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STPI

Software Technology Parks of India
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MEITY STARTUP
—HUB—

MOTION

IoT
OPENLAB
An IoT Centre of Excellence by STPI

Electropreneur PARK
Bhubaneswar

Newsletter

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Message from Director General

Dr. Omkar Rai
Director General, STPI

The year 2019 was an annus mirabilis for STPI. We completed the 30 years of existence since the first Software Technology Park, the primogenitor of STPI, that was established in 1989. This gives me immense pleasure to scale how STPI has become the gold standard for implementing IT policies of the country to warrant the Indian IT industry to rise to the occasion and establish itself as the most preferred destination for global IT/ITeS outsourcing. These three decades have been exceedingly exciting both for STPI and the Indian IT industry in leaving indelible marks in global technology narratives.

The Indian IT Industry displayed a vital sign of resurgence in core offerings by shifting from the service-focused paradigm to product-centric deliverables in 2019. The launch of National Policy of Electronics (NPE) and National Policy on Software Products (NPSP) during the first quarter of 2019 played a catalytic role in bolstering the product development vision of enterprises and startups in technology sector. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology heralded a new dawn for tech startup ecosystem of the country by launching MeitY Startup Hub, a collaborative platform for startups to connect with incubators, accelerators, mentors, angel funds and venture capitalists, implemented by STPI.

MeitY Startup Summit 2019 was a pioneering step in bringing together the stakeholders of Indian tech startup ecosystem on a single platform to bolster innovation-led entrepreneurship in India. The event was the most appropriate moment for STPI to ink MoUs with Intel, IIM Calcutta Innovation Park, Pontaq and IBM to galvanise collaboration for strengthening knowledge exchanging and enhance cooperation among government agencies, academia, industries and venture capitalists.

Apropos the vision of the government for transforming India as a product nation, STPI strategised the establishment of 21+ domain-centric Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in various emerging technology areas such as AI & Computer Vision, IoT, FinTech, Blockchain, AR & VR, ESDM, Data Analytics, Automotive Connected Electric & Shared Mobility, MediTech, LegalTech, Agri-IoT, Gaming & Animation and DroneTech through a collaborative model. In partnership with industry, academia, industry associations, state governments and venture capitalists, STPI shall foster research & innovation and boost technology-led entrepreneurship by transforming startups, budding entrepreneurs and innovators as tomorrow's successful technology enterprises. In 2019, STPI launched six CoEs viz. FinBlue, VARCoE, NEURON, IoT OpenLab, MOTION and Electropreneur Park-Bhubaneswar. STPI also signed over a dozen of MoUs with corporates, industry associations, academia and venture capitalists to build up momentum for a robust collaborative ecosystem for nurturing tech startups.

The year 2019 was a marvellous time for the Indian IT industry. The IT-BPM revenue of India soared to $177 billion with $136 billion exports. On tech startup front, India was equally remarkable. The country added 1,300 new startups tallying 8,900-9,300 and 7 new unicorns, making India brag for 24 unicorns and the 3rd largest startup ecosystem of the world.

India also noticed another superlative achievement in 2019 when the total UPI-based transactions touched 1.31 billion in the month of December, and the most thrilling part was that the global tech behemoth Google urged the US Federal Reserve to emulate India's UPI for encouraging digital payments.

Now at this vantage point, it's rational to shift focus from the conventional growth narratives of technology sector and rev up the pace of disruptive innovation by bringing out the right policies to strengthen and accelerate IPR process, improvise its R&D standards vis-à-vis global standards, attract global investors to invest in Indian R&D ecosystem and collaborate with international R&D organisations to co-create breakthrough innovations.

India in the last three decades has created a niche for global IT services market and unmistakeably has achieved the laurel of global IT superpower. As we are moving into the next level of global technology value chain, it's apposite to build a robust ecosystem through which the innovators, budding entrepreneurs and startups can leverage the potential of emerging technologies in building a trillion-dollar digital economy. Now, with all its science, engineering and technology talent pool, research & development institutions and improved collaborations among academia and industry, the country can transform itself from a service-based economy to a product-driven economy and contribute significantly to the national GDP by developing world-class products.

Furthermore, the journey towards innovation-led economy will not only boost the wealth creation through path-breaking product development but also it will foster a new breed of skills through which India can address the societal challenges by creating affordable products and solution, increase economic inclusion across strata, and consequently, make a quantum jump in GDP by focusing on the mass production of innovative products and join the global league of developed nations.

As we are moving into the next decade, it's imperative for all of us to take a stock of the opportunities lying ahead of us. Primarily, technology is changing very fast. In the era of Industry 4.0, the deep tech like AI, ML, Blockchain, Quantum Computing and Robotics will redefine how we leverage these technologies and rewrite the technology paradigm of India. With our rich legacy in IT, I am sure India can realise the dream of becoming a software product nation in the coming decade. □

Lead Story

Launch of MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) & Signing of MoUs by STPI

Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Law & Justice, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurated the 1st MeitY Startup Summit (MSS) on 21st October 2019 at New Delhi and interacted with leading tech entrepreneurs. MeitY Startup Summit 2019 is a groundbreaking step towards bringing together key stakeholders to deliberate on how tech startups would catalyse socio-economic growth of India by leveraging emerging technologies. Hon'ble Minister said, "India must become a huge centre of software products and hub for intellectual property. By harnessing the power of technology nobody can stop India from being a superpower."

Hon'ble Minister also launched MeitY Startup Hub (MSH), which is set up in order to facilitate MeitY's vision of promoting technology innovation, startups and creation of Intellectual Properties, announced 41 TIDE 2.0 incubation centres, and also launched a series of programmes such as BHIM 2.0 and Software Product Registry. As a nodal agency, STPI is entrusted with implementation of MSH.

The MSS also witnessed a flurry of programmes such as the award distribution to FinTech startups and banks, MeitY-NASSCOM Startup Women Entrepreneur Awards for Software Products and a special session on TIDE 2.0 centres wherein the heads of these centres deliberated on their experience and shared views on how the Indian startup ecosystem can become a force to reckon with in times to come.

Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, MeitY said "We have presence of e-governance projects in every sector. Now, we need to consolidate every sector's projects into Indian ecosystem so we can create value out of the massive data, a public goods for everyone. Aadhaar was the very first example of this. As a database, it's now an ecosystem with authorised services & user agencies, law to support what it is and many players who create value around the core, which is Aadhaar. GSTN is another platform, which can trigger a similar exponential growth, especially in micro-credit. We are now working on creating similar platforms in primary sector. Possible and increasingly in languages too."

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has been working for creation of startup ecosystem in the country and in the process of creating 21+ Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in emerging technologies such as AI, IoT, Blockchain, Data Analytics, ESDM,

Automotive, MedTech, FinTech and LegalTech. In this regard, STPI has exchanged four MoUs, in presence of Hon'ble Minister, with Intel India Pvt. Ltd., IIM Calcutta Innovation Park (IIMCIP), Pontaq and IBM for promoting innovation in Information and Communications Technology and related emerging fields.

These MoUs will bring collaboration on knowledge exchange and enhancing cooperation between technological institutions, venture capitalists, industries and government agencies. Collaborative platform will leverage and bring startup intervention programme to STPI. The MoUs are meant for promoting entrepreneurship & create a nurturing ecosystem for STPI CoEs in areas such as digital and mobile payments, blockchain, IoT, big data, and other emerging technologies.

Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI said, "The Government has been endeavouring for quite sometime to transform India into a software product nation. MSS 2019 is the culmination of all efforts that took place in last few years and this Summit is going to make lot of difference in terms of new set of initiatives and policy measures. India being emerged as the 3rd largest startup ecosystem in the world with 24 unicorns manifests the surging startup momentum in the country. To rev up this movement, STPI has planned 21+ CoEs in various emerging technologies."

India has the potential to become the leading innovation-led economy. The startup movement has traversed a long distance with STPI persistently striving for expanding its reach from tier 1 to tier 2 & tier 3 cities. STPI's various initiatives like CoEs is a domain-specific specialized incubation facility for startups in the areas of emerging technologies where the highest standards and best practices in term of infrastructure, technology, leadership, mentoring, training, research & development, funding, networking for given focus area are made available.

Signing of MoU with Intel

STPI and Intel have signed an MoU to build collaboration for giving value-added benefits to incubatees of STPI CoEs in the areas of Autonomous Connected Electric Shared Vehicles (ACES) at Pune and Blockchain at Gurugram.

Intel as a tech leader will provide business mentorship to the entrepreneurs and innovators, engage in various educational sessions and workshops to bring the latest global trends, understand local regulations, provide access to the open datasets collected in collaboration with academia and advise on running hackathons / competitions around these datasets.

Similarly, for Blockchain CoE at Gurugram, Intel will help assess and identify startups for the cohort, provide mentorship to relevant startups on technology and business aspects, support STPI with best practices of similar incubators on the scope & framework, and provide technical mentorship & knowledge sharing, especially on performance optimization for Intel platforms.

Ms. Nivruti Rai, Country Head, Intel India & VP, Data Centre Group, Intel said, "Intel is powering the future of computing and communications, delivering essential technologies and platforms that power the cloud and an increasingly smart, connected world. Technologies like Blockchain are key enablers for this new data world and have tremendous potential across industries. We are very excited to collaborate with STPI to form the Blockchain CoE, furthering our commitment towards fuelling innovation and entrepreneurship to build a strong technology startup ecosystem in India."

Signing of MoU with IIMCIP

To promote entrepreneurship & create a nurturing ecosystem for STPI CoEs, STPI and IIMCIP have entered into a cooperation agreement. This MoU enables IIMCIP, a knowledge partner, in the CoEs to take support of IIMCIP for sourcing startups for the CoEs through large scale call for startup hunt (including inviting applications, screening of applications, short listing of applications) and for capacity building of the incubated startups through multiple mentoring boot camps.

Dr. Subhrangshu Sanyal, CEO, IIM Calcutta Innovation Park commented, "IIMCIP is honoured to be a part of this movement to catalyse technology-led social innovation for greater good."

Signing of MoU with Pontaq

STPI and Pontaq inked an MoU to foster startups and incubates of STPI CoEs in IoT Open Lab, ESDM, Virtual & Augmented Reality, Automotive Electronics, MedTech & Health Informatics, Rural & Agri IoT & Blockchain pan India.

Pontaq recognises the initiatives of STPI in setting up CoEs and values the potential for collaboration. Pontaq will provide financial support to startups being incubated in the STPI CoEs, consistent with the overall funding policies of Pontaq and has agreed to participate in setting up STPI CoEs by investing a portion of its Funds in startups nurtured by STPI CoEs.

Shri Mahesh Ramachandran, General Partner, Pontaq said, "We are pleased to collaborate with STPI CoEs in IoT, ESDM, MedTech, Rural & Agri IoT and Blockchain to name a few." He further added, "We look forward to provide the much-needed funding support to the innovative startups to scale. Pontaq would also support the startups to access international markets."

Signing of MoU with IBM

STPI and IBM have formalised an MoU to strengthen technological support for STPI's Blockchain CoE at Gurugram and other CoEs across the country.

The objective of the MoU is to have a mutual collaboration between STPI and IBM for giving value-added benefits to startups such as access to enterprise-grade IBM Cloud through cloud credits, hands-on workshops on emerging technologies such as IoT, Blockchain and AI including IBM's Watson platform. This along with mentorship assistance will help startups working in new-age tech domains to solve the real-life problems and eventually rev up the maturity of their innovative products while ensuring faster go-to-market.

Shri Karan Bajwa, Managing Director, IBM India Pvt. Ltd. said, "IBM is delighted to collaborate with STPI as a technology provider to incubate startups in India. This is a testament of our commitment to the growth of the Indian IT industry by providing startups access to enterprise-grade IBM Cloud and other technologies to help solve the real-world problems with agility and at scale."

Success Story

BigCode   The Disrupter of Gaming Industry in India

An incubatee of IMAGE Incubation Centre at STPI-Hyderabad, BigCode is poised to redefine the digital gaming experience in India

Incorporated in May 2017, BigCode Games Pvt. Ltd. is the fastest growing game development company in India. With a massive portfolio of 520 Android games, 88 iOS games and 320 web games, BigCode has garnered over 102 million downloads. BigCode has an advanced game engine with a variety of games in the pipeline for the global market infusing, intuitive, easy-to-navigate and addictive features in each game. BigCode aims to become a top-notch gaming company across the global market and making users excited all the time.

BigCode turns vision into reality with world class design and development service. With a team comprising gaming experts with rich working skills on game level character sketches, 2D & 3D arts, UI development, sound engineering, game engines, GFX, gameplay, coding, etc., BigCode infuses intuitive, engaging and addictive features to ensure the end-users never log off from the games.

BigCode has changed the gaming trend with its simulation game which has crossed 30 million downloads and still going strong across the globe. BigCode's new sensation game GC Racing has been applauded worldwide because of its amazing graphics and ultimate gameplay. This game expected to be featured worldwide on iOS & Android very soon. BigCode to its credit has a bouquet of highly successful simulator games like Train Racing Games 3D 2 Player, Dino T-Rex Simulator 3D and Double Head Shark Attack-Multiplayer.

According to NASSCOM, India's mobile games market will be worth $1.1 billion by 2020, and number of users projected to become 628 million by then. With this increased headroom for growth, major players in the gaming industry are more willing to invest a substantial amount in the country. Following the trend, the country now has another achievement in the gaming sector with BigCode disrupting the gaming sector by creating exciting games on iOS and Android. Observing the gaming industry trends in India, the organisers of Mobile Growth Summit (MGS) 2019 invited Ms. Vaishnavi Palleda, Managing Director, BigCode Games as an esteemed speaker (and the only woman entrepreneur from the gaming industry) to participate in the programme during February 13-14, 2019 in San Francisco. Ms. Vaishnavi says, "I feel so proud representing India at the Mobile Growth Summit 2019, San

Francisco. It was a proud moment for our country and for me to be the only woman entrepreneur. I was happy and excited to showcase our game from India on global platform, one of the largest summits in the world. I am grateful to MGS 2019, for selecting me as a speaker at the conference."

While BigCode is creating news for building exciting gaming products, the success they have garnered also talks a volume about the support of STPI during their formative period. Ms. Vaishnavi Palleda says, "We are thankful to STPI and IMAGE Incubation for providing great opportunities & constant support in the growth of BigCode." She concludes, "It's an awesome feeling to be a woman entrepreneur and explore gaming. I feel the love industry gives me every day and grateful for all the wonderful opportunities! 'Courage to dream, calmness to visualize and patience for success' is the mantra, I believe and follow every day in my life."

Vaishnavi.P
Managing Director

Soft Launch of IoT OpenLab

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has soft launched "IoT OpenLab" – a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in IoT – at Bengaluru in association with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on 3rd December 2019. STPI is in the process of opening 21-plus Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in emerging technologies across the country. Four CoEs viz. Electropreneur Park at Delhi, FinBlue at Chennai, VARCoE at Bhubaneswar and NEURON at Mohali are already functioning.

The IoT OpenLab CoE at Bengaluru will present a huge opportunity for startups in a hyper-connected world to build innovative IoT products and solutions. This CoE will focus on creating a robust ecosystem in a collaborative model to nurture 500 startups over a period of five years and drive R&D, innovation & product development in IoT focused on sectors like Defence, Aeronautics, Industrial, Agriculture, Health, Automotive and Education etc.

IoT OpenLab will be supported by IESA & TiE (Industry Association Partners) to provide network opportunities to startups, PES Institute of Technology and RV College of Engineering (Academic Partners) to provide academic expertise & mentoring to the startups and Cyber Media & Forum Synergy (VC/Angel Partners) to provide funding access & opportunities to the startups. The industry partnership covers Intel, NXP, Qualcomm, Texas Instruments, STM, TiE Connectivity, Silicon Labs, Molex, Vishay, Microchip and Infineon.

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI, in his keynote address during the soft launch said, "The CoE is aimed to support & nurture around 500 startups over a period of 5 years. As part of this program, we bring together the industry users, technology creators, system integrators and enterprise partners for development and adoption of innovative solutions to the real-world problems."

Shri Sanjeev Keskar, MD, Arrow Electronics and Chief Mentor STPI IoT OpenLab was excited about his role and said, "Arrow Electronics is very excited to partner with STPI in this strategic project of IoT OpenLab. By collaborating with local industry associations, academic institutions, and technology suppliers, Arrow is able to extend its global design engineering and supply chain capabilities and help startups and entrepreneurs in India to bring IoT and sensory solutions to market quickly and cost effectively," said Shri Sanjeev Keskar.

Shri Ravi Gururaj, President, TiE Bangalore welcomed the initiative and said, "IoT OpenLab established by STPI in collaboration with Arrow Electronics is a most welcome addition to the ecosystem. I expect that the combination of world-class facilities and well-connected industry mentors will help startups build truly amazing IoT product offerings."

Shri Jitendra Chaddah, Sr. Director, Intel India and Chairman IESA while admiring the role of STPI in fueling the startup ecosystem in India reiterated, "The IoT OpenLab in addition to the Incubation Centres & Accelerator Labs can bring a positive change for the Intelligent Electronics Startup ecosystem in India. IESA is elated to be part of this game-changing initiative by STPI in creating the IoT OpenLab in Bengaluru. With focus on emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Medical Electronics, IoT in agriculture – key drivers of the $1 trillion digital economy, transformation of India into a tech product nation is imperative."

The IoT OpenLab will offer the services to physical and virtual incubation startups. The startups may apply under the two models, Complete Package (CP) model and Associate Membership (AM) model.

Soft Launch of Motion

On 10th Dec 2019, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) did a "Soft launch" of "MOTION - Mobility in Action" a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in "Autonomous, Connected, Electric & Shared" (ACES) Mobility to facilitate innovations in the areas of emerging automotive technologies. Simultaneously, the Open Challenge was launched. MOTION is established at STPI Pune in association with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of Maharashtra, College of Engineering Pune, Tata Motors, Intel, MathWorks, Visteon, Kinetic, ARAI, SAE India, TiE Pune. MOTION is the fifth CoE launched by STPI.

Electric Vehicle (EV) and Autonomous Vehicle (AV) are clearly two major disruptions in the global auto industry. Combined with the new technologies related to shared mobility services and connecting data between vehicles and their environment, a new automotive revolution collectively known as ACES is sweeping the globe.

MOTION will provide a holistic ecosystem for encouraging R&D, innovation, entrepreneurship in the ACES mobility sector in India. It will host state-of-the-art incubation centre as well as EV, AV Connected & Shared Mobility Labs, and provide services like mentoring, training, networking & marketing support, access to the financial resources, IPR and other support services. This CoE will nurture 51 startups over a period of five years.

On this occasion Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI said, "MOTION will be one-stop facility for development and validation of solution from design to prototype to democratise innovation. It also attracts investment and create avenues for employment generation in the state." He further added, "With the increasing presence of leading global automobile companies and auto ancillary divisions in the country, the need for innovative solutions in the automotive domain is growing at an unprecedented speed."

Dr. Ganesh Natarajan, Chairman, 5F World & Chief Mentor of MOTION said, "The establishment of MOTION is the biggest leap in this region for building an ecosystem for startups working in ACES domain. This initiative of STPI to pioneer promotion of innovative startups all over the country is an absolute amazing development. As a Chief Mentor for this CoE, I really look forward to this initiative blossoming, taking our country to greater heights in the future. A wonderful institution like STPI is taking the lead in nurturing entrepreneurship & innovation in the ACES mobility and I am proud to lead this initiative."

Soft Launch of STPI Electropreneur Park at Bhubaneswar

Electropreneur PARK
Bhubaneswar

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has soft launched Electropreneur Park (EP), an ESDM CoE at Bhubaneswar. EP is being established by STPI with support from Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) and Government of Odisha to boost innovation, creation of IPR and product development in the region. EP-Bhubaneswar will be the 2nd ESDM incubation centre after EP-Delhi. IIIT-Bhubaneswar has joined hands with STPI as the knowledge and academic partner and India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) as the implementation partner for industry connect, mentoring support and outreach.

The soft launch of EP at Bhubaneswar was realised by Shri Suborto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority on 23rd December 2019 in the gracious presence of Shri Tusharkanti Behera, Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT, Govt. of Odisha; Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI; Shri Hemant Sharma, Secretary, MSME, Govt. of Odisha; Shri Manoj Mishra, Secretary, Electronics & IT, Govt. of Odisha; Shri Manas Panda, Director, STPI-Bhubaneswar; Shri Jitendra Chaddah, Senior Director, Operations & Strategy; Intel India & Chairman IESA; Shri Pradeep Gupta, MD, Cybermedia & Chief Mentor, EP Bhubaneswar; other dignitaries and industry leaders.

On this occasion, the portal of EP was unveiled by Shri Tusharkanti Behera, Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT, Government of Odisha. The process of inviting online application from the startups & innovators to be incubated in EP has been started along with the soft launch.

Leading ESDM companies such as Texas Instruments (TI) has intended to partner for knowledge, mentoring and networking support to EP-Bhubaneswar.

Expressing his thoughts on the soft launch, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI said, "EP-Bhubaneswar will uphold the objectives of the Make in India initiatives, heralding a new ESDM growth story. This CoE will provide the much needed infrastructure and other support system required for the startups and entrepreneurs in the field of ESDM."

He further added, "The CoE will focus on leveraging IT strengths and creating a new-age industry, which will play a major role in making India a product nation."

EP-Bhubaneswar will nurture 50 startups over a period of five years by focusing on verticals like Energy, Process Control & Industrial Automation and Education in addition to Agriculture, Disaster Management, Healthcare & Smart City.

Jitendra Chaddah, Chairman, IESA said, "The consumption of electronics in India is growing at a rapid pace. The market is estimated to touch $400 billion in the next four to five years. The EP-Bhubaneswar can play a very critical role in reducing the demand-supply gap".

Coinciding the event, a technical session was held on 'Opportunities for Startups & creating an enabling ecosystem for Electronics Design & Manufacturing," where the top Industry leaders like Shri Jaswinder Ahuja, Cadence; Dr. Satya Gupta, Senzopt; Dr. Verrappan V, Tessolve; Shri Anish Pandari, Electrono Solutions; Shri Mrinal Das, ECE & Shri Sandeep Aurora, Vice President IESA shared their vision & thought on how to make Odisha a vibrant destination for ESDM industries.

Activities & Events

MoU for Tri-party Collaboration to Boost R&D in Microelectronics

The Government of Punjab signed a tri-party MoU on 6th December 2019 to foster collaboration, provide opportunity for sharing global experience and to facilitate the advancement of knowledge on the basis of reciprocity, best effort, mutual benefit and frequent interactions in the identified thrust areas, particularly in the field of Microelectronics/ASIC DESIGN by jointly working and exploring for furthering the initiative culminating in the establishment of Center of Excellence (CoE) in Microelectronics/ASIC DESIGN. The MoU was exchanged between Shri Tanu Kashyap, Director, IT Department, Govt. of Punjab with heads of Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL) and STPI during the panel discussion session on 'IT/ITeS and ESDM— Emerging IT Technologies: opportunities for Industry and State' on the concluding day of ongoing Progressive Punjab Investors Summit.

Dr. Omkar Rai during the panel discussion asserted that Punjab has become an emerging startup hub for IT industry due to conducive environment provided by the State Government. He further asserted that to disperse the IT industry to Tier II/III cities, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has been setting up Centres of Excellence for research and innovation.

Ms. Komal Talwar, Managing Director, TT Consultant, who is also a task committee member on Artificial Intelligence by the Government of India has termed Computer Science domain as the highest-paid industry having massive job opportunities, particularly for women. She said that only the IT and AI sectors enable women to work from home with ease. She also announced to contribute 1% of her company's revenue for this mission to bring women in the technology sector with Punjab Government. Punjab government has earmarked 250 acres of land particularly for manufacturing of electronic goods at the upcoming Industrial Manufacturing Cluster at Rajpura.

Bengaluru Tech Summit 2019

Bengaluru Tech Summit formerly known as BengaluruITE.biz, India's flagship IT and BT event, was organised by Department of IT, BT & ST, Government of Karnataka during 18th -20th November 2019 at Bengaluru. Shri B.S. Yediyurappa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka inaugurated the summit in the august presence of Dr. Ashwath Narayan, Hon'ble Dy. CM of Karnataka; Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI; Shri Shailendra Kumar Tyagi, Director, STPI-Bengaluru and dignitaries from the industry and government. STPI co-hosted the Bengaluru Tech Summit event.

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI while addressing the gathering said, "STPI has planned to set up 28 CoEs in various emerging technologies and, particularly, in Karnataka three CoEs are being set up in IoT, MedTech and LegalTech domains in a collaborative model for promoting startups & to create entrepreneurial support ecosystem."

STPI has been promoting IT MSMEs/Startups by providing platform for showcasing their products/services at Bengaluru Tech Summit every year. STPI provides special exhibition space at 'STPI Pavilion' for MSMEs/Startups. This time 30 startups from Karnataka exhibited their products/solutions under the pavilion.

IT companies of Karnataka region are being recognised by STPI for their performance and contribution to IT industry by awarding them in different categories every year. For 2018-19, the top performing IT companies in terms of exports, employment, women employment, differently-abled employment etc. have been awarded during the STPI IT Export Awards function.

STPI IT Export Awards ceremony was held on its day of the Summit to recognise the best performers under various awards categories. 20 companies were awarded under Exports, Employment, Women Employment etc. category of Awards, 17 companies including Accenture, Dell, EIT Services, Goldman Sachs, IBM, Intel, JP Morgan, Mindtree, Oracle, Qualcomm, Robert Bosch, Samsung, SAP, Schneider Electric, TCS, Tech Mahindra & VMware under IT Pride of Karnataka and Infosys under IT Ratna of Karnataka have been awarded for their performance and contribution to the IT Industry during 2018-19.

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI in his opening remarks at STPI IT Exports Awards Ceremony said, "National Policy on Software Products (NPSP) is set to create $80 billion from the current $8.2 billion by way of creating software products & IPs. STPI CoEs being set up is expected to revolutionise startup ecosystem."

INFOCOM Kolkata 2019

STPI Export Awards 2018-19 for the state of West Bengal was held during 5th-7th December 2019 at Kolkata. STPI Kolkata supported the event as co-host.

Many dignitaries including Smt. Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal; Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI, top CIOs/CISOs from the SAARC nations, eminent industry leaders, ICT experts and entrepreneurs participated in the event.

Dr. Omkar Rai while speaking at the inaugural session of the event highlighted STPI's various initiatives for the IT industry and elaborated on the collaborative projects like Electropreneur Park, FabLab, Data Centre, VARCoE, SMART Lab & its future endeavours. He also underlined that the upcoming 21 STPI CoEs with cost of approx Rs.500 crore in emerging tech within 5 years will catalyse the growth of innovation-driven tech entrepreneurship in India and nurture tech startups.

STPI Export Award 2018-19 for the state of West Bengal was also presented during the event. The primary motto of this event was to recognise the registered IT/ITeS industries in the state of West Bengal playing a prominent role in the software exports. The awards were categorised by the volume of the annual exports of the industries in the figure of crores.

Under various export ranges such as upto Rs. 5 crores, Rs. 5-25 crores & Rs. 25-100 crores, the awards disbursed were Top Exporter (IT), Top Exporter (ITeS), Highest New Job Creator (IT/ITeS), Highest % of Growth in (IT/ITeS), Highest % of Women Employees (IT/ITeS) and Highest % of Differently Abled Employees (IT/ITeS). Similarly, two awards like Top Exporter (IT/ITeS) & Highest New Job Creator (IT/ITeS) were conferred on exporters in Tier II/III region. IBM India received the Highest Exporter (IT/ITeS) awards under the Pride of West Bengal, while TCS received the IT Ratna of West Bengal with exports above Rs. 2,000 crores.

STPI-Chennai Ranked 1st for Progressive use of Official Language

STPI-Chennai ranked 1st among Smaller Offices Category for the best performance in progressive use of Official Language during 2018-19 and was awarded by Town Official Language Committee (TOLIC), Chennai during its 59th Meeting held on 22nd October 2019 at Chennai. STPI-Chennai was also awarded "Vishista Sahayog Puruskar" for participating in various programmes and activities conducted by TOLIC.

IT Expo 2019 at Surat

STPI-Surat participated in the IT EXPO 2019, organised by South Gujarat Information Technologists Association, held at Surat during 6th-9th December 2019. One of the biggest IT exhibitions of its kind in South Gujarat region, this four-day event celebrating the 22nd edition was focused on emerging technologies like AI, IoT, Smart City, Robotics, FinTech, Gaming & Animation, etc.

STPI-Surat showcased the incubation facilities at Gandhinagar and Surat and disseminated information to visitors on the new initiatives like setting up of domain-specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs), FABLAB, Electropreneur Park, Next Generation Incubation Centre, SMART Lab etc. undertaken by STPI at national level.

Exporters' Meet at Thiruvananthapuram

State Bank of India organised exporters' meet at Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram on 31st October 2019. Shri S.R. Subramaniam, Director, STPI-Thiruvananthapuram addressed on the role and activities of STPI in promoting the IT/ITeS Industry & exports and procedure for filing Softex forms. He also informed the exporters about the new initiatives like establishment of domain-centric CoEs and CRS schemes. During an open discussion with the exporters, STPI representatives clarified the doubts on the processes around Softex certification and IBPS.

Vibrant Goa Global Expo and Summit 2019

Vibrant Goa Global Expo and Summit 2019 (VGGES 2019) was organised for Goan industries and business community to showcase their strength, highlight business opportunities and facilitate knowledge dissemination to the world.

The objective of VGGES 2019 was inclusive development in key areas such as innovation, sustainability, industries, technology, youth and skill development, knowledge sharing and networking.

While addressing at the event, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI highlighted how the STPI-Goa centre will play a significant role in boosting IT/ITeS exports from the region, promoting budding entrepreneurs & creating employment opportunities in the state. He also emphasised on how India is striving to become a product nation by creating the much-needed ecosystem and providing opportunities for entrepreneurs and startups in the country.

INDIAJOY 2019 at Hyderabad

INDIAJOY 2019, the biggest Gaming, Media and the Entertainment Festival in India, was organised by Government of Telangana in association with Telangana VFX Animation & Gaming Association (TVAGA) and supported by STPI & Telangana Academy for Skill & Knowledge (TASK) during 20th–23rd November 2019 at Hyderabad.

Addressing the inaugural session, Shri K.T. Rama Rao, IT & C and MA & UD Minister, Government of Telangana said, "The Government of Telangana is determined to help the Visual Effect, Gaming and Animation Industry to boost the local talent creativity."

During the event, Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, Government of Telangana announced the establishment of a CoE focused on Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision and Audio-Visual Gaming in association with MeitY in Telangana.

Shri CVD Ramprasad, Director, STPI-Hyderabad; Shri Rajeev Chilaka, President, TVAGA and leaders from Animation Production and Media Industry attended the inaugural session. STPI-Hyderabad set up a stall for the promotion of IMAGE incubation facility and other services of STPI.

CII Annual IT / ITES Conference 2019

STPI sponsored the conference on "Cyber Security and IoT" organised by CII held on 18th December 2019 at Mysuru.

Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI appraised about the various initiatives taken for making Tier II/III cities as next innovation hub and incentives for startups in his speech. He along with other dignitaries released the white paper on developing Mysuru as the Cyber Security Hub.

Signing of MoU between STPI and ITDA, Government of Uttarakhand

STPI and ITDA, Govt. of Uttarakhand signed an MoU for creation of Startup Hub in Uttarakhand. The MoU was signed by Shri Rajneesh Agrawal, Director, STPI-Noida and Shri Amit Sinha, Director ITDA in the presence of Shri R.K. Sudhanshu, IT Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand on 17th October 2019 at Dehradun.

The objectives of this MoU are to foster collaboration, provide opportunity for sharing global experience and to facilitate the advancement of knowledge on the basis of reciprocity, best effort, mutual benefit and frequent interactions in identified thrust areas, particularly in the field of IT/ITeS, Electronics, Bio-technology & Startups, by jointly working towards setting up a Startup Hub in the proposed STPI premise in Dehradun.

The Startup Hub will launch flagship programmes and promote entrepreneurship in Uttarakhand.

It has been envisaged to establish the entire ecosystem, enable knowledge exchange, access to funds and connect the Indian startup ecosystem with Startup India initiative, conduct regular events for Startups in STPI's incubation facility for their various initiatives. Further, it is proposed to set up a Centre of Excellence in Drone Technologies, which will comprise an advanced lab in this domain and it will work in synchronisation with the Drone Application Research Centre (DARC) established at ITDA, Uttarakhand. This CoE will derive values in the form of mentorship & domain knowledge from the existing lab.

Startup Leadership Workshop at Bhopal

The Startup Leadership Workshop 2019 was organised by Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki Vishvidyalaya, Bhopal (State Technological University of MP) during 3rd-4th October 2019. As the Chief Guest, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI addressed the students and highlighted the challenges & future of Indian startup ecosystem. He also participated in another event on 'Innovation, Startup and Entrepreneurial Skills' organised by IES University, Bhopal. While addressing he told the students how India has moved faster from being an agrarian society to an IT giant during last three decades.

Signing of MoU between STPI and Government of Goa

STPI signed an MoU with Infotech Corporation of Goa Ltd. on behalf of Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Goa in the gracious presence of Dr. Pramod Sawant, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa; Smt. Jennifer Monserrate, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, IT, Labour & Employment, Govt. of Goa; Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI and Shri Devesh Tyagi, Senior Director, STPI for land allocation at Dona Paula, Goa. This initiative will propel the growth of the IT/ITeS/ESDM industry and startups, boost employment generation and create entrepreneurial opportunities in this region. The MoU was signed by Shri Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Director STPI-Maharashtra & Goa and Shri Akash Kantak, Managing Director, Infotech Corporation of Goa Ltd. on 17th October 2019. Government of Goa has allocated 14,815 sq. m. of land at Dona Paula for this facility.

e-Naga Summit 2019 at Kohima

e-Naga Summit 2019 focused on the theme "Towards making the State of Nagaland a leader in e-democracy and digital society" was organised by the Department of Information Technology & Communication, Government of Nagaland on 30th November 2019 at Kohima.

Shri Devesh Tyagi, Senior Director, STPI HQ spoke about the role of STPI and its recent initiatives under Digital India while addressing the IT entrepreneurs at e-Naga Summit 2019.

Punjab Innovation and Technology Summit at Chandigarh

The Government of Punjab organised Punjab Innovation and Technology Summit 2019 on 5th November 2019 at Chandigarh. The summit was inaugurated by Shri Manpreet Singh Badal, Finance Minister, Govt. of Punjab amidst high-profile dignitaries and national & international experts from the government, academia, industry and innovation & research organisations. STPI-Mohali participated in it.

On this occasion, three mission documents were unveiled including Mission Innovate Punjab, Global Innovation Hub & State Action Plan on Climate Change, and MoUs were signed with institutions and industry for strengthening partnership to achieve the goals of mission.

STPI Co-hosted Connect 2019 at Chennai

STPI has co-hosted 18th edition of Connect 2019 at Chennai on 7th & 8th November 2019 in collaboration with Govt. of Tamil Nadu (TN). The event was inaugurated by the Shri Edappadi K Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. An international conference-cum-exhibition on the role of ICT in 'Technology at the Heart of India's $5 Trillion Economy' was also organised.

Dr. Sanjay Tyagi, Director, STPI-Chennai moderated a session on "How to move towards cashless transaction and drive financial inclusion."

The event was attended by Shri R.B. Udayakumar, Hon'ble Minster for Revenue and Disaster Management & Information Technology, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Dr. Santosh Babu, Principal Secretary, Information Technology, Govt. of TN; Mr. Santosh Misra, Chief Executive Officer & Commissioner, TN e-Governance Agency; Dr J.A. Chowdary, Advisor, IT, TN e-Governance Agency; Dr. Rajendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, MSME, Govt. of TN; Mr. N. Muruganandam, Principal Secretary, Industries, Govt. of TN; Mr. S. Mahalingam, Past Chairman, CII Southern Region; Mr. Sanjay Jayavarthanavelu, Chairman, CII, Southern Region; Mr. Suresh Raman, Chairman, CII Connect & Vice President & Regional Head Tata Consultancy Services, Chennai; Mr. R. Ramkumar, CMD, Cognizant Technology Solutions; Mr. S. Chandramohan, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu & Group President, Finance & Investment Strategy, TAFE Ltd. and various industry honchos and senior officials from government and academia also participated in this event.

18th Foundation Day of BPUT

The celebration of 18th Foundation Day of Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT) was held on 21st November 2019 at BPUT main campus, Rourkela wherein Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI was invited as Chief Guest. While addressing he shared his brilliant thoughts on how India can become an innovative country by focusing on tech entrepreneurship and IP creation. He further emphasised on Industry 4.0 technologies like AI, IoT, Cloud computing, Big Data & Analytics, which would trigger future tech revolution in India. Dr. Rai also presented trophies and certificates to researchers and faculties for their distinguished research works and academic excellence.