



## PRESS RELEASE

April 15, 2026

### **IKP Knowledge Park Launches ARK to Bridge the Deep-Science Commercialization Gap**

IKP Knowledge Park has announced the launch of **IKP ARK**, a specialized venture acceleration program designed to transition breakthrough science ventures from the laboratory to the market. The program addresses the critical commercialization gap where deep-science startups often fail not due to weak science, but because of fragmented support and limited engineering or regulatory readiness.

The initiative aligns with IKP's vision of strengthening India's position as a global product nation in the life sciences sector.

Unlike traditional advisory-led programs, IKP ARK deploys an embedded operations team comprising of seasoned startup operators who work shoulder-to-shoulder with founders, building the company from within. The program focuses on de-risking key elements of the innovation stack, including:

- **Productization and Manufacturing:** Moving from lab-scale to pilot-ready production.
- **Regulatory & Clinical Validation:** Providing operational support for CDSCO/FDA approvals.
- **Go-to-Market & Fundraising:** Refining business models and activating IKP's 20-year investor network.

Each selected startup receives up to **₹2 Crores in total value**, including:

- **Direct Capital:** Up to ₹1 Crore in milestone-linked funding.
- **Operator Value:** Up to ₹1 Crore in specialized services, including regulatory advisory and access to SmartFab infrastructure.

The **12-month program** is divided into three distinct phases:

1. **The Crucible (5+1 Days):** A residential diagnostic phase to identify gaps and sign a "Venture Blueprint".
2. **The Accelerator (4 Months):** An intensive phase of weekly micro-sprints to retire operational risks.
3. **Build & Scale (8 Months):** A founder-led phase focused on securing first customers, regulatory submissions, and Series A funding.

The inaugural cohort is dedicated to MedTech and HealthTech ventures, with future cohorts planned for Synthetic Biology, Climate Tech, and Materials.

Applications for Cohort 1 will open on **15 April 2026**. Startups must have demonstrated a Proof of Concept (TRL 3+) and possess novel, defensible science to be eligible.

Commenting on the launch, **Dr. Satya Prakash Dash**, CEO, IKP Knowledge Park said, "Deep science ventures often fail because the journey from the lab to the market is fragmented and poorly supported. With IKP ARK, we are changing how we support founders by embedding our own deep operational expertise directly inside each venture to retire risks. Our goal is to provide founders with the structure, capital, and execution support needed to carry breakthrough innovations from the lab to global markets."

**About IKP Knowledge Park:** IKP Knowledge Park (IKP) is a 200-acre premier Science Park and Incubator with physical presence in Hyderabad and Bengaluru, India. It is the first wet lab research park and incubator in India set up with the mission to create a world-class ecosystem for fostering leading edge innovation.

IKP promotes the advancement of technology-based innovators, entrepreneurs and small and large companies through customized space, shared equipment, incubation, mentorship, and funding. IKP has so far supported 1900+ companies from nine countries, 90% of which are start-ups.

###