



The Entrepreneur's Digest

**Newsletter of IILM Innovation Lab
January 2025 – July 2025**

IILM Innovation Lab

IILM Entrepreneurship Foundation, School of Management, IILM University, Gurugram

MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Prof. P. Dwarakanath

In an era defined by Innovation, Agility, and Disruption, the most powerful ideas often begin with the courage to challenge convention. At IILM University, our mission has always extended beyond imparting knowledge; we aim to ignite curiosity, inspire leadership, and nurture change-makers who can shape the future. The IILM Innovation Lab at School of Management, IILM University, Gurugram is a bold expression of that mission.

Launched with the vision to catalyse entrepreneurship at the grassroots, IILM Innovation Lab represents more than an incubation centre; it symbolises the aspirations of a generation unafraid to dream differently. From first-time founders exploring market needs to student-led startups solving real-world problems, the energy emanating from this ecosystem is remarkable.

I am especially proud of the way IILM Innovation Lab is weaving together academia, industry, and innovation. Through its strategic partnerships, mentorship networks, and hands-on programmes, it is creating a launchpad where creativity meets execution and ambition meets opportunity.

To every startup founder, mentor, faculty member, and student associated with IILM Innovation Lab: you are not just building businesses, you are building the future. Keep asking questions. Keep seeking better solutions. And above all, continue to lead with purpose.

Let this be just the beginning.

With pride and anticipation,

Prof. P. Dwarakanath

Chancellor, IILM University, Gurugram

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT



Dr Ravi Kumar Jain

Entrepreneurship is not simply about building businesses; it's about shaping mindsets, redefining possibilities, and tackling challenges with creativity and purpose. At the School of Management, we believe that education must go hand in hand with enterprise, and that theory becomes truly transformative when applied through innovation.

The **IILM Innovation Lab** is a testament to this belief. Designed as a platform where passion meets process and mentorship meets market readiness, the incubator has quickly become a vital component of our academic and entrepreneurial ecosystem. From FinTech and AgriTech to PropTech and Social Impact Startups, the diversity and calibre of ventures nurtured here are nothing short of inspiring.

I invite all students, faculty, and partners to engage deeply with IILM Innovation Lab, not just to launch ideas, but to build legacies.

With entrepreneurial regards,

Dr Ravi Kumar Jain

Director, School of Management

Introduction & Overview

The IILM Innovation Lab (IILM Entrepreneurship Foundation) is a state-of-the-art incubation centre established under the School of Management at IILM University, Gurugram. Registered as a Section 8 not-for-profit company, IILM Innovation Lab catalyses the fostering of innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship at the grassroots level.

Strategically positioned within a globally focused academic institution, the Incubator is committed to nurturing a dynamic ecosystem where students, faculty members, and aspiring entrepreneurs from the community can ideate, innovate, and build scalable ventures that solve real-world problems.

With a clear emphasis on inclusivity and impact, the IILM Innovation Lab offers an array of support services that include:



Access to modern infrastructure, including Mac and Dell Labs, a Media lab, and an Innovation Lab



Robust mentorship programmes with seasoned entrepreneurs, industry veterans, and domain experts.



Tailored support for prototyping, business model validation, and market entry strategies.



A strong network of partnerships with ecosystem enablers like FITT - IIT Delhi, IVY League Ventures, DBS Bank, AIC-Sonipat, SAAC, Sanchi Connect and others for funding and strategic guidance.



Regular engagement through workshops, bootcamps, hackathons, and industry roundtables is designed to equip incubatees with the necessary tools to thrive in competitive markets.

In alignment with IILM University's vision to nurture future-ready leaders, the IILM Innovation Lab serves as a launchpad for impactful startups that aspire not only to achieve commercial success but also to make meaningful contributions to society.

Through a structured incubation process and access to government-recognised startup benefits (DPIIT and Startup India), IILM Innovation Lab is poised to be a premier entrepreneurial hub in the region.

The Driving Force Behind IILM Innovation Lab

In a time defined by disruption and digital transformation, the IILM Innovation Lab emerges as a catalyst for purpose-driven entrepreneurship within IILM University, Gurugram. Guided by the belief that innovation and entrepreneurship are not merely economic levers but instruments of inclusive and sustainable progress, the Lab is designed to nurture ideas that matter.

The initiative is being driven under the visionary leadership of senior management and key institutional partners, who have been instrumental in both the establishment and the continued growth of the Innovation Lab. Their combined expertise bridges academic excellence with national innovation agendas, ensuring a strong foundation for impactful entrepreneurship."

At its core, the IILM Innovation Lab is committed to empowering students, faculty, and community innovators to translate bold ideas into tangible, scalable ventures. Built on a strong academic framework, backed by institutional agility, and supported by a diverse ecosystem of mentors and partners, the Lab serves as a launchpad for early-stage innovators seeking to build impactful and resilient startups.

Vision Statement

To establish a robust innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem at IILM University, Gurugram, that promotes grassroots innovation, fosters sustainable enterprise, and creates measurable societal impact through student, faculty, and community-driven ventures.

Mission Statement

The mission of IILM Innovation Lab is to:



Empower Ideas

Facilitate an environment where students, faculty, and innovators can explore, prototype, and validate their entrepreneurial ideas with structured support.



Provide Essential Resources

Offer access to infrastructure, mentoring, lab facilities, and strategic guidance to enable innovation-led development.



Facilitate Investment & Growth

Act as a bridge to capital, both governmental and private, while nurturing ventures through each stage of growth and commercial readiness.

GUIDING LIGHTS OF IILM INNOVATION LAB

Chief Patrons



Dr P. Dwarakanath

Chancellor, IILM University, Gurugram

Dr P. Dwarakanath is the Chancellor of IILM University, Gurugram, and a distinguished leader with decades of experience in corporate leadership, human capital development, and higher education governance. Formerly the Director – Group Human Capital at Max India Ltd, he has played a pivotal role in shaping people strategies and organisational culture across industries. At IILM, Dr Dwarakanath champions the university's mission of fostering liberal education, innovation, and entrepreneurship, while also nurturing a socially responsible and globally relevant academic environment. His vision continues to inspire the creation of an ecosystem where students and innovators are empowered to lead with purpose and impact.



Dr K.S. Bakshi

Group Head - Human Resources, Inter Globe Enterprises

Dr K.S. Bakshi is the Group Head – Human Resources at InterGlobe Enterprises (IndiGo) and a member of the company's Executive Committee, where he plays a pivotal role in shaping organisational strategy through people and culture. With over three decades of leadership experience, Dr Bakshi has worked across diverse sectors, including aviation, hospitality, telecommunications, and manufacturing, building a reputation as a forward-looking HR leader who drives transformation at scale.

Throughout his career, he has championed initiatives in leadership development, culture-building, employee engagement, and innovation-driven HR practices, making him one of the most respected voices in the industry. An alumnus of XLRI Jamshedpur, where he completed his Master's in Personnel Management & Industrial Relations, Dr Bakshi continues to contribute significantly to building future-ready organisations by aligning human capital with long-term business growth.



Chief Mentors



Dr Ravi Kumar Jain

Director, School of Management, IILM University, Gurugram

Dr Ravi Kumar Jain is the Director of the School of Management at IILM University, Gurugram. A seasoned academic and institution-builder, he brings over 25 years of rich experience in family business management, teaching, research, consulting, and academic leadership. Holding a Doctorate in Business Management, an MBA in Finance, and a PGDM in ICT Management, he has authored more than 40 books and published over 150 research papers in international journals.

Before joining IILM in February 2025, Dr Jain served as the Founding Director of Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (Hyderabad) and Symbiosis Institute of Research & Innovation (Pune). He also pioneered the built-from-ground-up Sparsh Global Business School, leading it to break even within two years while establishing strategic international collaborations.

Recognised as a start-up evangelist, he has received multiple awards, including Best Director of B-School (ISDSI, 2018), Outstanding Leadership in Institution Building (2024), and Academician Excellence Award (2021).

At IILM, Dr Jain is spearheading efforts to elevate the management school's capabilities through futuristic infrastructure, innovative pedagogy, research focus, and strong industry linkages, setting the stage for a world-class learning environment.



Dr Nikhil Agrawal

Managing Director - FITT-IIT Delhi

Dr. Nikhil Agrawal is a nationally recognized expert in innovation, startups, and policy, currently serving as Managing Director of FITT (Foundation for Innovation & Technology Transfer) at IIT Delhi. He has extensive experience leading India's largest tech incubator at IIT Kanpur, overseeing more than 300 startups and earning top innovation rankings. Dr. Agrawal has also steered major cybersecurity and rural accelerator initiatives, and previously served the Government of Andhra Pradesh to foster statewide innovation.

A global entrepreneurial advocate, he founded Entrepreneur Cafe, spanning 110 cities and 45,000 entrepreneurs, and has advised firms like Cadbury's and Zensar. Academically, he holds an MPhil from Cambridge and a PhD from Edinburgh, and has also served in roles with the UN, the Internet Society, and the World Entrepreneurship Forum.



Srinivas Rao Mahankali (MSR)

Ecosystem Builder, Ex-CEO T-Hub, Serial Entrepreneur

Srinivas Rao Mahankali (MSR) has been onboarded as the Chief Mentor of IILM University. A visionary leader with over three decades of experience in IT, startups, and entrepreneurship, MSR is best known as the Ex-CEO of T-Hub, India's largest innovation hub, where he played a pivotal role in scaling its ecosystem impact. Over his career, he has co-founded and built successful ventures such as Network Solutions (later acquired by IBM) and Aujas Networks (acquired by NSE), while also leading the Global Alliance for

Mass Entrepreneurship (G.A.M.E.) to strengthen grassroots enterprise. An alumnus of Osmania University and IIM Bangalore, MSR brings unparalleled expertise in innovation, venture growth, and ecosystem development, making him a driving force in shaping the future of entrepreneurship at IILM.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL & ADVISORY BOARD



Mr Apurva Chamaria

Global Head of Venture Capital and Startups
Google

Mr. Apurva Chamaria is the Global Head of Venture Capital & Startups at Google, where he leads strategic partnership initiatives and ecosystem support for venture capital firms and startups in India. His role focuses on enabling high-impact collaborations, digital transformation, and growth acceleration across the startup landscape.

Before joining Google, Mr. Chamaria held several senior leadership positions at globally recognised firms. As the Senior Vice President & Chief of Staff to the CEO & MD at Tech Mahindra, he played a pivotal role in driving the company's strategic growth and contributed significantly to enhancing its market performance. During his tenure as the Chief Revenue Officer at RateGain, he successfully scaled the company's annual recurring revenue from ₹20 million to ₹63 million, playing a key role in its successful IPO in December 2021. Earlier in his career, he served as the Global Head of Marketing at HCL Technologies, where his innovative branding and digital campaigns received multiple industry accolades and helped position HCL as a leading global brand.

Beyond his corporate contributions, Mr. Chamaria is a prominent angel investor, actively supporting startups such as Stage, Josh Talks, Dukaan, and Innov8. He has been recognised among India's top 10 angel investors for his mentorship and backing of early-stage ventures. An accomplished thought leader and speaker, he holds academic credentials from IIT Delhi, IIMC, JNU, and Harvard Business School, and is the author of two bestselling books on digital marketing and business growth strategies.



Mr Deepak Bagla

Former Managing Director & CEO
Invest India

Mr Deepak Bagla is a prominent leader in India's investment promotion landscape, best known for his role as Managing Director & CEO of Invest India, the nation's flagship investment facilitation agency under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

With over three decades of experience at institutions such as the World Bank and Citibank, he brought extensive international expertise to the role. He also held key positions, including serving as President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies, which represents 105 countries, and was a special invitee to India's Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council.

Mr Bagla earned degrees in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi, and in International Diplomacy and Trade & Finance from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. In March 2023, he stepped down from his role at Invest India, citing personal reasons — this followed a ministry audit that scrutinised the agency's performance.



Mr Sumit Kumar

Director & Co-founder
Global Village Foundation

Mr Sumit Kumar is the Co-founder and Director of the Global Village Foundation (GVF), established in April 2015. Based in New Delhi, GVF is a research and policy think tank focused on assisting and assessing public policy across Indian states and at the central level.

Over nearly a decade, Mr Kumar has driven GVF's mission, Ideate • Implement • Impact, leading initiatives in policy design, governance research, stakeholder engagement, and implementation support. Under his oversight, the organisation has completed multiple impactful studies, policy dialogues, and capacity-building programs aimed at strengthening India's governance landscape.

Foundation Day 2025: Launch of IILM Innovation Lab

The Foundation Day of IILM Innovation Lab, held on 29th January 2025 at IILM University, Gurugram, marked the official launch of the incubator and set the tone for a future rooted in innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship. The event, attended by over 150 students, faculty, investors, and ecosystem leaders, featured a high-impact roundtable discussion on “How to Secure Funding in 2025,” bringing together thought leaders from Google, Real Time Angel Fund, Sanchi Connect, and more. Conversations delved into navigating the funding winter, the evolving role of mentorship, founder-market fit, sweat equity, and emerging opportunities in DeepTech and PropTech. Designed as more than a ceremonial launch, the day became a knowledge-sharing platform that offered attendees practical insights on building lean, investor-ready startups while underscoring IILM Innovation Lab’s role as a launchpad for purpose-driven ventures in India’s dynamic startup ecosystem.

Distinguished Speakers Included:



Mr Apurva Chamaria
Global Head of VC &
Startups, Google



Dr Vibhuti Aggarwal
Founding Partner,
Real Time Angel Fund



Dr Sunil K. Shekhawat
CEO, Sanchi Connect



Ms Darshana Bhalla
Founder & CEO,
D’Artist Talent Ventures



Ms Priyanka Gera
Founder & CEO, Aeria



**Ms Namrata Nayyar
Kamdar**
Founder, Plenaire



SkillSync

Founder: Ujjwal Nigam

Sector: SaaS (JobTech)

Description: SkillSync is an AI-powered platform that bridges the gap between job seekers and employers through intelligent job-matching and personalised career guidance. The platform offers features such as AI-led career mapping, industry-specific training, practical projects, and interview preparation tools. Its goal is to enhance job readiness and enable seamless hiring by creating verified, skill-oriented profiles tailored to employer needs.

Realure

Founder: Gaurangi Agarwal

Sector: PropTech

Description: Realure addresses the trust gap in the real estate investment space through an AI-based platform offering virtual staging and property visualisation. The application helps potential investors explore real estate projects without the interference of spam calls or misinformation, ensuring a transparent, data-driven, and interactive investment experience.

Aadat

Founder: Ayush Saraf

Sector: FinTech / EdTech

Description: Aadat is a startup committed to improving financial literacy among India's youth. It offers an engaging and practical Financial Literacy Course for senior secondary students, covering essential topics like taxation, investment, and stock markets. Through hands-on learning and real-life financial simulations, Aadat aims to build a financially aware and empowered next generation.

4New Start Business Solution

Founder: Manoraj Singh

Sector: Startup Services / Business Consulting

Description: 4New Start is a comprehensive support platform for new and aspiring entrepreneurs. It provides essential business setup resources, strategic consulting, and operational tools tailored for early-stage startups. By guiding founders through the critical phases of startup development, it helps build sustainable, growth-ready ventures.

VANN (Value Addition in Agriculture)

Founder: Namra Mehta

Sector: AgriTech

Description: VANN offers cost-effective solar dryer technology to farmers, enabling them to convert surplus perishable produce like fruits and vegetables into value-added goods. By reducing post-harvest losses and increasing farmers' income potential, VANN contributes to agricultural sustainability and rural entrepreneurship.

Shuffle

Founder: Khushi Chaudhary

Sector: Shared Mobility / TransportTech

Description: Shuffle is a tech-enabled shuttle cab service designed to solve daily urban and suburban commuting challenges. Focused on affordability, reliability, and environmental sustainability, the platform offers route-optimised shared transportation, reducing travel costs and emissions while improving commuter experience across underserved areas.

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS RECAP (JAN–JUNE 2025)

January 2025

Udyamotsav 2025: National Startup Day | 16–17 Jan

Celebrated over two days, Udyamotsav 2025 honoured National Startup Day by uniting students, faculty, and founders to celebrate entrepreneurship. The first day featured a virtual session on IPR by Dr. Raghavender GR from DPIIT, emphasising the importance of legal protection for startups. The second day transitioned to an engaging in-person format, with real-life startup journeys from founders of SkillSync and Aadat. The event also saw the induction of the IILM Innovation Lab Entrepreneurship Club Council for 2025–26 and showcased IIC's annual report. With participation from 50+ students and faculty, the event promoted design thinking, leadership, and startup ecosystem awareness.



February 2025

ENTRECON 2025 (Entrepreneurs Conference) | 21–22 Feb

ENTRECON 2025, hosted in collaboration with GK Consulting and Venture Capital Foundation, was a flagship two-day event packed with panels, masterclasses, and networking opportunities. Topics ranged from AI-driven diagnostics and FinTech trends to sustainable business practices and IP protection. Notable sessions included Green IT, Business Building from Zero, and a strategic MoU signing with GK Consulting. Attended by a vibrant mix of students, faculty, and entrepreneurs, ENTRECON 2025 empowered participants with a 360° view of the modern startup landscape.



IDEATHON Student Workshop 2025 | 28 Feb

Held on campus, the Ideathon 2025 workshop provided 50 students with foundational tools to kickstart their entrepreneurial journey. Led by guest speaker Mr. Gaurav Aggarwal, the session focused on resilience, ideation, and real-world problem-solving. Students were introduced to the YI HEROES initiative, encouraging youth-led ventures. The workshop combined mentorship, motivation, and interactive discussions, and successfully bridged classroom learning with startup readiness.



March 2025

Budget Biz Expo 2025 | 26 Mar

Designed to bring entrepreneurship to life, Budget Biz Expo engaged students in experiential learning by allowing them to create and operate their business stalls with minimal investment. 11 teams participated in a variety of stalls, from food to games to handmade jewellery. Interactive zones like the Startup Insights Desk and Profit Board tested business acumen and idea generation. With 100+ student visitors and a lively atmosphere, the expo served as a real-time entrepreneurship lab that celebrated innovation, strategy, and community participation.



April 2025

IILM Innovation Lab IGNITE WEEK 2025 | 21–26 Apr

Commemorating World Creativity and Innovation Day and culminating on World IP Day, IGNITE WEEK 2025 was a six-day celebration of entrepreneurial learning. Sessions led by domain experts like Mr. Naman Kothari (MeitY-NASSCOM), Mr. Ram Bende (TDA), and Ms. Gayatri Sriram (Bacardi) addressed topics from ideation and business development to IP and legal frameworks. The final day featured a comprehensive IP session by Dr. Thiagaraja Gupta, Deputy Controller, Indian Patent Office. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 100+ attendees and provided a launchpad for aspiring innovators.



May 2025

Faculty Development Programme (FDP) | 29 May

A one-day intensive FDP on "Startup Ecosystem & Entrepreneurship Development" was held to empower 20+ faculty members to integrate innovation into academics. Expert-led sessions included Mr. Naman Kothari (MeitY-NASSCOM) on innovation, Mr. Manoj Kaushik (SCERT) on faculty as change agents, and Mr. Praveen Kapoor (BeBoss Technology) on funding and government support. Faculty left with strategic insights on curriculum innovation, policy awareness, and mentorship frameworks, reinforcing IILM Innovation Lab's commitment to building a campus-wide entrepreneurial ecosystem.



July 2025

UAE-India Start-up Series and MoU Signing Ceremony | 21 July

A one-day intensive FDP on "Startup Ecosystem & Entrepreneurship Development" was held to empower 20+ faculty members to integrate innovation into academics. Expert-led sessions included Mr. Naman Kothari (MeitY-NASSCOM) on innovation, Mr. Manoj Kaushik (SCERT) on faculty as change agents, and Mr. Praveen Kapoor (BeBoss Technology) on funding and government support. Faculty left with strategic insights on curriculum innovation, policy awareness, and mentorship frameworks, reinforcing IILM Innovation Lab's commitment to building a campus-wide entrepreneurial ecosystem.



COMMUNITY & COLLABORATIONS



Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) – IIT Delhi is a premier startup incubator established under the aegis of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, Government of India. Hosted at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, AIC is dedicated to fostering innovation and supporting early-stage, technology-driven startups.

AIC–IIT Delhi offers world-class infrastructure, sector-specific mentoring, access to a vibrant research ecosystem, and funding support through government and private channels. It serves as a launchpad for deep-tech, health-tech, AI/ML, and sustainability-focused ventures, providing startups with the resources to go from idea to market.

As a strategic partner to IILM Innovation Lab, AIC–IIT Delhi enhances our startups' access to cutting-edge expertise, collaborative programmes, and investor networks, strengthening the pipeline from ideation to scalable innovation.



Sanchi Connect is a premier platform dedicated to fostering collaboration between startups, investors, corporates, and innovation enablers. As a key partner of IILM Innovation Lab, Sanchi Connect brings extensive industry expertise and a robust investment network to support early-stage ventures in scaling their ideas.

With a focus on DeepTech, SaaS, FinTech, and Sustainability, the platform connects high-potential startups with tailored mentorship, funding opportunities, and corporate pilot projects. Their ecosystem includes 2,000+ investors and corporate innovation leaders, making Sanchi Connect a critical enabler for market validation, growth strategy, and capital access.

Through this partnership, IILM Innovation Lab incubatees gain direct access to Sanchi's accelerator services, demo days, investor roundtables, and resource-rich founder communities, accelerating their journey from ideation to impact.



IVY League Ventures is a forward-thinking startup accelerator and venture catalyst that supports early-stage founders in turning bold ideas into scalable businesses. With a strong network of investors, mentors, and industry experts, IVY League Ventures is committed to empowering India's next generation of entrepreneurs through strategic mentorship, capital access, and deep ecosystem engagement.

As a key partner of IILM Innovation Lab, IVY League Ventures contributes to enriching the startup journey for our incubatees, offering curated pitch sessions, investor readiness bootcamps, and one-on-one mentoring. Their expertise in startup investment and market validation plays a critical role in helping founders

navigate the complexities of early growth. Together, we're building a stronger pipeline for innovation, investment, and impact.



As part of our mission to expand entrepreneurial opportunities, IILM Innovation Lab is proud to collaborate with the Startup Accelerator Chamber of Commerce (SACC), a leading not-for-profit organisation committed to empowering startups and entrepreneurs across India.

Founded by industry veterans, SACC operates as a high-impact startup enabler, offering incubation, mentoring, funding access, and networking support to early-stage ventures. With a robust presence across multiple states, SACC has played a pivotal role in nurturing over 500 startups through its accelerator programs, startup conclaves, and investor pitch platforms.

This partnership allows IILM Innovation Lab incubatees to tap into a larger ecosystem of investors, mentors, and fellow founders, enabling cross-regional collaboration and access to national-level growth opportunities.

Together, IILM Innovation Lab and SACC are driving the next wave of startup success stories by uniting innovation with infrastructure and vision with execution.



DBS Bank, headquartered in Singapore, is one of Asia's leading financial services groups with a strong reputation for innovation, digital banking, and sustainable finance. With a presence in 18 markets, DBS is recognised globally for its forward-thinking approach, customer-centric solutions, and commitment to empowering startups and SMEs.

Through its partnership with IILM Innovation Lab, DBS Bank brings valuable expertise in financial literacy, digital payments, and access to startup-friendly banking infrastructure. Its collaborative role enhances the support system for incubated ventures, enabling them to build stronger financial models, explore innovative funding solutions, and scale with confidence in competitive markets.

This partnership underscores IILM Innovation Lab's mission to align with institutions that drive meaningful impact and provide real-world value to early-stage entrepreneurs.

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As a strategic legal partner of IILM Innovation Lab, Singhania & Co. LLP brings decades of expertise in supporting startups, entrepreneurs, and high-growth businesses through their legal journeys. Renowned for their client-centric approach and deep domain knowledge, the firm offers end-to-end legal services spanning intellectual property rights, venture capital, commercial contracts, regulatory compliance, and corporate advisory.

With a legacy of serving innovation-led enterprises, Singhania & Co. is committed to empowering emerging startups with clarity, confidence, and compliance, ensuring they are legally equipped to scale and succeed. Their collaboration with IILM Innovation Lab enhances the incubation ecosystem by

making high-quality legal counsel accessible to our founders. This partnership underscores our shared belief: great ventures deserve great legal foundations.



We are proud to announce our collaborative engagement with IIT Ropar iHub – AWAaDH (Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub) under the SPRINT Haryana Program, an initiative designed to drive grassroots innovation and regional entrepreneurship.

Funded by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, iHub AWAaDH is a Technology Innovation Hub established at IIT Ropar under the prestigious National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS). The hub focuses on technological solutions in agriculture, water, and rural development, driving impact through cyber-physical systems (CPS), AI, and IoT applications.

This strategic collaboration is aimed at catalysing startup development in Haryana through a shared commitment to deep-tech mentoring, funding support, and inclusive innovation. Together, we aim to bridge academic excellence with entrepreneurial execution, making futuristic technologies accessible to rural and semi-urban innovators.



As India's startup ecosystem increasingly looks beyond borders, the UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) emerges as a strategic enabler of international collaboration, market access, and innovation-led trade.

Established under the framework of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed between India and the UAE in 2022, the UICC aims to create a high-impact platform for entrepreneurs, SMEs, and investors across both nations. It focuses on expanding bilateral economic opportunities in priority sectors like technology, healthcare, logistics, clean energy, and digital innovation.

For Indian startups and academic incubators like IILM Innovation Lab, the UICC presents immense potential for cross-border scaling, UAE market entry, and strategic investment partnerships.

As the global startup landscape evolves, partnerships like UICC serve as gateways, amplifying innovation, accelerating growth, and positioning India's entrepreneurial talent on the global stage.

Upcoming MoU Signings:



The Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT) is the industry interface and innovation arm of the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi). Established in 1992, FITT is one of India's premier technology transfer organisations, playing a pivotal role in transforming academic research into real-world applications.

As a valued partner of the IILM Innovation Lab, FITT supports our mission by offering mentorship, industry-academic collaborations, and access to startup acceleration opportunities through IIT Delhi's extensive ecosystem. Its role in commercialising innovation, facilitating IP development, and nurturing early-stage ventures aligns seamlessly with our vision of building a future-ready entrepreneurial landscape.

Together, IILM Innovation Lab and FITT are committed to empowering startups through knowledge exchange, incubation support, and high-impact innovation.

IILM INNOVATION LAB TEAM

The success of the IILM Innovation Lab is driven by a committed and visionary team dedicated to fostering a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem. With a blend of academic leadership, operational expertise, and community engagement, the team ensures that incubatees receive the strategic guidance and support needed to thrive.

Leadership & Operations



Dr Saurabh Trivedi

Associate Professor & CEO (Addl. Charge), Incubation Centre, School of Management

Spearheading the incubator's developmental initiatives, Dr Trivedi bridges academia and enterprise to cultivate an enabling environment for startup growth.



Mr Amit Kale

Incubation Manager

Responsible for operational execution, incubation programme design, and mentor engagement, Mr Kale plays a pivotal role in daily operations and startup support.



Mr Tushar Bagchi

Social Media & Community Manager

Mr Bagchi leads community outreach, brand visibility, and media strategy, ensuring that IILM Innovation Lab's impact is effectively communicated across platforms.

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

At **IILM Innovation Lab**, we believe innovation thrives when resources, mentorship, and community come together. Whether you're an aspiring founder, student, mentor, or partner, there's a place for you in our growing ecosystem.

Engage With Us For

Cohorts applications

Sprint, North Edition, AWaDH IIT-Ropar

The SPRINT North Edition by iHub-AWaDH, IIT Ropar, is now part of the first cohort at IILM Innovation Lab. Designed to accelerate deep-tech and CPS-based startups, the programme offers selected ventures access to expert support, infrastructure, and up to ₹25 lakhs in financial assistance. As a strategic partner, IILM Innovation Lab is enabling innovators to leverage this opportunity for product validation, market readiness, and tech commercialisation at scale.

UAE-India Startup Series

The UAE-India Startup Series, the flagship initiative of the UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) under the UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, is now integrated into IILM Innovation Lab's inaugural cohort. This selective programme offers five outstanding Indian startups a fully-sponsored soft-landing package in the UAE, including incubation at a UAE-based accelerator, access to investors, business licensing support and perks such as round-trip flights, accommodation, local transport, and meal allowance.

Through this collaboration, IILM Innovation Lab incubatees are empowered to fast-track their market entry into the UAE, gain global visibility, and scale with international support.

EUREKA 2025

The prestigious Eureka! 2025, organised by the Entrepreneurship Cell of IIT Bombay, is now part of IILM Innovation Lab's inaugural cohort. Heralded as Asia's largest business model competition, it empowers startups with a comprehensive support ecosystem, structured ideation workshops, business-plan incubation, access to investors, and exposure to funders and media houses. This five-month platform provides early-stage entrepreneurs with unprecedented visibility, networking opportunities, and potential pathways to incubation and funding, all designed to accelerate their journey from idea to a scalable venture.

“Top-Tier Facilities to Drive Efficiency and Growth”

- ◆ **Mentorship Network Access from Industry Titans:** Receive guidance from leaders across diverse industries.
- ◆ **Advisory Network Access from Global Entrepreneurs:** Gain insights and strategies from accomplished global entrepreneurs.
- ◆ **World-Class Training Programmes:** Participate in comprehensive training modules to hone entrepreneurial and technical skills.
- ◆ **Access to Multiple Categories of Funding Support:** Secure angel investments, venture capital, and government grants with expert assistance.
- ◆ **Co-Working Space in the Heart of Gurugram:** Collaborate and network in a workspace designed to foster creativity and connections.



- ◆ Auditorium/Event Hall: Host events, workshops, and guest lectures in a state-of-the-art venue.
- ◆ Business-to-Business (B2B) Networking Opportunities: Connect with potential partners, suppliers and clients to expand your business networks.
- ◆ Research Collaborations: Partner with academic and industry experts on innovative, cutting-edge projects.
- ◆ Laboratories: Access well-equipped labs for prototyping, testing, and innovation.
- ◆ Meeting Rooms: Use professional spaces for team discussions, client meetings, and presentations.
- ◆ Informal Sitting Area: Relax in comfortable spaces for casual discussions and brainstorming sessions.
- ◆ Knowledge Centre: Explore a hub of resources, books and online materials to drive learning and innovation.
- ◆ Cafeteria: Enjoy a vibrant space with diverse food options to keep you energised throughout the day
- ◆ Sports Facilities: Stay active with a range of recreational and fitness amenities for a balanced work-life experience.
- ◆ High-Speed WiFi: Benefits from seamless internet connectivity to support your digital needs.



SOMETHING BIG IS ACCELERATING...

What if your idea had wings?

What if your startup could grow faster, sharper, and smarter?

At IILM University, Gurugram, something bold is gaining momentum, a game-changing Acceleration Programme that's built for speed, scale, and founder success. While details are still under wraps, here's what we can tell you: it's fast-paced, laser-focused on founders, and crafted to take innovation from pitch decks to real-world impact. Whether you're a tech enthusiast, a social innovator, or a disruptive market thinker, you'll want to be ready.

Stay Tuned!!

Something bold is brewing. Don't miss out on being a part of it!!



As we conclude this first edition of the IILM Innovation Lab Newsletter, we extend our heartfelt thanks to every stakeholder, our visionary leadership, mentors, partners, faculty, and our students, who are the lifeblood of this journey. Your passion, perseverance, and purpose are what make this incubator more than just a space... It's a movement. Together, we are not just launching startups, we are launching a future shaped by ideas, innovation and integrity.

"The best way to predict the future is to create it."

Peter Drucker

This quote embodies the spirit of IILM Innovation Lab, where our startups are not waiting for opportunities; they are building them, one venture at a time.

On Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Innovation is not about having the fanciest tools or the perfect plan. It's about seeing a problem and daring to solve it differently. Entrepreneurship, then, is not just a career path; it's a mindset. At IILM Innovation Lab, we believe that ideas backed by action, community, and courage can change the world. Whether it's a tech platform, an agritech solution, or a financial literacy initiative, every venture we nurture is a step towards a more inclusive, resilient, and forward-thinking society.

"We invite you to stay curious, stay bold, and most of all, stay building."

IILM Innovation Lab Team





Apply for Incubation: Have an idea? We want to hear it. Our incubation programme offers access to mentoring, co-working spaces, and funding opportunities.

Attend Our Events: Stay tuned for workshops, expert panels, startup expos, and innovation summits, where knowledge meets networking.

Follow Us on Social Media: Get real-time updates, startup success stories, and event coverage.

Join Our Community: Be part of an entrepreneurial network committed to transforming ideas into action.

GET IN CONNECT!

Email: amit.kale@iilm.edu, tushar.bagchi@gmail.com

Contact: IILM Innovation Lab Info | 9485998912, Mr Amit Kale | 9970911547

Linktree:



SCAN TO FOLLOW US
AND STAY UPDATED