



TGIC CONNECT

THE HALF YEARLY MAGAZINE
FROM TELANGANA INNOVATION CELL



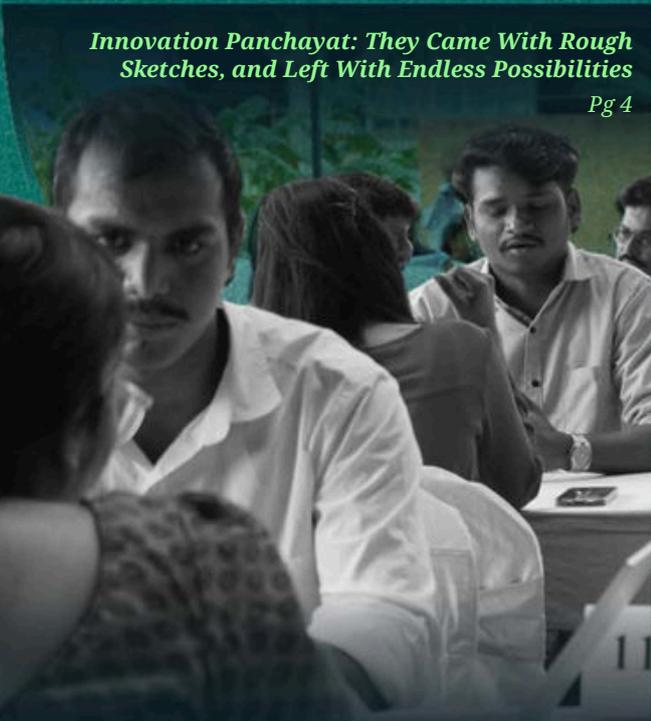
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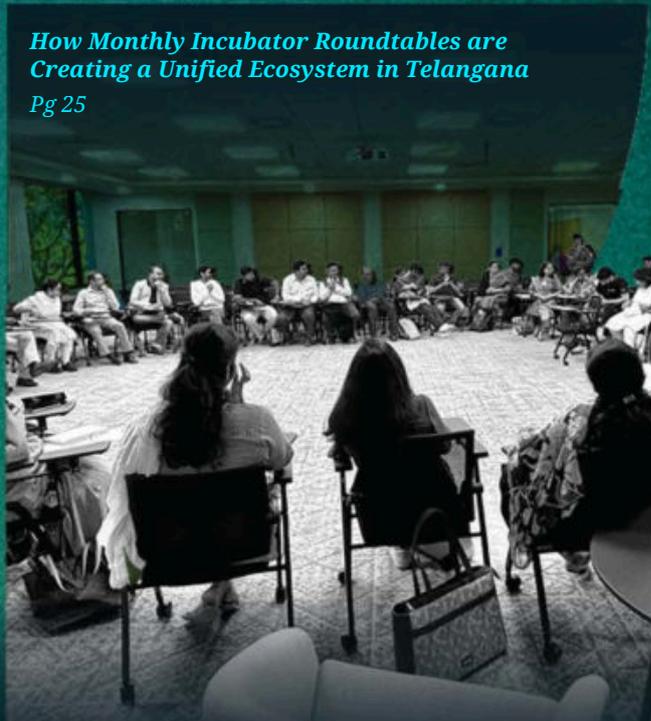
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TGIC *CONNECT*

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July 2025

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Letters to the editor can be sent by either post or e-mail. They should
include the name, address, phone number and email address of the
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About Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC)

Telangana Innovation Cell (herein referred to as TGIC Foundation) is an initiative by the Information Technology, Electronics & Communications Department, Government of Telangana. TGIC was set up in 2017 under the State Innovation Policy with a vision – to build and nurture the Culture of Innovation in the State of Telangana. Today, it acts as the first response of the State Government for identified innovators, start-ups, entrepreneurs, and innovation catalysts to foster an inclusive innovation ecosystem with State-as-a-whole-approach. TGIC is driven by three mandates:



To scout, recognise, & disseminate the Grassroots & Rural Innovations.

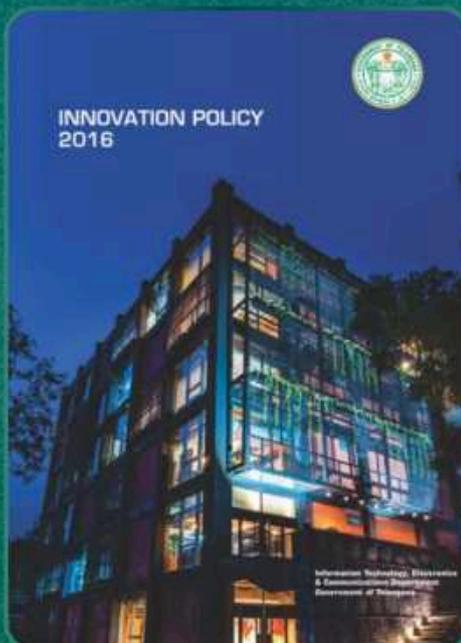


To strengthen the Inclusive & Social Innovation ecosystem.



To promote Innovation in Government & Administration.

Telangana State is promoting inclusive innovation through dedicated policies.



Telangana Innovation Ecosystem



T-Hub

Empower startups to scale-up faster and create business value

Elevates innovation for corporations

Builds a culture of innovation that keeps its partners ahead



Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC)

Sensitize, scout, scale, & Recognize grassroots innovators

Strengthening social and inclusive innovation ecosystem

Capacity building for government



WE Hub

Support women entrepreneurs

Promote Women-
ked Businesses /
Enterprises in Tier II
and III

Pre-Incubation



T- Works

Decrease the barriers to prototyping

Provide access to small production



Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad

Facilitate taking research to market

Provide access to IP protection



Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK)

Enhancing skilling synergy

Run skilling initiatives and programs



Emerging Technologies

To develop the ecosystem required for the industry

To make government departments leverage or adopt emerging technologies



First of its kind Hub for all the Gaming/VFX/AR & VR Startups



National Center for Additive Manufacturing (NCAM)

Promotes additive manufacturing and 3D printing ecosystem



India's first tinkering space for Youth & adolescents to develop innovation capabilities

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From the Special Chief Secretary's Desk



SANJAY KUMAR, IAS

Special Chief Secretary, Information Technology, Electronics & Communications Department, Government of Telangana

Telangana has consistently prioritised fostering innovation across all sectors since its inception. While our urban innovation hubs like T-Hub and WE Hub have achieved significant success, our core vision is to extend this transformative power of innovation to every part of our state, especially our dynamic rural communities. We recognised the need for an inclusive approach, understanding that traditional innovation facilities, often centred in Hyderabad, might not be fully accessible or comfortable for rural innovators. This led to the strategic establishment of the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC), with a clear mandate to identify, nurture, and support the remarkable innovators emerging from Telangana's grassroots.

Our experiences reveal a much richer reality in rural problem-solving: our villages and working-class communities consistently develop practical, 'hyperlocal solutions' to daily challenges, often without formal scientific training. These innovations, born out of necessity in areas like agriculture and livelihoods, demonstrate incredible ingenuity and efficacy. At TGIC, we firmly believe that these indigenous solutions, once meticulously explored and refined, possess immense potential for widespread adoption and significant societal impact.

To unlock this potential, TGIC leads flagship initiatives like 'Intinta Innovator,' a program dedicated to actively seeking out and celebrating these rural problem-solvers. We actively engage in strategic collaborations, forging strong partnerships with various stakeholders across the state. These alliances are crucial for identifying and celebrating rural problem-solvers, ensuring that their invaluable experience and extensive reach significantly amplify our statewide outreach and support systems.

"As we look ahead, the ITE&C Department remains steadfast in its dedication to empowering every innovator in Telangana."

TGIC's strategic initiatives, such as the TGIC Host Institution program, which has successfully partnered with 28 colleges across Telangana, rationalise TGIC's efforts by establishing vibrant Innovation & Entrepreneurship Cells directly within academic institutions, fostering grassroots innovation closer to communities. Complementing this, the successful 'One District One Exhibition' (ODOE) program, drawing over 4000+ farmers and showcasing 30 transformative grassroots agricultural innovations, exemplifies TGIC's direct impact in connecting problem-solvers with those who need their solutions most, thereby validating the immense potential of the state's rural innovators.

The mission extends beyond simply acknowledging existing solutions; TGIC is committed to their continuous enhancement. Through TGIC's extensive network of mentors, technologists, and industry experts, TGIC works collaboratively with innovators. The aim is to elevate the technological sophistication of their solutions, refine features for improved usability, and prepare them for broader market adoption. This comprehensive support ensures that rural innovations are not only recognised but are also poised to create scalable, positive impact across the state.

As we look ahead, the ITE&C Department remains steadfast in its dedication to empowering every innovator in Telangana. By bridging the gap between urban innovation hubs and rural ingenuity, we are not just fostering economic growth; we are nurturing a culture of self-reliance and collective progress that will define Telangana's future. The ingenuity of our rural innovators is not just a local asset; it is a powerful force that will contribute significantly to the state's and indeed, the nation's, journey towards comprehensive development.

From the CEO's Desk



MERAJ FAHEEM

Chief Executive Officer (CEO),
Telangana Innovation Cell, ITE&C Department,
Government of Telangana

Dear Readers,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I present to you the Telangana Innovation Cell's half-yearly magazine 'TGIC Connect', chronicling the remarkable journeys of our innovators, the strategic partnerships we have forged, and our flagship initiatives that continue to position Telangana at the forefront of India's innovation landscape.

The past six months have been particularly rewarding for us. One of the most satisfying moments was seeing grassroots innovators like Shashidhar, whose ingenious automatic street light control device was awarded a pilot order for installation in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, marking a significant step towards enhancing public safety and energy efficiency. Equally inspiring is the journey of T. Ravi Kiran, whose assistive technology 'Navinaut' not only won the Jury round at the HYSEA Awards but has also been nominated for MEITY's prestigious Samridh Grant of ₹40 Lakhs, and it is currently undergoing incubation with Anthill Ventures.

The growing strength of our incubators community through our monthly roundtables has been particularly rewarding. These gatherings have created unprecedented synergy between government and private stakeholders, fostering a truly unified innovation ecosystem across Telangana. Our efforts to strengthen the innovation infrastructure have seen meaningful progress through collaborations with premier institutions of national repute like IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay, where we facilitated their E-Summit regional rounds in Hyderabad, creating valuable networking and mentorship opportunities.

"With new initiatives like TGIC Hosts and Innovation Panchayat, our state-as-a-whole approach ensures no region is left behind—and is poised to further strengthen Telangana's Innovation Landscape."

The globally acclaimed Techstars Startup Weekend, conducted in partnership with AIC GNITS, emerged as another highlight, bringing together over 70 passionate entrepreneurs for an intensive three-day bootcamp and pitching session.

Our strategic partnership with Youth Aid Foundation has been instrumental in amplifying our impact beyond Telangana as we witnessed five early stage startups from Telangana reaching national finals at Christ University, Bangalore and two of them winning the cash rewards.

Newer collaborations with Impact Hub, Bala Vikasa Society, and Siasat Hub are poised to expand opportunities for our innovators at both national and global levels.

The TGIC Hosts initiative has taken root across 30 educational institutes in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, creating a network of local innovation hubs that promise to nurture talent where it emerges.

Our inaugural Innovation Panchayat stood as a testament to the power of collaborative problem-solving, bringing together over 60 grassroots innovators with sector experts, fostering a solution-oriented approach for their ideas.

The coming months will see Telangana's entrepreneurial ecosystem reach newer heights with our Incubator Recognition Framework. This state-as-a-whole approach will ensure no region is left behind as we build a truly inclusive innovation landscape, and we can't wait to see how it elevates the essence of innovation statewide.

Here's to continuing our mission of turning every innovative spark into a beacon of progress!

Happy Reading!

TGIC's Impactful Exchange at DPIIT's States' Startup Ranking Workshop in Nagaland



The Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) proudly represented our state at the recent Startup India two day Knowledge Exchange Workshop, held in the scenic city of Kohima, Nagaland on 10th & 11th of March 2025. This significant event brought together representatives from 18 states across India, fostering a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and mutual growth. TGIC, represented by CEO **Meraj Faheem** and State Startup Ranking Coordinator **Vani Buddhavarapu**, showcased the impressive strides made by Telangana's burgeoning startup ecosystem, highlighting the state's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

A key highlight of the workshop was the insightful fireside chat featuring TGIC's CEO, Meraj Faheem, alongside **Shri Kamaljit Das**, Joint Secretary, MSME Odisha. Their discussion, titled '*Fueling Entrepreneurship Across the State*,' provided a platform for valuable dialogue and the exchange of best practices among government representatives from various states. This session offered a unique opportunity to shed light on Telangana's strategies for nurturing startups and to learn from the diverse approaches taken by other states. The two-day program not only allowed TGIC to share the success story of Telangana's startup ecosystem, but also provided a chance to gain valuable insights from other states, strengthening the national startup network. We are excited to implement these learnings to further empower Telangana's innovators.



Innovation Panchayat: They Came With Rough Sketches, and Left With Endless Possibilities

'This wasn't just about idea sharing—it was about a hope meeting an opportunity, questions finding answers, and local solutions getting wings.'

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) hosted its first **Innovation Panchayat** at T-Hub on 20th June 2025 bringing together 62 grassroots innovators—farmers, artisans, students, and small entrepreneurs—with 10 sector specialists to refine prototypes, explore funding, and strategize market entry.

SIMPLIFYING THE GROWTH JOURNEY OF INNOVATORS

Navigating the startup ecosystem can be daunting, especially for grassroots innovators unsure where to begin. Some of the most common challenges they face are the access the idea validation, right mentorship, funding, or technical support needed to advance their ideas. TGIC's 'Innovation Panchayat Vol. 1' addresses this gap by providing an open-door platform for direct guidance. This initiative represents a fundamental shift toward making innovation support more accessible and actionable across Telangana.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT AN INNOVATION PANCHAYAT SESSION

The inaugural Innovation Panchayat at T-Hub proved that **great ideas just need the right support to flourish**. What began as an experiment—open-door consultations for anyone with an idea, prototype, or even just a question— is now evolving into a recurring activity to be held periodically.

GRATITUDE TO ALL PARTNERS

The success of our inaugural Innovation Panchayat wouldn't have been possible without the collective effort of Telangana's innovation ecosystem. TGIC extends a heartfelt thanks to all the supporting entities: **T-Hub, T-Works, WE Hub, RICH EdVenture Park, KG Reddy Engineering Colege and Vardhaman College of Engineering** for lending their expertise and support to empower grassroots innovators.

This initiative truly highlights the collaborative spirit driving Telangana's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment for startups and innovators throughout the region. We strongly encourage all budding innovators to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.



TGIC Hosts Initiative: Catalyzing Innovation Across Tier 2 & Tier 3 Institutes of Telangana

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) is making significant strides in expanding its reach across the state, bringing innovation and entrepreneurship closer to communities than ever before. Through our dynamic Host Institution program, we've successfully forged partnerships with 28 colleges across Telangana. These collaborations are pivotal in establishing vibrant Innovation & Entrepreneurship Cells within academic institutions, cultivating a robust and inclusive ecosystem where innovative ideas can truly flourish at a grassroots level.

A PHASED ROLLOUT FOR MAXIMUM REACH

Our commitment to fostering grassroots innovation began with a successful initial phase earlier this year. On March 26, 2025, at a formal ceremony in T-Hub, TGIC signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with 18 colleges. This foundational step was crucial in our mission to cultivate a thriving innovation ecosystem across the state.

Building on this momentum, we're pleased to report the completion of Phase 2 of our MoU signings on April 30, 2025. This second phase welcomed 10 more colleges into the program, significantly expanding our network. With these latest partnerships, our total number of TGIC Host Institutions now stands at 28, marking a major leap forward in ensuring our programs reach every district effectively and maximize their impact.

EMPOWERING STUDENTS AND LOCAL INNOVATORS

These newly designated TGIC Host Institutions are set to become dynamic hubs for student and local entrepreneurship. Each partner college will establish a dedicated Innovation & Entrepreneurship Cell, fostering an environment ripe for ideation, development, and crucial networking.

As official TGIC Host Institutions, these colleges receive comprehensive support from TGIC, including assistance in developing and managing their local entrepreneurship cells. In return, they serve as the primary points of contact for TGIC programs in their respective districts. Their key roles include:



Organizing awareness sessions to spark interest in innovation.



Facilitating industry engagement to bridge academic learning with real-world opportunities.



Empowering students and local innovators by providing guidance and resources.

This strategic expansion underscores TGIC's unwavering commitment to building a sustainable innovation ecosystem, ensuring that opportunities for entrepreneurship and growth are not just available, but are thriving, across Telangana.

This widespread collaboration truly paves the way for a more vibrant and accessible innovation landscape, empowering a new generation of entrepreneurs across Telangana.

TGIC Host Institutes



Anurag Engineering College,
Suryapet



BV Raju Institute of Technology,
Medak



Christu Jyothi Institute of
Technology and Science, Jangaon



Girraj Govt. College, Nizamabad



Government Degree College, Nirmal



Government Degree College,
Siddipet



Government Degree College,
Wanaparthy



Government Engineering College,
Narayanpet



Government ITI College, Yaddri
Bhuvanagiri



Government Polytechnic College,
Gadwal



Jayaprakash Narayan College of
Engineering, Mahbubnagar



JNTUH College of Engineering, Jagtial



JNTUH College of Engineering,
Mahabubabad



JNTUH College of Engineering,
Rajanna Sircilla



Jyothishmathi Institute of Technology
and Science, Karimnagar



Malla Reddy (MR) Deemed to be
University, Medchal-Malkajgiri



MIMS Degree & PG College,
Mancheril



R.B.V.R.R Women's College,
Narayanguda



RK Degree and PG College,
Kamareddy



Sri Chaitanya Institute of Technology
and Research (SCIT), Khammam



St. Joseph's Degree and PG College,
Hyderabad



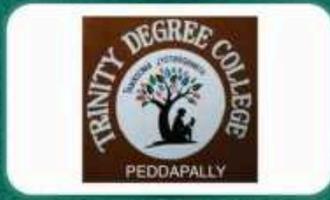
Sumanthi Reddy Institute of Technology
for Women, Hanamkonda



Takshashila Degree College,
Vikarabad



Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential
Degree College for Women, Rangareddy



Trinity Degree and PG College,
Peddapalli



University College of Engineering,
Bhadradi Kothagudem



Vaagdevi College of Engineering,
Warangal



Vasundhara Degree College,
Asifabad

SCALING CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

NICE Samanvay 2025: A Confluence of Policy, Innovation and Culture

NICE Samanvay 2025, a national cultural entrepreneurs summit organised by the Network of Indian Cultural Enterprises (NICEorg) at the Bangalore International Centre on 28th June 2025, served as a powerful confluence of tradition, innovation, and entrepreneurship. As India's flagship summit for cultural entrepreneurs, the event showcased how India's rich cultural and creative wealth can be harnessed for nurturing scalable and sustainable enterprises.

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) played a key role as the Government Ecosystem Partner, facilitating the summit and conversations on how public policy and innovation support systems can accelerate India's creative economy.

Representing Telangana's continued leadership in innovation, **Mr. Jayesh Ranjan**, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to Chief Minister's Office delivered an insightful address on how Telangana is taking a lead in promoting Cultural Enterprises and Creative Arts through heritage and tourism, as showcased during the recent Miss World 2025 event hosted by Telangana.



A highlight of the Summit was the panel on 'Telangana State: What does it take to build a Cultural Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in a State', moderated by **Meraj Faheem**, CEO, TGIC. The discussion brought together entrepreneurs and ecosystem builders – Krishna Priya Akella – Founder – Starbuzz.ai, Gopi Byluppalla – Founder – The Culinary Lounge, and Uha Sajja – Associate Director – WE-Hub to discuss Telangana's approach to scaling cultural innovation through grassroots engagement, capacity building, and socially-inclusive initiatives that trickle down into the tier 2/3 and rural landscapes of Telangana.

On the occasion, Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, announced the state's Food & Beverage and Experience Tourism Accelerator to strengthen the enterprises promoting state culture and heritage.

NICE Samanvay 2025 reaffirmed the importance of ecosystem partnerships – and TGIC's presence underscored the transformative potential of government-backed support for India's rich cultural landscape through entrepreneurship.



TGIC Sparks Innovation Dialogue at Hyderabad Literary Festival

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) made a significant contribution to the vibrant atmosphere of the **Hyderabad Literary Festival (HLF)**, held at Sattva Knowledge City, by hosting an engaging panel discussion on the inaugural day, January 24, 2025. This participation underscored TGIC's commitment to fostering dialogue and exploring the multifaceted dimensions of innovation, extending beyond the traditional tech focus. The panel discussion proved a valuable platform for dialogue and exchange, enriching the festival's broader focus on creativity and ideas.

Meraj Faheem, CEO – TGIC, led a compelling conversation with **Brigadier P Ganesham**, founder of Palle Srujana, a renowned figure in grassroots innovation. The discussion explored a range of topics, including the very definition of innovation and the unique challenges and triumphs of grassroots innovation in Telangana. This exploration delved into the nuances of innovation beyond conventional models, recognising the ingenuity and resourcefulness found within local communities. Mr. Faheem also highlighted the significant role TGIC has played in shaping the state's innovation landscape since its inception in 2017, showcasing the organisation's contributions to fostering a thriving ecosystem.



The conversation further showcased inspiring stories of successful innovators from Telangana, offering insights into their journeys and the driving forces behind their achievements. These narratives provided tangible examples of how innovation can emerge from diverse backgrounds and inspire others to pursue their own creative endeavours. The panel discussion, a highlight of HLF's opening day, generated lively discussion and underscored the growing recognition of grassroots innovation as a key driver of progress. By participating in the HLF, TGIC effectively broadened the conversation around innovation, highlighting its connection to social change and community development.



TGIC Honors 48 Rural Innovators on Republic Day 2025

On Republic Day, January 26th, 2025, Telangana honored 48 individuals for their innovative solutions developed within their local communities. The Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC), in partnership with the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department, presented the **'Intinta Innovator Village Innovation Awards 2025'** to these individuals representing 44 villages across 24 districts. This recognition underscores the state's commitment to fostering grassroots innovation and celebrating the ingenuity of its citizens.



The award recipients, a diverse group including students, housewives, and working professionals, have demonstrated remarkable creativity and problem-solving skills in addressing local challenges. Their innovations span a range of critical areas, including improvements to agricultural practices, enhanced access to healthcare, and the promotion of environmental sustainability. These locally-driven solutions highlight the power of grassroots innovation to directly impact and improve the quality of life within communities.

The awards ceremonies, held in each respective village, served as a celebration of innovation at the community level. This decentralized approach emphasizes the importance of recognizing and encouraging innovation within rural areas across Telangana. The 'Intinta Innovator Village Innovation Awards' not only provide well-deserved recognition to the innovators identified through TGIC's scouting process but also serve as an inspiration to others. By showcasing these success stories, the awards aim to cultivate a culture of innovation throughout the state, encouraging individuals to develop solutions for the challenges they face in their daily lives. This initiative reinforces the belief that innovation can emerge from anywhere and that local solutions are key to building a more prosperous and sustainable future for Telangana.



Innovators
Awarded

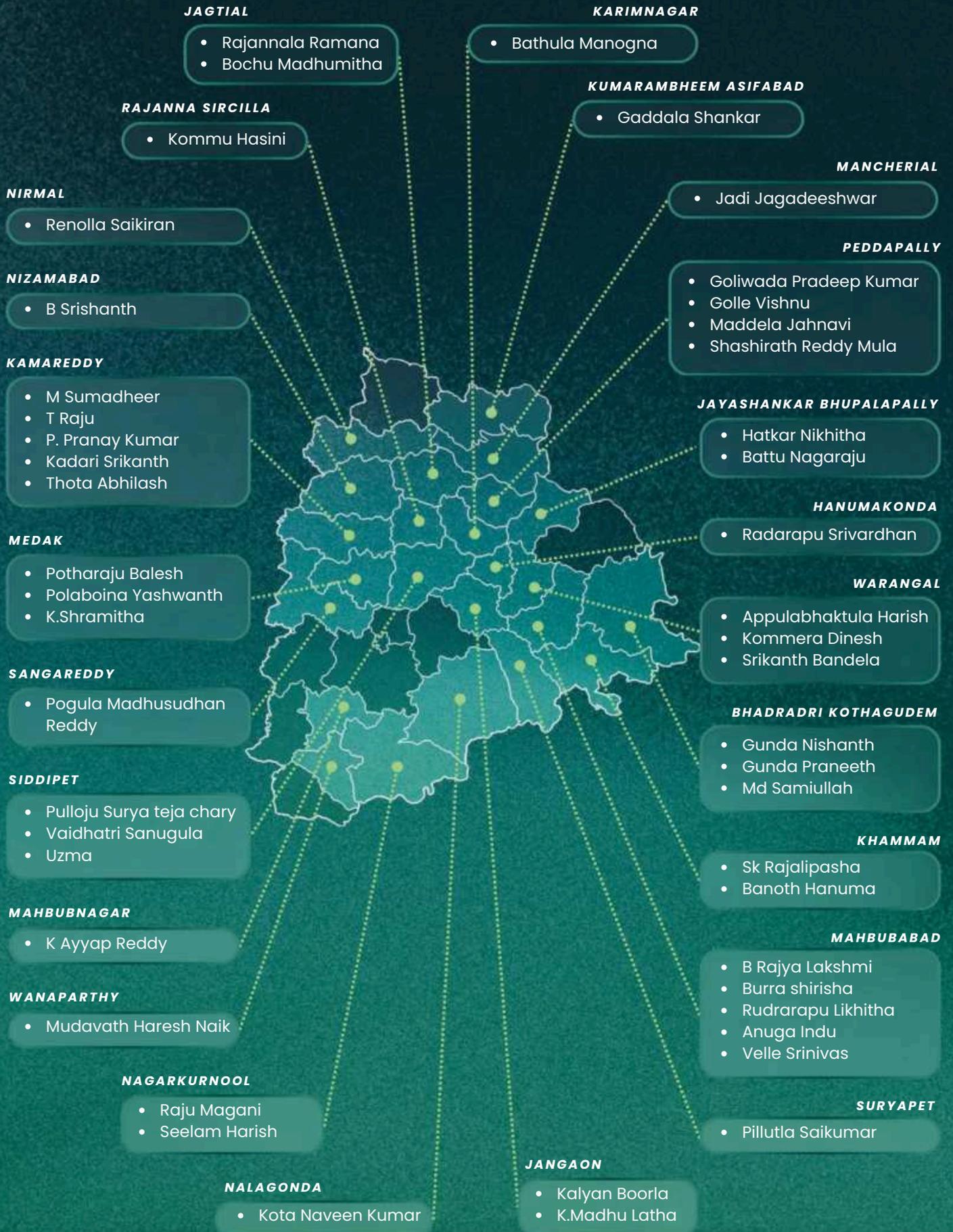


Villages
Represented



Districts
Represented

Recipients of TGIC's Village Innovation Awards 2025



TGIC x S-HUB: Igniting Grassroots Innovation Through Media and Community

Innovation isn't just about Silicon Valley-style disruptors—it thrives in Telangana's villages, small businesses, and community collectives. Yet without the right platforms, these grassroots solutions remain invisible, underfunded, and trapped in hyperlocal silos.

In a bold move to bridge the innovation divide, the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC)—the state's flagship innovation arm—has teamed up with S-HUB (a Siasat Daily initiative) to turbocharge grassroots problem-solvers.

The MoU was signed by **Amer Ali Khan** (Member, Telangana Legislative Council & News Editor, The Siasat Daily) and **Meraj Faheem** (CEO, TGIC) on 30th May 2025, and marks a cross-sector alliance to empower underserved entrepreneurs, local media innovators, and small businesses across the state.

WHY THIS PARTNERSHIP IS A GAME-CHANGER

By merging TGIC's reach across the government departments and larger ecosystem in the state, with S-HUB's deep-rooted media networks and community trust, we are aiming to create something unprecedented: a pipeline that turns everyday problem-solvers into scalable change-makers.

This is about more than funding or training—it's strengthening the innovation playbook to honor indigenous knowledge, leverage vernacular media's influence, and prove that transformative ideas don't just come from labs and incubators. When a farmer's low-cost irrigation hack gets amplified through Siasat's print and digital platforms and TGIC's scaling programs, it does more than help one village—it sparks a movement.

THE LONG TERM VISION

Every district in Telangana has its own innovation identity with each carving out its own niche. Think of Warangal and its craft-tech ingenuity, Nizamabad and its pioneering farm-tech solutions, or Khammam's dedication to sustainable agriculture and diverse crops.

Through this partnership with the Siasat media network, the ambition is to magnify the reach and impact of these regional innovations through a media-powered network that serves as a vital bridge to markets, mentors, and the entire entrepreneurial ecosystem.

This partnership isn't about creating another startup ecosystem. It's about strengthening the vision that the most powerful innovations often start where the world isn't looking.



TGIC Backs ACIC CBIT's GRIP Cohort Phase II: Innovation Grounded in Impact

The second edition of the Grassroots Innovation Program (GRIP) by ACIC CBIT and supported by TGIC was crafted as an impact-first initiative, bringing together 20 rural youth for a six-months journey of innovation rooted in real-world problem-solving. Designed in partnership with the Atal Innovation Mission, the program emphasized community relevance from day one—focusing on practical skill-building, on-ground immersion, and hands-on prototyping.

A standout feature of the program was emphasis laid on the community-based engagement and reflection through the process of Design Thinking. Participants engaged directly with rural communities, local innovators, and farmers to understand lived challenges and co-develop solutions. This exposure shaped their problem statements and guided the development of field-tested prototypes.

IMPACT

- 4 working prototypes addressing rural and agricultural challenges.
- 100+ hours of expert mentorship.
- ₹10,000–₹15,000 prototype development support per team.
- Immersive community field visits, departmental labs, and a visit to T-Works.
- Jury-led product evaluations and pitch day reviews.

GRIP II proved how rural innovators, when equipped with the right tools and context, can create scalable, meaningful solutions. It leaves behind not just prototypes, but a replicable model for grassroots innovation that prioritizes empathy, practicality, and sustainable community impact. TGIC is glad to have supported this initiative to realize the shared goal of delivering impact to the communities that are unserved and underserved through innovations and empowerment.



Kalam Spoorthi Yatra Sparks Innovation Across Telangana

TGIC, as the State Innovation Partner, to the Kalam Spoorthi Yatra, driven by the Edodwaja Foundation and led by entrepreneur Madhulash Babu, recently concluded a transformative tour spanning all 33 districts of Telangana. The initiative brought immersive exposure to technology-driven learning directly to young students in underserved communities

Central to the Yatra was the Flow Bus, India's first mobile lab on wheels, equipped to deliver hands-on experiences in IoT, AR/VR, Robotics, 3D Printing, AI, and ML. Over the 2 month yatra, it reached more than 17,151 students across all 33 districts, in an attempt to nudge their learning paradigm from rote memorization to experiential discovery.



At each stop, the concerned local education authorities—Dist. Education Officers, school faculty and also the IAS officers—facilitated jointly with TGIC to ensure a robust district-level execution of the program. Participants got direct exposure to the emerging technologies, developing curiosity and capability to envision innovative futures. Educators and stakeholders emphasized the Yatra's role in bridging the gap between traditional education and real-world applications, praising its relevance and impact.

By bringing this mobile innovation labs directly to schools, the Kalam Spoorthi Yatra demonstrated how thoughtfully designed, impact-oriented initiatives—backed by strategic partnerships like TGIC and Salesforce—can catalyze a shift in rural education, preparing youth to become India's next generation of problem-solvers and tech innovators.



T-Innovation Mahotsavam 2025 Celebrated Across Telangana

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC), in partnership with the Panchayat Raj Department, successfully concluded the state-wide **T-Innovation Mahotsavam (TIM)** 2025 on World Creativity & Innovation Day, April 21, 2025. This significant initiative unfolded across all 33 districts of Telangana, effectively amplifying and celebrating innovation, raising awareness about its importance, and connecting market-ready solutions with rural communities to address critical livelihood challenges.



At its core, TIM 2025 was a village-centric endeavor, with respective Sarpanches and Secretaries spearheading the initiative. This fostered a deeper understanding within rural communities regarding the significance of innovation, empowering residents to identify the challenges they face and collaboratively develop solutions for their daily lives. Throughout Telangana, villagers actively engaged in discussions that centered on the necessity of innovation, the pressing issues affecting their communities, and the collective brainstorming of practical solutions.

The substantial increase in participation and engagement for TIM 2025 was driven by strategic collaborations with district administrations, educational institutions, and various community platforms.

A special thanks goes to the **Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC)**. Their gracious support in deploying TIM awareness posters and audio-visuals at bus stands statewide significantly expanded the Mahotsavam's reach, and truly amplifying our message for innovation across Telangana.

The T-Innovation Mahotsavam 2025 served as a platform for insightful discussions on the definition and importance of innovation, as well as the inherent opportunities present within rural areas. Villagers were actively encouraged to identify their challenges and collaboratively develop innovative solutions, marking a significant step towards realizing their village dreams through the power of innovation.



TGIC AT ICMED 2025:

Catalyzing Multidisciplinary Innovation for Sustainable Development

Telangana Innovation Cell played a pivotal role in shaping conversations at the 2nd International Conference on Multi-Disciplinary Research and Sustainable Development (ICMED 2025), held from 7-9 March 2025 at KG Reddy College of Engineering & Technology, Hyderabad. As a key knowledge partner, TGIC assisted in bridging the gap between academic research, grassroots innovation, and scalable solutions.

The conference opened with an insightful keynote address by **Meraj Faheem**, CEO, TGIC on *'The Role of Multidisciplinary Innovation in Addressing Global Challenges.'* He emphasized TGIC's holistic approach towards fostering convergence between technology, policy, and social impact – a theme that resonated throughout the three-day conference.

On day two, **Sohel Khan**, Lead, Grassroots Innovation at TGIC deepened the discourse with his session on *'Sustainable Technologies and Perspectives,'* highlighting TGIC's commitment for scouting and supporting more climate-resilient innovations and community-driven problem-solving.

Beyond thought leadership, the conference also became a launchpad for tangible impact – most notably through the deployment of an IoT-based cooling chamber at Surangal Village – a frugal solution developed by TGIC-supported innovator B. Lingam with extensive R&D support from KG Reddy College of Engineering and Technology. It was jointly inaugurated by **Meraj Faheem**, CEO-TGIC, and **Brigadier P. Ganesham**, Founder – Palle Srujana.



CULTIVATING THE SEEDS OF INNOVATION:

TGIC and eDC IIT Delhi partner for E-Summit Regionals at Hyderabad

On 19th January, 2025, **TGIC** and **IIT Delhi's Entrepreneurship Development Cell (eDC)** joined hands to host the E-Summit Regionals in Hyderabad, demonstrating the power of collaboration in nurturing innovation. This partnership underscores TGIC's belief that collective efforts are crucial for building a robust support system for entrepreneurs. The E-Summit Regionals served as a platform designed to empower budding entrepreneurs, bringing together promising startups, experienced mentors, and key speakers to foster a thriving environment and drive impactful change. TGIC contributed valuable resources, including a curated list of startups, mentors, and a keynote speaker – **Meraj Faheem**, CEO of TGIC. Key contributions also came from TGIC team members Soheli Khan and Sahil Suman, who oversaw the program's execution.

Beyond the regional competition, this partnership provided a unique opportunity for startups incubated within the Telangana ecosystem. These startups were given a platform to pitch their innovative ideas at 'Moonshine' the flagship event of eDC IIT Delhi's annual summit. This exposure to a wider audience and investor network is invaluable for early-stage companies and strengthens the connection between Telangana's startup ecosystem and the broader national landscape. This opportunity allowed Telangana startups to showcase their potential on a larger stage and connect with potential investors and collaborators.



This collaboration between TGIC and IIT Delhi's eDC exemplifies how meaningful partnerships can empower the next generation of entrepreneurs and shape the future of innovation. TGIC is committed to fostering such collaborations that provide tangible benefits to the startup community and drive innovation forward. The combined efforts of both organizations created a valuable opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs to connect, learn, grow, and gain crucial exposure.



TGIC Powers Malla Reddy College's E-Summit: Igniting Women-led Innovation in Telangana

On January 25th, 2025, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) provided crucial support as the 'State Innovation Partner' for **Malla Reddy Engineering College for Women's E-Summit**. This effort underscored TGIC's profound commitment to cultivating a truly diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystem. We firmly believe that nurturing young women entrepreneurs is absolutely essential for igniting robust economic growth and shaping a more balanced and inclusive entrepreneurial society.

TGIC played an active role in the E-Summit by connecting the institute with relevant startups for pitching competition and innovation showcases. This provided a valuable platform for emerging women-led businesses to gain visibility and potentially attract investment. Furthermore, TGIC facilitated connections with incubators across the state, enabling them to share their experiences and inspire future women entrepreneurs. These connections offered practical insights and guidance to the students, fostering a stronger link between academia and the broader startup ecosystem.



Mr. Sahil Suman, Communications Lead at TGIC, represented the organization at the E-Summit's inauguration. He explored potential collaboration opportunities to further support women innovators from the college, demonstrating TGIC's ongoing commitment to nurturing talent. TGIC is dedicated to nurturing these relationships and empowering women innovators to succeed, contributing to a more vibrant and inclusive innovation landscape in Telangana.

IGNITING FUTURE INNOVATORS:

TGIC facilitates Young Edsplorer's Innovengers Bootcamp on Design Thinking and SDGs

Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) partnered with Young Edsplorer for the inaugural edition of 'Innovengers Bootcamp', held at Oakridge International School, Gachibowli from January 31st to February 2nd, 2025. This impactful three-day program immersed students aged 9-16 in Design Thinking principles and Sustainable Development Goal challenges, fostering a culture of innovation. Sixteen student teams, each guided by expert mentors, developed and pitched innovative solutions, culminating in an exciting contest. A significant highlight was the participation of five students from Government Zilla Parishad High Schools, nominated through TGIC's Intinta Innovator Campaign 2024, made possible by the invaluable support of the Inquilab Foundation, emphasizing TGIC's commitment to democratizing innovation.



The bootcamp was graced by distinguished guests, enriching the students' experience. **Meraj Faheem**, CEO of TGIC, served as the guest of honor at the valedictory day, providing inspiring insights and encouragement. Design guru and real-life hero, **Sonam Wangchuk**, delivered a powerful keynote, igniting the students' passion for innovation. Furthermore, the workshop was expertly facilitated by **Gaurav Juyal**, a learning experience designer and educator, popularly known for the TV series 'Art Attack.'

The Innovengers Bootcamp's success is a testament to the collaborative spirit of all involved. TGIC extends sincere gratitude to Young Edsplorer, the dedicated mentors, and the Inquilab Foundation for their contributions. This partnership exemplifies TGIC's dedication to nurturing the next generation of innovators and fostering a culture of problem-solving and sustainable development in Telangana.



Hyderabad Ignites Innovation at 8th Young Entrepreneurship Summit Regionals

Hyderabad buzzed with entrepreneurial energy as Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) and **YouthAid Foundation** partnered to host the Regionals of 8th **Young Entrepreneurship Summit** on February 5th, 2025. Vardhaman College of Engineering, Shamshabad, provided the perfect setting for early-stage startups and innovators to connect, pitch, and compete. It was a key platform for networking and idea sharing, significantly boosting Hyderabad's burgeoning entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Meraj Faheem, CEO - TGIC, delivered a compelling keynote, emphasizing the importance of nurturing young entrepreneurial talent.

A thought-provoking panel discussion, *'Taking Grassroots Innovations to Market'* moderated by TGIC's Sohail Khan, featured industry experts M.N. Sanyal (YouthAid), Dr. U.K. Choudhury (CBIT), and Dr. Shashwat Pathak (AIC GNITS), providing invaluable insights.

The heart of the summit was the pitching competition, where innovators presented their ideas to a discerning jury comprising Dr. Choudhury, Salim Jiwani, M.N. Sanyal, and Mohd Ilyas Shah Khan. Five finalists were selected to advance to the national finale at Christ University, Bangalore.



TGIC extends its sincere gratitude to YouthAid Foundation and Vardhaman College of Engineering for their smooth conduct and hospitality for the regional summit. This partnership was instrumental not only for the event's success, but also paving a way in propelling Telangana's entrepreneurial growth. This collaboration underscores TGIC's commitment to providing platforms for young innovators and driving the region's entrepreneurial spirit.

TGIC Supported Innovators Shine at YESummit Finale in Bangalore

The path to innovation excellence is often ignited by a single spark, nurtured within a supportive environment. On 21-22 February 2025, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) witnessed the culmination of such journeys at the **YESummit Finale**, held at Christ University in Bangalore, where two TGIC-supported startups, **Alien Innovations** and **Show Bio**, emerged as winners. Their triumph, amidst 170 teams from across India, was recognized by **Dr. C.N. Manjunath**, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Karnataka.

This achievement wasn't a sudden occurrence but the result of a rigorous selection process that began in Hyderabad at Vardhaman College of Engineering. In collaboration with the Youth Aid Foundation, TGIC facilitated the preliminary rounds of the YESummit, providing a critical platform for aspiring entrepreneurs. These rounds served as a crucial stepping stone, allowing participants to refine their pitches and receive valuable feedback.



TGIC's involvement ensured these early-stage innovators had access to mentorship and guidance, preparing them for the intense competition. Further highlighting TGIC's leadership, **Sohel Khan**, Lead of Grassroots Innovation, and **Sahil Suman**, Lead of Communications, were invited to serve as panelists in distinct discussions at the finale.

This underscores the importance of creating supportive ecosystems for early-stage startups. By providing access to mentorship, resources, and platforms like the YESummit, TGIC is empowering innovators to turn their ideas into reality, driving economic growth and social impact. The success of Alien Innovations and Show Bio is a testament to the power of collaboration and the potential of grassroots innovation, reflecting TGIC's commitment to fostering a thriving innovation ecosystem within Telangana.



FUELING STARTUP DREAMS:

TGIC & AIC GNITS Join Hands to Power 54-Hour Techstars Startup Weekend

In February 2025, Hyderabad buzzed with entrepreneurial zeal as the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) teamed up with **Atal Innovation Centre - GNITS** to host a dynamic **54-hour Techstars Startup Weekend**. Over three intense days, from the 14th to the 16th of February, aspiring entrepreneurs embarked on a journey of ideation, validation, and pitching, transforming raw ideas into potential ventures.

Meraj Faheem, CEO of TGIC, delivered a powerful keynote address, inspiring participants to "dream big, dream crazy," setting the tone for a weekend of ambitious innovation. The event was expertly facilitated by **Ismail Akbani** (Techstars), with **Sahil Suman**, Lead Communications at TGIC, providing hands-on strategic support in jury formation and overall outreach of the bootcamp.

We extend our sincere gratitude to **Dr. Shashwat Pathak** and **Ms. Aaradhna** from AIC GNITS for their exceptional execution and warm hospitality, which were instrumental in making this event a resounding success.

THE ENTREPRENEURIAL JOURNEY:



Day 1: Ideation & Team Formation:

Participants quickly formed teams and began brainstorming, laying the groundwork for their startup concepts.



Day 2: Market Validation & Pivoting:

Teams engaged in real-world market research, adapting their ideas based on customer feedback and market analysis.



Day 3: Final Pitch Presentations:

The weekend culminated in compelling pitch presentations, showcasing their refined business models to a panel of judges.

THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS:

The event emphasized that entrepreneurship is about progress, not perfection. Participants learned to embrace pivots and setbacks as valuable learning experiences.

The participants left the event with an understanding of revenue model structuring, and Go-To-Market strategies. Startup Weekend Hyderabad proved the power of collaboration and innovation in an unstoppable spirit. By equipping aspiring entrepreneurs with essential tools, resources, and mentorship, AIC GNITS is driving the vibrant growth of Telangana's startup ecosystem.



TGIC x Impact Hub: New Partnership Unlocks Global Opportunities for Local Innovators

In a move to empower Telangana’s changemakers, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) has joined hands with Impact Hub Hyderabad, a key player in the global social innovation space. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by **Meraj Faheem** (CEO, TGIC) and **Jyoshna Reddy** (Co-Founder & Director of Strategy, Impact Hub Hyderabad), on 26th May 2025. It opens doors for local startups to scale their impact across 70+ countries.

A SHARED VISION FOR IMPACT

“This collaboration is about empowering Telangana’s innovators to scale their impact across borders,” said Meraj Faheem. Jyoshna Reddy echoed the sentiment, emphasizing Hyderabad’s potential as an innovation hub: *“Together, we are aiming to amplify grassroots ingenuity on a global scale.”*

WHAT’S NEXT?

The alliance will kick off with pilot programs for select startups, followed by cross-border mentorship and investor showcases. For Telangana’s ecosystem, this isn’t just a partnership—it’s a launchpad for worldwide change. Stay tuned for updates as we spotlight the first cohort of startups going global!

WHY IT MATTERS

Social enterprises and innovators in Telangana often face hurdles in accessing global markets, funding, and policy influence. This partnership bridges that gap by leveraging Impact Hub’s worldwide network, offering startups:



Market Access: Connections to international investors, corporates, and accelerators.



Policy Advocacy: A platform to shape inclusive policies through global dialogues.



Scalable Solutions: Support to deploy homegrown innovations where they’re needed most.

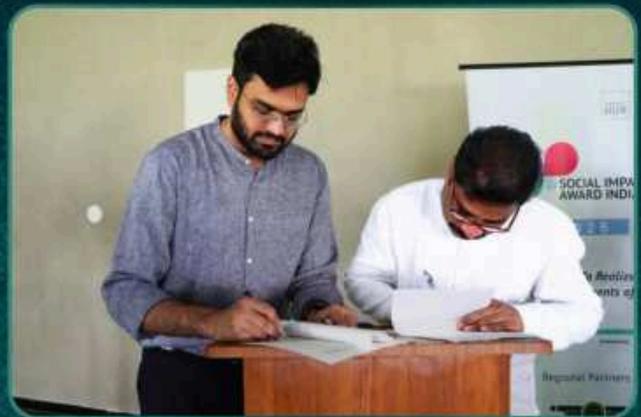
“This collaboration is about empowering Telangana’s innovators to scale their impact across borders”
- Meraj Faheem



TGIC & Bala Vikasa Join Hands to Drive Social Entrepreneurship Across Telangana

In a significant move to accelerate social innovation, the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC), Government of Telangana, and **Bala Vikasa Social Service Society** formalized a strategic partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9th May 2025. The formal agreement was inked during the launch of the Social Impact Awards, hosted by Impact Hub Hyderabad, at the Bala Vikasa Centre for Responsible Business in Keesara.

The agreement was signed and exchanged between **Shoury Reddy**, Executive Director of Bala Vikasa Service Society, and **Meraj Faheem**, CEO of TGIC, marking a commitment to foster inclusive social entrepreneurship. The collaboration aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aiming to create inclusive growth through innovation.



The event also featured the poster unveiling of Impulse, a premier annual initiative by Bala Vikasa that supports and scales social entrepreneurship across the state of Telangana and this year it is poised to become even bigger with international partners like Impact Hub joining hands together.



TGIC Supports Social Impact Award 2025 as Government Innovation Partner

Continuing our successful partnership with Impact Hub Hyderabad, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) is pleased to join hands as the 'Government Innovation Partner' for the prestigious **Social Impact Award (SIA) 2025**.

This global initiative presents an unparalleled opportunity to young changemakers (18-30 years) who are developing innovative solutions addressing critical social challenges aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As Telangana's nodal innovation body, TGIC's involvement reinforces our commitment to nurturing grassroots innovation and supporting youth entrepreneurship across the state and beyond and this collaboration is a step in that direction.

The SIA program offers selected participants:



Through collaborations like this, Telangana Innovation Cell, continues to champion aspiring student innovators, young professionals, and social entrepreneurs throughout Telangana. We firmly believe in fostering a diverse pool of innovators, and we especially encourage women innovators and those dedicated to rural solutions to explore future opportunities. Our aim remains to see Telangana's brightest minds shine on global platforms for social change.



How Monthly Incubator Roundtables Are Creating a Unified Ecosystem in Telangana

The true measure of an innovation ecosystem lies in its community, not just its individual successes. That's the core belief driving the **T-Incubator Monthly Roundtables**. What started in 2019 as a small gathering has grown into a powerful platform, systematically dismantling silos between the government, private sector, and research institutes. Month after month, this diverse community comes together under one roof to brainstorm challenges and forge solutions.

Over the past six months, these incubator roundtables have established themselves as one of the most anticipated events in Telangana's innovation ecosystem. Month after month, incubators and institutions mark their calendars well in advance, eager for the next edition. This growing impact has turned the roundtables into a model that other states are starting to emulate.

By strategically rotating venues across some of the country's top innovation hubs - from the corporate campus of Infosys to the academic powerhouses like ISB and IIIT, and the cutting-edge research hub of CCMB, the roundtables have achieved more than symbolic value.



January 2025,
Venue: Infosys Campus, Gachibowli



February 2025,
Venue: ISB DLabs, Hyderabad



March 2025,
Venue: CIE IIIT, Hyderabad



April 2025,
Venue: T-Hub 2.0



May 2025,
Venue: AIC - CCMB



June 2025,
Venue: WE Hub

This approach has institutionalized collaboration, democratized access, and created a sense of shared ownership across the community. More than just a series of dialogues, the roundtables are becoming the vibrant heartbeat of Telangana's innovation ecosystem, consistently turning conversations into real-world, systemic impact.

Hosting these sessions at some of the most prestigious institutions of national repute like Infosys, ISB, IIIT, and CCMB has sent a clear signal: that ecosystem-building is a collective effort and TGIC is leaving no stone unturned to bring the entire community together for a thriving ecosystem.



TGIC Innovator Ravi Kiran Wins HYSEA 10X Product Award

A moment of immense pride for the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) was seeing our grassroots innovator **Ravi Kiran**, who received the coveted Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association (HYSEA) 10X Product Award for his groundbreaking assistive device, **Navinaut**. This was celebrated at the **32nd HYSEA Annual Summit and Awards 2025** held at HICC Novotel, Hyderabad on February 11th, 2025. This highlighted the tangible impact of TGIC's support for innovation and the dedication of individuals driving positive change. The summit itself became a vibrant celebration of innovation, and TGIC was proud to be an integral part of this landmark event.

Our collaboration with HYSEA underscored a shared commitment to strengthening Telangana's innovation ecosystem from the ground up. **Meraj Faheem**, CEO - TGIC brought his extensive expertise to the forefront, serving as a distinguished member of the awards jury, playing a vital role in recognizing, and celebrating the state's most deserving innovators.



The HYSEA Summit & Awards 2025 served as an invaluable opportunity for TGIC to connect with key delegates and stakeholders from across the startup ecosystem. By showcasing its initiatives and highlighting the achievements of its innovators, TGIC reinforced its position as a key driver of innovation in Telangana. The event provided a dynamic platform for TGIC to demonstrate its commitment to fostering a thriving and inclusive innovation landscape.



LIGHTING THE WAY:

Shashidhar's Journey to Illuminate Rural Telangana



"Seeing my innovation come to life after 7 years of hard work is truly exhilarating. I hope this inspires young innovators to dream big & persevere, knowing that their dedication will eventually pay off."



In the quiet, rural landscapes of Bhupalpally district, a young student **Shashidhar Edlapuram** harbored a simple yet profound vision: to bring reliable, automated light to the streets of his community. For seven long years, he poured his heart and ingenuity into this dream, driven by the everyday challenges faced in his village. His persistence has now culminated in the brilliant success of his **'Automatic Street Light Control Device.'** This isn't just about a piece of technology; it's a testament to one individual's unwavering commitment to solving a local problem, enhancing public safety and energy efficiency, and illuminating a path for grassroots innovation right here in Telangana.

Shashidhar's journey, born from a deep understanding of his community's needs, found a crucial partner in the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC). Discovered through TGIC's flagship 'Intinta Innovator' program, he received a comprehensive support system that validated his raw idea, provided invaluable mentorship, and secured critical technical backing from NIT Warangal. This guidance, coupled with crucial market access opportunities, was instrumental in transforming his personal dream into a tangible reality, enabling him to establish his own enterprise, Evolution Vishwakarma Solutions Pvt Ltd.

Now, with the District Collector's approval, his innovative device is set for a pilot in Mahadevpur Mandal, where units costing Rs. 3,500 will be installed, with the Mandal Parishad Officer overseeing the implementation.

For Shashidhar, seeing his hard work culminate in a real-world solution is profoundly fulfilling. He expressed his exhilaration, stating, "Seeing my innovation come to life after 7 years of hard work is truly exhilarating. I hope this inspires young innovators to dream big & persevere, knowing that their dedication will eventually pay off."

His story of perseverance against odds is a powerful beacon for aspiring innovators. Shashidhar's dedication has also earned him significant recognition, with his device showcased at over 10 exhibitions, including events by TGIC, NABARD, and even the International Startup Festival. His inspiring journey underscores the profound impact that dedicated organizations like TGIC and Palle Srujana have in empowering local talent and fostering sustainable development across our state, one brilliant idea at a time.

FROM ADILABAD TO THE WORLD:

How a Young Innovator Is Redefining Assistive Independence for PwDs



T. RAVI KIRAN

At just 21 years of age, **T. Ravi Kiran** represents the bold future of Indian innovation—where compassion meets cutting-edge technology to create real change.

Hailing from Adilabad, a town better known for its agriculture than its tech ecosystem, this self-taught innovator has achieved what many established startups struggle to do: develop assistive technology device that's now transforming lives across continents. His startup company, Alien Innovations, stands as proof that geographic boundaries can't limit genius solutions when backed with the right support system, and TGIC is immensely proud to have been part of his journey.

THE SPARK: A VISION FOR INDEPENDENCE

Discovered through TGIC's Intinta Innovator program in 2019, Ravi set out to solve a critical challenge: empowering the visually impaired to navigate freely without traditional canes. The result? NAVINAUT and BLIND EYE—revolutionary devices blending LiDAR sensing with haptic feedback to deliver real-world freedom.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Today, Ravi's story is a shining example of how TGIC empowers local innovators to create systemic, life-changing impact on a global scale. And this is not just Ravi's story, but it is a story of hope and opportunity for many hustlers in tier-2 and tier-3 cities of India.

"I'm not just building a product—I'm building dignity for PwDs."



THE TGIC EFFECT: FUELING A DREAM

- 2021: ₹1 lakh T-SIRI grant and prototyping support at T-Works
- 2022: Ravi formally registers and launches his startup firm 'Alien Innovations'
- 2021-2024: Backed by TGIC's Assistive Tech Program, connecting him with IKP for patents and LVPEI for real-world testing
- 2024: ₹5 lakh T-Spark grant to scale manufacturing
- Global Recognition: The only Indian to win the UN's imaGen Ventures award, thanks to TGIC's Youth for Social Impact push

FROM LAB TO LIFE: A PRODUCT THAT CHANGES LIVES

Launched in October 2024 by the Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, NAVINAUT has already:

- Transformed 250+ lives in Telangana
- Gone global with pilots in Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, and South Africa.

Beyond the Internship: Journey from Classroom to Ecosystem



NAVYA JAIN

When I started my internship at TGIC, it was with a research question. What I left with was a layered, lived understanding of Telangana's innovation ecosystem—and the people working to build it.

The centrepiece of my work at TGIC was a policy study reviewing the 2020 Social Innovation Policy, with a focus on how it could better support early-stage social startups across the state. The project involved identifying gaps in implementation, funding, recognition, and collaboration—insights that emerged through conversations with people working within the ecosystem. It wasn't a desk-based exercise; the work was shaped by real experiences, and those conversations were possible largely because of the trust and credibility TGIC holds across the ecosystem. The exposure I got—from district innovators to institutional actors—was both grounding and insightful.

But what I'll remember most is the people. The office was built on chai conversations, serious discussions, and a shared sense of wanting to do good work. TGIC is a government office, yes—but more than its structure or mandate, it's a group of people trying to make systems more humane, step by step.

And I'm grateful I got to be a part of that.

GOVINDA KUMAR

My internship at the Telangana Innovation Cell was nothing short of fantastic, offering an unparalleled dive into the vibrant heart of innovation. Engaging directly with grassroots innovators, passionate social entrepreneurs, and dynamic startups provided an incredible, hands-on learning experience far beyond textbooks.

This immersion significantly boosted my understanding of the startup world. I moved beyond theoretical concepts to grasp the real challenges founders face daily and, more importantly, witnessed firsthand the profound societal impact innovative ventures can create.

Crucial to this journey were our mentors. A special thanks to Pranay for his invaluable guidance, offering clear perspectives and revealing the unvarnished realities of the startup ecosystem. Equally, immense gratitude to Meraj Faheem Sir (CEO) for deepening our practical knowledge and providing exceptional exposure to the intricate workings of the entire startup landscape.

From insightful sessions and networking events to observing real-world problem-solving, it wasn't just about learning what startups do, but how they navigate challenges and drive impact. This experience has fundamentally shaped my perspective on innovation and entrepreneurship.

AARUSHI MULTANI

Coming from a public policy background, I thought I had a fair understanding of how governments work based on my education and previous experiences. But my internship at TGIC fundamentally reshaped that perspective. Over nearly five months, I saw how the public-private partnership model can function smoothly and meaningfully, defining how governance today is as much about collaboration as it is about administration.

The heart of my work lay in revisiting the Telangana State Innovation Policy of 2016. The goal was to identify ways to make it more robust, forward-looking, and better aligned with the needs of today's innovation ecosystem. This wasn't just a policy review: it was a process of listening, understanding, and bringing forward workable solutions specific to Telangana.

I've witnessed firsthand how the state, market, and civil society come together to create inclusive and enabling systems. TGIC sits at the center of this intersection and it was a privilege to become a part of this organisation.

What made this journey the most rewarding were the people. Moreover, the entire TGIC team brought both warmth and rigour to our everyday work which added to this learning experience.

Exciting Times Ahead!

In a fitting tribute to its community-driven spirit, the Telangana Innovation Cell unveiled the 2025 edition of its flagship 'Intinta Innovator' program through the hands of its true heroes – the grassroots innovators themselves.

The campaign poster was ceremoniously revealed by past beneficiaries during the recent Innovation Panchayat, symbolizing the initiative's enduring connection with Telangana's innovation ecosystem.

Now in its seventh consecutive year, the program continues its quiet revolution of scouting and nurturing hidden talent across the state's 33 districts. We could not be more excited to see a pool of ingenious solutions coming – from farmer's fields to school laboratories, and from artisan workshops to homemakers' kitchens.

The 2025 iteration builds on the program's proven framework while introducing subtle enhancements:



District-level innovation assemblies for deeper community engagement



A stronger focus on documenting traditional knowledge systems



Streamlined pathways from ideation to prototyping support



The program's legacy speaks through its alumni – like the teenage Srija from Gadwal district who developed the eco-friendly bio-pot, adopted widely in many villages to carry plant saplings, or the village mechanic Velle Srinivas from Khammam whose 'Kisan Remote' is boosting water savings for farmers in umpteen districts.

As applications open for 2025, TGIC maintains its simple yet powerful promise, as always: If you have an innovation that solves a real problem, we'll help you grow it – no fancy degrees or connections required.



Thank You!



As we wrap up the first half of the year, we want to take a moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to every innovator, partner, and changemaker who continues to believe in and contribute to the spirit of innovation in Telangana.

Your stories, your work, and your ideas have been at the heart of everything we have done at TGIC over the past six months. Whether you've collaborated with us on a project, attended one of our programs, partnered with us or simply followed our journey—thank you for being a part of this growing community.

The first half of 2025 has been a time of reflection, learning, and meaningful progress. As always, we remain committed to nurturing ideas from the ground up and building an inclusive innovation ecosystem across the state.

We're excited for what the next half holds—and we're glad to have you with us.

With gratitude,
Team TGIC

Media Corner



Representatives from 18 different colleges sign MoU with the TGIC on Wednesday

TGIC ties up with 18 colleges to decentralise programme reach

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) launched its Host Institution programme and signed MoUs with 18 colleges across Telangana, expanding innovation efforts and decentralising programme reach. The agreements were exchanged in the presence of TGIC Interim CEO Meraj Faheem on Wednesday. These host institutions will play a key role in TGIC's grassroots initiatives, strengthening its presence statewide.

The event was held at T-Hub, with representatives from all 18 colleges. The programme will establish innovation & entrepreneurship cells in these institutions, creating active hubs for students and local entrepreneurs. This initiative ensures that TGIC's programmes reach every district, maximising their impact.

Interim CEO Meraj Faheem expressed confidence in the programme's success, stating that these institutions will help build a strong innovation ecosystem. He noted that MoU signing formalised the colleges' roles, ensuring they receive support from TGIC while serving as key points of contact, organising awareness sessions and facilitating industry engagement.

The colleges that are now official TGIC Host Institutions are the RBVRR Women's College, Hyderabad; St Joseph's Degree & PG College, Hyderabad; University College of Engineering, KU, in Bhadradi Kothagudem; Bunsathi Reddy Institute of Technology for Women in Hanamkonda along with other colleges.



18 innovators awarded as state celebrates grassroots innovation

Hyderabad: The Republic Day... 18 innovators, including... awarding... 2025 by the Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC).



టీజీఐసీ చొరవతో అద్భుత విజయం

టీజీఐసీ సీఈఓ మెరాజ్ ఫాహేమ్

దాడుతున్న తెలంగాణ బిచ్చోద్యమం... 2025 (టీజీఐసీ) లాంచ్ తోనే అద్భుత విజయం సాధిస్తోందని టీజీఐసీ సీఈఓ మెరాజ్ ఫాహేమ్ సర్దిచూపారు. హైదరాబాద్ నగరంలోని టీజీఐసీ కార్యాలయంలో రెండవ దశలో టీజీఐసీతో మరో 9 కళాశాలలతో ఒప్పందం ముద్రుపెట్టారు. టీజీఐసీ సీఈఓ మెరాజ్ ఫాహేమ్ సమన్వయంలో ఒప్పందంపై అధికారులు, కళాశాల ప్రతినిధులు సంతోషాలు లేచారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆయన మాట్లాడుతూ... తెలంగాణ రాష్ట్రంలోని 18 జిల్లాల్లో టీజీఐసీ కార్యక్రమాలు ప్రభావవంతమైన వ్యాప్తి చెందుతోందన్నారు. మొదటి దశలో 18 కళాశాలలతో ఒప్పందం ముద్రుపెట్టినప్పటికీ, ప్రస్తుతం రెండవ దశలో 9 కళాశాలలతో ఒప్పందం ముద్రుపెట్టినప్పటికీ ఆయన వివరించారు. ఈ ఒప్పందాలతో తెలంగాణ రాష్ట్ర మంత్రా బలమైన, సమగ్ర ఆవిష్కరణ, పరిశోధనా వ్యవస్థను వర్ధిల్లించడానికి టీజీఐసీ నిబద్ధతను గొప్పి చెబుతున్నారన్నారు. టీజీఐసీ అధికారులు, ఉద్యోగులు, 9 విద్యార్థులపై అధికారులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



T-Innovation Mahotsavam celebrated across State

The Hans India | 22 Apr 2025 9:11 AM IST

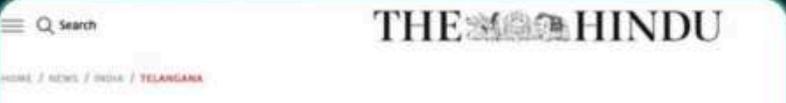
Hyderabad: On the occasion of World Creativity and Innovation Day, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC), in collaboration with the Panchayat Raj...



Kalam Spoorthi Yatra triumphs in Telangana

The Hans India | 20 Feb 2025 8:13 AM IST

The Kalam Spoorthi Yatra concluded its innovative journey across all districts of Telangana.



Telangana Innovation Cell launches host institution programme, signs MoUs with 18 colleges

Published - March 26, 2025 06:05 pm IST - HYDERABAD

THE HINDU BUREAU

To amplify and decentralise the vision to build and nurture inclusive innovation across the state...



TGIC Partners with 18 Colleges Statewide to Amplify Innovation and Decentralise Program Reach

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Telugana



Empowering Rural Telangana: TGIC Celebrates 48 Innovators on Republic Day

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TGIC launches signs MoUs with 18 colleges for Host Institution programme

Under this programme, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Cells will be established within each of the selected colleges.

News Desk | 1 | Posted by P N Siva Hanu | 03:04:02 27th March 2025 2:10 pm IST

TRENDING NEWS

The Great Indian Kapil Show: Kapil Sharma's total fees for...

Social Media Corner



Key Topics Covered:

- Understand SDGs
- Impact through Innovation
- Build a Sustainable Future
- Drive Meaningful Change
- Empower with Knowledge

NOTE: E-certificates will be provided.
Registration Link:
<https://forms.gle/rTBK8qzV7pFLXvva>

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