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NALANDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION

Parivartan

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Parivartan

A Step Towards Change

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Message from CEO



Dear Ecosystem Family,

As we conclude another impactful quarter (October to December 2025), I am pleased to reflect on the progress and collective milestones achieved at AIC-Nalanda. This period has been marked by strong statewide innovation outreach, focused startup growth interventions, and meaningful collaborations—strengthening our mission of building a future-ready entrepreneurial ecosystem in Odisha.

A major highlight of this quarter was our role as the **Nodal Agency for Odisha under ATL Sarthi**, where AIC-Nalanda supported large-scale school innovation initiatives. Through the **Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025**, we mobilised participation from **126 schools**, including on-ground support in **40 schools**, enabling young innovators to ideate and build solutions under national themes. Adding to this momentum, the **Odisha Tinker Marathon** received an overwhelming response with **1,200+ student ideas**, of which **200 promising innovations** were shortlisted for the Odisha Student Innovation Program (OSIP) for structured mentorship and product development support. Our ATL engagement continued through multiple **Tinker Camps in aspirational and remote districts**, ensuring inclusive access to emerging technologies and hands-on learning.

On the entrepreneurship front, we strengthened incubation and acceleration support through high-impact programs. The **L.E.A.D. ThinkCamp** reached students across nine institutions, culminating in the launch of the **L.E.A.D. Incubation Program**, where **10 teams** were selected from 100+ ideas. As key acceleration initiatives moved towards culmination, we successfully hosted **Demo Days for OTAP and D2C Ascend**, connecting founders with investors and market experts while enhancing investment readiness and strategic clarity.

Our quarter was also powered by partnerships and ecosystem forums—through initiatives such as **Earth Again 2.0**, **XEV.FIN**, and founder support clinics across legal, IP, and mentorship domains. In addition, Fab Lab activities like the Ideation Camp, Industry 4.0 seminar, and hands-on workshops on **EV and advanced drones** continued to prepare youth for future industries.

As always, I extend my sincere gratitude to our mentors, partners, institutions, government stakeholders, and our committed team for contributing to this journey. Let us continue to work together to inspire innovation, strengthen entrepreneurship, and create larger impact across the ecosystem.



Durga Prasad Gouda
CEO, AIC-Nalanda

Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025

Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025, a nationwide innovation movement led by the Ministry of Education, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and AICTE, was flagged off to inspire school students to ideate and build solutions under four key themes. As the Nodal Agency for Odisha under ATL Sarthi, AIC-Nalanda enabled statewide mobilisation and ensured active participation from 126 schools, including on-ground support in 40 schools, strengthening Odisha’s school-level innovation ecosystem.



The interaction was graced by Hon’ble Union Minister for Education, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, **Shri Deepak Bagla**, Mission Director, AIM & **Shri Sanjay Kumar**, Secretary, Dept. of School Education, addressing the Young Tinkerers during **Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025**.



During **Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025**, the student team from **PM Shri Government High School, IRC Village, Bhubaneswar**—the only team representing Odisha—had the honour of interacting with delegates. Adding to it, **five schools** from Odisha were featured as **Spotlight Schools** on the national live stream, where students showcased their ideas and prototypes to a pan-India audience.

Spotlight Schools from Odisha:

- Vikash Residential School, Bargarh
- Capital High School, Khordha
- Delhi Public School, Koraput
- Budharaja High School, Sambalpur
- Buxi Jagabandhu English Medium School - II, Khordha





Ready. Set. Tinker

Odisha Tinker Marathon (OTM) is a statewide innovation marathon organised by **AIC-Nalanda** under the **ATL Sarthi (Odisha)** initiative of **Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog**. Designed to nurture grassroots innovation, OTM invites students of Classes 6–10 to submit their Ideas on real-world problem statements aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), encouraging creativity, critical thinking, and solution-building from an early stage.

The initiative received an overwhelming response, with **1,200+ innovation ideas** submitted by students from diverse districts, including rural and aspirational regions. Following a structured evaluation process, **200 promising ideas** were shortlisted for the **Odisha Student Innovation Program (OSIP)**, where selected teams will receive mentorship, technical guidance, design thinking inputs, and product development support to transform their ideas into impactful solutions.



L.E.A.D. ThinkCamp

AIC-Nalanda, in collaboration with Youth4Water Plus and UNICEF, successfully conducted the L.E.A.D. ThinkCamp under the L.E.A.D. Program (Leading Ecopreneurs for Action & Development). Organised across nine institutes in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, the outreach initiative engaged students through interactive sessions on sustainability challenges, design thinking, ideation, entrepreneurship, and idea pitching. The ThinkCamp sparked strong student participation and created momentum toward nurturing future-ready eco-preneurs and promoting innovation for sustainable development.



INSTITUTION

- Ravenshaw University
- DRIEMS University
- Sambalpur University
- Srusti Academy of Management
- Institute of Agricultural Sciences, SOA
- IIT Bhubaneswar
- Centurion University
- Birla Global University
- Centre of Agri-management, Utkal University





Leading Ecopreneurs for Action & Development

L.E.A.D. (Leading Entrepreneurs for Action & Development) is a 6-month hybrid incubation program jointly initiated by **Youth4Water Plus, AIC-Nalanda, and UNICEF India** to empower young changemakers. The program supports students, innovators, and early-stage startups in building sustainable solutions in areas such as water, climate, livelihoods, and circular economy. Through structured mentorship, prototyping support, funding guidance, and investor readiness, L.E.A.D. helps innovators transform ideas into impactful, scalable ventures.

Program Launch

The **L.E.A.D. Incubation Program** was officially launched on 22nd November 2025 in Bhubaneswar, in the presence of key ecosystem leaders and partners. The launch included the unveiling of the official L.E.A.D. website and marked the culmination of outreach across 10 academic institutions, engaging 1,000+ students. From 100+ ideas received, 10 teams were selected for incubation, setting the stage for their journey from incubation to acceleration and real-world impact.

Participants

Nutrinest

Punrpushp

Algora Sips

Agrohive

GutScan

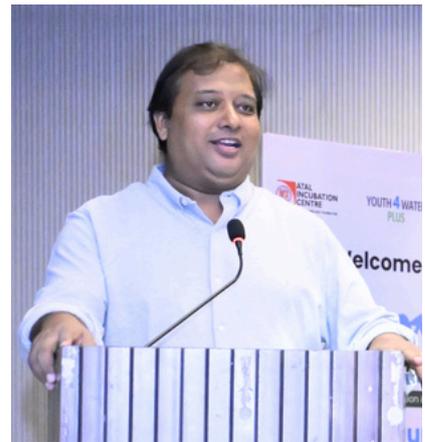
WindowWatt

MushGro

Kronis

AyurAI

SalineWatch



Demo Day

Odisha Tourism Acceleration Program

As the **Odisha Tourism Acceleration Program (OTAP)** progressed towards its final phase, AIC-Nalanda, in partnership with Merstra, hosted the virtual **OTAP Demo Day on 31st October 2025**. The session provided a dedicated platform for travel-tech startups to present their scalable business models to a panel of 11 marquee investors. The event generated early investor interest, enabled strategic feedback, and strengthened the market readiness of Odisha’s tourism entrepreneurs—marking a key milestone in the OTAP journey.

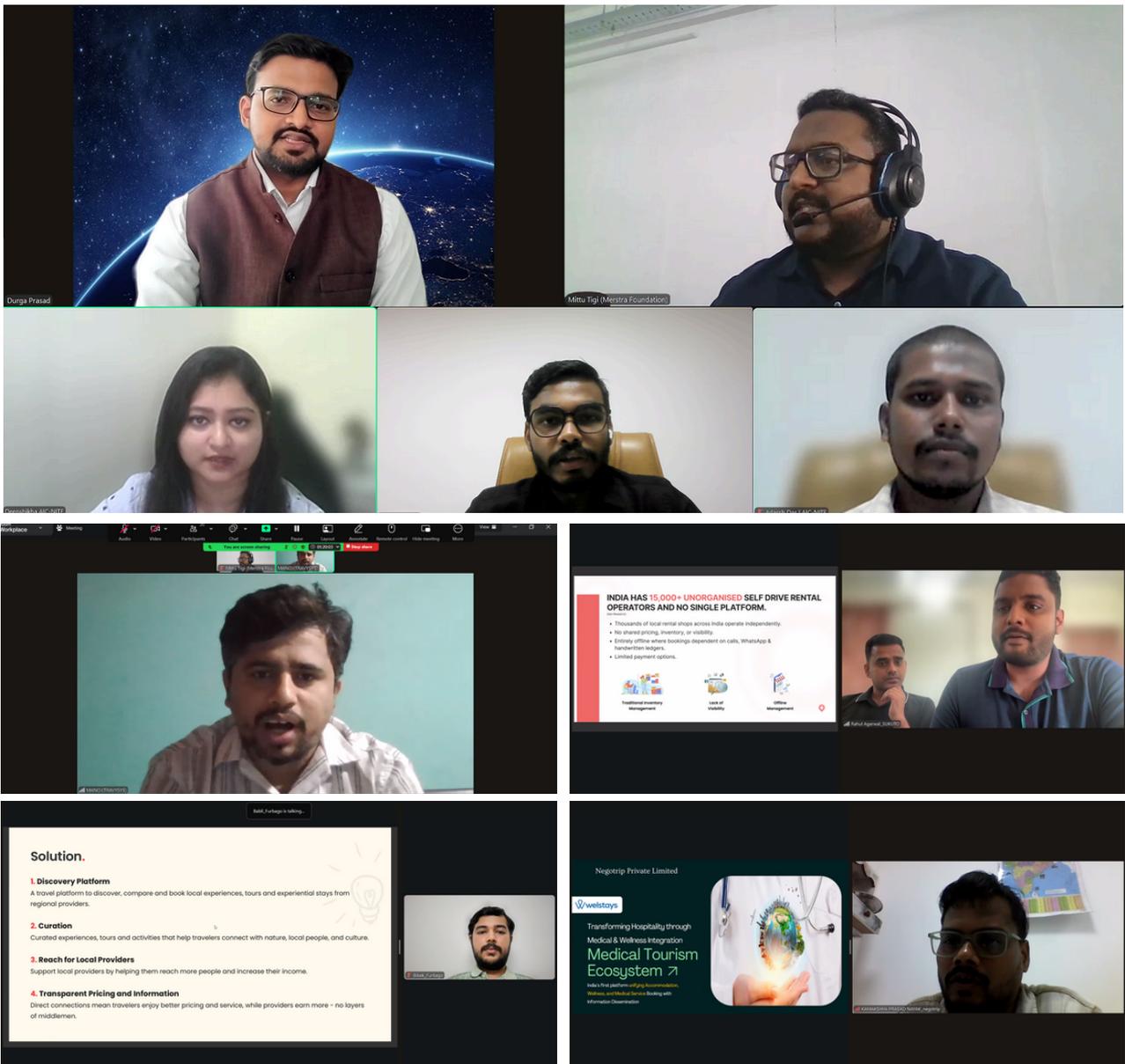
Participated Startups

TRAVELWARE TECHNOLOGIES

TRAVYSYS TECH INNOVATIONS

NEGOTRIP PRIVATE LIMITED

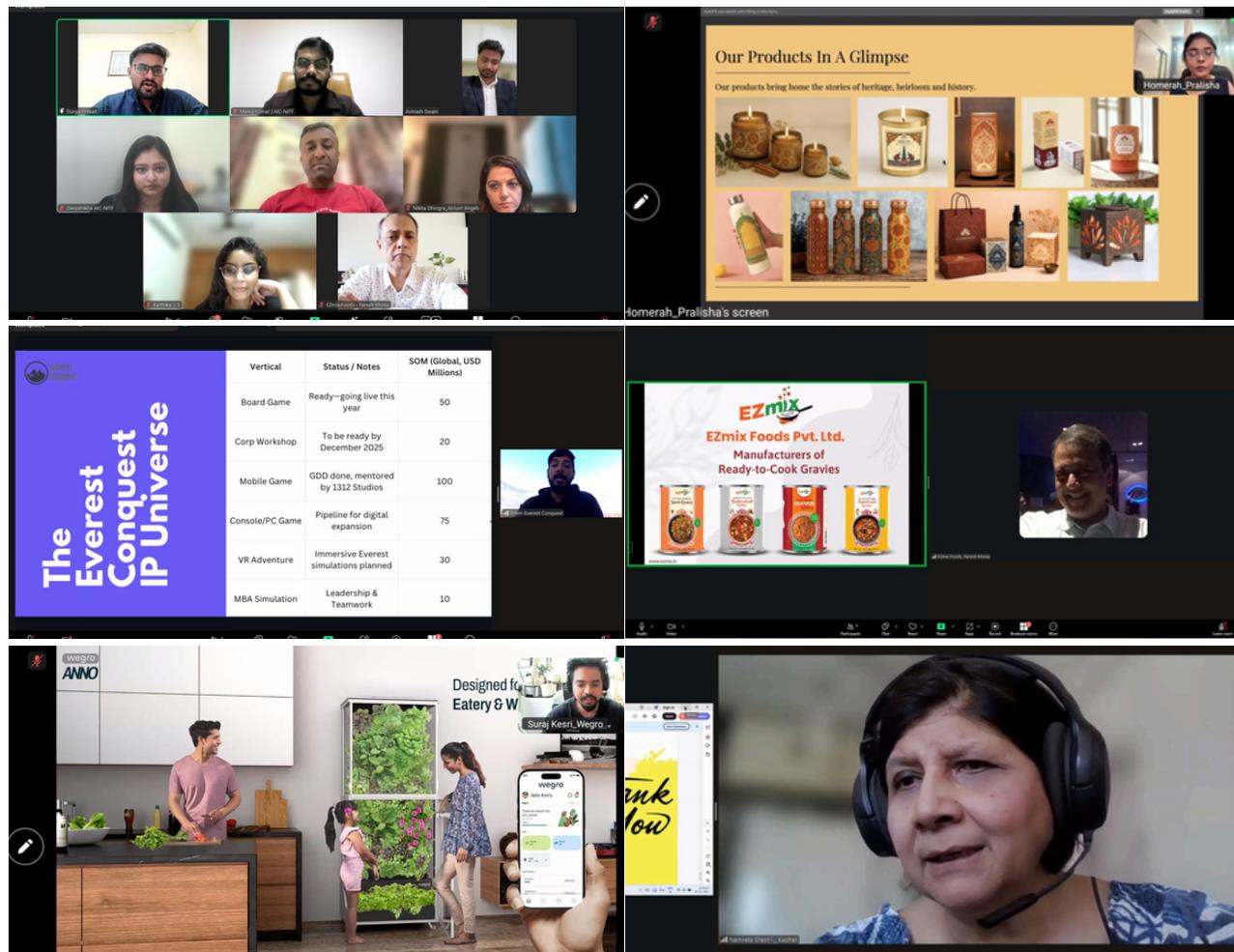
FURBAGO TRAVEL TECHNOLOGIES



DemoDay



As the D2C Ascend Acceleration Program approached its culmination, **AIC-Nalanda** hosted the **virtual D2C Ascend Demo Day** on **7th November 2025**, bringing together **18 emerging consumer brands** and leading investors on a single platform. The session enabled founders from sectors such as food, lifestyle, and wellness to showcase their business models and engage with investors from prominent networks including India Accelerator and IAN. Ms. Karthika VS, Marketing Leader at Amazon SmartCommerce, joined as a special guest and shared insights on scaling digital storefronts. The event provided valuable investor feedback, enhanced startup visibility, and opened pathways for future funding opportunities.



Tinker Camp #05 - Nabarangpur

Promoting a culture of innovation, a Tinker Camp was held at **Government High School, Turudihi, Nabarangpur** on 16th October 2025. Participants actively engaged with emerging technologies like IoT, Drones, and 3D Printing, understanding their real-world applications. This initiative significantly enhanced problem-solving skills and sparked curiosity-driven learning in an aspirational district setting.



Tinker Camp #06 - Malkangiri

Bringing technology to remote regions, we hosted a Tinker Camp at **Sabari Government High School, MV-79, Malkangiri** on 17th October 2025. Through interactive demonstrations on Robotics, IoT, and AR/VR, students gained firsthand experience with advanced tech. The program played a crucial role in inspiring creative thinking and ensuring inclusive access to quality STEM education for future problem-solvers.



Tinker Camp #07 - Subarnapur

Exposing students to modern tech, we organized a Tinker Camp at **SSVM, Dunguripali, Sonepur** on 29th October 2025. Students interacted with concepts in IoT, Robotics, AR/VR, and Intellectual Property Rights, fostering a scientific temperament. The session successfully inspired creative and analytical thinking, equipping learners to embrace the future of innovation.



Tinker Camp #08 - Nuapada

Championing inclusivity in STEM, we conducted a large-scale Tinker Camp at **Holy Homes School, Nuapada** on 30th October 2025, engaging over **300 students**. With a special focus on tribal girl students, the session introduced IoT, Robotics, and IPR through live demonstrations. The camp empowered youth with confidence and aspiration, reinforcing the vision of innovation for all.



Tinker Camp #09 - Kalahandi

Fostering hands-on innovation, AIC-Nalanda organized a **two-day Tinker Camp** at **Panchayat Uchcha Vidyapeetha, Baner, Kalahandi** on 13th–14th November 2025. Going beyond awareness, students engaged in project ideation across IoT, Robotics, and IPR, culminating in an Idea Blazon Competition. The initiative recognized promising ideas, nurturing an entrepreneurial spirit and problem-solving mindset among the young innovators.



Tinker Camp #10 - Gajapati

Strengthening STEM education in aspirational districts, we conducted a Tinker Camp at **Maharaja Boys High School, Gajapati** on 28th November 2025. Students explored hands-on learning in IoT, Robotics, Drones, AR/VR, and 3D Printing, effectively bridging the gap between theory and application. The session ignited scientific curiosity and enthusiasm, encouraging young minds to pursue innovation-driven career paths.



Business Pitch with INWEC

AIC-Nalanda, in partnership with INWEC, organized a closed-door Business Pitch on 18th December 2025 to strengthen inclusive entrepreneurship. The session connected eight women-led incubatee with industry leaders for mentorship, strategic guidance, and market access. The event featured a keynote by Mr. Durga Prasad Gouda, CEO, AIC-Nalanda, along with remarks from Ms. Preeti Pallavi Patnaik, Convenor, INWEC. The initiative enabled founders to receive expert validation and explore new growth opportunities.



SEMINAR

Introduction to Entrepreneurship

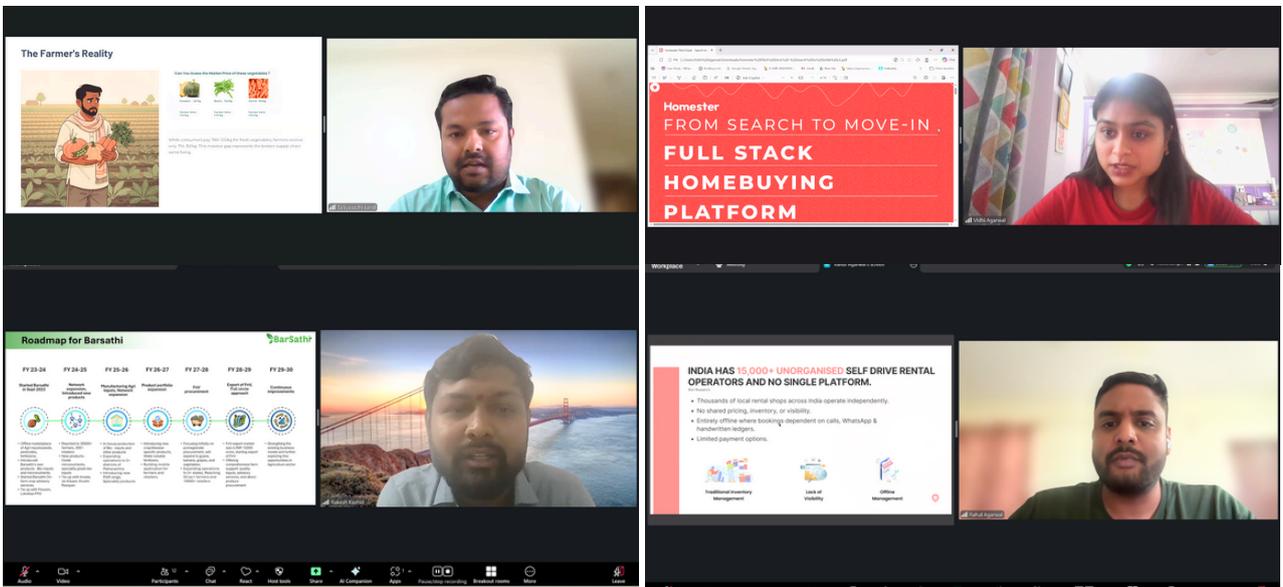
AIC-Nalanda organized a seminar on “Introduction to the Startup Ecosystem” on 9th December 2025 at Nalanda Institute of Technology, aiming to introduce first-year engineering students to the fundamentals of innovation and entrepreneurship. The session covered startup basics, India’s evolving startup landscape, and the role of incubation centres in supporting early ideas. The seminar was led by Ms. Deepshikha Sarkar, Incubation Manager, and Mr. Roshan Panigrahi, Program Associate, who guided students on incubation support and entrepreneurial pathways.



INVESTMENT PITCH

Investment Pitch December

Bridging the gap between capital & innovation, AIC-Nalanda organized the Investment Pitch – December Edition on 12th December 2025 in a virtual format. The session brought together 12 startups and 6 investors, providing a curated platform for promising ventures to pitch before representatives from ICICI Bank, Ankurit Capital, and prominent HNIs. Mr. Durga Prasad Gouda, CEO, AIC-Nalanda, emphasized the importance of mentorship alongside capital. The initiative strengthened deal flow, enabled strategic feedback, and fostered meaningful investor-startup connections.



Clinical Session



Mentor Clinic #4
Mr. Prateek Shabani
 Action for India



IPF Clinic #4
Ms. Renu Bala, & Mr. Bhanu Dhingra
 SS Rana & Co.



Legal Clinic #3
Ms. Savithri Sravanthi
 IUSTUS LEGAL



Legal Clinic #4
Mr. Bhavin Gada
 Advocate & Solicitor



IPF Clinic #5
Mr. Bhanu Dhingra & Mr. Swaraj Singh Raghuwanshi
 SS Rana & Co.

Collaborations & Partnerships



FundOn, a Mumbai-based financial services startup founded in 2024, supports startups in becoming investor-ready through end-to-end fundraising assistance. The platform offers services such as pitch deck development, financial projections, market research, valuation reports, and other investment-related support. By enabling founders to strengthen their business narratives and improve fundraising preparedness, FundOn acts as a strategic partner in the entrepreneurial journey—helping startups enhance their funding potential and move closer to scalable growth.

"WHEN YOU NEED TO INNOVATE, YOU NEED COLLABORATION."

- Marissa Mayer

ATL Community Learning Programme

Fostering grassroots innovation, **AIC-Nalanda** co-hosted a **Community Learning Program** with **BJEM-II School** on 24th October 2025. The initiative engaged 120+ students through hands-on workshops on IoT, AR/VR, and 3D Printing, bridging the gap between curiosity and creation. A highlight of the program was the “Idea Blazon” competition, where Mr. Nigam Jyoti Sahu and Mr. Raghmani Rohidas mentored students and encouraged technology-driven problem-solving and creative thinking.



Earth Again 2.0

Building on the success of its first edition, **AIC-Nalanda** collaborated with **Sambad Group** and **Kanak News** for the **Earth Again 2.0 Conclave** on 7th October 2025. The session focused on **"Future Proof Enterprises,"** engaging thought leaders on green logistics and sustainable innovation. Mr. Durga Prasad Gouda, CEO, AIC-Nalanda, moderated the key panel, empowering participants with entrepreneurial roadmaps to transition Odisha into a resilient, climate-conscious economy.



XEV Fin 2026

AIC-Nalanda joined hands as an ecosystem partner for the **XEV.FIN Pre-Summit Mixer** held on 15th November 2025, supporting the vision of positioning Bhubaneswar as an emerging clean mobility hub. The session enabled high-energy discussions on the evolving deep-tech and EV landscape. Mr. Durga Prasad Gouda, CEO, AIC-Nalanda, participated in the panel on **"Emerging Opportunities in EV Space"**, sharing insights on innovation and cross-sector partnerships. The event strengthened networks for future collaborations in the EV ecosystem.



Innovation Club Study Tour

Fab Lab, AIC–Nalanda hosted a **Study Tour to Skill Development India, Khordha** on 4th November 2025, engaging **Innovation Club 4.0 members** in firsthand exposure to industry-relevant skill development programs. Through interactions with trainers and professionals, the visit covered modern training infrastructure and vocational pathways, complemented by live demonstrations of practical learning environments. Participants also explored entrepreneurship and employability opportunities, making the tour a practical bridge between classroom learning and real-world skills.



Ideation Camp

Fab Lab, AIC-Nalanda hosted an **Ideation Camp – Phase 1** on 8th October 2025, engaging Innovation Club 4.0 members in identifying real-world problems and brainstorming innovative solutions. Led by AIC-NITF mentors, the sessions covered problem analysis, idea development, and presentation techniques, complemented by group discussions and expert mentoring. Participants also explored critical thinking and creativity, making the camp a dynamic platform to strengthen problem-solving skills and lay a strong foundation for future innovation projects.



5-Day Advance Drone Workshop

Fab Lab, AIC-Nalanda hosted a Five-Day Workshop on Advanced Drone Technology from 26th November to 6th December 2025, engaging **Innovation Club members** in hands-on training of drone design and flight operations. Through expert-led sessions, the workshop covered assembly, calibration, and real-world applications in agriculture and logistics, complemented by simulator-based flying and live demonstrations. Participants also explored safety awareness and project innovation, making the program a comprehensive platform to develop technical skills and entrepreneurial ideas in the rapidly growing drone ecosystem.



2-Day Workshop on Electric Vehicles

Fab Lab, AIC-Nalanda hosted a 2-Day Workshop on Electric Vehicle (EV) Technology on 9th–10th October 2025, engaging students in practical exposure to EV components and battery systems. Through expert-led sessions, the workshop covered green mobility, EV working principles, motors, and charging technologies, complemented by live demonstrations and hands-on learning. Participants also explored future career opportunities and sustainable transportation, making the workshop a practical platform to build technical awareness and inspire innovation in the EV sector.



Seminar on Industry 4.0

Fab Lab, AIC-Nalanda hosted a One-Day Seminar on “Industry 4.0 and Beyond” on 11th October 2025, engaging Innovation Club Cohort 4.0 in exploring the latest industrial technologies. Led by **Mr. Abhijit Mohanty, Founder & CEO of Eviman Transport Pvt. Ltd.**, the sessions covered AI, IoT, Robotics, Big Data, and Cyber-Physical Systems, complemented by insights on smart manufacturing and Industry 5.0. Participants also explored digital transformation and future-ready skills, making the seminar an inspiring platform to align students with the evolving global industrial ecosystem.



“ Innovation Seeing What Everybody Has Seen
And Thinking What Nobody Has Thought. ”

- DR. ALBERT SZENT-GYÖRGYI

Success Story



Curiobit Technologies Pvt. Ltd., founded by Mr. Sinchan Mishra, was honoured with the “Best AI Use Case Award” at the AI Conclave in Mumbai, organized by ENQUBE Collaborations, Finarkein, and Shapoorji Pallonji Real Estate.

AIC-NITF Office Updates

Outgoing Employee



Mr. Abinash Swain

Employee Birthday Celebration 🎉



Mr. Roshan Panigrahi | 2nd November 2025

Diwali Celebration





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