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ATAL INNOVATION MISSION



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INCUBATION
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NALANDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION

Parivartan

E-NEWSLETTER

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Parivartan

A Step Towards Change

2020 - 2021

APR - SEPT

OCT - MAR

2021 - 2022

APR - SEPT

OCT - MAR

2022 - 2023

APR - JUN

JUL - SEPT

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Message from CEO



Dear Ecosystem Family,

The second quarter of 2025–26 has been a period of remarkable engagement and progress for AIC-Nalanda as we continued to promote innovation & entrepreneurship across multiple fronts. The launch of **SURGE 5.0** brought 9 innovative ventures into our incubation network, strengthening our mission to nurture early-stage entrepreneurs with expert guidance and ecosystem access.

Our acceleration efforts took a major leap with **D2C Ascend**, empowering 18 promising brands with mentorship on market entry, scalability, and investor readiness. The ATL engagement went under a change, surging the number of **ATLs from Odisha** participating in **Mega Tinker Day** and **Cluster Community Day 2025**, held under **ATL Sarthi** initiatives.

We further strengthened the startup ecosystem through **Investment Readiness Programs** for entrepreneurs and various other relevant workshops, such as **Entrepreneurship Development Workshops** and **Technical Hands-on Workshops** for next-gen innovators and entrepreneurs. Collaborations with **ManagePlus**, **CEO VINE**, and **TiE Bhubaneswar** deepened our ecosystem presence, while partnerships with **ICC-NWEC University** and **Srusti Academy** expanded opportunities for women and student entrepreneurs.

As we step into the next quarter, our commitment to empowering innovators and shaping a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem remains unwavering.

Thank You.



Durga Prasad Gouda
CEO, AIC-Nalanda

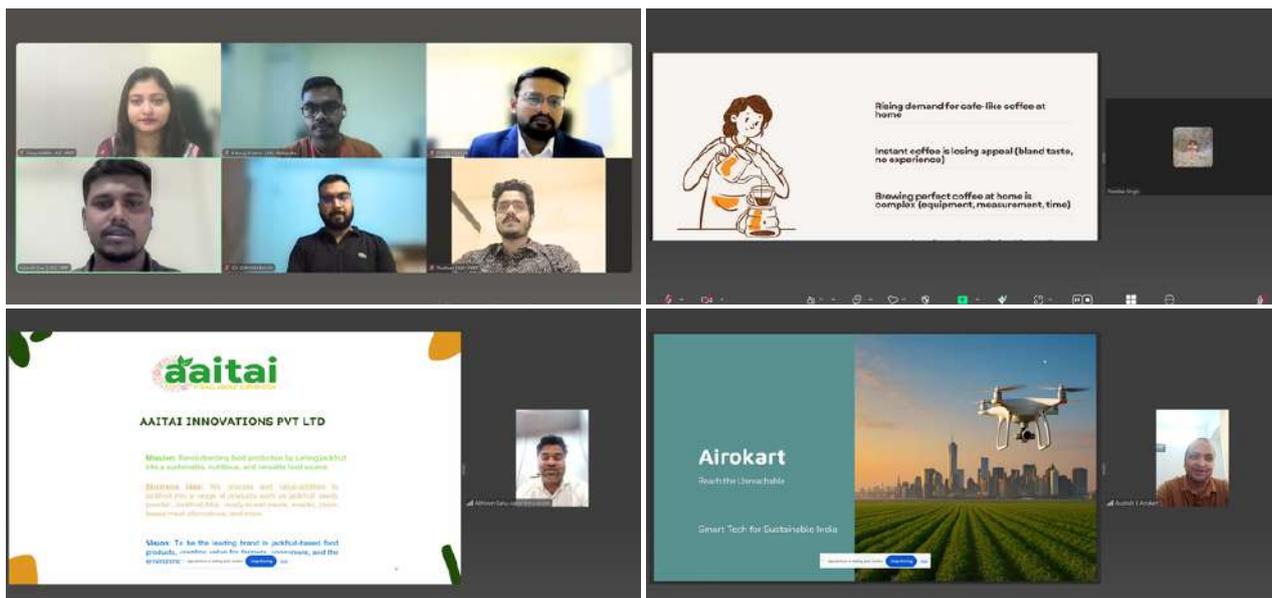
Startup Katha

Startup କଥା, a talk show series by AIC-Nalanda, captures the experiences and insights of eminent personalities shaping India's entrepreneurial and innovation landscape. The series resumed with four new episodes in Quarter 2, bringing the total to 11. The platform continues to provide thought leaders an opportunity to share professional journeys, industry perspectives, and sector-specific narratives. By inspiring emerging founders, students, and innovators, Startup କଥା strengthens Odisha's startup ecosystem and fosters a knowledge-driven entrepreneurial culture.



IdeaNest 5.0: Demo Day

AIC-Nalanda successfully hosted the IdeaNest 5.0 Demo Day virtually on 19th July 2025, featuring seven startups at ideation stage and 3 investors from relevant sectors. Each startup pitched its idea in a structured format, receiving feedback and investor evaluation. The event served as a valuable platform for building investor connect as well as gaining strategic inputs & feedbacks.



INCUBATION PROGRAM

MSME Idea Hackathon 4.0

Driving innovation from Odisha, AIC-Nalanda played a key role in MSME Idea Hackathon 4.0 under the MSME-BI Scheme. From over 100 applications, two startups secured funding—Arth-X (₹13.8 Lakhs) and HYbionics (₹10 Lakhs). This achievement reflects AIC-Nalanda’s commitment to nurturing impactful ventures and inspires further participation in Hackathon 5.0.





We kick-started the 5th edition of our flagship annual incubation program, SURGE 5.0. The program is designed to support, nurture, and guide early-stage ventures with access to resources, expert mentorship, and growth opportunities. With a focus on empowering innovators, we onboarded 9 innovative ventures from different sectors. SURGE 5.0 marks another step in building the next wave of impactful startups.

Selected Startups

TRANSIT TERMINAL

MAKE MY INFRA

UTKRISHT

ORIGINS TRIBE

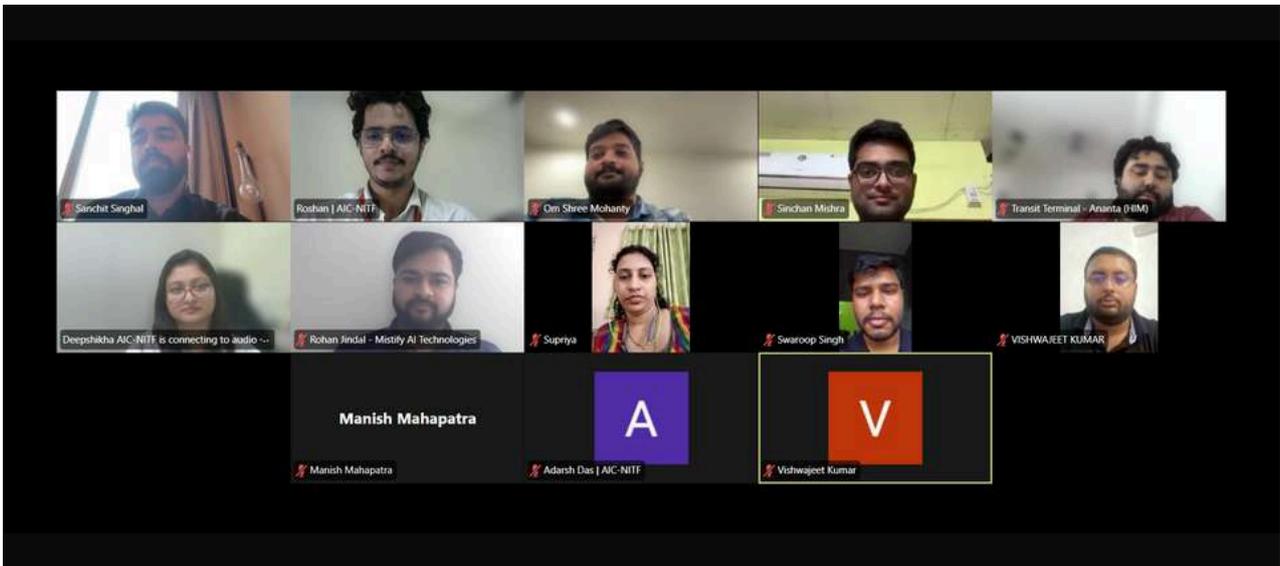
CURIOBIT TECHNOLOGIES

VITAPURE

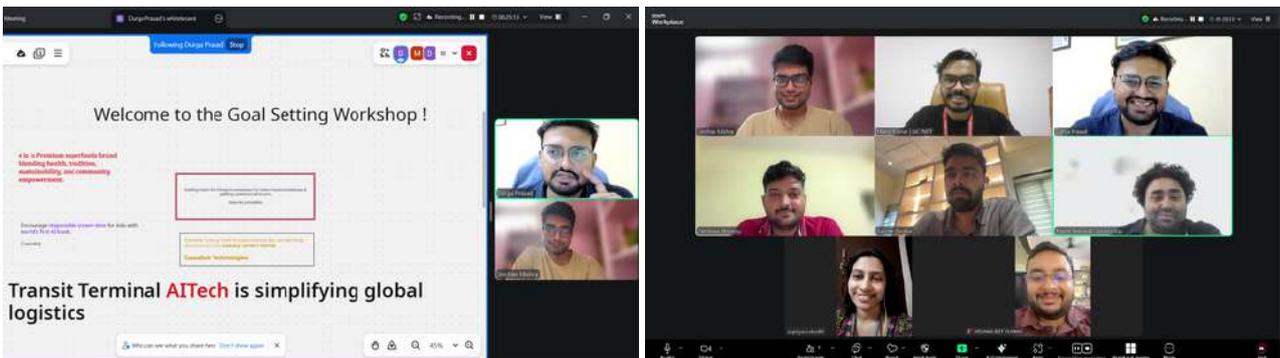
SUPI'S HANDMADE STUDIO

CASA ALTAIR TECHNOLOGIES

MISTIFY AI TECHNOLOGIES



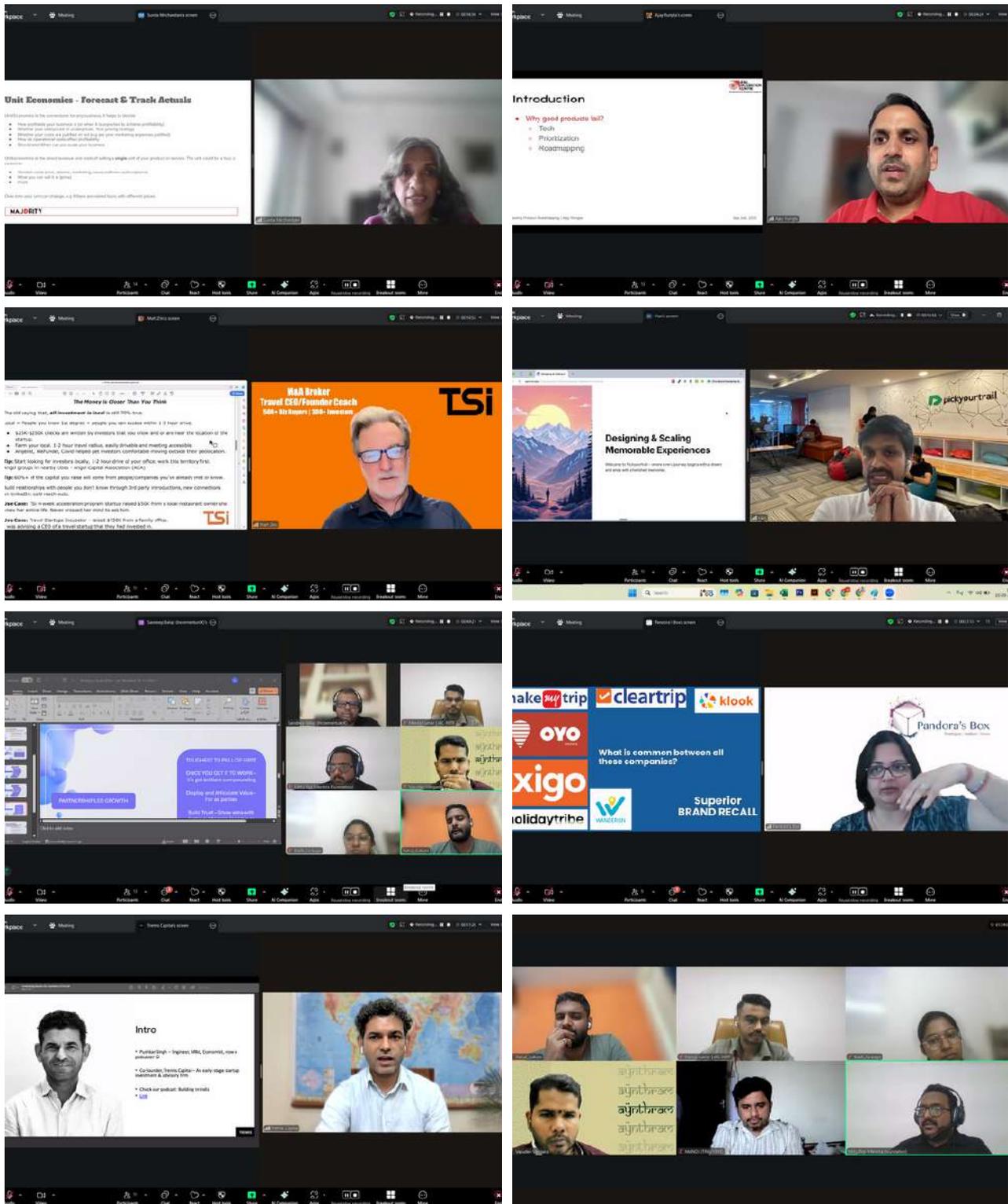
Glimpse from Orientation Program



Glimpse from Goal Setting Workshop

Odisha Tourism Acceleration Program

Following its formal launch, the Odisha Tourism Acceleration Program (OTAP) has moved into an active phase of mentoring and support. By September, startups engaged in group mentoring sessions and one-on-one guidance, where real-time challenges were addressed with practical solutions. These interventions are helping founders refine strategies, strengthen operations, and scale effectively within the tourism sector, reinforcing OTAP's mission to nurture high-potential ventures in Odisha's growing tourism landscape.

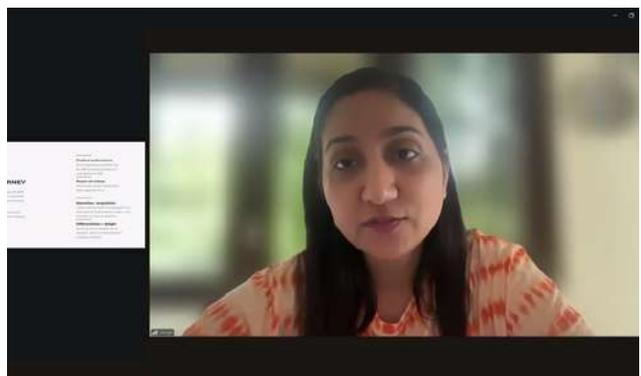


Glimpses from Mentoring Sessions



The D2C Ascend Program has taken off—a 12-week acceleration journey designed to empower 18 promising Direct-to-Consumer startups. With a sharp focus on market entry, brand positioning, scalability, and investor readiness, the program delivers expert mentorship, strategic guidance, and ecosystem access to help early-stage brands rise into tomorrow’s market leaders. Stay tuned as we share their growth stories in the coming months.

Selected Startups



Glimpses from Mentoring Sessions



MEGA TINKERING DAY

ONE DAY NATION-WIDE EVENT FOR YOUNG INNOVATORS

Mega Tinkering Day, an initiative of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, was celebrated nationwide on 12th August 2025, engaging students in a simultaneous DIY project session across 10,000 ATLs. AIC-Nalanda, being the Nodal Agency for Odisha under ATL Sarthi initiative, mobilized 51 schools across 28 districts, fostering creativity and problem-solving among young innovators. The initiative nurtured curiosity, collaboration, and reinforced India's commitment to building a vibrant school-level innovation culture.



Dr Deepak Bagla, Mission Director, AIM & Ms. Deepali Upadhyay, Program Director, AIM addressing the Young Tinkerers on the Mega Tinkering Day



Ms. Neha Sharma, Mentor for the Mega Tinkering Day demonstrating the Do It Yourself (DIY) Model of Vacuum Cleaner



Cluster Community Day 2025

Cluster Community Day (CCD), led by AIC-Nalanda under the ATL Sarthi program of Atal Innovation Mission, brings together school-level Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) across Odisha to foster collaboration and peer learning. The initiative features expert-led sessions, innovation showcases, and hands-on activities, enabling students to explore STEM and entrepreneurship while empowering educators to exchange best practices. 178 ATLs from 29 districts of Odisha participated in this initiative. CCD strengthens Odisha's ATL ecosystem, nurturing creativity, problem-solving, and innovation among young minds.



Tinker Camp #04 - Sundargarh

Igniting curiosity and creativity, TinkerCamp, held on 13th September 2025, at Nirmala English Medium School introduced young learners to STEM and innovation. Through hands-on sessions in robotics, design thinking, and emerging technologies, students explored problem-solving and teamwork in action. The camp nurtured practical skills and inspired participants to think beyond classrooms, fostering confidence and innovation in the next generation of changemakers and future-ready innovators.



Tinker Saturday | Chapter 7

Immersing students in emerging technologies, we continued the 3rd edition of Tinker Saturday and in Chapter 7, tinkerers from Govt HS Rajas, Khordha participated on 30th August 2025. Students engaged in interactive workshops on IoT, Robotics, Drones, and AR/VR, and presented innovative ideas to address real-world challenges. The initiative nurtured creativity, critical thinking, and entrepreneurial spirit, inspiring young learners to embrace innovation as problem-solvers of the future.



CONCLAVE

World Entrepreneurs' Day 2025

Marking the global celebration of entrepreneurship, AIC-Nalanda and Nalanda Institute of Technology hosted World Entrepreneurship Day on 21st August 2025. The event brought together 120 students, faculty, and startup enthusiasts to explore incubation opportunities and hear success stories from student-led ventures. Inspiring talks by industry leaders reinforced the value of innovation, networking, and entrepreneurial thinking, motivating participants to chart their own startup journeys.



WORKSHOP

Entrepreneurship Development Workshop

Empowering students to transform ideas into ventures, the Entrepreneurship Development Program at Centurion University, hosted on 20th September 2025, offered a dynamic learning experience. Expert mentors guided sessions on design thinking, business models, and real-world startup challenges, equipping participants with tools to navigate entrepreneurial journeys. With a strong focus on leadership and innovation, the program provided a platform for aspiring founders to gain confidence, explore opportunities, and contribute to the evolving startup ecosystem.



Clinical Session



IPF Clinic #3

Swaraj S Raghuwanshi & Rupin Chopra
SS Rana & Co.



Legal Clinic #2

Ms Namrata Tatiya
Legal Consultant



Mentor Clinic #3

Mr. Nagendra Khatri
Anthil Ventures

Collaborations & Partnerships



ManagePlus, an integrated SaaS platform that unifies social media management, email marketing, CRM, and visitor tracking into one workspace. Through this collaboration, startups will gain access to tools for campaign automation, deal management, and visitor analytics—helping them streamline outreach, enhance engagement, and achieve 360° visibility of their marketing and sales performance.



IIC Inwecs is a national platform dedicated to promoting women's entrepreneurship and driving inclusive growth through innovation. With a strong focus on mentorship, networking, and curated programs, it enables women founders to access resources, build resilient businesses, and expand into new markets. IIC Inwecs empowers women entrepreneurs to transform ideas into impactful ventures and play a defining role in shaping India's startup ecosystem.



CEO VINE, a digital-first platform spotlighting startup innovation and founder stories. This partnership will amplify the journeys of incubated startups through authentic storytelling, thought-leadership narratives, and digital visibility initiatives, empowering founders to build trust and credibility in the startup ecosystem.



Expanding access to global networks, AIC-Nalanda collaborated with TiE-Bhubaneswar, part of TiE's worldwide entrepreneurship ecosystem. Startups benefit from mentorship, knowledge sessions, and investor connects, enabling them to refine strategies and explore opportunities at national and international levels.



Fostering student entrepreneurship, AIC-Nalanda partnered with Srusti Academy Development Foundation to launch bootcamps, innovation challenges, and mentorship programs. The initiative provides a hands-on learning platform, helping students transform ideas into ventures while developing future-ready entrepreneurial skills.

Masterclass on Angel Investment

AIC-Nalanda, in collaboration with Venture Catalysts, organized a Masterclass on Angel Investment to introduce startup investing as a promising asset class for High-Net-Worth Individuals (HNIs). The session simplified angel investing by covering fundamentals, risks, and returns, while offering live startup pitches to showcase real opportunities. Notably, four portfolio startups pitched their ventures, providing HNIs with firsthand insights into the potential of early-stage investments.



OCOY 2025

The Odisha Conference of Youth (OCOY) 2025, under the Youth4Water Plus Campaign and supported by UNICEF Odisha, was held at ASB University from 10–12 August 2025. AIC-Nalanda collaborated in organizing the Eco-Show Innovation Pavilion which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati.



The Green Entrepreneurship sessions was also a major spotlight, highlighting opportunities available for entrepreneurs working in sustainable domain and upcoming future. Mr. Durga Prasad Gouda moderating interactive sessions, inspiring young delegates to explore entrepreneurship opportunities in the sustainability domain and turn their ideas into impactful ventures.



Google AI Day for Startups

As part of its pan-India initiative, AI Days for Startups by Google for Startups was successfully hosted in Odisha on 29th August 2025 at Lemon Tree Premier, Bhubaneswar, in partnership with AIC-Nalanda. The day-long event introduced startups to Google's diverse AI technologies, highlighted the support systems available for AI ventures, and included hands-on workshops on Google's advanced platforms, empowering participants to explore practical applications of AI in their startup journeys.



Bharat Pitchathon 4.0

Bharat Pitchathon, a national-scale initiative by Headstart Network Foundation, brings together startup pitches, ecosystem networking, and acceleration opportunities. In its 4th edition, the program received 2,500+ applications across 20+ states. For the Odisha edition on 20th September 2024, AIC-Nalanda served as the Incubation and Venue Partner. Out of 10 shortlisted startups, 7 pitched before a distinguished jury and investor panel, providing a dynamic platform to showcase entrepreneurial potential and foster meaningful investor connections.



Earth Again 2.0

Building on the success of Earth Again 2024, AIC-Nalanda joined as a key partner for Earth Again's 2nd edition, leading pre-events and sessions on entrepreneurship in sustainability and climate change, while strengthening commitment to future impactful collaborations.

GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

As part of Earth Again's pre-activities, AIC-Nalanda co-organised a Green Workshop was held on 8th September 2025 at XIM University, featuring sessions by climate professional and sustainable startup founders, inspiring students on entrepreneurship in the sustainability domain.



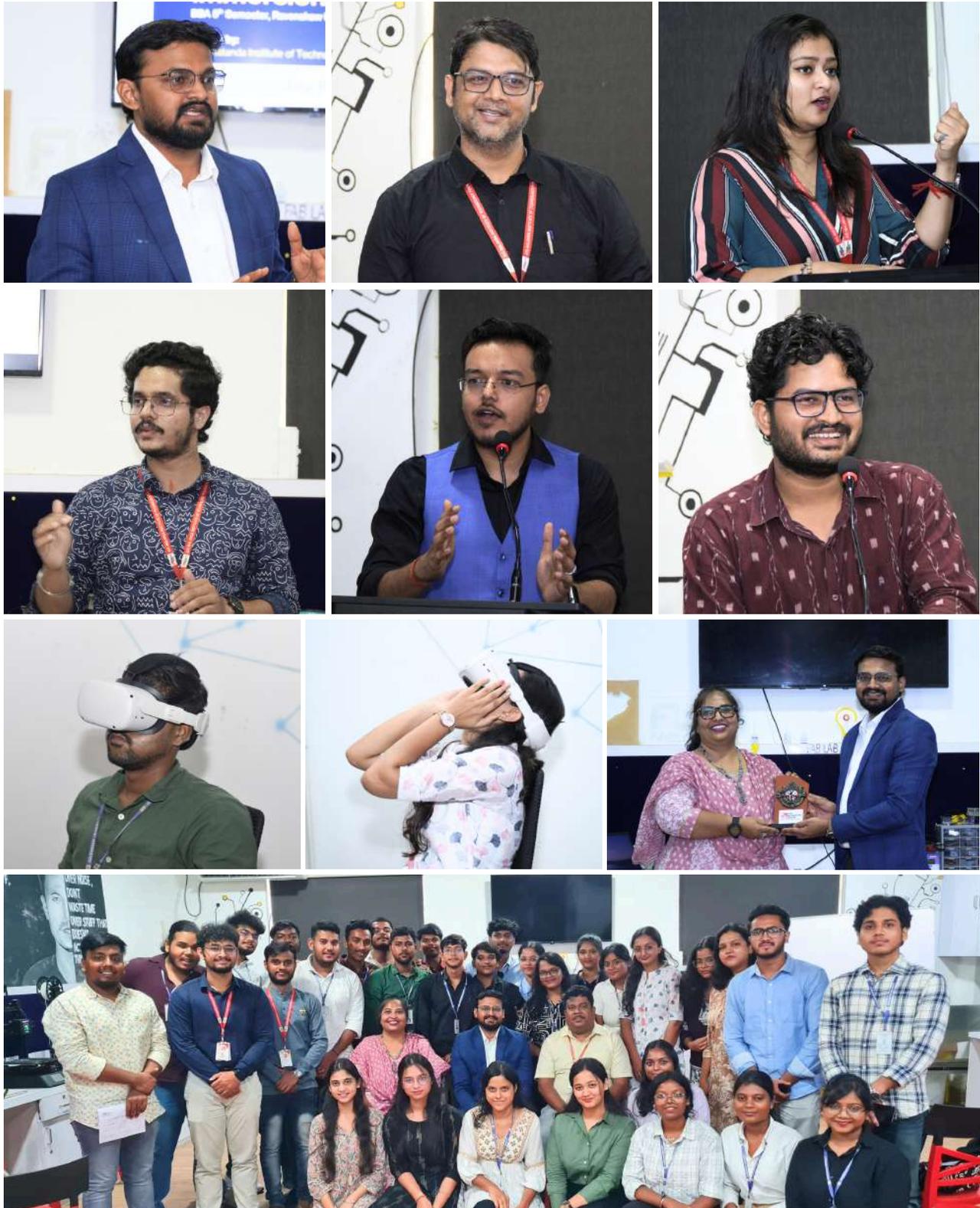
GREEN HACKATHON

As part of Earth Again's pre-activities, AIC-Nalanda co-organised a Green Hackathon on 20th September 2025 at IMIT, Cuttack, where eight finalist teams pitched sustainable solutions, alongside an insightful session on sustainability in enterprises and AI's role in climate action.



Knowledge Immersion Visit

On 19th July 2025, over 30 BBA students from Ravenshaw University participated in a 5-hour Knowledge Immersion Visit to AIC-Nalanda. The program featured engaging sessions on intellectual property, a fireside chat with startup founders, and immersive AR/VR demonstrations. Students also took part in an innovation workshop and explored incubation facilities, gaining valuable exposure that seamlessly blended academic learning with real-world entrepreneurial insights, reinforcing AIC-Nalanda's commitment to fostering future-ready talent.



Orientation Program for New Batch

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab launched the new chapter of the Innovation Club through on the Orientation Program for Cohort 4 (Batch 2) on 5th August 2025, . The event introduced participants to the club’s mission, leadership insights, and mentorship opportunities, while an engaging keynote session and roadmap unveiling set the stage for learning and innovating.



2- Day Workshop on Electric Vehicles

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab hosted a Two-Day Workshop on Electric Vehicle Technology on 30th–31st July 2025, engaging Innovation Clubmembers in hands-on learning of the EV ecosystem. Led by Mr. Dwitikrushna Mohanty, the sessions covered EV architecture, batteries, controllers, and charging systems, complemented by live prototype assembly and troubleshooting. Participants also explored government schemes, career opportunities, and innovation pathways, making the workshop a practical platform to build awareness, technical skills, and future prospects in India’s sustainable mobility sector.



2- Day Workshop on Design Thinking

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab organized a Two-Day Workshop on Design Thinking on 13th–14th August 2025, immersing over 55 innovation club members in creative problem-solving. Facilitated by Mr. Manas Kumar Samantaray, CIO, AIC-Nalanda and Mr. Roshan Panigrahi, Program Associate, AIC-Nalanda, the sessions emphasized empathy, ideation, prototyping, and feedback, with a strong focus on mind mapping for innovation. Through hands-on exercises, participants sharpened their ability to achieve problem-solution fit, reinforcing design thinking as a powerful methodology for building meaningful and impactful solutions.



2- Day Workshop on Drone Technology

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab, conducted a Two-Day Workshop on Drone Technology on 19th–20th August 2025, introducing participants to aerodynamics, core components, and real-world applications of drones. Guided by mentors Mr. Manas Kumar Samantaray, CIO, AIC-Nalanda and Mr. Jayabeer Sutar, Founder, Jaywing Technologies, the workshop blended knowledge sessions with hands-on quadcopter assembly and simulator-based piloting. The program not only enhanced technical skills but also inspired participants to explore opportunities in India's rapidly growing drone industry, positioning drones as a critical enabler of future-ready solutions.



Workshop on AR/VR

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab hosted a Two-Day Hands-on Workshop on AR & VR on 1st-2nd September 2025 at the NIT College Programming Lab. Led by Mr. Raghmani Rohidas, Tech Analyst, AIC-Nalanda, the sessions introduced tools, applications, and industry use cases of immersive technologies. Participants engaged in practical exercises, group activities, and project presentations, exploring how AR/VR can foster innovation, enhance problem-solving, and unlock entrepreneurial opportunities, strengthening their readiness to contribute to the future of digital transformation.



Workshop on Block-Chain

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab successfully organized a One-Day Blockchain Workshop on 19th September 2025 at the Fab Lab for Innovation Club Cohort 4. Led by experts from Karkhana, the workshop explored blockchain fundamentals, smart contracts, cryptocurrencies, and DApps. Through interactive case studies, participants learned real-world applications across finance, healthcare, and supply chains. The session not only enhanced awareness but also motivated attendees to explore career and entrepreneurial opportunities in emerging technologies.



Pitch Deck Development & Art of Pitching

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab hosted a Workshop on Pitch Deck Development & the Art of Pitching on 20th September 2025 at the Fab Lab. Led by Mr. Adarsh Das, Investment Manager, AIC-Nalanda, the sessions focused on building compelling pitch decks, mastering storytelling, and refining presentation skills. Through interactive exercises and live pitching, participants enhanced their confidence in presenting ideas, receiving constructive feedback, and preparing effectively for investor interactions, equipping them for successful entrepreneurial journeys.



Workshop on Business Model Canvas

AIC-Nalanda, Fab Lab organized a Business Model Canvas Workshop on 16th September 2025 at the Programming Lab, Nalanda Institute of Technology. Conducted by Mr. Roshan Panigrahi, Program Associate, AIC-Nalanda, the session introduced participants to the nine building blocks of the Business Model Canvas and their practical applications. Through case studies, group activities, and mentor-led discussions, students learned to structure ideas effectively, foster teamwork, and align entrepreneurial thinking with innovation and market feasibility, laying a strong foundation for sustainable ventures.





VINSSI & UTKALA

Utkala & Vinssi, women led startups in Arts and Crafts, Honoured with “Shakti Samman” Award at Shakti Samman 2025 event, organised by Indian Industry’s Indian Women Network (CII IWN) Odisha.



Protrainy, a portfolio startup at AIC-Nalanda has secured seed funding in a round led by IIMA Ventures, with global angel investor participation.

Employee Birthdays



Mr. Adarsh Das
2nd August, 2025



Mr. Manoj Kumar Dandapat
4th August, 2025



Mr. Manas Kumar Samantaray
13th August, 2025



Mr. Nitish Kumar Sahoo
22nd August, 2025



TiE-CON Bhubaneswar 2025

Mr. Durga Prasad, CEO, AIC-NITF moderated an insightful panel discussion on “Promoting Startups and Business in Odisha”, a part of TiE-CON Bhubaneswar 2025, organised by TiE Bhubaneswar.



Community Innovator Fellows Graduation at NITI Aayog

Mr. Durga Prasad, CEO, AIC-NITF attended the Graduation & Orientation program of Community Innovator Fellows (CIFs) supported under the ACICs of AIM at NITI Aayog, New Delhi. He addressed the innovators on the use of technology and new-age outreach channels to scale from local to global.



LIPI Consultation Meeting at NITI Aayog

Mr. Durga Prasad, CEO, AIC-NITF attended the High Level LIPI Consultation Meeting at NITI Aayog, New Delhi. He shared his views on the concerns of vernacular innovators and gave suggestions for formulation of the scheme & operational guidelines of the LIPI centres.





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