iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB

Tamil Nadu Technology Hub

Transforming India's tech prowess
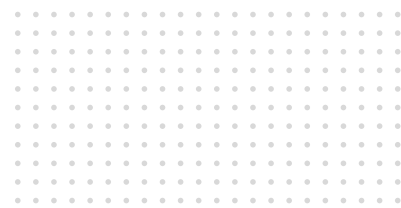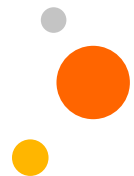into a world-class innovation ecosystem.

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iTNT OVERVIEW

ABOUT US

The iTNT Foundation, a non-profit Section 8 entity, was founded by the Government of Tamil Nadu with support from MEITY and Industry Partnership. iTNT Hub, a Public-Private Partnership and jointly funded by the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu, is India's first Emerging and Deeptech Innovation Network. The Hub was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** on 15th May 2023.

Operating from Chennai, the heart of India's industrial landscape, the Tamil Nadu Technology Hub serves as a catalyst that mobilises industry diversity, a forward-thinking government, global alliances, dynamic entrepreneurship, and India's untapped potential. This collective effort aims to build a robust innovation ecosystem in India, connect with the global stage and produce results that contribute to the betterment of the world.

OUR VISION

To harness Tamil Nadu's vast tech capability, making us amongst the **top 10 innovation hubs globally.**

OUR MISSION

To build a thriving global innovation ecosystem by strengthening the R&D&I landscape, industry-academia collaboration and international partnerships.

MEET OUR PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

सत्यमेव जयते

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

SBI

freshworks

ZOHO

matrimony.com

TVS CAPITAL FUNDS (P) LIMITED

tcs | TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Paytm

kauvery hospital

Pinnacle Infotech

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES

Building Bridges, Blurring Boundaries

Our collaborations span geographies

- Australia
- UAE
- Switzerland
- UK
- Singapore

UK

SWITZERLAND

UAE

Singapore

AUSTRALIA

SECTORAL FOCUS

IOT & Robotics

Climate Tech

Healthcare

Cyber Security

Creative Tech

High Value SaaS

AI

Space Tech

CORE
PROGRAMS

Incubation Program

iTNT offers technological support to entrepreneurs involved in the development of Emerging and Deep Tech companies and provides essential backing through seed funding and mentorship.

Acceleration

This initiative aims to create markets willing to pay premium prices for new-gen commodities and offers entrepreneurs opportunities to establish global connections, fostering the rapid growth of billion-dollar revenue companies.

Innovation Network

Through this, we not only facilitate the connection of industrial demand with academic capabilities but also conduct workshops and training sessions, laying a robust R&D&I foundation for the next 25 years.

Venture Studio

Funded by the Tamil Nadu government, we bridge the gap between an incubated project and the entrepreneur with complementing skills to spin off the company.
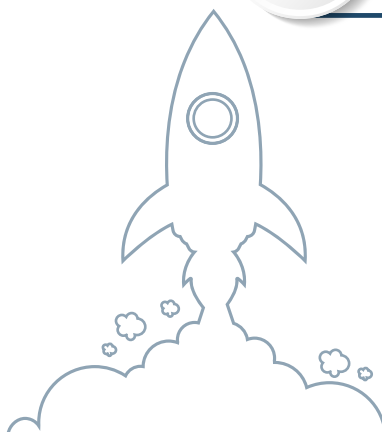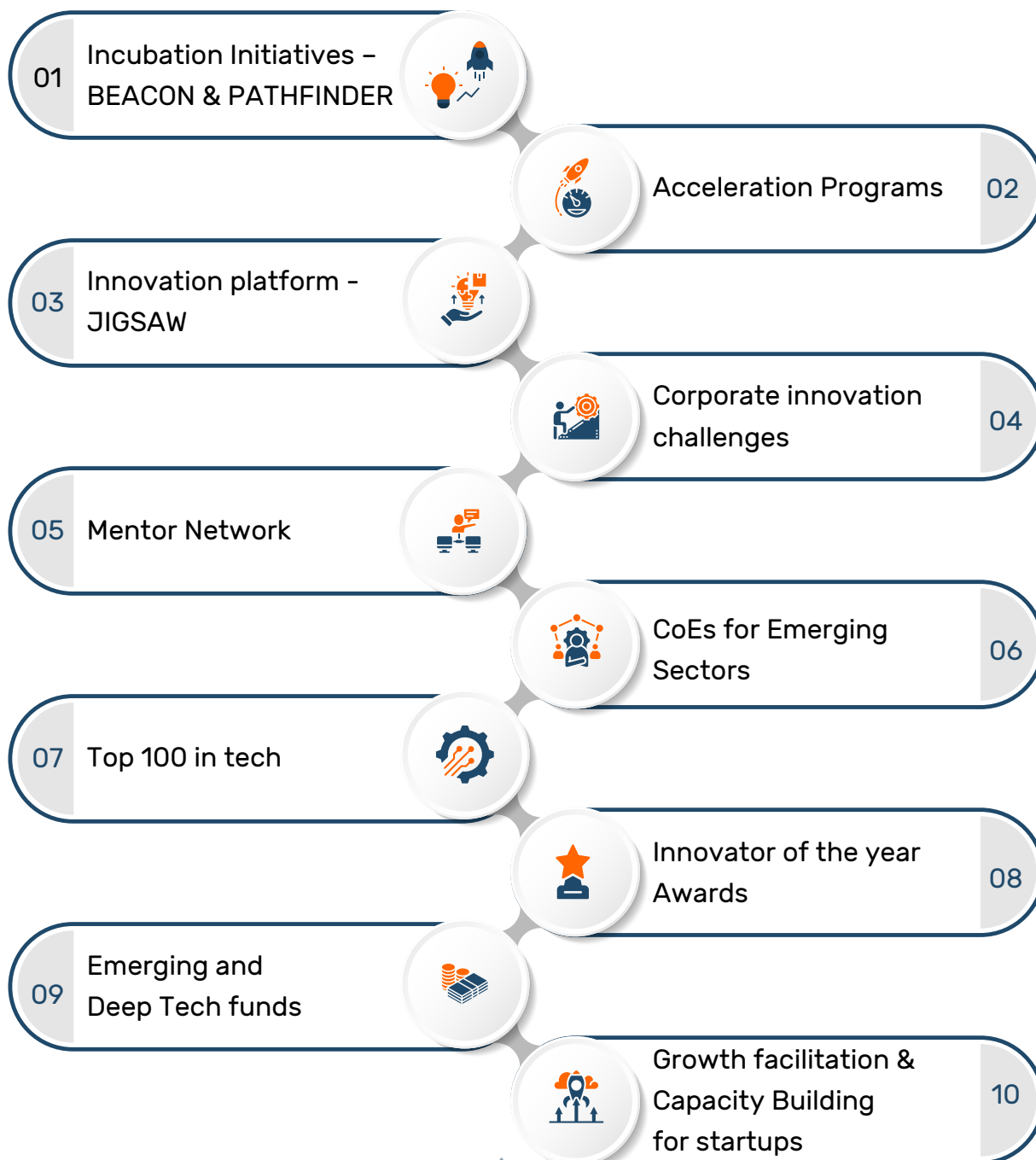
Fab Lab & Design Studio

Addressing the scarcity of industrial makerspaces, we have introduced a Maker Studio equipped with high-end resin and FDM printers which focuses on industrial design as a service, rapid prototyping, and small-batch production of parts.

International Pavilion

We provide requisite support to startups seeking expansion in India through three distinct programs: the Indian Market Literacy program (Online), the Market Exposure Program (7-10 days), and the Market Entry Program (3 Months).

iTNT
INITIATIVES

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VISITS

Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS visits iTNT Hub

A visit from **Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan –** Hon'ble Minister for Department of Information Technology and Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu

Hon'ble Minister **Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan** interacting with our startups.

iTNT Hub hosts MeitY Secretary Mr. S. Krishnan, I.A.S.

Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO of iTNT Hub, welcomed esteemed guests including **Mr. S Krishnan,** I.A.S, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India; **Mr. Dheeraj Kumar,** I.A.S, Additional Chief Secretary, Information Technology Department, Government of Tamil Nadu; and **Dr. Velraj Ramalingam,** Vice Chancellor of Anna University, Chennai, alongside other senior government officials. This distinguished gathering convened to discuss iTNT Hub's role in enabling the advancement of emerging and deeptech initiatives.

Government Officials Engage with Startups at iTNT Hub

iTNT Hub welcomed **Ms. Archana Patnaik** I.A.S, Principal Secretary/Industries Commissioner & DIC, **Dr. T.G. Vinay** I.A.S, Director of DOTE, **Mr. Sivarajah Ramanathan,** CEO of StartupTN, **Mr. B Krishnamoorthy** IOFS, Managing Director of TANCAM, and **Mr. Vijayadeepan S M,** Chief Operating Officer of TANCAM for an interactive session aimed to foster collaboration with startups in iTNT Hub, facilitating the exchange of ideas and discussions on innovative solutions.

MeitY delegation to iTNT Hub

iTNT Hub hosted officials from MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, GOI), including **Mr. Kuntal Sensarma,** I.E.S., Economic Adviser & Group Coordinator, **Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta**, Scientist-E from the Software Industry Promotion Division, and **Dr. Nalin Srivastava**, Scientist-E. This event provided a platform for startups specializing in Health Tech, Space Tech, AI, and VR/AR to unveil their groundbreaking solutions and interact with government officials.

MeitY Startup Hub Officials visit iTNT Hub

iTNT Hub hosted **Mr. Jeet Vijay,** CEO of MeitY Startup Hub, and his team engaging in discussions on collaborating to promote DeepTech entrepreneurship in the country. Mr. Jeet also engaged with our startups, providing fresh perspectives and exploring potential synergies.

iStart and Rajasthan Government Officials at iTNT Hub

iTNT Hub welcomed a delegation from the Government of Rajasthan, including **Mr. Amit Kakkar,** Chief Engineer, Dept of IT & Communications, **Mr. Tapan Kumar,** Additional Director, Dept of IT & Communications, and Mr. Amit Purohit, Program Manager, iStart Rajasthan, for an insightful interaction with startups, focusing on disruptive new-gen solutions and collaboration with iTNT.

iTNT Hub welcomes delegation from Western Australia

We hosted an engaging session with delegates from Western Australia. **Ms. Nashid Chowdhury,** Investment and Trade Commissioner, Government of Western Australia, India-Gulf Region, and **Ms. Cr Christine Hamilton-Prime** JP GAICD, Councillor - Cyber & Innovation advocate, City of Joondalup, shared insights on the collaborative synergy between Western Australia and Tamil Nadu's startup ecosystem. Western Australia's interest in diverse sectors like cybersecurity, MedTech, and hydrogen aligns with TN's abundant talent pool.

HUB HIGHLIGHTS

iTNT HUB AT UmagineTN 2024

Enabling Inclusive Innovation: JIGSAW Launch & Strategic Partnerships at UmagineTN 2024

JIGSAW (Joint Innovation Gateway for Synergistic Startup-Academic-Industry-Investor Work), facilitated by **Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) Hub,** promotes collaboration between academia, industry, deeptech startups, venture capitalists, and students. **JIGSAW** was launched in UmagineTN 2024 by the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin,** with Hon'ble Ministers **Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan,** and other dignitaries in attendance. Key features include collaboration, innovation challenges, and a Digital Market Access Platform.

iTNT Hub also signed MoUs with **Anna University Regional Campuses, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli** to nurture innovation in tier 2 and tier 3 cities, partnering with **26 academic institutions,** integrating 4081 researchers and 175 startups to drive inclusive growth. The Hub has also signed LOI with **I-STEM** and launched collaboration with **STPI** to enhance the innovation ecosystem.

Buzzing Highlights from the Innovation Arena in UmagineTN 2024

The Innovation Arena at UmagineTN 2024 buzzed with excitement, packed with events showcasing technology's potential. The Product Launch marked a significant moment, Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS **Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan,** unveiling **7** groundbreaking startup innovations. The Student and Startup Pitch Fest provided invaluable feedback, helping participants refine their pitches and spot growth opportunities. The 'Investor Connect' Session saw **60** startups pitch to **33** VC firms, fostering crucial networking and follow-up meetings. Expert Talks featured leaders like **Professor. Ashok Jhunjhunwala,** President, IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP) Park and IIT Madras Incubation Cell, sharing insights on developing innovation ecosystems in tier 2 and tier 3 cities and other expert speakers sharing their insights and the role of innovative solutions in advancing technology.

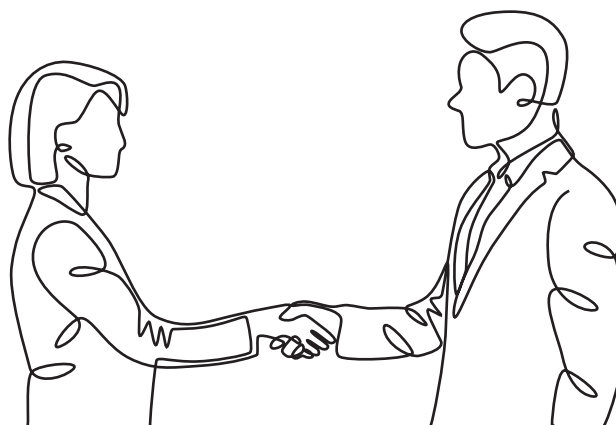## Information Technology Pavilion at UmagineTN 2024

The Information Technology pavilion served as a platform to highlight the cutting-edge advancements **and** Tamil Nadu's technological progression. Our startups **FocuzAR**, offered diverse AR/VR and phygital interactive solutions with its key product Xwall.io, a phygital interactive platform that transforms any solid surface into an engaging interactive space for creating awareness and educating visitors about the Entrepreneurial journey through an interactive Q&A game. **India Speaks,** with their AI voice-over and holography, mesmerized attendees with lifelike holograms of tech icons APJ Abdul Kalam and Steve Jobs.

iTNT Hub's Idea Validation Bootcamp

iTNT Hub completed the pilot cohort of the Idea Validation Bootcamp, which included participants from academic researchers and budding entrepreneurs in deeptech and emerging tech fields. This initiative enabled and empowered them on their entrepreneurial journey. The cohort graduation took place in the Innovation Arena at UmagineTN 2024.

Voices from our Bootcamp:

> *The eight-week bootcamp was incredibly enriching, covering a wide range of startup topics. The highlight was the bootcamp graduation ceremony at UmagineTN event. A big thank you to iTNT for providing this amazing opportunity!*

DR. ANANTHANARAYANAN KRISHNAMOORTHY,
RESEARCH PROFESSOR, SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

> *The iTNT Bootcamp was an eye-opener, showing me how to transform innovative ideas and providing support in shaping my startup. The opportunity to present my idea at the Umagine event and receive feedback from experts was incredibly satisfying.*

HEMA BRINDHA M, Ph.D STUDENT.,
SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

> *The bootcamp was an enriching experience, validating my startup idea. The graduation ceremony and networking opportunities at the Umagine event were valuable bonuses. Grateful to iTNT for this opportunity.*

K. S. KHARTHICKEYEN,
FOUNDER, VEYYIL ROBOTICS

iTNT Hub at #TNGIM2024!

iTNT Hub played a key role and engaged in insightful discussions on **GenAI and Deeptech** through panel talks and fireside chats with industry experts in AI and DeepTech.

iTNT Hub launches "Break The Loop" Innovation Challenge with Rolls-Royce

The ongoing **"Break the Loop"** Innovation Challenge is a collaborative initiative by iTNT Hub and Rolls-Royce India engaging innovative startups, researchers, and students in Sustainability, Energy Generation, and Climate Tech to pitch their solutions directly to Rolls-Royce's leadership network, gaining exposure in the energy and sustainability sector and receive mentorship from Rolls-Royce experts and incubation support at iTNT Hub.

DeepTech Sensitization Drive

iTNT Hub and ICT Academy collaborated on the "A Deep Dive into Accelerating Deeptech and Emerging Technologies and Entrepreneurship", as part of our DeepTech Sensitization Drive, benefiting 80 researchers from 44 institutions. Participants were equipped with crucial knowledge and tools to navigate deeptech and entrepreneurship landscapes effectively. The sensitization drive is planned to bring entrepreneurs and academicians from tier 2 & tier 3 cities to enable inclusive growth and innovation across Tamil Nadu.
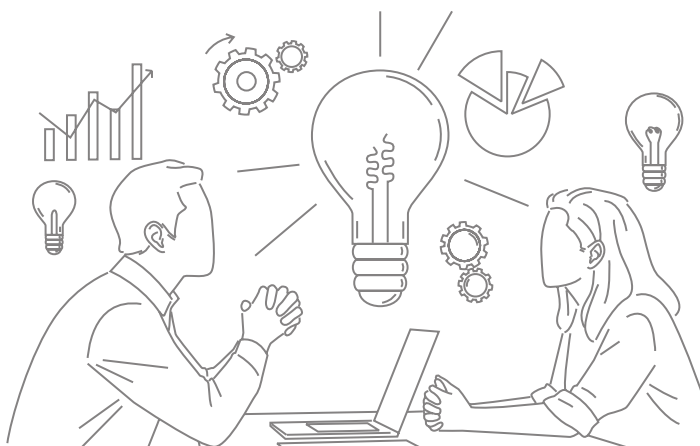
ACTIVITIES OF THE HUB

Monthly Community Meetups featuring successful emerging and deep tech startups, like Agnikul, exclusively for our community.

Interactions with high-profile Industry experts.

Startup Pitch Sessions with international counterparts

iTNT IN GLOBAL LIMELIGHT

SEEDING LOCAL, GROWING GLOBAL!

Signing of Innovation Exchange Statement between Government of Tamil Nadu and Western Australia

A notable occasion unfolded as the Governments of **Tamil Nadu and Western Australia** signed an **Innovation Exchange Statement,** affirming their dedication to building collaborations and cultivating opportunities for innovators and entrepreneurs between the two states.

iTNT Ecosystem Startups Create Impact in West Tech Fest

During the West Tech Fest, 5 startups enabled by iTNT participated and pitched their ideas at the Freo Startup Fest, engaging with potential investors followed by networking sessions aboard a cruise to Fremantle, facilitating significant connections and collaborations. Notably, **AtumX** received an expression of interest for the procurement of 15 pieces of their product – HEKA, the Robot Toy.

Collaborative Connections with Innovation Counterparts

iTNT Hub made valuable connections during the Western Australia visit, notably with **Dr. Jagadish (Jags) Krishnan,** Parliamentary Secretary to Premier, **Ms. Jodi Cant,** the Director-General at the Department of Finance, **Dr. Parwinder Kaur,** Special Advisor – S&T Plan, Government of Western Australia, and the members of the Tamil Association of Western Australia (TAWA).

Exploring Joint Endeavors with Key Innovation Hubs in WA

Productive meetings with SpaceCubed, WA Data Science Innovation Hub, WA Cyber Security Innovation Hub, Fugro SPAARC, and Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct, SpaceCubed to explore joint programs, acceleration, and cross-border startup support.

MoU with Western Sydney University on collaboration in Technology and R&D&I

iTNT Hub and **Launch Pad - Western Sydney University,** have officially joined forces to propel innovation and entrepreneurship in Tamil Nadu, India and Western Sydney, Australia. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was inked at iTNT, with **Professor Deborah Sweeney,** Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Enterprise and International, Western Sydney University, and our CEO, Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, sealing this transformative partnership.

iTNT Hub participates in Dubai GITEX Global 2023

Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT Hub and iTNT team participated in the GITEX Global, world's largest and most influential tech and startup event in Dubai. The team had meeting with **Mr. H.E. Hussain Mohammed Al Mahmoudi,** the CEO of Sharjah Research, Technology and Innovation Park (SRTI Park), **Mr. Hamad Alshaibani,** Head of Product at the Institute for Transformational Development, an organization pioneering in AR, VR domains and participated in discussions and exhibitions to gain insights to latest trends and technologies in global tech ecosystem.

SUCCESS STORIES & TESTIMONIALS

iTNT Ecosystem Startup showcase

Chimertech Private Limited, an iTNT-supported startup, has secured an investment commitment of ₹50 lakhs as CCD Investment from Mr. Sriram Sankaran, NATIVELEAD. This significant development unfolded during the Chennai Edition of the MSH Investor Connect Program organized by MeitY Startup Hub and Forge Innovation & Ventures.

Additionally, Chimertech has recently joined forces with Milky Mist Dairy, leveraging their product 'Quadmastest' – a pioneering solution launched by the Honorable Minister for IT & DS, **Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan,** at the UmagineTN 2024 Innovation Arena facilitated by iTNT Hub.

Harvtech LLP, a startup within the iTNT ecosystem, emerged victorious in the IIT Madras Carbon Zero Challenge, securing Rs. 5 Lakhs funding for their innovative and sustainable solution in the Agritech domain.

TESTIMONIALS
A Word From The Mentors

Vikram Ravi

Mentor at iTNT Hub & VP, Strategy at Brandwatch

Currently, when we think about technology, we tend to confined to academic exercises. I believe iTNT is here to change this by bringing in the next revolution in deep technology for us to think about harder problems that we can solve.

Sreyans Bardia

CEO, Bot VFX

iTNT Hub's consistent engagement with industry thought leaders and commitment to fostering innovation creates an exceptional environment for all-round efforts. The team is exceptionally proactive and quite knowledgeable. In all, it serves as a remarkable catalyst for an innovation ecosystem that can lead global impact.

From Our Incubated Startups

From the top-notch infrastructure to the invaluable connections with domestic & global peers, iTNT has been instrumental in our journey. The weekly events that focus on addressing startup challenges and exploring growth opportunities have been a tremendous asset to our startup's progress. Grateful to be part of this vibrant community!
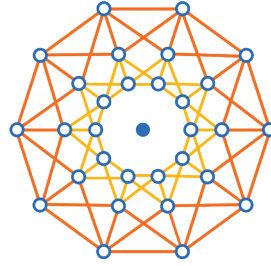
ARUN PRASATH,
CEO, FOCUZAR

iTNT Hub enabled us to participate in technology-focused events like the India Mobile Congress and UmagineTN 2024 where we launched our product in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan. Thanks to their unwavering commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, we had the opportunity to showcase our cutting-edge solutions on such a larger stage.

AKSHAY PANSE,
CEO, CLOOBOT TECHLABS

**TEAM
iTNT HUB**