

NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY UPDATES FROM THE
TELANGANA INNOVATION CELL

GRASSROOTS INNOVATION SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS ECOSYSTEM



MARCH 2026
VOL.3 | ISSUE 3

WHAT'S INSIDE

Unlocking Adilabad's Innovative Potential: Bridging the Gap for Rural Innovators and State Support System

Telangana's 'State-as-a-Whole' Approach towards Innovation lauded by AIM, NITI Aayog

T-Incubators Roundtable: March Edition - Where Collaborative Synergy Met Investment Strategy

UNLOCKING ADILABAD'S INNOVATIVE POTENTIAL:

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RURAL INNOVATORS AND STATE SUPPORT SYSTEM

On March 14, 2026, **Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC)** achieved a significant milestone in decentralizing the state's vibrant startup culture by hosting the 'Innovation Panchayat' at the District Collectorate Office. This strategic initiative served as a vital bridge, granting local entrepreneurs from the Adilabad and Asifabad districts direct access to the premier resources typically concentrated in the capital. By uniting institutional support with grassroots creativity, the program successfully drew more than 40 aspiring entrepreneurs, students, and rural innovators. The primary objective was to ensure that geographical distance from Hyderabad no longer acts as a barrier to scaling brilliant ideas, effectively bringing the heart of the innovation ecosystem to the doorsteps of rural creators.

The event was graced by the presence of District Collector **Sri Rajarshi Shah, IAS**, and spearheaded by TGIC CEO Meraj Faheem alongside his dedicated team. Aspiring entrepreneurs from the region engaged in comprehensive, high-impact sessions that addressed critical hurdles such as idea validation, funding strategies, and market-entry barriers. To provide tailored support, the cohort was divided into specialized tracks including Agriculture, Education, Livelihood, Health, and Technology. This structure allowed participants to receive hands-on mentoring from four subject matter experts within the Telangana ecosystem, who provided practical advice on everything from product development to navigating complex market compliance.





During the program, Sri Rajarshi Shah, IAS, expressed his pride in the surge of innovative spirit witnessed in Adilabad, calling the initiative a pivotal step toward regional growth. To further bolster this local momentum, he announced the introduction of a dedicated Innovation Fund specifically for regional startups. TGIC CEO Meraj Faheem echoed this vision, stating that the mission of the Innovation Panchayat is to dismantle the barriers between rural ingenuity and the mainstream economy. He emphasized that Adilabad is a land of untapped potential, and that the TGIC is committed to finding the grassroots disruptors who will lead Telangana's rural economy into a new era of self-reliance.

The program concluded with a tangible impact, as the walk-in platform allowed attendees to showcase their prototypes and receive immediate, expert feedback. By providing one-on-one time with mentors to troubleshoot technical issues and refine business growth plans, the initiative bridged the gap between local talent and state-run support programs. This successful activation in Adilabad and Asifabad not only empowered individual innovators but also reinforced the state's commitment to an inclusive, decentralized innovation model. Moving forward, these participants are now better equipped to transform their indigenous solutions into scalable ventures that contribute to the broader economic fabric of Telangana.



BRIDGING CAMPUS AND ECOSYSTEM:

TGIC INKS STRATEGIC MOU WITH VILLA MARIE DEGREE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

The best innovations rarely emerge from textbooks alone. They emerge when academic curiosity collides with real-world challenges. Recognising this, Telangana Innovation Cell (TGIC) signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding with Villa Marie Degree College for Women, marking a significant step in TGIC's mission to weave academic institutions into the fabric of Telangana's innovation ecosystem.

The MoU is designed to bridge the persistent gap between academic potential and market-ready enterprise, a gap that has historically caused promising student ideas to die quietly between thesis submissions and graduation ceremonies.

Under this partnership, Villa Marie College students would gain structured access to TGIC's ecosystem: mentorship networks, incubation pathways, startup advisory support, and exposure to real innovation challenges from across the state's 33 districts.

At its core, this partnership is about bridging the gap between academia and industry, specifically for women entrepreneurs. It ensures that when a student at Villa Marie develops a working prototype, there is a clear, institutionalized path towards commercialization.

For TGIC, this partnership adds another spoke to its growing Host Institution network, a deliberate, state-wide architecture that ensures innovation is not concentrated in Hyderabad's tech corridors alone, but distributed across diverse campuses, communities, and constituencies.

The message this MoU sends is clear: in Telangana's innovation story, every college is a potential launchpad, and every student a potential founder. Academic innovation, TGIC believes, flourishes best when it is supported, not left to chance.



"Our mission at TGIC is to decentralize innovation by empowering institutions and geographies. By integrating premier institutions for women like Villa Marie into the state's primary innovation pipeline, we are ensuring that high-potential student entrepreneurs have the institutional scaffolding required to move from a prototype to a market-ready enterprise."

- Meraj Faheem, CEO - TGIC, Govt. of Telangana

PATENTED FOR THE SOIL

TGIC INNOVATOR KONGERI DEEPAK REDDY SECURES NATIONAL PATENT

"THE BRIGHTEST LIGHTS ARE RESERVED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LEARNED TO NAVIGATE THE DARKEST TUNNELS."

Kongeri Deepak Reddy didn't find his innovation in a research lab or a startup accelerator. He found it in a field, watching farmers break their backs clearing stones and harvesting root crops season after season, with no mechanised solution in sight. So he built one himself.

His invention, RUDRA, a tractor-operated multitasking machine designed to harvest root crops and clear stone-laden fields simultaneously, has now been officially granted a National Patent by the Patent Office, Government of India. For Deepak and his venture, Bhaumya Innovations, it is the formal recognition of what he always knew: that the problem was real, the solution was necessary, and the will to build it was enough.

Scouted and supported by TGIC, Deepak's journey is exactly the kind of story this ecosystem was built to enable. Not every innovator starts with funding, a co-founder, or a pitch deck. Some start with a problem they cannot stop thinking about, and the stubbornness to solve it.

RUDRA is more than a machine. It is proof that when commitment meets ingenuity, the ground itself yields to progress. And when an ecosystem like TGIC shows up at the right moment with mentorship, visibility, and support, a field-level idea becomes a nationally protected innovation.

***Congratulations, Deepak.
Telangana is proud of you.***



TELANGANA'S 'STATE-AS-A-WHOLE' APPROACH TOWARDS INNOVATION LAUDED BY AIM, NITI AAYOG

TGIC AT AIM SUMVAAD SOUTH CHAPTER — BANGALORE

When the Atal Innovation Mission brought together incubators, policymakers, and ecosystem leaders from across South India for the AIM Sumvaad South Chapter in Bengaluru on March 24, 2026, one model stood out clearly: Telangana's.

Telangana's 'State-as-a-Whole' approach towards innovation was presented by **Sahil Suman**, Communications Lead at TGIC, as a scalable benchmark for the nation. This approach is not just a policy tagline; it is the fundamental architecture of how TGIC strengthens the state's ecosystem. It is a deliberate, meticulously built framework that integrates district administration, academic institutions, industry bodies, and grassroots innovators into a single, coherent network.

Building the Connective Tissue of a State Historically, startup ecosystems have suffered from a concentration of resources in major urban tech corridors. TGIC's efforts have been hyper-focused on breaking these silos. By empowering Host Institutions and integrating tier-2 and tier-3 cities into the primary innovation pipeline, TGIC ensures that a grassroots disruptor in a rural district has the same institutional scaffolding as a tech founder in Hyderabad.





At the heart of this national recognition was TGIC's Monthly Incubator Roundtable Initiative. In many regions, incubators operate as isolated islands, competing for the same pool of startups and capital. TGIC recognized that a strong ecosystem requires collaboration over competition. The Monthly Roundtable was designed to be the connective tissue that turns these individual incubators into a coordinated force. It has quietly become a benchmark for other states to replicate, functioning as one of India's most consistent incubator-ecosystem alignment platforms where strategy, resources, and investment pipelines are shared openly.



The AIM Sumvaad South Chapter, part of Atal Innovation Mission's (NITI Aayog) national conclave series, brought together all of their Atal Incubation Centres and Atal Community Innovation Centres from the Southern States of India namely: Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. They were joined by senior government officials from the nodal bodies of innovation from these five states.



Making an impact and being highlighted on this specific platform is a testament to the heavy lifting TGIC has done behind the scenes to engineer an ecosystem that actually works at scale.

For Telangana, this is not just a moment of pride; it is a mandate. When India's premier innovation policy body holds your model up as the standard, the responsibility to deepen, document, and scale it grows heavier, and infinitely more exciting. TGIC remains committed to fortifying this collaborative architecture, ensuring that Telangana continues to write the playbook for decentralized innovation in India.



T-INCUBATORS ROUNDTABLE - MARCH 2026 EDITION

WHERE COLLABORATIVE SYNERGY MEETS INVESTMENT STRATEGY



Some of the most important conversations in an innovation ecosystem don't happen at grand conferences. They happen in a room where the right people finally sit across the table discussing the right things.

That is precisely what the **Monthly T-Incubators Roundtable** is designed to create.

The March 2026 edition, organized by TGIC in collaboration with TIE Hyderabad, brought together incubator heads, academic leaders, industry enablers, and research institutes for a high-impact session focused on the most critical bridge in the startup journey: Early-Stage Investment Connect.

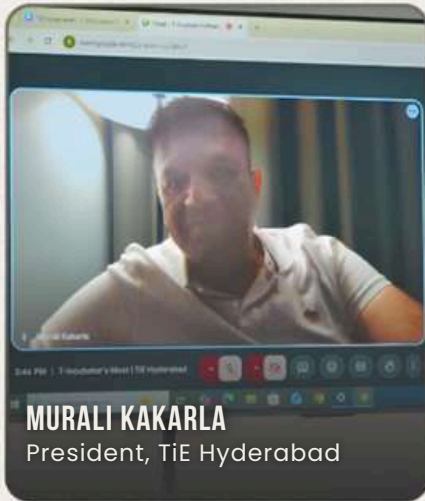


BRIDGING THE GAP TO INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL

The agenda was deliberately strategic: aligning Telangana's incubation infrastructure with industry demand, identifying collaboration whitespaces, and accelerating the pipeline of market-ready startups. This wasn't just a networking event; it was a strategic matchmaking exercise designed to bridge the gap between scalable innovations and institutional capital.

The goal was clear: to ensure that high-potential ideas from every corner of Telangana backed by our incubator community have a clear, actionable path to investment.





MURALI KAKARLA
 President, TiE Hyderabad



SHANTHALA VEIGAS
 Senior Director, TiE Hyderabad



SAHIL SUMAN
 Lead - Communications, TGIC

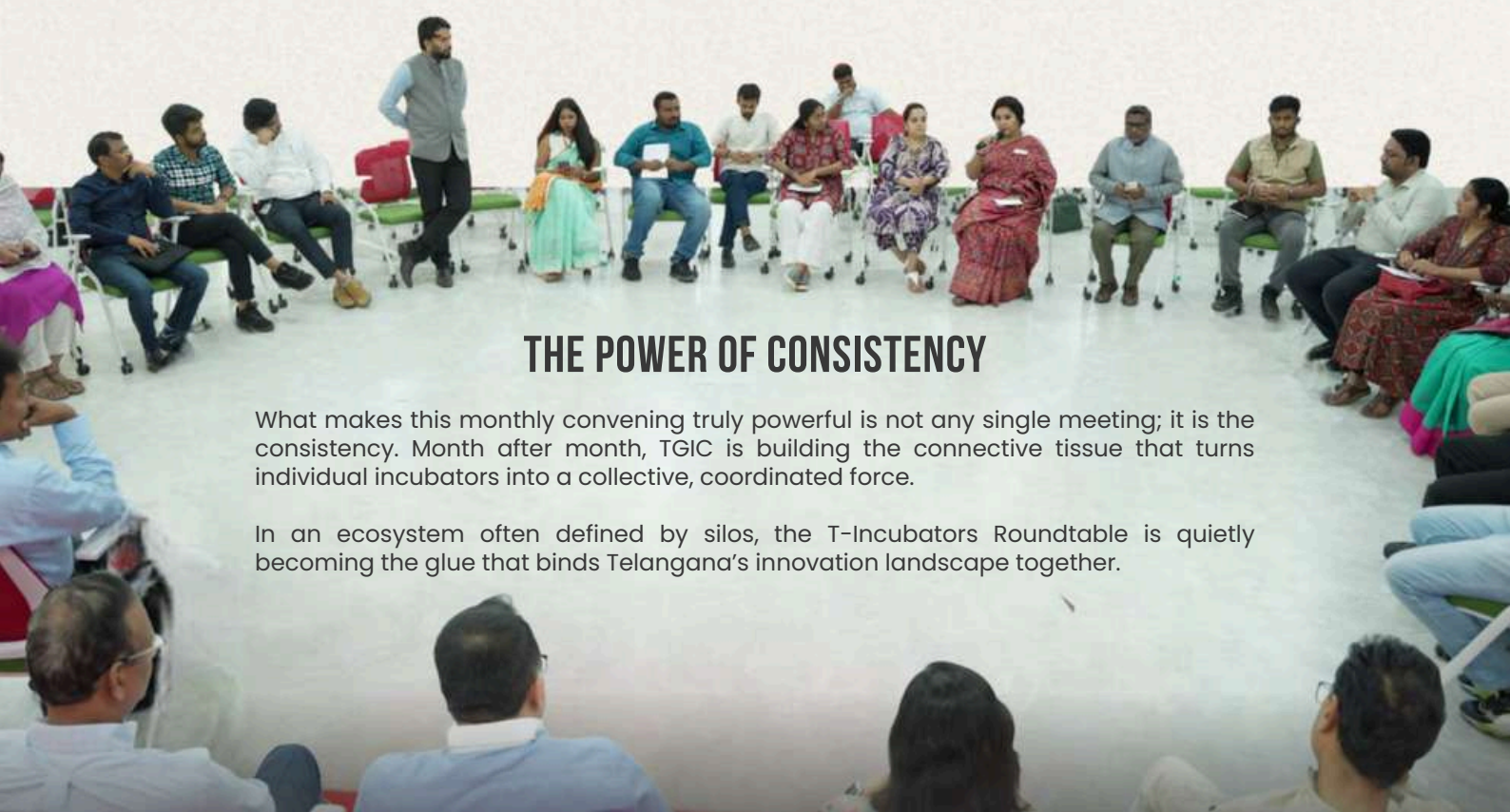
A COLLECTIVE VISION FOR TELANGANA RISING

A massive thank you to the TiE Hyderabad leadership, Murali Kakarla and Shanthala Veigas, for bringing together a stellar panel of VCs to interact with our diverse incubator network. Their commitment to the ecosystem turns simple collaboration into real, measurable momentum.

We express a heartfelt gratitude to our panel of investors brought together by TiE Hyderabad: Kiran Chandra Kalluri, Neetika Maheshwari, Anuj Kapoor, Suresh Raju, and Srinivasu Satti.

The true value of their presence wasn't just in making introductions. By actively decoding the complexities of institutional capital, they provided our incubator heads with the actionable insights required to reverse-engineer their mentorship.

Because of these conversations, our network is better equipped to ensure their incubatees don't just build great products, but scale them with the right financial structuring from day one.



THE POWER OF CONSISTENCY

What makes this monthly convening truly powerful is not any single meeting; it is the consistency. Month after month, TGIC is building the connective tissue that turns individual incubators into a collective, coordinated force.

In an ecosystem often defined by silos, the T-Incubators Roundtable is quietly becoming the glue that binds Telangana's innovation landscape together.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

SPECIAL THANKS

Meraj Faheem,
CEO - TGIC

THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Sahil Suman, *Lead-Communications*
Vani Buddhavarapu, *Manager-Public Relations*

VISUALS AND DESIGNS

Sumayya Fatima,
Designer



ABOUT TGIC

Telangana Innovation Cell (herein referred to as TGIC) is an initiative by the Information Technology and Industries & Commerce 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 grassroots innovators, start-ups, entrepreneurs, and innovation catalysts to foster an inclusive innovation ecosystem with State-as-a-whole-approach.

For any queries, please write to: leadcomm-tsic@telangana.gov.in



TGIC
ఇంటింటా ఇన్నోవేటర్

TELANGANA INNOVATION CELL

T-Hub 2.0, 3rd Floor, Cabin #17, 1/C,
Rai Durg, Hyderabad, Telangana 500081



teamtsic.telangana.gov.in



[in](#)



[@teamtgic](#)



tsic@telangana.gov.in



+91 91006 78543