



STARTUP
INCUBATION AND
INNOVATION
CENTRE
IIT KANPUR

October 2025

TECH की — बात

Nurturing

500+
Successful
Ventures

Mentor Mantra



SHRI ANIL JAUHRI

Anil Jauhri, the former CEO of the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies at the Quality Council of India, draws on his extensive experience with the Bureau of Indian Standards to emphasize the important distinction between voluntary standards and mandatory technical regulations. He advocates for a clearer understanding of these concepts to better align with global trade frameworks.

From Ideas to Impact: Building Scalable Startups for India's Net-Zero Future

India's startup landscape is expanding rapidly, fueled by bold ideas, strong policy support, and a culture of innovation. Yet turning a breakthrough concept into a sustainable enterprise calls for more than excitement—it demands discipline, clarity, and resilience. At SIIC, startups gain the advantage of world-class research, industry linkages and a vibrant peer network, creating the perfect springboard to transform ideas into real impact.

In India, relevance matters more than novelty. Innovations must be viable, affordable, reliable, and adaptable to diverse markets. Clean tech cannot exist as standalone devices or apps—it must align with policy, finance, and user behavior. Agri-tech should drive farmer incomes, resilience, and supply-chain efficiency, while steel, power, mobility, and cooling solutions must balance decarbonization with cost and infrastructure realities.

National priorities are creating unprecedented opportunities for startups to align with India's sustainability goals. The Indian Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) highlights both challenges and possibilities, while the target of achieving 500 GW of renewable capacity by 2030 offers fertile ground for ventures such as hybrid solar-wind solutions aligned with MNRE guidelines.

Partnerships are proving more critical to scale than quick funding. Collaborations with NDDB, DISCOMs, or state ESCOs can unlock large markets, while instruments like India's \$8 billion green bonds open new financing avenues for clean cooling, e-mobility, and hydrogen startups beyond traditional equity.

In today's market, agility defines success. Compact pilots with clear impact not only validate demand but also build credibility, attract investors, and create learning loops. Whether it's a 1 MW solar plant powering 700 households or a microgrid for 50 homes, real-world pilots de-risk ventures and offer investors the strongest proof of value.

KEY POINTERS IN INNOVATING FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM



Relevance wins over novelty—innovation must be affordable, reliable, and adaptable, aligned with real user needs and system realities.



Think systems, not silos—solutions should integrate policy, finance, and behavioural aspects while leveraging India's policy tailwinds such as net-zero, renewables, and ICAP.

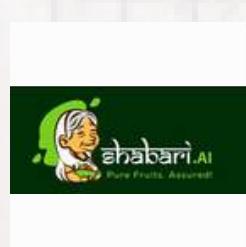
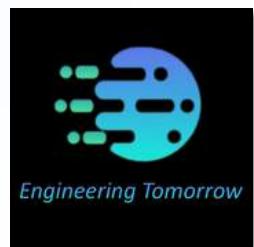


Partnerships fuel scale—strategic collaborations enable faster prototyping, smarter pilots, and access to markets, finance, and impact.



Climate goals are market goals—aligning with India's 2030 targets creates both sustainability impact and business advantage.

New Inculcation



Pragyan Labs

Co-founded by Utkarsh Raj and Chandan Kumar, Pragyan Labs Techworks is an R&D-driven startup addressing real-world challenges through deep technology and engineering innovation. Its flagship product, the Multiline Electromagnetic Refreshable Braille Display, enhances digital accessibility for the visually impaired, enabling inclusive interaction with digital content.

Modu AI

Co-founded by Lakshay Jindal and Anshumaan Agrawal, Modu AI Software develops AI-driven solutions for real-world challenges. Its flagship product, GreenAssist, is an AI agent-based Waste Collection Management Software for the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) sector. The platform supports user fee collection, GPS-based vehicle tracking, GIS-based fleet routing, HR management, door-to-door collection monitoring, and a citizen app.

Goploh Ventures

Co-founded by Samrat Singh Chauhan and Sandeep Mehndiratta, Goploh Ventures (Shabari AI) develops AI-driven purity testing technologies and AgriTech-enabled supply chain solutions for fruits and natural produce. The company's suite of proprietary tools—Digital Eye, Digital Nose, and Digital Ear—assesses visual quality, ripeness, and flavor profiles with precision, ensuring consistency, transparency, and excellence across the fresh produce value chain.

New Incubation

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Curadev Therapeutics UP

Co-founded by Dr. Arjun Surya and Mr. Manish Tandon, Curadev Therapeutics UP is a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on discovering and developing novel small-molecule therapeutics for the treatment of intractable diseases. Using a target-centric approach, innovative screening strategies, and robust chemistry and pharmacology expertise, Curadev has built a strong portfolio of patent-protected drug candidates that modulate next-generation therapeutic targets.



CDIS

Co-founded by Dr. Nisheeth Srivastava and Dr. Nitin Saxena, the company specializes in the rapid development and prototyping of intelligent software systems designed to address challenges unique to the Indian ecosystem. It provides AI-driven solutions and services to clients across sectors, leveraging advanced computational intelligence to deliver efficient, scalable, and context-aware technologies.



Program

HIGHLIGHTS

SIIC IIT Kanpur became the first IIT-led incubator in India to incubate over 500 startups, marking a historic achievement in its 25-year journey of fostering deep-tech innovation across MedTech, Cleantech, Agritech, AI/ML, Defence, and Cybersecurity sectors. The milestone reaffirmed SIIC's role in advancing India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India vision.

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SIIC-incubated startups showcased cutting-edge innovations in 5G, AI, IoT, and cybersecurity under the IMC Aspire segment at the India Mobile Congress 2025, engaging with global industry leaders, investors, and policymakers. The participation underscored SIIC's leadership in India's deep-tech and telecom innovation ecosystem.

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The Bank of Baroda Hackathon 2025, organized with DFS, IBA, and SIIC, IIT Kanpur, concluded successfully with a focus on "Zero Trust Security in Digital Banking." Out of 202 registrations, Team 200_OK from IIT Kanpur won and later presented their solution at the Global Fintech Fest 2025 in Mumbai. The event, launched during the GCC Innovation Summit, strengthened collaboration in innovation and cybersecurity within India's fintech ecosystem.

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Ericsson India, in collaboration with SIIC, has launched the Fin Next Hackathon for 2025–2026. This initiative aims to foster innovation in secure and inclusive digital payments. To strengthen academia-industry collaboration and enhance India's position in digital payments and financial inclusion, a certificate of collaboration was exchanged between Mr. Pavan Bachwal, Head of Ericsson Mobile Financial Services, and Prof. Deepu Philip, Professor-in-Charge of SIIC, IIT Kanpur.

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The 5G/6G Centre of Excellence, supported by StartIn UP, conducted outreach sessions at five colleges—Rama University Kanpur, IIMT, Accurate Group of Institutions, Galgotias College of Engineering and Technology, and PSIT Kanpur. The sessions aimed to raise awareness about next-generation communication technologies and inspire students to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in the 5G/6G domain.

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Program

HIGHLIGHTS

SIIC's 5G/6G Centre of Excellence supported by StartIn UP, hosted the fifth and sixth sessions of its 5G/6G webinar series, featuring Charles Avinash, Domain Head (IoT, EE, Manufacturing, Semiconductor, 5G-6G), and Dr. Deepti Chugh, Domain Head (MedTech/BioTech). The sessions explored building successful technology startups and the transformative role of 5G/6G in healthcare innovation, drawing strong participation from students and innovators.

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The AIIDE Centre of Excellence (CoE) at SIIC, IIT Kanpur, supported by StartIn UP, FICCI, and UPIFF, conducted outreach sessions in 13 colleges in Noida, Greater Noida, and Lucknow. These sessions focused on the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and entrepreneurship. Led by Mr. Vasav Krishna, the sessions emphasized how emerging technologies can foster innovation and support startups through mentorship and collaboration.

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SIIC, IIT Kanpur participated in the India CSR & ESG Summit 2025, organized by CSRBOX. Dr. Sanchita Chaudhary and Ms. Surbhi Awasthi represented SIIC in a roundtable on investing in social enterprises. Their participation highlighted SIIC's commitment to innovation in social development and fostering collaborations for inclusive growth.

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SIIC, IIT Kanpur, hosted a meeting with Ashutosh Mohle, CEO of WaveX, along with SIIC domain heads. The discussion focused on fostering innovation in Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC) and exploring collaborations through SIIC's MSME, MOHUA, and Blockchain for Impact initiatives. Both sides also expressed interest in partnering with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to strengthen the AVGC startup ecosystem.

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IIT Kanpur, in collaboration with the Uttar Pradesh government, has launched an initiative to train Panchayati Raj Officials in finance, digital governance, and public administration to strengthen grassroots democracy. A recent session, led by Prof. Deepu Philip and hosted by SIIC staff, showcased innovations from SIIC-incubated startups—NadiPulse Prognostics, LCB Fertilizers, Vasundhara Biofibers, Indespace Robotics, Brela Innovations, and Sarvshixiit—in health diagnostics, sustainable materials, robotics, and education, promoting rural transformation.

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Program

HIGHLIGHTS

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, in collaboration with the Office of Policy Analytics & Insights Unit under the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser, has launched Bharat Innovates 2026, a national platform showcasing India's most advanced R&D-backed deep-tech innovations. SIIC IIT Kanpur is proud to align with this initiative, working to connect Indian innovators with global industry leaders.

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Dr. Pooja Agarwal, Program Director at Blockchain For Impact (BFI), visited the Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC), IIT Kanpur, for two days. She met with CEO Anurag Singh, COO Piyush Mishra, and faculty, engaging with MedTech and Biotech startups to explore innovative healthcare solutions and SIIC's research facilities. This visit enhanced SIIC's collaboration with BFI to advance healthcare innovation and deep-tech entrepreneurship in India.

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On 24th September 2025, SIIC, IIT Kanpur hosted a delegation from Gliders India Limited (GIL), led by Chairman Shri M.C. Balasubramaniam. The visit focused on discussions about innovation, collaboration with SIIC-incubated startups, and enhancing industry-academia partnerships to strengthen India's defence manufacturing sector.

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SIIC, IIT Kanpur showcased six innovative startups—xTerra Robotics, Medantrik®, Anantan Systems Pvt. Ltd., TechPhosis Pvt. Ltd., Hardy Opto, and CodeMate® AI—at UPITS 2025, focusing on advancements in AIIDE, Drones, 5G/6G, and MedTech. Shri Ravi Ranjan, MD, UPLC & Special Secretary, IT & Electronics, GoUP, visited the SIIC stall and engaged with the startups. The AIIDE CoE also held a session on AI-driven innovations, highlighting UP's dedication to innovation and SIIC's role in fostering deep-tech entrepreneurship.

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Prof. Deepu Philip from the Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC), IIT Kanpur, participated in a panel discussion on "Enabling the \$1 Trillion Startup Ecosystem in UP" at the UP International Trade Show 2025. The event featured leaders from various institutions, including AKTU and IIM Lucknow, focusing on strategies for innovation and entrepreneurship. SIIC and its startups are committed to supporting Uttar Pradesh's goal of a \$1 trillion startup-driven economy.

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RegenMedica and Terracarb Shine at ACS Ignite India 2025

SIIC-incubated startups RegenMedica and Terracarb Private Limited represented IIT Kanpur at ACS Ignite India 2025, held on October 9-10 at IIT Bombay. Co-hosted by SINE and the American Chemical Society, the event connected deep science startups with investors and experts. Both startups showcased their innovative MedTech and CleanTech solutions, exemplifying SIIC's commitment to enabling impactful innovations through exposure, networking, and mentorship.

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Mobilab Joins National Health Mission

SIIC-incubated startup Mobilab has joined the "Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan", launched by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi and endorsed by the AIIMS Director, New Delhi. With its point-of-care diagnostic innovation, Mobilab is advancing preventive healthcare through accessible screenings, empowering women and families nationwide.

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Fruvetech and Prahana Win at World Food India 2025

SIIC-incubated startups Fruvetech and Prahana Products Pvt. Ltd. won the winner and runner-up titles at the World Food India Startup Grand Challenge 3.0. The awards, presented on September 26, 2025, by Shri A.P. Das Joshi, Secretary, MoFPI, recognize their innovative contributions to sustainable food processing.

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Chimertech Founder Wins Bharat Entrepreneurs Award 2025

Dr. Ragul Paramasivam, founder and CEO of Chimertech Pvt. Ltd., an SIIC-incubated startup, has received the Bharat Entrepreneurs Award 2025 by the Entrepreneurs Association of India for developing smart veterinary diagnostic kits and digital dairy health tools, advancing innovation in India's agri-vet sector.

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C DISC Technologies Bags Dual Honors for Sustainable Innovation

C DISC Technologies achieved dual recognition, winning the Adani Green Talks Social Impact Award 2025 in the Climate Action category and the GRIHA Valuable Contributor Award – Champion: Innovative Start-Ups on September 26, 2025, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Both honours celebrate the startup's sustainable innovations, including the patented PEN Foundation and Modular Net Zero Energy Homes, reinforcing its commitment to eco-friendly infrastructure and the Make in India vision.

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Jetsons Robotics Shines at GCC Innovation Summit 2025

SIIC-incubated Jetsons Robotics showcased their cutting-edge Solar Panel Cleaning Robots at the GCC Innovation Summit 2025. These robots boost energy efficiency, conserve water, and advance sustainable solar maintenance. The company also unveiled the SolarShield AI Elite, an adaptive AI-powered system revolutionizing large-scale solar farm cleaning.

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Green Trek Research and Development Wins Bharat Entrepreneurship Award

Green Trek Research and Development, an SIIC IIT Kanpur, incubated startup, received the Bharat Entrepreneurship Award 2025 for its groundbreaking work in advancing sustainable and green industrial technologies, reinforcing its role in driving India's clean innovation ecosystem.

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Solvinn Medtech Secures BIRAC BIG 24 Grant

SIIC-incubated startup Mobilab has joined the "Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan", launched by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi and endorsed by the AIIMS Director, New Delhi. With its point-of-care diagnostic innovation, Mobilab is advancing preventive healthcare through accessible screenings, empowering women and families nationwide.

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Pradivya Software Named Among Top 9 Indian Startups at Startup World Cup

SIIC -incubated startup Pradivya Software (Brand: WUS) has been recognized among the top 9 Indian startups at the Startup World Cup for its AI- and IoT-driven WUS App, empowering blue- and grey-collar workers through skill development, grievance redressal, and financial inclusion.

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Arc Robotics Featured in Kotak BizLabs' #HauslaEmpowered Series

SIIC-incubated startup Arc Robotics was featured in Kotak BizLabs' #HauslaEmpowered docuseries—now streaming as a sponsored Amazon miniseries. The series celebrates India's visionary founders driving innovation through mentorship, funding, and collaboration.

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Life and Limb AI at EMPOWER 2025

SIIC, IIT Kanpur-incubated startup Life and Limb AI showcased its cutting-edge assistive technology at EMPOWER 2025, advancing innovation in accessibility and inclusion while expanding its team and collaborative network.

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Nadipulse Begins Clinical Validation at AIIA

SIIC, IIT Kanpur, incubated startup Nadipulse has initiated a one-year clinical validation of its nPulse device at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, advancing the integration of Ayurvedic diagnostics with AI-driven health technology.

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SUSNOVATION VENTURES

In this edition of Innovators se Baat, we speak with Garima Kapoor Nanda, Founder of Susnovation Ventures, the company behind the sustainable brand Plantables. From turning her own wedding invite into a plantable card to building an eco-conscious brand that ships across 40+ countries, Garima's journey is rooted in creativity, resilience, and a deep commitment to the planet. In this conversation, she shares how Plantables is redefining sustainability — making it stylish, accessible, and truly meaningful.

RP: Garima, tell us how the idea of Plantables came about.

GCN: It actually started with our own wedding in 2016! My husband and I wanted eco-friendly invitations that guests could plant instead of throwing away — but there were hardly any good options. So we made our own seed-paper cards with tomato and chili seeds. The response from friends and family was so heartwarming that it sparked an idea — why not create more such beautiful, sustainable products? That's how Plantables was born — a small personal idea that grew into something much bigger.

RP: Every startup journey has highs and lows. What keeps you going, and how do you see the sustainability movement evolving in India?

GCN: Of course, there are challenging days — tight deadlines, big orders, unexpected turns — but what keeps us going is the purpose behind our work. We know we're contributing to something meaningful. Over the last few years, I've seen a huge change in how people think about sustainability. Consumers are more conscious now — they ask what their products are made of, what happens to them after use. Composting, upcycling, sustainable gifting — these ideas are really catching on. There's still a long way to go, but it's amazing to see this shift happening right in front of us.

RP: What were some of the challenges you faced when starting out?

GCN: Oh, plenty! The first big one was figuring out how to print on seed paper without killing the seeds. Most printing methods use heat and toxic inks, which don't work for us. So we experimented until we found water-based, non-toxic inks and a completely heat-free process. The other challenge was perception — people thought sustainable meant dull or minimal. We wanted to change that. We focused on making quirky, colorful designs so people could see that sustainability can be stylish too.

RP: How sustainable are your products in practice? What happens if someone doesn't plant them?

GCN: Great question! All our papers are made from upcycled cotton waste from the textile industry — no trees are cut at all. So even if someone doesn't plant them, they biodegrade naturally without adding to pollution. But if you do plant them, they grow just like any regular seed with a little sunlight, soil, and water. The idea is that, either way, the product goes back to the earth — leaving no waste behind.

"When creativity meets consciousness, even the smallest idea can grow into something beautiful."

AIIDE CoE

Call for Applications for Cohort 5



Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) Scheme Call 25

Call for Applications



CSR



KNOWLEDGE



INDUSTRY



SERVICE



AI ENABLEMENT



INTERNATIONAL



CLINICAL



Health for all, All for health.



October 2025

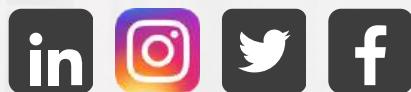
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