9eCceWTwrpk7>



At Our Regional Hubs

Madurai & Trichy

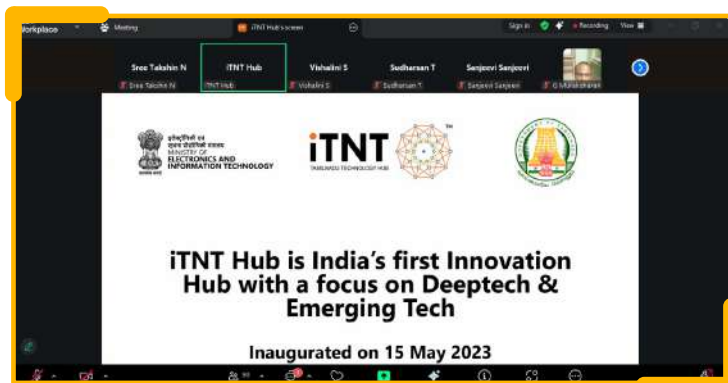
BEACON Awareness Programs, Trichy



The Trichy Regional of iTNT Hub conducted an online BEACON Trichy Cohort awareness program on October 10, 2025. The orientation served as an entry point for participants to understand iTNT's innovation ecosystem, the structure of the BEACON idea validation bootcamp, and the opportunities available through iTNT's various startup support systems.

The event received active participation from more than 100 researchers, students and aspiring entrepreneurs across multiple institutions, reaffirming iTNT Hub's commitment to building a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem and democratising innovation-driven growth across the State. Overwhelming response at the program leads to the launch of the first BEACON Cohort for Trichy Region in November 2025.

Sensitisation Program at Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai



More than 100 researchers, studentpreneurs, innovators and aspirants from Thiagarajar College of Engineering and Thiagarajar group of institutions benefited from the

iTNT Hub sensitisation program conducted by the Madurai Regional Hub on October 28, 2025. During the session, participants were introduced to iTNT Hub's innovation ecosystem, startup support initiatives, and the BEACON Program opportunities. The session resulted in 4 participants – 2 faculty members & 2 students – expressing interest to benefit from the incubation services of iTNT Hub.

Sensitisation Program at Anna University Madurai Regional Campus



The Dean of Anna University Regional Campus Madurai and more than 130 participants comprising heads of departments, faculties, researchers, innovators, studentpreneurs and aspirants benefitted from the sensitisation program organised by iTNT Hub at the institution premises on October 29, 2025. As many as 37 participants – including 10 faculties and 27 researchers – submitted expression of interest forms to benefit from the support system provided by iTNT Hub.



What's New?

Call for Applications: iTNT Foundry Venture Studio

"iTNT Foundry" Venture Studio is a high-touch venture creation platform helping innovators transform ideas into production-ready, scalable ventures. iTNT Foundry is for you, if you are:

- A Researcher / Innovator / Startup from Tamil Nadu
- Developing the next breakthrough in Manufacturing, AI, Mobility, Energy, DeepTech

iTNT Foundry is a DeepTech venture creation platform that helps researchers, innovators, and startups transform ideas into market-ready products. Selected teams receive venture-building mentorship, access to shared labs and pilot-production facilities, technical validation, industry partnerships, and pathways to funding and commercialization.

Acting as your Co-founder, at iTNT Foundry we go beyond incubation. We travel along with your entrepreneurial journey to shape product strategy, accelerate validation, and enable commercialization. The Venture Studio provides deep technical and business engagement to build production-ready, fundable, and globally competitive deep-tech ventures from Tamil Nadu.

Selected teams will gain access to Shared Labs, Pilot-production Facilities, Expert Mentorship, and Industry Partnerships to accelerate your journey from prototype to market.

Limited Slots Only!

Apply Now: <https://lnkd.in/gDa-JQ8b>



iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB

iTNT Foundry
Transform Breakthrough Ideas into Market-Ready Ventures

Offerings

- Co-creation with experts & industry partners
- Access to Shared labs & Pilot Production facilities
- Industry Collaboration & Pilot Opportunities
- Funding Pathways & Support
- Venture Acceleration Pathways [Product, Market & Growth]

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Expression of Interest:

Quantum Technologies & Quantum-Inspired Solutions

iTNT Hub is initiating an Expression of Interest (Eoi) from startups, researchers, and innovators working in the field of Quantum Technologies and Quantum-Inspired Solutions. The objective is to understand the:

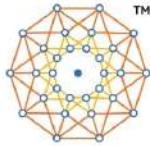
- Current Needs
- Challenges
- Focus Areas

of stakeholders in the Quantum space. Insights gathered through this Eoi will help us design a dedicated Quantum Program, one that provides the right support framework, resources, and collaborations for innovators in this domain.

Express your Interest here: <https://lnkd.in/g9eBC2ZX>

Eoi Deadline: 30th November 2025

iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB



Working on Quantum Technologies & Quantum-Inspired Solutions?

iTNT Hub is collecting Expression of Interest (Eoi) from



Startups



Researchers



Innovators

To understand your

Current Needs | Challenges | Focus Areas

To help us shape a suitable Quantum Program

Lets Connect!



Deadline: **30th November 2025**

Founder Stories

@ iTNT Hub

Pullinam Aerospace Technologies: Prof. Krunakaran & Mr. Shiva Prasaath



In a country where aircraft manufacturing has long depended on imports, Pullinam Aerospace Technologies has emerged as a pioneering element in rewriting the narrative. Founded in June 2023 by Prof. C.S. Karunakaran and Shiva Prasaath S.B., the company is India's first indigenous manufacturer of two-seater electric trainer aircraft - a milestone that blends vision, perseverance and engineering innovation.

The partnership between the founders is a meeting of shared goals and ideologies. Prof. Karunakaran, widely known in the Indian aerospace sector, hails from Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu. His journey from aircraft mechanic to inventor, academician, and mentor has been driven by a singular conviction: "India can create its own technological future." With decades of experience, he has guided several DeepTech startups in drones, aerospace, and defense, and has been a consistent advocate for nurturing young innovators within a structured startup ecosystem.

Shiva Prasaath, an electronics and communication engineer from VIT, represents the new wave of technologists who bridge academia with applied innovation. His research in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and embedded systems has led to practical advancements in predictive maintenance, automation, and smart systems. While working in Pune, Shiva began collaborating with Prof. Karunakaran, channeling his personal savings to fund their ambitious vision of building an electric aircraft in India.

Pullinam's journey began modestly, with long hours, borrowed lab space, and a vision that often felt ahead of its time. Yet, through persistence, the team achieved something no one else in the country had: a fully indigenous prototype of a two-seater electric aircraft, capable of dramatically reducing operational and training costs. Traditional aviation fuel expenses that run up to ₹2,500 per flight hour could, through Pullinam's technology, claims to have dropped to as low as ₹4 per hour, thanks to battery-powered propulsion and smart energy systems.

Supported by early-stage grants, Pullinam transformed its early concept into reality. The team built a static model and successfully conducted flight tests with scaled-down versions, validating both design and safety performance. These achievements laid the groundwork for their next phase: developing four-, six-, and ten-seater electric aircraft, scaling their innovation from training to commercial and regional applications.



Pullinam's vision extends beyond technology, it's about national capability and sustainability. Their aircraft promise not only cleaner skies but also reduced dependency on imported aviation technologies from the U.S. and Europe. By focusing on indigenous R&D and manufacturing, Pullinam is helping position India as a global player in next-generation aerospace innovation.

As Shiva now leads operations as the Chief Operating Officer and Prof. Karunakaran continues to guide

strategy as its Chief Executive Officer, Pullinam Aerospace Technologies stands as a symbol of what can happen when experience meets youthful determination. Their story is not one of overnight success, but a belief that innovation, when grounded in purpose and persistence, can lift both ideas and industries to new altitudes.

Pullinam Aerospace Technologies is proudly part of iTNT Hub's PATHFINDER Incubation Program.



Founder Stories

@ iTNT Hub

Tvasta Manufacturing Solutions: Adithya V S & Parivarthan Reddy



Facts can be stranger than fiction is a phrase that is often used by journalists while unearthing stories of underworld mysteries. As the world gravitates towards turning science fiction into scientific reality, this path is now being laid by DeepTech startups creating a new paradigm shift by revolutionising how technology can be utilised in creating a sustainable and energy efficient future. In this realm of DeepTech, Tvasta manufacturing solutions is revolutionising the construction industry through Concrete 3D Printing. Leading this new wave of DeepTech supremacy are Adithya V S, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer and Parivarthan Reddy, Co-Founder & Chief Operations Officer of Tvasta.

Adithya has been leading the business development of the company since its establishment in 2016. He graduated with a B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering and an M.Tech in Product Design from IIT Madras. Adithya has played a very active role as the promoter of the company, actively dealing with conversations with senior officials in central and state governments and private companies, advocating for more automation, sustainable construction processes, and gathering attention towards the capabilities of 3D Printing.

Parivarthan Reddy has been an integral part of its growth since Tvasta's inception. He finished his B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering and an M.Tech in Thermal Engineering from IITM. A tech enthusiast and a builder, he leads the technical team of Tvasta in Machine Development & Manufacturing. The success of Tvasta products quality can be related to the 8 patents the company has been granted.

As the epicenter of most DeepTech ventures, the founder's journey began in the laboratory. Tvasta has transformed from a research initiative into a global pioneer in Concrete 3D Printing. As Part of 'Housing for All Program' Tvasta was Recognized as one of the 'Super 8 Construction Startups' in 2019 by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, awarded by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. In 2023 BMTPC awarded the Performance Appraisal Certificate to 3D Concrete Printing Technology by Tvasta. Soon they received the DSIR Recognition Certificate of recognition from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for inhouse R&D capabilities.



With a mission to build faster, smarter, and more sustainably, Tvasta is pioneering 3D-printed construction from creating India's first 3D-printed building to delivering advanced infrastructure projects across India, the MENA region, Australia, and the USA. Tvasta's technology merges precision, sustainability, and efficiency to create structures that are not only innovative but also built with purpose. With a strong focus on automation and material optimization, they ensure construction is faster, aesthetic, and environmentally responsible.

Tvasta is on a mission to push the boundaries of 3D printing construction technology through automation, making housing and infrastructure more accessible, customizable, and eco-friendly. On this line of mission they are on the path to assist India's vision in providing housing for all through the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

The Mission addresses urban housing shortage among the EWS/LIG and MIG categories including the slum dwellers by ensuring a house to all eligible urban households. Tvasta through its 3D printing technology adds the necessary synergy required in achieving this feat.

Their first 3D printed housing unit for Indian Defence was constructed for the Indian Air Force at Chiloda, Gujarat. Twin Living Quarters for Airmen were built using offsite construction methodology by transporting printed modules from our production facility at Kadi. The

1500 sq.ft. structure is currently under utilisation by families.

Greater Chennai Corporation has begun Printing Bus Shelters in 81 Locations with Tvasta's 3D printing construction technology, providing immense in terms cost-efficiency and design.

These bus shelters can bring variety to the landscape and likely be a refreshing break from the uniformity that marks bus shelter design.

In this realm of Concrete 3D Printing, Tvasta provides end-to-end support through its ecosystem of Architects, software and structural engineers, researchers and technologists who are capable of executing a 3D printing construction project from ground zero. By publishing their research papers and engaging in the product sales they have also enabled parallel researchers in the field of 3D concrete printing to further reinvent and develop this technology.

The team is not only redefining how we build but also why we build. In shaping a new paradigm of construction, Tvasta is helping build a stronger, more inclusive tomorrow where each project from urban infrastructure to housing, embodies a step toward a future where homes are faster to build, smarter to design, and kinder to the planet.

Tvasta is proudly iTNT Hub's iAccelerate 2.0 acceleration portfolio startup.



DeepTech Insights

AI Startups Captured Over 50% of Venture Funding in 2025

Artificial intelligence startups are on track to capture more than half of total annual venture capital funding for the first time in 2025, according to a report by CB Insights. The report highlighted that AI companies raised 51% of the total funding in 2025 so far, signaling a historic shift in investor focus toward the sector. This puts 2025 on pace for the first year ever where AI startups claim most of the funding.



Scan to read the full article

These VCs Will Give You Money if You're a Deep Tech Startup

Despite scepticism, many venture capitalists have shown confidence in such core technologies. According to Tracxn, Indian deep-tech companies raised \$1.06 billion in equity funding across 137 rounds by July 2025, which is twice the amount raised during the same period in 2024. Even at this rate of growth, many startup founders say the lack of capital remains a significant challenge.



Scan to read the full article

Blume Ventures logs initial close of fifth fund at \$175 million

Early-stage venture capital firm Blume Ventures has made the initial close of its latest investment vehicle at \$175 million, cofounder and partner Karthik Reddy told ET. The Bengaluru-based VC firm has backed companies such as Purpille, Unacademy, Spinny and Cashify. Its new fund, which is targeting a corpus of \$250-275 million, will announce its final close by early next year.



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From Compliance to Credit: DeepTech Automates India's Banking Backbone

Indian DeepTech product companies are changing the way banks and financial services work in India. Smarter new-age technologies powered by advanced AI are reshaping how people save, borrow, and manage money. With over 3,600 DeepTech startups (74% AI-led) India has emerged as the 6th largest DeepTech hub, creating impactful innovations in banking, lending, insurance & wealth management.



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Engineer Starts A Cybersecurity Co. From Home; His Startup Now Serves 800+ Clients Globally


Meet Anil Kumar, an engineer who turned his home into a cybersecurity launchpad. His bootstrapped venture now serves over 800 global clients, generating ₹25 Cr revenue last FY.





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Startup Hiring

 <p>IBT AURA PVT LTD.</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 1</p> <p>Role: Android App Development</p> <p>Work Mode: On-site</p> <p>Stipend: No stipend</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 9361871489</p> <p>Email ID: ibtaura.info@gmail.com</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>	 <p>Admini</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 5</p> <p>Role: Business Development</p> <p>Work Mode: Hybrid</p> <p>Stipend: Rs.7000.</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 9944291166</p> <p>Email ID: richards.dexa@gmail.com</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>	 <p>Kratu Innovations</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 2</p> <p>Role: Marketing & Sales (Interns)</p> <p>Work Mode: On-site</p> <p>Stipend: Yes</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 9940506586</p> <p>Email ID: admin@kratu.biz</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>
 <p>Aristoverse Deep-Tech</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 5</p> <p>Role: Business development (Intern)</p> <p>Work Mode: On-site</p> <p>Stipend: Based on performance</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 9894595035</p> <p>Email ID: Support@Aristoverse.org</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>	 <p>Voxwave AI</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 5</p> <p>Role: Frontend Developer (2) Intern Full Stack Developer with AI Knowledge (3) Intern</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 7449023417</p> <p>Email ID: himayun13@gmail.com</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>	 <p>Teston</p> <p>Positions Vacant: 2 (Interns)</p> <p>Education: B.E electronic</p> <p>Work Mode: Hybrid</p> <p>Stipend: No stipend</p> <p>Mobile number: +91 6382047489</p> <p>Email ID: chandru2003vpm@gmail.com</p> <p>Apply Soon</p>



Helping You Hire The Right Talents!

Emerging and Deep Tech startups in Tamil Nadu can now publish job openings **(both Technical & Non-Technical)** in the iTNT Hub's 'Deep Dive' e-newsletter **free of cost.**


FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT

Mr. Daniel @ 91766 08820

office@tnthub.org

Submit the required details by **NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

www.itnthub.tn.gov.in



Events

on the Radar





Session On

Fueling Startup Growth through Grants & Beyond by Kotak Mahindra Bank

Topics covered

- Role of financial institutions in nurturing startups
- Financial & operational support requirements
- Banking solutions that enable early growth
- Kotak's offerings for startups - Grants & Funding



MR. SUNDAR J.S.
Regional Portfolio Manager
Kotak Mahindra Bank

12th November 2025
11.00 AM
iTNT Hub, Chennai

[Register Here](#)



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Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech Innovations

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Patent Searches & Freedom to Operate (FTO) Analysis

WORKSHOP OUTLINE

- Deep dive into Patent searches
- Learn the freedom to operate strategies for product launch
- Practical Exercises through case studies



Dr. Bhavya Manjeera Patruni
Deputy Manager & Scientist
National Research Development Corporation

WHO CAN BENEFIT

Startups | Researchers | Faculties | IP Professionals

05.11.2025 **10:00 AM to 5:00 PM** **iTNT Hub, Chennai**

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Fee - **Rs.300/-**

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Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech Innovations

IP CLINIC: Turning Idea into Intellectual Property

Who Should Attend?

- Startups & Entrepreneurs
- Innovators & Researchers
- Faculties with innovative project
- Students

What to Expect

- Guidance on Patent | TM filing
- Strategies to protect innovations & ideas
- Insights on IP commercialization & licensing
- One-on-one mentoring, Q&A session



**Don't miss the chance to secure your ideas
and transform them into valuable assets!**



28th November 2025



11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

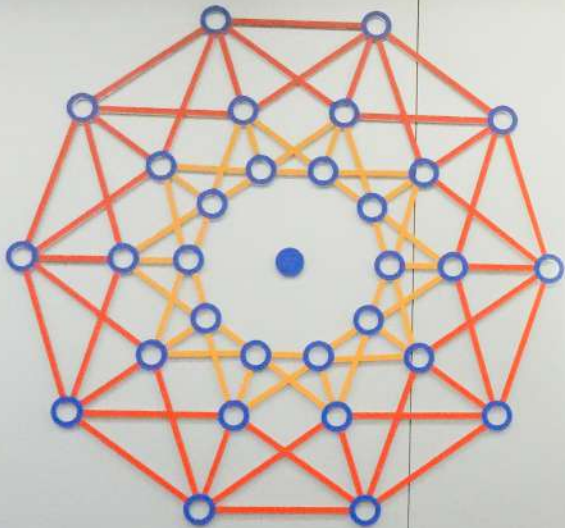


iTNT Hub, Chennai

**Limited Seats
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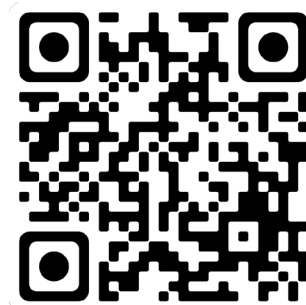
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