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BTS2020
BENGALURU TECH SUMMIT
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NEXT IS NOW

NEXT IS NOW

Advisory Board

- Dr. Omkar Rai
- Devesh Tyagi
- P.K. Das
- Subodh Sachan
- S.R. Subramaniam
- Amit Bansal
- Arpana Singh
- Shakti Sharan

Message from Director General

The year 2020 was a challenging time for the $191 billion Indian IT industry to display a higher degree of resilience and sustainability on the face of global adversities like COVID-19 pandemic. When the global supply chain snapped with the onslaught of pandemic, the IT industry took the challenges head-on and warranted business continuity to global clients while ensuring safety of their own employees by resorting to work from home paradigm. With a great sense of responsibility, STPI walked on waters and immediately empowered the IT industry to continue with work from home when lockdown was enforced upon as a precautionary measure to curb the entropy of pandemic.

The Indian IT industry has once again proved its ascendency in warranting business continuity, displaying resilience, and ensuring growth in exports during 2020 on the face of global challenges like pandemic. Massive evolution in digital technologies has brought a new normal in work culture. The world has shrunk faster than ever in collaboration & hyper connectivity. The exciting part is even during lockdown, STPI garnered 84,360 softex certifications, clocked Rs. 46,556.30 crore software exports, provided bandwidth to 822 institutional customers, got 170 renewal of STPI-registered units, gained 83 new STPI-registered units, and 44 DTA permissions issued.

The Indian IT industry witnessed a new normal during the pandemic. The high-flying client meetings cozied up into seamless video conferencing. The collaboration between project teams became stronger and real-time. The tech startups became uber-innovative in translating the challenges of industry and society into ground-breaking products & solutions. With 12 new unicorns added in 2020, India totalled 36 unicorns positioning 3rd globally. While many startups had to face the brunt of pandemic, Indian startup ecosystem garnered $9.3 billion investment in 2020.

In 2020, STPI launched six CoEs viz. IMAGE CoE at Hyderabad, MedTech CoE at Lucknow, Apiary CoE at Gurugram, and three OctaNE CoEs comprising IoT in Agriculture CoE at Guwahati, Emerging Tech – AR/VR CoE at Imphal, and Animation CoE at Shillong, touching 13 operational CoEs including Electropreneur Park, New Delhi. Inspired by the vision of NPSP, STPI launched Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS), a pan-India robust, world-class incubation ecosystem to nurture 300 startups in IT/ITeS/ESDM sector in 12 Tier 2/3 cities viz. Agartala, Bhilai, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Dehradun, Guwahati, Jaipur, Lucknow, Prayagraj, Mohali, Patna, and Vijayawada for building path-breaking products in emerging technology domains and conducted a pan-India open challenge programme called

> The Indian IT industry has once again proved its ascendency in warranting business continuity, displaying resilience, and ensuring growth in exports during 2020 on the face of global challenges like pandemic. Massive evolution in digital technologies has brought a new normal in work culture.

CHUNAUTI. With overwhelming response received through CHUNAUTI with 6708 participants from 31 states & UTs, STPI shortlisted 1820 applications based on their completeness. STPI achieved another milestone to execute Modified Electronic Cluster Scheme, with a budgetary support of Rs. 3,762 crores, as a Project Management Agency (PMA), appointed by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India. IT/ITeS exports made by STPI-registered units reached Rs. 4,54,031 crores in FY 2019-20 from Rs. 4,22,522 crores in FY 2018-19

On the cusp of digital innovations, India has achieved a sweet spot in indigenous product development. On technology front, we have proactive government policies, resilient & successful IT industry, robust tech startup ecosystem, and an enormous talent pool can transform India into a global innovation hub. I am sure 2021 will bring enormous opportunities for the Indian IT industry to experience massive traction in further realising the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. With our rich legacy in IT, pool of young innovators, and encouraging policies, India can realise the dream of becoming a software product nation in times to come.

Success Story

Phoenix Robotix

A start-up raises $700K

Phoenix Robotix Pvt. Ltd., also known as DATOMS, an Industrial IoT startup has raised $700K led by HNI investors of Singapore-based Ridik Technology Pte. Ltd. Phoenix Robotix, a startup founded in 2015 by Amiya Kumar Samantaray, an alumnus of National Institute of Technology Rourkela, is enabling equipment manufacturers and industries to smoothly navigate through the digital transformation journey to Industry 4.0.

The startup was recognised and supported by Startup Odisha under the guidance of STPI Bhubaneswar. STPI Fab Lab at Bhubaneswar has provided the necessary facilities in terms of mentorship and infrastructure support such as 3D printing, PCB prototyping for the growth of this startup. STPI has recommended Phoenix Robotix to Startup Odisha for product development grant which has helped the company to come up with a successful product. Today, Phoenix Robotix has created employment for more than 70 people from different parts of India providing them an environment to attain their full potential. STPI has also supported the company with international exposure in various tradeshows and boost software export to the developed markets.

The company provides an end-to-end solution for IT/OT integrations driven by advanced Wireless Sensor Network, Machine Learning and AI platform DATOMS. The platform provides a framework to simplify technology adoption and make data-driven decisions for improving operational efficiencies. The equipment manufacturers who are still using legacy systems can now leverage DATOMS cloud platform to shift to sustainable business models with technology-enabled future-ready solutions.

The core team members Akanksha Priyadarshini, Asish Sahoo, Kishan Patel, Manoranjan Mohapatra and Nataraj Sahoo, alumni of NITR and XIMB are involved in key responsibilities towards building the startup. The Industrial IoT market is going to surge across geographies and with the investors' expertise this exciting business will reach new heights.

The company has partnered with multinational system integrators such as L&T ECC, Honeywell along with various developmental agencies like TARU Leading Edge, ICLEI, Clean Air Asia and currently working in more than 20 smart cities in India such as Chennai, Kanpur, Rajkot, Bhubaneswar etc. The company has been invited by the "Leader in Innovation Fellowship (LIF)" programme to United Kingdom funded by UK Government, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Phoenix Robotix was selected in Top 10 Teams "Innovate for Digital India Challenge (IFDIC) 2015" organised by Intel, DST and MyGov and also was selected in top 3 teams for "IMPACT Challenge-1 Karnataka". Corporate houses like NALCO had recognised the success of the startup with NALCO Green Awards for its engineering excellence.

STPI has recommended Phoenix Robotix to start-up Odisha for product development grant which has helped the company to come up with a successful product.

The company is ready for the next stage of the growth and have plans to expand its footprint to global markets with offices in California, Europe, and Singapore in near future. This funding will encourage other startups in the state to continue in the path of entrepreneurship. STPI congratulates the team for the achievement and hopeful that it will contribute significantly towards the IT exports of the state of Odisha in near future.

INAUGURATION OF BTS 2020 BY HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER

Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2020 organised by the Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T of the Government of Karnataka and STPI. The Summit was virtually inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. With the theme of 'NEXT IS NOW', the three-day Summit was focused on highlighting the role of technology and innovation in a dynamically evolving ecosystem and was scheduled from the 19th to the 21st November 2020. The inaugural ceremony of the 23rd edition of BTS was graced by the Guests of Honor including H.E. Mr. Scott Morrison– Hon'ble Prime Minister of Australia, H.E. Mr. Guy Parmelin, Vice President of Swiss Confederation, and Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Communications, Electronics and Information Technology, and Law & Justice. The ceremony was also presided by Shri B.S. Yediyurappa, Chief Minister of Karnataka along with Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka and Minister for IT, BT, and S&T and Shri Jagadish Shettar, Minister of Large and Medium Scale Industries and Public Enterprises, Govt. of Karnataka.

The three-day summit featured multi-track Conferences, International Exhibition, Global Innovation Alliance, STPI IT Export Awards, Smart Bio Awards and Bengaluru Impact Awards. The other popular programmes included the Rural IT Quiz, Biotech Quiz and Biotech Posters, which were held virtually.

The Summit witnessed more than 270 subject matter experts from both India and International partner countries, highlighting the latest technological innovations under the tracks of Knowledge Hub, Innovation Corner, One Health and Country Sessions.The Summit had leading innovators, scientists, and tech evangelists participating from across the globe. As part of the Global Innovation Alliances (GIA) track, there were 16 GIA sessions by international partners – Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and Taiwan. Several industries also engaged with the Karnataka ecosystem during BTS 2020.

Digital India has become a way of life for the poor, marginalised and for those in government, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in his inaugural speech at the Bengaluru Tech Summit. Our governance model is a technology first, he added. "India as a country is uniquely positioned for the leap ahead in the information era, we have the best minds and big market," underlined Hon'ble PM.

Hon'ble Minister for Law and Justice, Electronics & Information Technology and Communications Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad while addressing the gathering at Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020 underlined, "Aatmanirbhar Bharat means India as a major economy of the world being an integral part of global supply chain. It is a challenging time and we decided to convert it into an opportunity. The global manufacturing world was looking towards alternative destinations. In view of India's enormous success in mobile manufacturing, we came up with a big idea of production linked incentive.

Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, and Minister for IT, BT and S&T said, "Bengaluru Tech Summit has emerged as the leading technology show not only for Karnataka but for the entire country. This year I am glad that despite the challenges of pandemic faced by the world, BTS received overwhelming response and it has undoubtedly become a global show. Participation of over 25 tech nations is a testimony to the recognition of Bengaluru as the leading tech hub of the country. We are happy to announce that the 24th Edition Of the Bengaluru Tech Summit is scheduled from 18th to 20th November 2021."

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI delivered the concluding remarks and proposed vote of thanks during BTS 2020. "BTS 2020 will help bridge silos across sectors and infuse new spirit, novel thoughts & amplified collaboration among all stakeholders to transform India as a software product nation soon. The industry will strive towards realising vision of Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi on Aatmanirbhar Bharat," articulated Dr. Rai. He further underlined, "Hon'ble Minister for Law and Justice, Electronics and

Information Technology and Communications Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad has always been the guiding force of Indian IT industry and has been supporting to make India self-reliant in IT & electronics."

Some of the prominent speakers included Mr. Anand Mahindra, Chairman of Mahindra Group; Ms. Debjani Ghosh, President, NASSCOM; Mr. Avi Jorisch, author of "Thou Shalt Innovate"; Shri Sadhguruji, Isha Foundation; Dr. K Kasturirangan, Eminent Scientist and Member, INSA Planning Commission; Dr. Susan Hockfield, President, Emerita and Professor of Neuroscience Massachusetts Institute of Technology ; Shri Kris Gopalakrishnan, Co-founder Infosys & Chairman, Axilor Venture; Dr. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Executive Chairperson, Biocon Ltd.; Mr. Prashanth Prakash, Partner, Accel Partners; Prof. Regina Barzilay, Delta Electronics Professor; Prof. George Church, Professor of Genetics Harvard Medical School; Mr. Amit Agarwal, Head of Amazon India; Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, the renowned innovator and Dr. Steve Jolly, Systems Engineering Director, Lockheed Martin.
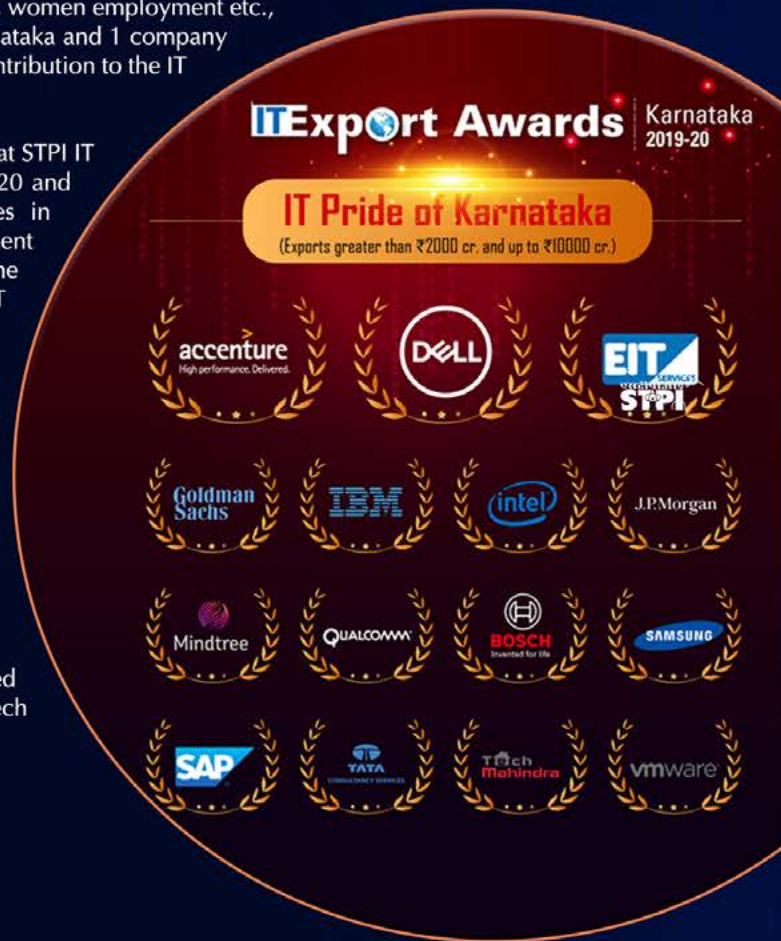
STPI IT Exports Award Function at BTS 2020

STPI has been recognising the performance and contribution of IT companies to Indian economy by boosting IT/ITeS exports, creating massive employment opportunities, and bolstering GDP by awarding them in various categories every year. The awards have been categorised under 10 primary categories, covering the entire spectrum of IT, ITES and Electronics & Hardware Exporting companies. For FY 2019-20, the top performing IT companies in terms of exports, employment, and women employment etc. were awarded during the occasion of STPI IT Export Awards 2020 virtual ceremony, which was held on 19th November 2020.

12 companies were awarded under exports, employment, women employment etc., category of awards, 17 companies under IT Pride of Karnataka and 1 company under IT Ratna of Karnataka for their performance and contribution to the IT Industry during 2019-20.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI delivered the Keynote Address at STPI IT Export Awards ceremony of Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020 and shared his thoughts on the progress of IT companies in Karnataka in boosting exports and generating employment opportunities in the state. He said, "Karnataka has become the most preferred IT destination and over 1200 IT companies have exported Rs. 1.88 lakh crore during FY 2019-20."

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka Shri Ashwath Narayan during STPI IT Export Awards 2020 event at BTS 2020 congratulated awardees for making Karnataka proud through their achievements and highlighted proactive involvement of STPI in creating the supportive ecosystem to IT industry to lead the country towards growth trajectory.

Shri Shailendra Tyagi, Director STPI-Bengaluru delivered vote of thanks at STPI IT Export Awards at Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020 and congratulated the winners.

IT Export Awards Karnataka 2019-20

IT Pride of Karnataka
(Exports greater than ₹2000 cr. and up to ₹10000 cr.)

accenture · DELL · EIT STPI · Goldman Sachs · IBM · intel · J.P.Morgan · Mindtree · Qualcomm · BOSCH · SAMSUNG · SAP · TATA · Tech Mahindra · vmware

Stone Laying of New STPI Incubation Centre at Dehradun

Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT, Communications and Law &Justice, Govt. of India jointly laid the foundation stone of STPI new incubation centre at Dehradun, Uttarakhand on 27th November 2020. STPI is establishing state-of-the-art Incubation facility having around 30,000 sq. ft. built-up space at Dehradun to cater the needs of IT/ITeS industry in the region. There will be provision of raw and plug-n-play incubation space for IT/ITeS companies especially for entrepreneurs/startups. Apart from this, the building will also be housing Network Operation Centre (NOC) for providing High-Speed Data Communication (HSDC) services to the IT/ITeS industry.

"STPI is the first startup of India which has grown massively over the years to facilitate software exports by generating over Rs. 4.47 lakh crore. Technology is playing a transformative role in empowering common man and ensuring financial inclusion in India through programmes like Digital India," asserted Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT, Communications and Law &Justice, Govt. of India. He further added that CHUNAUTI - startup challenge program under NGIS will encourage young innovators in small cities to develop ground-breaking products and we will provide them financial support upto Rs. 25 lakhs.

"The incubation centre will facilitate the desired ecosystem for startups and bolster employment opportunities to the youth of the region. STPI-Dehradun will promote research & innovation and entrepreneurship, rev up product innovation and create IPRs," underlined Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand.

"The upcoming incubation centre will promote tech entrepreneurship in the state and foster startups. I am sure this incubation centre will play a major role in realising the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat envisioned by our Hon'ble Prime Minister," emphasised Shri Sanjay Dhotre, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Communications and Electronics & IT, Govt. of India.

"Uttarakhand has established a name in the country for the DroneTech and it has huge potential for electronics sector," articulated Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & IT, Govt. of India.

"We will build centres of excellence in emerging technology domains, provide incubation facility at the new centre, and promote exports & create employment opportunities. Exports through STPI-registered units surged from Rs. 52 crore in FY 1992-93 to Rs. 4,47,750 crore in FY 2019-20," underlined Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI during this occasion.

STPI has been instrumental in promoting IT exports from the State of Uttarakhand since inception of STPI-Dehradun centre in 2001. Over the years, STPI centre has played a prominent role to promote the region as a preferred IT destination and has acted as single window agency for IT/ITES industry. Presently 13 units are registered with STPI and software exports made by STP units from the state of Uttarakhand was recorded Rs. 150 crore in FY 2019-20. These units have helped in generating direct employment over 2500 people and massive indirect employment while bolstering overall economic development of the region.

The event witnessed the gracious presence of Shri Sanjay Dhotre, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Communications and Electronics & IT, Govt. of India; Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Tehri Garhwal; Shri Ganesh Joshi, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Mussoorie; Shri Sunil Uniyal 'Gama', Mayor, Dehradun; Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & IT, Govt. of India; Shri Om Prakash, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand; Shri Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu, Secretary (IT), Govt. of Uttarakhand; Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI and Shri Devesh Tyagi, Senior Director, STPI.

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2020

SCIENCE FOR SELF-RELIANT INDIA AND GLOBAL WELFARE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NISTADS · uibha · STPI

India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020

(Largest Science Festival in Virtual Environment)

Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare

New Age Technology Show

The India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 witnessed a grand start with the inaugural address by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in the presence of Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan. This year's festival was organised in a virtual mode during 22-25 December 2020.

Addressing on the occasion virtually, the Prime Minister underscored that this festival is a celebration of science and added that India has a rich legacy in science, technology, and innovation. "Our scientists have done path-breaking research. Our tech industry is at the forefront of solving global problems, but India wants to do more. We look at the past with pride but want an even better future," Shri Modi articulated.

The Prime Minister emphasised the importance of bringing the benefits of science and technology to all. He said that science and technology are bridging the gap of scarcity. It is connecting the poorest of the poor with the government. "With digital advances, India is becoming a centre of evolution and revolution of global high-tech power," the Prime Minister added.

"To achieve this world class education, health, connectivity and rural solutions, today's India has data, demography, and demand. Above all, India has democracy to balance and protect all this. That is why the world trusts India," the Prime Minister accentuated.

The Prime Minister said that there are many challenges in our country like water scarcity, pollution, soil quality, food security, for which modern science has a solution. Science also has a big role in rapidly exploring the water, energy, and food resources in our sea. He highlighted that India is running Deep Ocean Mission for this and has achieved success. He enumerated that the benefit of new inventions in science finds a way in commerce and business as well.

The Prime Minister gave a call to the global business community to invest in Indian talent and innovate in India. He told the gathering that India has the brightest minds and celebrates a culture of openness & transparency. The Government of India stands ready to address any challenge and improve the research environment here. He said science brings out the best within the person and uses the power of difference. He

lauded scientists for keeping India ahead of innovation journey and ensuring a better position in the fight against COVID-19.

Earlier, Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, Secretary DSIR and DG, CSIR in his welcome address dwelt upon various dimensions of the IISF 2020. He emphasised that over 40 science laboratories and educational institutions are participating in organising this festival and elaborated the purpose of the IISF 2020. He said, IISF 2020 will attempt 5 Guinness Book of World Records, one of which—maximum students making the Sun Dial simultaneously—was attempted where 6,874 students from 189 schools participated and the video evidence by representatives of GBWR had been collected and forwarded to them for evaluation and certification.

As a part of the IISF 2020, a special event titled "New Age Technology Show" was organised by Software Technology Parks of India (STPI). The event witnessed various sessions spread across three days and aimed to encourage innovation in the field of emerging technologies such as AI-ML & Data Analytics, AR/VR/MR/XR and many others cutting edge technologies like IoT, Electronic system Design & Manufacturing (ESDM), Blockchain, 5G, Cyber Security etc. across the country for making India a product nation.

Kick starting New Age Technology Show inaugural session, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI underlined, "IISF 2020 is going to be the largest science & technology show in the world to celebrate innovations. Young innovators and startups can leverage the emerging tech to build disruptive products & solutions to address the challenges of society."

He further added, "Industry 4.0 technologies can revolutionize the landscape of research, innovation & product development while boosting the economy of India."

"New age technologies like AI & Data Analytics will revolutionize the manufacturing and supply chain sectors. The next decade is crucial for India to take a lead globally in emerging technologies innovation," cited Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Director, IIT Kanpur at New Age Technology Show at IISF 2020.

On this occasion, Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI INDIA & MD & CEO, STPINEXT in his welcome address emphasized, "AI systems are touching our lives in a more integrated way across various mundane and industrial tasks and accomplishing them with greater accuracy, precision, and efficiency."

New Age Technology Show was followed by a session on Technology Deliberation & Innovation Showcase on AI-ML & Data Analytics. Brilliant thought leaders from Government, industry and academia deliberated on the cutting-age technologies. Dr. B. K. Panigrahi, Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Delhi; Dr. Mausam, Professor & Head, CSE and School of AI, IIT Delhi; Shri Umakant Soni, Co-founder Alfoundry at Chapter AI Bengaluru; Dr. Kalyan Netti, Principal Scientist, CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute and Shri. Ajinkya Malasane, Co-Founder at Playment shared their insightful thoughts during the deliberation.

During Innovation Showcase, 6 promising startups, such as Liger Mobility, Raptee, Kshemin Labs, Grainpad Pvt. Ltd., Sumitra Singh and Xenon Digilabs Pvt. Ltd. showcased their AI & Data Analytics based innovative products. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Pooja Ghosh, Assistant Professor, IIT Delhi; Dr. Dhirendra Kumar, BLD Institute of Research & Learning and Shri Sanjay Burde, Senior Principal Scientist CSIR-NISCAIR.

Technology Deliberation & Innovation Showcase on AR/VR/MR/XR at IISF 2020

The Day 2 of New Age Technology Show at IISF 2020 witnessed deliberation & innovation showcase on AR/VR/MR/XR on 23rd December 2020, with participation of distinguished speakers from industry, academia, and government.

Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) technologies have been noticing an exponential growth in the Indian Market. AR/VR technology is poised to be the future and has potential to impact all possible industry verticals right from education, healthcare, retail, travel, training, simulation, and entertainment & gaming industry to manufacturing and high tech.

According to reports, Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality market is expected to reach around $6.5 billion by 2022. Currently, India's AR/VR/MR industry is in its nascent stage and it is growing faster.

"We are transiting from information age to imagination age, as digital technologies are evolving faster. The immersive experience carries multi-prong approach spanning across technology, platform, software, and hardware," articulated Shri Biren Ghose, Country Head, Technicolor in his keynote address.

"Indian IT industry has been on the forefront of global innovations landscape in solving the world challenges. Immersive experience is not limited to entertainment, it has expanded to industries like education, healthcare & manufacturing," quoted Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI INDIA & MD & CEO, STPINEXT in his welcome address.

"AR & VR are used as key technologies for delivering immersive experience to young learners about any

Brilliant Thought Leaders from Government, Industry & Academia

Dr. Omkar Rai
DG, STPI

Prof. Abhay Karandikar
Director, IIT Kanpur

Shri Subodh Sachan · Sri Biren Ghose · Shri Ochintya Sharma · Shri Sanjeev Keskar · Dr. B. K. Panigrahi · Prof. Mausam · Shri Umakant Soni · Dr. Kalyan Netti · Shri Ajinkya Malasane · Shri Rajiv Chilaka

Dr. M R Satpathy · Shri Imtiaz Hussain · Shri Shivaji Yerra · Dr. Satya Gupta · Dr. P Siva Kumar · Prof R. Loganathan · Shri Taranjit Singh · Shri Sanjay Burde · Dr. Pooja Ghosh · Dr. Dhirendra Kumar

complex topic and startups are now thinking about packaging and monetisation of content beyond the use of technologies," underlined Shri Rajiv Chilaka, Founder & MD, Green Gold Animation.

"IIT Bhubaneswar is involved in several research projects for creating AR/VR solutions for healthcare, education & gaming. AR/VR solutions are coming out, but they are not large in numbers," quoted Dr. Manoranjan Satpathy, Associate Professor, School of Electrical Sciences, IIT Bhubaneshwar.

"Industry 4.0 technologies like IoT, Cloud, 5G, AI & ML are enabling AR & VR products more exciting, accessible & affordable. Integration of emerging tech with AR & VR will deliver a more immersive experience in education, logistics, designing, shopping, etc," underlined Shri Imtiaz Hussain, COO, YesGnome.

"XR is going to be the future technology for front end for delivering enriching immersive experience to the end users. Delivering end-to-end AR/VR solutions for a specific industry with integration possibility for existing technology can enable startups to succeed," expressed Shri Shivaji Yerra, Founder & CEO, PlugXR.

Technology Deliberation & Innovation Showcase on IoT, ESDM, 5G & Cybersecurity at IISF 2020

On the third day of IISF 2020, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) organised a webinar on IoT, ESDM, 5G & Cybersecurity. The deliberations on various emerging technologies over last three days at New Age Technology Show would encourage startups, innovators & tech entrepreneurs to further strengthen the innovation journey in the country.

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a unique domain that brings the ESDM industry and the IT industry together. Smart devices rely on innovation in the ESDM industry to efficiently aggregate and transmit huge amount of data. The IT industry, on the other hand, has a key role to play in extracting intelligence from this information, and using it to make smart devices responding to triggers in real time. IoT can play a significant role in the revolution of hyper-connectivity by bringing data & intelligence to the forefront of human welfare and economic progress of the country.

"Innovation is the fuel for growth. Today, India is among top 10 nations in innovation, patent creation & publishing across the world. STPI CoEs are revving up the tech innovation paradigm by fostering startups," stated Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI in his welcome address.

"Dealing with Edge computing is a paradigm shift in appropriating the application of IoT with small & big data. This will differentiate the success of IoT adoption for project-specific purposes by various industry verticals. IoT is a combination of diverse technologies ranging AI, Cloud, Data, Edge, computing, sensors & semiconductors. While building IoT solutions, we must focus on complexity of technology & their applications,"

expressed Shri Ochintya Sharma, Ex VP, Samsung R&D India in his keynote address.

"Collaboration between academia & industry in translating academic R&D into market-ready products & solutions is critical for technology innovation. Living Lab at IIIT Hyderabad is facilitating R&D for scaling solutions for urban areas. Living Lab is revving up collaboration among stake holders, fostering innovation & acceleration programs to address the urban challenges & developing scalable solutions for smart cities," cited Prof Ramesh Loganathan, IIIT Hyderabad.

"IoT plays a pivotal role for all verticals of ESDM industry. From automotive to smart city & home appliance, and utilities to industrial automation, IoT can provide massive opportunities for startups," underscored Shri Sanjeev Keskar, CEO, Arvind Consultancy.

"Time is opportune for transforming contract manufacturing into building indigenous electronics products. PLI scheme will revolutionize ESDM industry in India and we must focus on R&D and design competency. STPI & IESA have built the foundation for R&D, innovation, product development & IP creation in ESDM by setting up STPI Eletropreneur Park (EP). Startups can leverage it to realise the national priorities by building innovative technologies," emphasized Dr. Satya Gupta, Chairman, IESA.

"IoT-enabled MedTech is focused on healthcare management by collecting data from diverse sources & providing affordable & accessible solutions. Point-of-care devices deliver the data for analysis, diagnostic & treatment," cited Dr. P Siva Kumar, MD, ESI MedTek.

"We must devise on-Edge IoT solutions to address the agriculture problems. Startup should focus on the mechanism of data gathering from the diverse systems & devices on Edge to create innovative solutions for agriculture," quoted Shri Taranjit Singh, Founder & CEO, Agnext World.

At the concluding session of New Age Technology Show, the winners of Innovation Showcase for Emerging Technology were announced. Total 28 entries received in three different categories, 12 were in AI-ML & Data Analytics (on 22nd Dec 2020), 6 were in AR/VR/MR/XR (on 23rd Dec 2020) and 10 were in IoT-ESDM (on 24th Dec 2020), of which 17 were displayed during the event. Liger Mobility in AI-ML & Data Analytics, Healthy Lung Initiative in AR/VR/MR/XR (HELI) and NextLeap Aeronautics in IoT-ESDM were declared winners.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI did the honour of announcing the winners of various emerging technology innovations and appreciate the spirit of all the startups who submitted their innovations for showcasing in New Age Technology Show.

"New Age Technology Show is an engaging segment of IISF 2020 with participation from industry, academia, startups & students. Such events are paramount to drive the country's innovation journey & making India a global innovation leader," stated Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI.

RAISE 2020
RESPONSIBLE AI FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

"WE NEED TO MAKE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN INDIA AND MAKE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WORK FOR INDIA"

Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

#AIForAll
raise2020.indiaai.gov.in

RAISE 2020: BUILDING AVENUES FOR AI REVOLUTION IN INDIA

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and NITI Aayog organised the mega virtual summit RAISE 2020 (Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020) during October 5-9, 2020 to empower global minds to exchange ideas and chart a course for using AI for social transformation, inclusion, and empowerment in areas like healthcare, agriculture, education and smart mobility among other sectors.

RAISE 2020 summit inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, alongside Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union IT Minister; Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, Niti Aayog; Shri Arvind Krishna, CEO, IBM; Shri Mukesh Ambani, Chairman, Reliance Industries; Turing Award winner Prof. Raj Reddy, and Shri Ajay Sawhney, secretary of MeitY. The key tone of the inaugural keynote was on taking India's digital endeavours forward by putting AI at the pivot of India's progress. The talk will be about promoting socially responsible AI, one which can offer a quantifiable improvement to livelihood among all.

STPI participated in the 3rd day session on "Ministry of Electronics and IT's Showcase" of RAISE 2020 to showcase the innovative AI products of startups incubated in MeitY's Centres of Excellence and steer a panel discussion on "Government-Industry Collaboration through CoEs". The session started with the keynote address by Shri Saurabh Gaur, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India following a special address on MeitY Startup Initiatives by Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI. The other speakers who shared their insights were Dr. Hemant Darbari, DG, C-DAC; Dr. K R Murali Mohan, Head, ICPS Division, Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India; Dr. Neeta Verma, DG, NIC and Shri Abhishek Singh, CEO, MyGov and President & CEO, NeGD.

"Immense value can be created from the adoption of technologies. Digital India has transformed the lives of Indians. We have taken landmark initiatives on AI. We have centres of excellence in emerging technologies in Bengaluru, Gurugram, and other places of India, transforming startups, which will be showcased in this session.," articulated Mr. Saurabh Gaur, Joint Secretary, MeitY. He further added, "RAISE2020 is a brilliant opportunity for all of us including government, industry and startup ecosystem for boosting innovations in AI."

"MeitY has been very instrumental in supporting the Indian IT industry. We can capitalise on the ecosystem, the IT industry, and the policies to make India become a software product nation. You can notice most of the R&D activities happening around the world are done by Indian IT companies.," underlined Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI.

The panel discussion on Government-Industry Collaboration through CoEs witnessed insightful deliberations by industry leaders. Shri Subodh Sachan, Director, Startups & Innovation Promotion, STPI & MD & CEO, STPINEXT INITIATIVES shared his thoughts on "Collaboration & Interconnected STPI CoEs Delivering Value through Power of Network" and moderated the panel discussion with thought leaders such as Shri N Krishna Kumar, Ex-Chairman, Mindtree & NASSCOM and Founder, Mela Ventures; Shri Saurabh Srivastava, Chief Mentor, STPI MedTech CoE; Chairman, Indian Angel Network & Co-founder, NASSCOM; Shri Shashidhar Reddy, Chief Mentor, STPI IMAGE CoE & Vice President (Engineering), Qualcomm; Shri Arun Jain, Chief Mentor, STPI FinTech CoE; CMD, Intellect Design & Founder, Polaris and Shri Biren Ghose, Chief Mentor, Gaming & Animation CoE/SIZ (Shillong) & Country Head, Technicolor.

"RAISE 2020 is enabling meeting of minds and exchange of ideas by global thought leaders while deliberating on AI. India is poised to build path-breaking products in AI & Data Analytics. Several startups are in the process of developing innovative products in these domains for industry and society at large" accentuated Mr. Subodh Sachan, Director, STPI & MD & CEO, STPINEXT INITIATIVES.

"In India we have massive challenges in healthcare, education & agriculture, and AI can play a key role in addressing those. The opportunities for AI are massive in India. There are startups working in AI to connect farmers across the country to provide them insights on precision farming," emphasised Shri Saurabh Srivastava, Chief Mentor, STPI MedTech CoE; Chairman, Indian Angel Network & Co-founder, NASSCOM.

"We are looking at more powerful devices with GPU & NPU to beef up the processing power of the devices for AI-centric applications. For automotive sectors, we need massive data processing capability closer to Edge for ensuring the smooth run of autonomous vehicles," cited Shri Shashidhar Reddy, Chief Mentor, STPI IMAGE CoE & Vice President (Engineering), Qualcomm.

"When I look at FinTech domain, I find two different spheres like Bharat & India for addressing the financial challenges of respective users. Government is the biggest buyer in FinTech solutions, and we have to create a benchmark for procurement," expressed Shri Arun Jain, Chief Mentor, STPI FinTech CoE, CMD, Intellect Design & Founder, Polaris.

FabLab Prints Mascot of Sujal

STPI-Bhubaneswar has added another feather in the cap of FabLab by printing the Mascot "Sujal" - Drink from Tap Mission scheme launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik on 13th October 2020 to provide round the clock supply of quality tap drinking water in all urban areas of the state. Launching the scheme through videoconference, Shri Patnaik said that Rs 1,300 crore would be spent by the Government to provide drinking water directly from tap quality water to all households in urban areas.

CII Telangana Animation, Gaming & VFX Summit

Confederation of Indian Industry-Telangana in association with Government of Telangana (GoT) and Telangana VFX Animation and Gaming Association (TVAGA) organized CII Telangana Gaming Animation and VFX Summit, a virtual conference on 'The Next Wave for e-Sports in India: Reimagining the Indian Gaming Industry' on 5th November 2020 with an objective to create a platform to synergise the AVGC sector and all stakeholders to develop a road map for e-sports and gaming sectors in India.

While addressing at the conference, Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, ITE&C, Industries & Commerce Departments, Govt. of Telangana congratulated CII for organising this conference and mentioned that GoT is working on a policy guideline for e-Sports to encourage investments and talent pool to Telangana. GoTS is looking at innovation and will support tech start-ups working in this sector.

In his address, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director-General, STPI underlined, "E-sports may solve the problems of employment if sensitization and skilling are provided to the youth of the country to an extent." He also mentioned that the younger generation should take gaming as a career as it has many opportunities.

Shri Rajiv Chilaka, Founder & CEO, Green Gold Animation & President, TVAGA mentioned how the AVGC sector is on the verge of taking off and 2021 will be a momentous year for the sector. It's time to create global products with local talent pool. Speaking at the Inaugural Session, Shri Biren Ghose, Vice-Chair, CII National Committee on Media & Entertainment and Country Head, Technicolor India mentioned that AVGC industry has the power to create new worlds for people and it also helps in improving the economy. He also said that AVGC 2.0 policy should be formulated collaboratively with many organisations which help in the growth of this industry as well as create massive employment opportunities. Shri Ghose also mentioned that Telangana should play a key role in leveraging collaborations nationally and globally. He also specified that Telangana has opportunities to tell its own story to the nation and to the world.

1st Cohort of OctaNE CoEs

The Open Challenge Program (OCP) was conducted for selection of startups in the respective CoEs under phase-I viz. IoT in Agriculture at Guwahati, Animation at Shillong, and Emerging Technologies - AR/VR at Imphal. Total 86 applications were received from across India, of which 66 were found eligible in pre-screening (46 applicants for Guwahati, 16 for Imphal, and 4 for Shillong).

Online bootcamps (mentoring to prospective startups, refinement of idea, prepare them for final pitching session) were conducted for Imphal, Shillong, and Guwahati. Final screening via elevator pitch through video conferencing was conducted on 3rd October 2020 for Guwahati and on 6th October 2020 for Imphal & Shillong.

Further, elevator pitch via video call was conducted for Imphal, Shillong, and Guwahati. 20 applicants comprising 11 applications for Guwahati, 6 for Imphal, and 3 for Shillong were selected as per the recommendation of screening committee and approval of PMG. PMG finally selected 12 applicants including 5 for Guwahati, 5 for Imphal, and 2 for Shillong.