



# IKP INSIDER

OCTOBER 2022–MARCH 2023

## INDIA'S G20 PRESIDENCY: AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOSTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

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[Read More on Page 02](#)



### IKP INITIATIVES

## IKP GLOBAL REGULATORY FORUM: A PARADIGM SHIFT IN AN INNOVATOR'S APPROACH TO REGULATION

Today, India has around 97,000 registered start-ups, with approximately 6,000–7,000 of them belonging to the Life Sciences domain. Unfortunately, a large number of these start-ups fail to raise venture capital due to the regulatory labyrinth that these entrepreneurs must navigate before they can get to the finish line.

[Read More on Page 03](#)



### EVENTS

[Read More on Page 04](#)



### COLLABORATIONS

[Read More on Page 04](#)



### INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

[Read More on Page 05](#)



### START-UP HIGHLIGHTS

[Read More on Page 05](#)



### ECOSYSTEM STORIES

[Read More on Page 06](#)



### IKP IN THE NEWS

[Read More on Page 08](#)

# INDIA'S G20 PRESIDENCY: AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOSTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

The G20 countries are home to about two-thirds of the world population. They contribute 85% of the global GDP and over 75% of the global trade. The G20 Summit thus comprises some of the most influential discussions on the international economic architecture, where countries map the way forward not only in terms of economic prosperity, but also overall development and human welfare.

This year, during India's G20 Presidency, the conversation revolves around sustainable development through acknowledgement of the interconnectedness of our world. The theme, "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*" or "*One Earth · One Family · One Future*", is a nod to the ancient Indian belief of the interconnectedness of individuals, not only with each other but also with the various aspects of nature and the Earth. Indeed, it signifies the importance of global coordination to bring about positive impact in terms of sustainable development and environmental preservation, which happen to be the core pillars of UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

For several years now, India has been steadily redefining science and technology policy, charting a course towards a sustainable future where the UN SDGs are met. In 2013, it released its Science, Technology & Innovation Policy. Initiatives like the Atal Innovation Mission, Startup India, Make in India, and Atmanirbhar Bharat were taken with an aim to create a conducive climate for investments, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The Digital India Mission was announced, and National Innovation Foundation established to empower grassroots levels of the society with the latest technologies. The National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) was launched to support entrepreneurs and provide state-of-the-art infrastructure for research and development. Various arms of the government like the Department of Science and Technology (DST), CSIR, ICMR, DRDO, and DBT-BIRAC began expanding their funding for research and development in science and technology.

In 2022, as India completed 75 years of Independence, it announced its bold ultimate mission to become a leader in scientific and technological advancement by 2047: India @ 100.

As of 2023, the S&T sector in India has evolved from being an intellectual enterprise to a dedicated vehicle for development. Now, through its G20 Presidency, India seeks to shape global S&T narratives, and strengthen the global resolve to collaborate to address key challenges that the world faces.

## Translating commitment into action

India's focus to align its S&T commitments with its G20 presidency is evident in several of the priorities it has set, namely Green Development, Climate Finance, and Lifestyle for Environment, which will focus on green energy and mobility transitions and shift in consumer mindsets towards environmental consciousness; Accelerated, Inclusive, and Resilient Growth, which will focus on structural transformation such as improving labour rights and welfare, skill building, food systems, and the integration of micro, small, and medium enterprises in global trade; Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure, which will focus on greater knowledge-sharing through digitalisation; and Women-Led Development to ensure that women get as much of a voice in shaping India's narrative as men do. India has also emphasised its commitment to accelerating progress on achieving the UN SDGs and is reiterating the importance of multilateral dialogue for equitable representation of international cultures.



Moreover, for the first time in G20 history, India has created the Startup20 Engagement Group to craft a global narrative for supporting entrepreneurship, enabling various synergies, and developing actionable guidance in the form of building capacities, identifying funding gaps, enhancing employment opportunities, achieving SDG targets and global climate resilience, and facilitating the growth of an inclusive ecosystem. In order to achieve these objectives, Startup20 has set up three Task Forces—Foundation and Alliances, Finance, and Inclusion and Sustainability. Deepanwita Chattopadhyay, Chairman and CEO of IKP Knowledge Park, is a council member of the Foundation Task Force. According to her, "*the start-up ecosystem represents the youthful vigour needed to revolutionise the path towards a sustainable future. Task Forces are developing key priorities in which recommendations would be formulated through a consensus-based approach by engaging all the G20 member states. The recommendations would be conveyed through a communique to the G20 India Presidency and taken up during the G20 Summit 2023. We are looking forward to a unique Handbook from the Foundation Task Force on Start-Up Definitions and Terminologies and Best Practices curated from the G20 countries. This, I believe, would be catalytic in the emergence of a more robust global start-up ecosystem.*" IKP is proud to be a contributing factor to Startup 20, and we look forward to seeing the impact it has on the innovation landscape.

Also for the first time, India has launched the G20 Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable (G20-CSAR) as a platform to discuss scientific agendas among G20 countries, which produce about 85% of the global scientific knowledge. The CSAR list of agendas hones in on key policy issues that are of immediate global concern—including opportunities in One Health, global efforts to make scholarly knowledge accessible across different parts of the world; inclusivity and accessibility in the field of S&T; identifying challenges faced by under-represented and marginalised communities, and institutional mechanisms for the establishment of inclusive and action-oriented global dialogue to inform international S&T policy. The ultimate goal is to organise an international platform wherein global progress on all the aforementioned fronts is assessed and updated.

## Beyond the watershed

India recognises that achieving inclusivity and sustainability during societal progress will hinge on our ability to embrace the grand challenges of today and solve them. The G20 Summit is a watershed for an international promise of inclusive, ambitious, decisive, and action-oriented development for a shared better world. In 2023, India is at the helm steering this promise towards its vision for the future.

# IKP GLOBAL REGULATORY FORUM: A PARADIGM SHIFT IN INNOVATORS' APPROACH TO REGULATION

Today, India has around 97,000 registered start-ups, with approximately 6,000–7,000 of them belonging to the Life Sciences domain. Unfortunately, a large number of these startups fail to raise venture capital due to the regulatory labyrinth that these entrepreneurs must navigate before they can get to the finish line.

*"In all these years of mentoring start-ups and assisting them in meeting regulatory requirements, we realised that meeting these regulations can be challenging for start-ups due to their intricate and complex nature. Furthermore, when a start-up is developing a groundbreaking technology, it can face significant delays in bringing it to the market because regulators may not be aware of the technology and therefore have to modify regulations accordingly,"* says Chairman and CEO of IKP Knowledge Park, Deepanwita Chattopadhyay, *"This helps nobody. Is there a better way to facilitate dialogue between entrepreneurs and regulators? Can this dialogue happen early on in the product life cycle during innovation? Can misinformation/awareness concerns for both parties be tackled with a better communication system? And as it turns out, the answer to all of these questions is yes!"*

Thus, IKP Knowledge Park took the lead on changing the way start-ups and regulators interact, with the aim to create a fundamental shift in the HealthTech and Pharma start-up and MSME (micro, small, and medium enterprises) ecosystem. On 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023, IKP Knowledge Park launched its Global Regulatory Forum (IGRF) in partnership with the JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSSAHER), an institution that runs regulatory courses and has extensive experience in this field.

At the launch event, more than 70 ecosystem leaders and representatives, including policymakers, government officials, regulators, ex-regulators, start-ups, researchers, and various MSMEs were gathered. The key features of the forum were unveiled.

Entrepreneurs could:

1. Consult state regulators and ex-regulators one-on-one when the need arises;
2. Receive advice from international regulatory bodies such as the USFDA and WHO if applicable, via the connections the Forum's expert committee members had with members of these bodies;
3. Benefit from Q&A sessions with regulatory experts, webinars, field-specific workshops, and toolkits comprising templates of forms, guidance documents, and explanatory flowcharts;
4. Receive help in identifying and taking forward the requirement for customized regulatory strategies and pathways for a product early on in the innovation life cycle; and
5. Eventually, receive comprehensive support from regulators for completing submissions of regulatory paperwork.

Moreover, there will also be periodic training workshops for regulatory agencies to help them keep up with new and emerging technologies.



The launch event of IGRF brought together entrepreneurs and regulators to collaborate on a common platform  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

The overarching goal would be to bridge the communication gaps between regulators and entrepreneurs. *"If entrepreneurs know that it is easy for them to get in touch with regulators when the need arises, the chances of their receiving misinformation from more accessible third parties reduces. This is in addition to the whole regulatory approval process becoming simpler to understand. On the flipside, if regulators find entrepreneurs and academics more accessible, then their risk-benefit evaluations of new technologies can become faster, more accurate, and robust. It's a win-win,"* says Deepanwita.

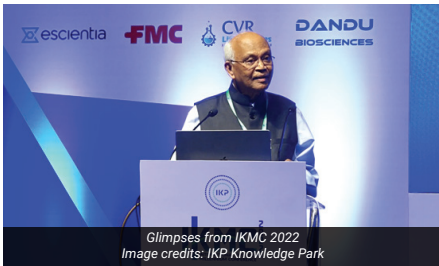
*"Making entrepreneurs and regulators more accessible to each other is crucial to not only increase awareness on both sides but increase trust; trust in the belief that each side will facilitate the betterment of the other,"* says Dr. Surinder Singh, Vice-Chancellor, JSSAHER, and former Drug Controller General of India. *"Such a symbiotic relationship can ultimately create a continuously evolving regulatory ecosystem that is easier to navigate but loses none of the rigour of quality evaluation. Only then can we see the promised growth in HealthTech innovation."*

Dr. Singh is Chairperson of IGRF. Alongside him in the expert committee are Dr. D. Roy, former Deputy Drug Controller, Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), and Dr. K Bangarurajan, Professor, Regulatory Affairs, JSSAHER, and Ex- Drug Controller (I), CDSCO. The extended committee comprises other retired officials from CDSCO, ex-members of state and zonal regulatory bodies, and experts from industry.

As a first step towards eliminating unnecessary delays and bottlenecks on the path of regulatory approval, IGRF has already conducted a webinar and Q&A session on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023, which was attended by over 40 entrepreneurs from across the country.

Membership to the Forum is free and open to start-ups, MSMEs, academics, and regulatory professionals. To join the IKP Global Regulatory Forum, register via <https://tinyurl.com/4xuz7bdm>.

## EVENTS



Glimpses from IKMC 2022  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### IKMC 2022: ENABLING A FUTURE-READY INDIA

The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of our annual flagship conference—the International Knowledge Millennium Conference (IKMC) 2022—was a resounding success. The event focused on deliberations on emerging technology sectors, technology transfer, funding and pitching through plenary sessions, and overall, on the importance of innovation in driving India's progress. The highlight of the conference was the Start-up Exhibition, which showcased around 100 pan-India start-ups from the life sciences domain.



Deepanwita Chattopadhyay at the concluding ceremony of a one-day event held by Think20 Task Force 6 at PJTSAU, Hyderabad  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### TASK FORCE 6 THINK20 (G20): WORKSHOP ON ACCELERATING THE ATTAINMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

As part of executing the responsibilities of Task Force 6 Think20 (G20), AgHub of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU), Hyderabad, in partnership with Global Development Centre, Research and Information Systems (RIS), and IKP Knowledge Park, conducted a one-day workshop titled "Building Innovation-led Entrepreneurial Pathways for Accelerating the Reach to SDGs," which brought together government officials, policymakers, researchers, and innovators to discuss and create an actionable framework of new innovation-led pathways of attaining sustainable development goals related to food and nutritional security, climate resilience, and wellness.

## EVENTS AT COMMON INSTRUMENTATION FACILITIES (CIF)



Students of Fisheries College Mangaluru at the workshop  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP: WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS OF THE FISHERIES COLLEGE

A dynamic workshop on start-up and entrepreneurship development was recently held for 38 enthusiastic students at the Fisheries College in Mangaluru, with an emphasis on imparting practical skills for successful entrepreneurship, along with real-world examples which the attendees could incorporate into their innovation journey.



Members at the internal networking event  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### BUILDING CONNECTIONS: INTERNAL NETWORKING AT MANGALURU CIF

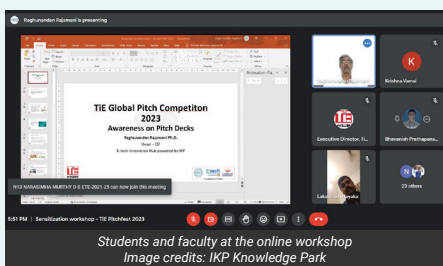
Mangaluru CIF organised an internal networking event for start-ups incubated at the centre. The event, attended by 50 participants, provided a way for start-ups to foster new connections with each other as well as the companies at the centre.



Ask Me Anything: Attendees at the hybrid session on Elevate 2023  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### ASK ME ANYTHING: HYBRID SESSIONS ON ELEVATE 2023

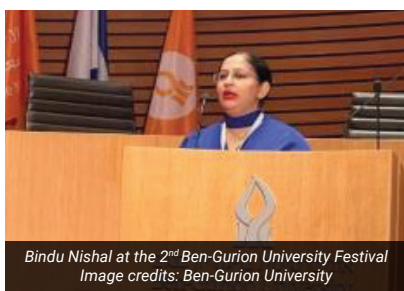
Interactive sessions were held to increase awareness and understanding about the Karnataka Government's Elevate 2023 funding programme, which is aimed at helping start-ups take their businesses to the next level.



## TIE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL PITCHFEST 2023: SENSITISATION WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY

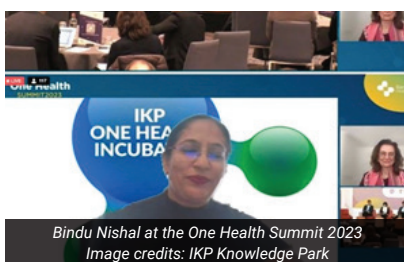
A sensitisation workshop was curated to guide students and faculty through the process of participating in the TIE University Global Pitchfest 2023. The workshop aimed to create awareness about the competition and provide participants with valuable insights to succeed.

## IKP TALKS ABOUT ONE HEALTH



## BINDU NISHAL HIGHLIGHTS FOOD SYSTEMS AND ONE HEALTH INNOVATIONS AT BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL

Bindu Nishal, Vice President of IKP Knowledge Park, delivered a keynote lecture on "Addressing challenges in Food Systems, One Health and Resilience via Innovations and Entrepreneurship" at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ben-Gurion University Festival. The event was attended by students, national authorities, civil society organizations, and BGU's President, Rector, and Vice Deans.



## BINDU NISHAL MODERATES ONE GLOBAL HEALTH PANEL AT ONE HEALTH SUMMIT 2023

Bindu Nishal, Vice President, IKP Knowledge Park, moderated a panel discussion on 'One Global Health' at the One Health Summit 2023 in Brussels. Ecosystem experts such as Andrea Winkler, Marta Valenciano, Borja Cabezon, Benoit MIRIBEL, and Dušan Milovanović were also part of the dialogue, which centred around policy implementation for global One Health.

## INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES



## IKP IS EXCITED TO WELCOME PI HEALTHCARE

PI Health Sciences—a pharmaceutical Contract Research Organization (CRO), Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) Solution organization—became part of IKP Knowledge Park, Hyderabad by leasing >1,00,000 sft of laboratory and office space. We wish them all success.



## IKP'S ANALYTICAL LABS (A-LABS) EARNS NABL ACCREDITATION

We are thrilled to announce that our Analytical Labs (A-LABS) at our Hyderabad campus is now accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). Established in 2012 with financial assistance from DBT-BIRAC, this cutting-edge facility has grown to support a diverse range of start-ups, researchers, and small and medium-sized enterprises with its advanced technologies. The lab's facilities are open to anyone who needs to use them, and inquiries can be sent to [analytical@ikpknowledgepark.com](mailto:analytical@ikpknowledgepark.com).

## ECOSYSTEM STORIES

### IKP IN KOLKATA



Attendees at the Technology Showcase  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### IKP PRIME AND IKP KNOWLEDGE PARK HOST SUCCESSFUL TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

On January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, IKP PRIME and IKP Knowledge Park co-sponsored a technology showcase in Kolkata with support from the RISE Foundation, IISER Kolkata. The event aimed to bring the latest technology solutions and innovative ideas to the regional stage, with a focus on healthcare and life sciences. Participants had the opportunity to network with industry leaders and gain insights into the latest advancements in technology.



Members of the Kalyani Innovation Network  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### LAUNCH OF KALYANI INNOVATION NETWORK

During the Technology Showcase by IKP PRIME, the formation of the Kalyani Innovation Network (KIN), with seven institutes from the Kalyani region, was announced. KIN aims to build an ecosystem for technology development and commercialisation, by bringing together academia, industry, and government to promote entrepreneurship, and support start-ups with mentorship and funding.



IKP team at the Kolkata Biotech Park  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### JOINING FORCES WITH KOLKATA BIOTECH PARK AND WEST BENGAL DSTBT

IKP PRIME is collaborating with the West Bengal State Government's Department of Science & Technology and Kolkata Biotech Park. Recently, our CEO and Chairman Deepanwita Chattopadhyay, along with Bandhana Katoch and Harshada Wadkar from the IKP team, interacted with start-ups at Kolkata Biotech Park to share their experiences and provide guidance for the future.



"Entrepreneur Alley" at IKP EDEN  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### ENTREPRENEUR ALLEY: CELEBRATING TRAILBLAZERS AT IKP EDEN, BANGALORE

We are delighted to announce the creation of an "Entrepreneur Alley" at IKP EDEN in Bangalore, to honour entrepreneurs who have made a significant impact on the innovation ecosystem. So far, 17 trailblazers have been recognised, with more to come.

## COLLABORATIONS

### IP MANAGEMENT WITH RKMVERI AND SNU IN KOLKATA

IKP PRIME has signed MoUs with the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI) and Sister Nivedita University (SNU) to offer a comprehensive range of intellectual property (IP)-related services to fellows, innovators, students, researchers, and faculty. These services include IP awareness activities, counselling, search, drafting, filing, management, technology transfer and licensing, IP policy drafting and implementation, entrepreneurship support, and industrial collaboration facilitation. The primary objective is to enable effective IP management and commercialisation, fostering a conducive environment for innovation.



Deepanwita Chattopadhyay—Chairman & CEO, IKP Knowledge Park; Swami Atmapriyananda, Pro-Chancellor, RKMVERI; and Bramhachari Manashdeep, Assistant Professor and Academic Coordinator, Department of Biomedical Science and Technology, School of Biological Sciences, RKMVERI  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

## COLLABORATIONS

### NURTURING AGRI-INNOVATIONS WITH SAMUNNATI AND ECSO GLOBAL (ABSOLUTE)

IKP is pleased to announce that we have signed MoUs with Samunnati and ECSO Global to support and nurture agriculture and allied sciences initiatives, innovations, and start-ups. The partnership includes providing assistance with pilot projects, deployments, validations, and commercialisation. These collaborations aim to foster a conducive environment for innovation in the agriculture sector.



MoU signing with Samunnati  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

### MOU WITH BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY, ISRAEL

IKP Knowledge Park recently signed an MoU with the 'Food Security, One Health, and Resilience' Centre by Ben Gurion University, Israel (BGU-FOR). The aim of this collaboration is for Bindu Nishal, Vice President of IKP Knowledge Park, to join the effort to tackle global One Health challenges via international and multidisciplinary academia-academia and academia-industry partnerships. Ultimately, IKP's contribution as part of this collaboration will also strengthen efforts in One Health in India.



Prof. Raz Jelinek, Vice President and Dean for R&D, BGU with Bindu Nishal, Vice President, IKP Knowledge Park  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

## START-UP HIGHLIGHTS



### RENKUBE INSTALLS PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM

Renkuba, a renewable energy-focused start-up that won the Biotechnology Ignition Grant and was part of the AgHub's Agritech Innovation Pilot Programme, recently inaugurated an agri photovoltaic system at the Seed Research and Technology Centre of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU).



### LOOPWORM RAISES USD 3.4 MN IN SEED ROUND

Biotech start-up Loopworm, co-led by Omnivore and WaterBridge Ventures, has raised \$3.4 million in its seed round. The start-up is supported by IKP Knowledge Park via the Biotechnology Ignition Grant.



### SUN PHARMA ACQUIRES STAKE IN EYE-DISEASE DETECTION START-UP BACKED BY IKP KNOWLEDGE PARK

Sun Pharma, the fourth largest global specialty generic pharmaceutical company, recently acquired a 27.39% stake in Remidio Innovative Solutions Private Limited, a start-up that develops innovative products for early detection of eye diseases. The acquisition is worth ₹149.9 crore. The start-up is supported by IKP Knowledge Park.



### AGC-JANCARE AWARDS GO TO 90 HEALTHTECH START UPS

Ninety start-ups working in HealthTech were named awardees of the AGC-Jancare Awards, a nationwide innovation challenge by BIRAC that is aimed at identifying innovations in telemedicine, mHealth, AI, blockchain, and other technologies to strengthen India's healthcare ecosystem. IKP Knowledge Park, the implementation partner of the awards, backs and congratulates all the 90 start-ups and looks forward to supporting them in the future.



Deepanwita Chattopadhyay, Chairman and CEO, IKP Knowledge Park  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

## DEEPANWITA CHATTOPADHYAY WINS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

We are ecstatic to share that on International Women's Day 2023, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Women in Biotech Awards of Golden Jubilee Biotech Park, our Chairman and CEO Deepanwita Chattopadhyay was awarded the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for her remarkable contributions to the biotechnology sector. Her leadership and vision have been instrumental in bringing IKP Knowledge Park to where it is today, making it a leading player in the innovation ecosystem of the country.

## HYBRID ORCHID PLANT NAMED AFTER IKP KNOWLEDGE PARK

Last year at IKMC 2022, Kwaklei and Khonggunmelei Orchids, a start-up supported by IKP, announced that they were naming a new variant of the orchid flower in the honor of IKP. The Phalaenopsis IKP Knowledge Park has a stunning magenta core which represents the heart of IKP, and soft white petals with a pink radiance which symbolise the ecosystem that IKP has created over the years. We are truly grateful and humbled by this wonderful gesture.



Phalaenopsis IKP Knowledge Park  
Image credits: K&K Orchids



Deepanwita Chattopadhyay presenting the report at the IASP General Assembly  
Image credits: IASP

## DEEPANWITA CHATTOPADHYAY PRESENTS REPORT AT IASP GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As the Treasurer of the International Association of Science Parks & Areas of Innovation (IASP), Deepanwita Chattopadhyay presented the Audited Accounts and Treasurer's Report to the members of IASP from over 70 countries at the IASP General Assembly held in Seville, Spain, on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022



Bindu Nishal's article in the publication  
Image credits: IKP Knowledge Park

## PUBLISHED: 'PANDEMIC LED TO DIGITAL SHIFT'

Dr. Bindu Nishal, Vice President of IKP Knowledge Park, shared her thoughts regarding the Indian agritech start-up sector's evolution, funding opportunities, and future potential in a Vivify Media publication titled 'Pandemic Led to Digital Shift.'

Read the article here: <https://www.vivifymedia.in/stimulating-agritech-innovations/>



# REACH AND IMPACT OF IKP

## Companies and Innovation Supported

1,470 (unique 1,000)  
in 92 cities & towns

## Footprint

8 cities  
400,000 sq ft  
200 acres  
1.82 M sq ft

## Innovators Assisted

12,000+

## Jobs Created

15,000  
direct jobs

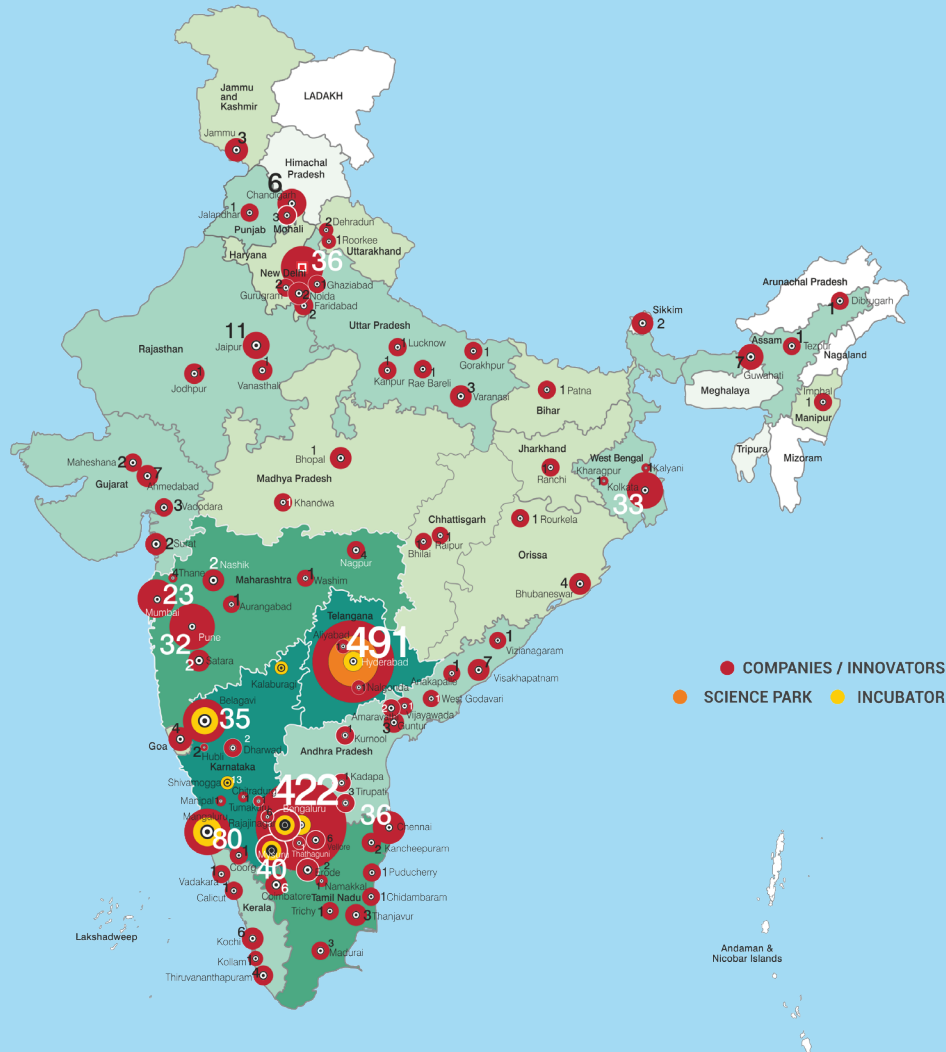
60,000  
indirect jobs

## Funds Raised by IKP

~ ₹366 Cr

## Valuation of Start-ups

₹35,000 Cr



## SOCIAL CONNECTS

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**IKP INSIDER**  
OCTOBER 2022–MARCH 2023



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