

### K E R A L A STARTUP MISSION®

# Kerala Startup Mission Annual Report 2023 -24

(Including Annual Accounts 2023-24 & Audit report)



Launch of the KSUM Membership Card and Leap Co-Works

### **Table of Content**

Introduction	2
Comparative Statistics	2
Governing Body	2
Locations	3
Information Technology policy	4
Schemes	4
SCHEME 1: Youth Entrepreneurship	4
SCHEME 2: Technology Innovation Zone	4
Kerala Technology Innovation Zone	46

#### Introduction

Technopark Business Incubation Centre (TBIC) was an initiative of Technopark in 2002. TBIC provided infrastructural facilities with fully furnished plug-and-play office modules for budding startups. On getting assistance from the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science & Technology (DST), TBIC was registered as a society in the name of Technopark Technology Business Incubator (T-TBI) in 2006.

In order to create a startup ecosystem in the state of Kerala, the Kerala government entrusted Technopark TBI as the nodal agency in 2013. Since then, The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala is the Chairman of the Board of Governors of Technopark TBI. The Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) was also entrusted with the responsibility of establishment of Technology Innovation Zone (KTIZ), a complete hub for the startup at Kalamassery, Ernakulam.

In 2014, Technopark TBI was rebranded as Kerala Startup Mission and since then the institution is known as Kerala Startup Mission. In 2014-15, two schemes named youth entrepreneurship program and Technology Innovation Zone were sanctioned to the Kerala Startup Mission through the state budget. The two schemes are continuing in larger scales till now.

Innovation & entrepreneurship sub policy of IT policy 2017 declared by the State Government to promote youth entrepreneurship. KSUM being the nodal agency for implementing the startup policy, implementing various schemes for achieving the goals in the Policy. The various schemes cover a broad range of youth Entrepreneurship promotion right from schools, colleges and to professionals. Through its various initiatives Startup Mission has been able to establish itself as an inevitable part of not only Kerala's but also India's startup sector

	Till 2016	Till March 2024
Number of startups	300	5200
Number of employments	3000	53000
Number of incubators:	18	63
Ideas supported	20	709
Number of IEDC supported	80	425
Number of startups offered international support	15	250
Incubation infrastructure (in square feet)	57,000	8,00,000
Equity Investment raised by Startups (Rs. in Crores)	207	5600

#### **Comparative Statistics**

### **Governing Body**

K-SUM is headed by its Chief Executive Officer. Shri. Anoop Ambika has taken charge as the Chief Executive Officer on 11.07.222.

The activities of K-SUM are managed and monitored by the Executive Committee, while formation of policy and the overall performance of the organisation are guided by the Board of Governors.

Board of Governors (Reconstituted as per GO(Ms) No.4/2022/ITD dated 20.01.2022)

1	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala	Chairman
2	Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Electronics & IT Department	Member
3	Principal Secretary Electronics & IT	Member
4	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Industries	Member
5	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Science & Technology	Member
6	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Agriculture	Member
7	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Higher Education	Member
8	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Finance	Member
9	Dr. Saji Gopinath, Vice Chancellor, Digital University of Kerala	Member
10	Vice Chancellor, APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University	Member
11	Chief Executive Officer, IT Parks Kerala	Member
12	Managing Director, KINFRA	Member
13	Shri. Paul Basil, Founder of Villgrow (India's leading social incubator)	Member
14	Shri. Babu Sivadasan, Chief Executive Officer, Envestnet	Member
15	Shri. Shilen Sugunan, Founder Malabar Angels and Ex CEO, Arbitron	Member
16	Shri. Sam Santhosh – Chairman, MedGenome Labs	Member
17	Shri. Anish Achuthan, CEO, Open (Neo Banking product Co.)	Member
18	Shri. Rajesh Nair, Kerala Head, Ernst & Young Global Limited	Member
19	Shri. Sharoon Shamsuddin, CEO, Sands International & ISYX Technologies	Member
20	Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Startup Mission	Convener

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Executive Committee (Reconstituted as per G.O.(Rt)No.310/2018/ITD dated 18.12.2018)

1	Principal Secretary / Secretary (IT), Government of Kerala	Chairman
2	Principal Secretary / Secretary, Higher Education	Member
3	Secretary, Finance (Expenditure)	Member
4	Managing Director, KINFRA	Member
5	Director, Kerala State IT Mission	Member
6	Chief Executive Officer, Technopark	Member
7	Director, International Centre for Free and Open-Source Software	Member
8	Managing Director, Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited	Member
9	Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology Management - Kerala	Member
10	Representative of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	Member
11	Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Startup Mission	Member
12	Secretary & Registrar, Kerala Startup Mission	Convener

### Locations

Trivandrum	Head office & Leap Centre – Thejaswini Technopark Trivandrum
	Electronics Accelerator at CDAC building, Technopark, Trivandrum
	Fab Lab – IIITM-K building Technopark Trivandrum
Ernakulam	Integrated Startup Complex, Technology Innovation Zone, Kalamassery Ernakulam
	KSUM Leap Centre, Scaleup Space, Super Fab Lab, Bionest
Kozhikode	Leap Centre - ULCyber Park, Kozhikode
	Leap Centre - Cyber Park, Kozhikode
Kasaragod	Leap Centre – ASAP Building Kasargod
Palakkad	Leap Centre – Government Polytechnic College, Palakkad

Kottarakkara Leap Centre – ASAP Building Kulakkada R&D Centre – IHRD College of Engineering Campus, Kottarakkara

### Information Technology policy

The Government of Kerala has announced Information Technology Policy as per G.O.(P) No. 9/2017/ITD dated 30.06.2017. The IT Policy contains the Kerala IT Policy Framework and 9 sub policies. The Sub policy No. 7 deals with the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Policy. For implementation of the component of the IT Policy entrusted with the Kerala Startup Mission, the Government has sanctioned two major schemes namely Youth Entrepreneurship and Technology Innovation Zone for the year under discussion.

### Startup India Award 2022

The States Startup Ranking 2022 by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT, Government of India has recognised Kerala as the best performer in developing a robust Startup ecosystem.

### Schemes

The Schemes sanctioned to the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) for the year 2023-24 are:

- 1) Youth Entrepreneurship
- 2) Technology Innovation Zone

### **SCHEME 1: Youth Entrepreneurship**

The components of the scheme are the following

- 1. Entrepreneur Pipeline Creation
- 2. Financial Support to startup
- 3. Business Development
- 4. Infrastructure

The above components are having various sub components

### **SCHEME 2: Technology Innovation Zone**

- 1. Annex Building to ISC
- 2. 10K Building
- 3. Emerging Technology Startup Hub
- 4. Integrated startup complex

The youth entrepreneurship program was implemented through various programs and initiatives. The following are the important among the same.

### Entrepreneur Pipeline Creation State-Wide Launch of the KSUM Membership Card and Leap Co-Works

On the 1st of August 2023, a momentous event took place at the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) Office, Ground Floor, Thejaswni, Technopark, Trivandrum. The event marked the State-Wide Launch of the KSUM Membership Card and the unveiling of Leap Co-Works. It was a significant occasion that aimed to further bolster the startup ecosystem in Kerala. The inauguration was graced by the Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala, adding prestige and importance to the event.



#### IEDC Summit 2023

Kerala Startup Mission organised IEDC Summit 2023 on 12 October 2023 at College of Engineering, Trivandrum. IEDC Summit is Asia's largest summit for aspiring student entrepreneurs. IEDC Summit provides a networking platform for aspiring and early stage. IEDC Summit 2023 was inaugurated by Dr. R Bindu, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education and Social Justice, Government of Kerala in Presence of Dr. Saji Gopinath Honourable Vice Chancellor, Kerala Technological University and Digital University of Kerala, Dr. Rathan U Kelkar I A S Secretary, E & IT, Govt. of Kerala and Shri. Anoop Ambika Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Startup Mission.

The event was attended by over 15,000 students from various colleges across the state. They participated in various events that were organised as part of the Summit. This included workshops, talk sessions, master classes, pitching competitions, bootcamps.



### **STARTUP 360 @LEAP PALAKKAD**

We are thrilled to relive the captivating moments from the 'Startup 360' event hosted at LEAP Palakkad. The program, held at the Palakkad Incubation Centre for Startups on the 26th of July, 2023, proved to be a transformative experience for the participating startups. With over 30 startups in attendance, the event showcased a myriad of engaging discussions that undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the entrepreneurial journey.

**'Startup 360'** was not just an event; it was a game-changer for startups, offering a unique platform for knowledge exchange and networking. The event's venue, the Palakkad Incubation Centre for Startups, was the ideal backdrop for these transformative discussions. As we look back on this successful gathering, we are confident that the insights gained and connections formed will continue to drive the success of these startups in their entrepreneurial journey.

#### **Startup City**

MoU Signing of STARTUP CITY program between Unnathi and KSUM with Shri. K Radhakrishnan, Minister for Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes and Devaswoms, Shri. Prasanth N IAS, CEO, Unnathi, Special Secretary- SC/ST Devt. & Backward Classes Dept,Kerala and Shri. Anoop Ambika, CEO, KSUM and Ms Meghashree DR IAS, IG- Registration.



### Scalefast 2023

The program was conducted at Kochi on April 28th to 29th 2023.



### RinkDemo Day: ICAR - SBI(RC), Kannur

The RINK Demo Day in association with Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Sugarcane Breeding Institute Research Centre, (ICAR - SBIRC), Kannur, the oldest agricultural research institutes under the India Council of Agricultural Research on 26 April 2023 showcased seven technologies and products in the area of sugarcane-based innovations. 160 people attended

#### National Technology Day Celebration 2023

As a part of National Technology Day, KSUM's RINK & IEDC organized a 'One-day Conclave and Technology Expo' for entrepreneurs and startups at Seminar Hall KMEA College of Engineering on 10th May 2023. The event had a registration of 99 participants. Representatives from 5 research organizations in Kerala, students & faculty members of KMEA college of Engineering were also present.



### KSUM Stall in Bio Connect Kerala 2023

Bioconnect Kerala 2023 conclave, a two-day international conclave and expo was organized by the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), Government of Kerala from May 25th to May 26th at the Leela Kovalam. Kerala Startup Mission set up an exhibition stall in the conclave highlighting the Life Science Startup Ecosystem and Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK).

### Visit to ICAR - SBIRC, Kannur

Kerala Startup Mission through its 'Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK)' organized a one day exposure visit to ICAR - Sugarcane Breeding Institute Research Centre (ICAR-SBIRC), Kannur on 1st June 2023. 73 participants attended

### Heights Researchers Fest - Kerala University

Kerala University organized 'Heights 2023', a researchers' festival, at its Karyavattom campus from June 19 to 22 to showcase its research achievements focusing on their social relevance. Kerala Startup Mission set up an exhibition stall in the fest highlighting the Research & Development driven Startup Ecosystem and Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK). Around 250 visitors saw the R&D exhibition every day and KSUM's exhibition stall was visited by experts from diverse fields.



### Meet the Expert

On July 20, 2023, KSUM-RINK, in collaboration with Tips@TiMed, successfully organized a highly informative and engaging program, "MEET THE EXPERT." The primary objective of the program was to offer extensive guidance to 15 R&D startups, helping them evaluate the patentability and market potential of their innovative ideas.

### Workshop on IPR and Technology Transfer

Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK) of Kerala Startup Mission in association with University of Kerala and TIPS-TIMED organized a workshop on "IPR and Technology Transfer" on August 2023

#### **Entrepreneurial Ways - Research Products in to Commercial Ventures**"

Kerala Startup Mission in association with the Entrepreneurship Development Club, Mahatma Gandhi College, Trivandrum conducted a workshop on "Entrepreneurial Ways - Research Products into Commercial Ventures" on 03rd August 2023.



### **Explore KSUM May**

The collaborative event on May 20, 2023, brought together Explore KSUM and NSA 2023 Q&A at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi. Distinguished representatives from Startup India graced ISC with their presence, fostering enlightening discussions with local businesses.



### **Developers Day**

On May 12, 2023, Kerala Startup Mission Kochi witnessed the impactful Kochi edition of Developers' Day. Commencing with enlightening sessions like 'Emerging Trends in Gaming' and 'Growing Games with Google Play' led by Vinay Charaniya from Google Play Games, the event proved insightful.

#### **G20 DIA Regional Meet**

The G20-DIA Regional Meet held on March 31, 2023, at Maker Village Kochi, showcased a convergence of innovation and global impact. Aligned with the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology's objectives, the event celebrated digital pioneers with transformative solutions.

#### Hireathon – KKEM

The Hireathon Internship Drive, in collaboration with KKEM, took place on May 17th at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi. where more than 25 startups engaged with passionate individuals aspiring to enhance their skills and contribute to the upcoming startup ecosystem

#### Seed Spark - 5

In a bid to catalyze entrepreneurial triumph, the virtual Seed Spark Program, presented jointly by KSUM and Stanford Seed, has concluded with great success. Aspiring entrepreneurs availed the chance to glean insights from global scholars, fostering startup growth. The comprehensive online curriculum, spanning June 15 to November 20, 2023, delved into multifaceted entrepreneurship dimensions.

#### Slackxchange

On June 7th, 2023, Kerala Startup Mission Kochi hosted the Kochi Chapter of #SlackXchange—a networking event tailored for professionals.

#### **Women Founders Meet**

The Women Founders' Meet held on June 2nd, 2023, at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi



#### Scaleup circuit

In June, the Kerala Startup Mission Kochi hosted the remarkable Scaleup Circuit meetup. This multicity Startup Ecosystem Yatra spanned 2300+ kms, 8 cities, and 10 days, culminating at the Integrated Startup Complex.

#### Explore KSUM & Maker Village @ KTIZ

The "Explore Kerala Startup Mission" event took place on July 1st, 2023, at Kerala Technology Innovation Zone (KTIZ) in Kochi.



#### Startup Gurukulam

The Kerala Startup Garage and Kerala Startup Mission co-hosted a specialized event on July 15, 2023. The session highlighted Funding Schemes, FAB Lab, and RINK initiatives, offering insights into entrepreneurial prospects and funding tactics



### **ISMS Session**

On July 14th, a captivating Awareness session on Information Security Management System (ISMS) occurred at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi.

### Women Workshop with TiE

TiE Women and Kerala Startup Mission co-hosted a workshop titled "Emotional Intelligence & Entrepreneurship" in Kochi on July 12, 2023.



### Startup 360 @Leap Trivandrum

The 'Startup360' event, was held at LEAP Trivandrum on August 18, 2023.

#### Startup 360 @Huddle Global 2023

Startup 360 held at Huddle Global 2023 from 16th to 18th of Nov 2023. Startup 360 had experts in multiple domains such as ASAP, Bispole, Indiafilings, Puthran Associates, Bramma Consulting participated

#### **STARTUP 360 @THRISSUR**

The 'Startup 360' event hosted at Chamber of Commerce, Thrissur.



#### Startup 360 @ Calicut

Calicut Edition of the program held on 30th October 2023 at KSUM Office, Govt Cyberpark. There were around 30+ founders who joined the startup 360 program where over 50+ interactions happened on Legal, Technical, Business, Finance and Human Resource.



#### Leap Launch @Kasargod

Launch of LEAP Co-Works by Shri Rajmohan Unnithan, MP Representing Kasaragod, first LEAP launch was inaugurated by NA Nellikkunnu MLA.



### **Round Table Meeting - Kasargod**



The round table meeting at Kasargod led by KSUM CEO Mr. Anoop Ambika

### **Rink Exposure Visit to CIPET-IPT**

The RINK Exposure Visit for startups and entrepreneurs held on 9th August, 2023, at the CIPET-IPT, Kochi campus.



### Meet the Expert - 2nd Edition

On 11 August 2023, Kerala Startup Mission's (KSUM) Research Innovation Network-Kerala (RINK), in collaboration with Tips@TiMed, successfully conducted the second edition of the highly acclaimed "Meet the Expert" online program.

### Workshop on IPR and Technology Transfer

Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK) of Kerala Startup Mission in association with University of Kerala and TIPS-TIMED organized a workshop on "IPR and Technology Transfer" on 01.08.2023 at CLIF, University of Kerala



### Researcher Orientation Program @College of Agriculture, Vellayani TVM

The Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK), Kerala Startup Mission, organized a transformative event on the 8th of September at the College of Agriculture Vellayani, Trivandrum.



#### Workshop on Regulatory Affairs for Medical Devices

The Workshop on 'Regulatory Affairs for Medical Devices', hosted at Kochi's Integrated Startup Complex, provided a significant boost to medtech startups and researchers by offering essential insights into navigating the complex regulatory landscape.



#### **RINK Exposure Visit at ICAR-CIFT, Kochi**

The "RINK Exposure Visit" for startups and entrepreneurs was held on October 6th, 2023, at the A.N. Bose Auditorium, ICAR-CIFT, organized by Kerala Startup Mission in partnership with Zonal Technology Management – Agribusiness Incubation Centre (ZTM-ABI) and ICAR – Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR-CIFT).

#### **Hospex Health Care Expo**

Hospex Health Care Expo was organized from September 15 - 17, 2023 at Zamra International Convention & Exhibition Centre, Kochi.

#### Global Exposure (Netherlands) - TNW Conference, 2023

The TNW Conference 2023 in Amsterdam, Netherlands, was a prominent global technology event that brought together startups, corporations, governments, and investors. It featured 12,000+

attendees, 200+ exhibitors, and 1,500 startups, with a strong international presence. The event conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Kerala Startup Mission organized a delegation of 5 startup to attend the program.



### India-US Business Delegation 2023 April 27 - May 10, 2023

The India-US Business Delegation, comprising 16 members, was organised by the Kerala Start-up Mission, GTech – Group of Technology Companies, and the US-India Importers' Council from 27<sup>th</sup> April to May 2023. As part of the same, the 2023 SelectUSA Investment Summit, featuring prominent US government and business figures, was attended by 10 startups from Kerala on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023



India-US Business Reception hosted by the Ambassador of India to the US Delegation Team

### ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEET

Annual Investment Meet is the World's Leading Platform for Foreign Direct Investment which was held during May 8th - 10th, 2023 at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirate. KSUM in association with AIM has taken 8 startups to Abu Dhabi as part of international delegation

### GATES India ICT Channel Summit 2023

GATES India ICT Channel Summit 2023 brings together 250+ Enterprise and B2B channels (SI, VAR, MSP etc) from across India in a Vendor Neutral platform. The event was organized from October 12 - 14, 2023 at Clarks Amer Hotel, Jaipur. A delegation of 5 selected startups from Kerala participated in the event.



### Taiwan delegation | TAITRONICS | TAITRA

Taipei International Electronics Show (TAITRONICS) is a trade show held every October by Taiwan External Trade Development Council and Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association to promote the electronic industry in Taiwan. 2023 TAITRONICS & AloT Taiwan (Taipei International Electronics & AloT show) took place from October 25th to 27th in Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taiwan. 10 Kerala based startups were attended the program selected by TAITRA.



### IFSCA Team visit & MoU exchange

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) team visited the ISC, Kochi on 21 July 2023 as a part of the MoU exchange with Kerala Startup Mission. A Startup Connect - a session for the startups about IFSCA was organized along with this.



### **ICAI STARTUP SPHERE 2023**

India's iconic startup event has been organized by the Institute of the Chartered Accountant of India ('ICAI') - ICAI Start-Up Sphere 2023 on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at World Convention Centre, Mumbai



### Scaleup Program by Artha School of Entrepreneurship

The program conducted from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Calicut helps founders to solve some of the wicked here and problems that they are grappling with.



#### **Crompton Innovation Hackathon**

In the spirit of fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable solutions, the Crompton Innovation Hackathon, supported by the Kerala Startup Mission, was organised from 6<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

### Mentor Inspired Networking on-Demand - April Edition

MIND April edition was exclusively conducted for Social Impact Startups on the 29th of April 2023, and attended by 20 startups.

### She Loves Tech (India), 2023

She Loves Tech (SLT) is a global platform committed to closing the funding gap for women entrepreneurs since 2015. She Loves Tech runs the world's largest startup competition for women and technology, possessing the world's largest pipeline. SLT has been partnering with KSUM for hosting the fifth edition (Hybrid) of National Grand Challenge India (Local Round Competition). An Agreement had been signed between KSUM and SLT on 19 September, 2023 on the same. A National level Ad campaign also done to promote the event

Following events are organized by KSUM for successfully conducting SLT 2023

1. Roadshows to attract right candidates for applying for the competition in Bangalore and Delhi



- 2. Ask Us Anything Session for startups
- 3. VentureHer: Bootcamp for Women Startups
- 4. Mockpitch Session for the SLt Finalists
- 5. Final Round of Pitch competition



### **Gen Al Workshop**

On September 21st, 2023, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organized a workshop on "Gen AI" in connection with women startup summit

### FABHER Workshop

The FABHER Workshop, a collaborative effort between Kerala Startup Mission and Fab Lab Kerala conducted as part of the Women Startup Summit 5.0

### **D2C Kochi Kickoff Meet**

On 4th July 2023, a captivating session unfolded at KSUM Kalamassery's Amphitheatre, featuring Ms. Shruthi from D2C, India's largest Community of D2C Founders



### World Youth Skill Day

The Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM), in collaboration with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), conducted an online webinar on Knowledge and Skill Building was conducted on 15th July 2023

### Grow Your Startup in Canada

A virtual session titled "Grow your Startup in Canada" was held on 18th July, jointly organized by Toronto Business Development Centre and Kerala Startup Mission

### Indo-Japanese Student Exchange at KSUM Kochi

Kerala Startup Mission Kochi hosted 12 participants from Sophia University on August 18th as part of an Indo-Japanese Academic Exchange Program by St. Teresa's College Ernakulam.

### **Bootcamp on Sales & Marketing**

On 22nd July 2023, ISC Kochi hosted a Sales & Marketing Bootcamp led by SurveySparrow Founder, Shihab Muhammed.



### **Evangelize Roadshow**



### Founders Meet (Ultimate Edition)

The Founder's Meet - Ultimate Edition conducted on 17th November 2023 along with the Huddle 2023 which brought together a diverse group of entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and investors for a day filled with knowledge sharing, networking, and collaboration

# **Funding and Financial Support**

### StartupXseed

KSUM in collaboration with StartupXseed Conducted Investor Connect Program for Startup in the Seed to Pre-series A on **15th Saturday 2023** at KSUM Kochi. Selected best suitable 9 startups from SaaS and DeepTech sectors presented their startup to Swarup Ravichandran from StartupXseed.

### Venture Capital 101: Bootcamp

**Venture capital 101: Bootcamp** a masterclass on how to raise funds for early-stage startups. Were organised at Kochi and Trivandrum on  $23^{rd}$  and  $22^{nd}$  august 2023



### Nidhi Prayas

Kerala Startup mission was selected s prayas center by DST-NIDHI fir implementation of Nidhi Prayas Scheme, an initiative for Promoting and Accelerating Young and Aspiring Technology Entrepreneurs (PRAYAS)

## **Business Development**

### Kerala Agriculture University visit

A one-day workshop welcomed 47 Agripreneurs from Kerala Agricultural University, collaborating with KSUM representatives. The event featured informative sessions highlighting support initiatives. Interactive exchanges occurred with pioneering startups including Fuselage, Nava Design, and Farmers Fresh Zone. Additionally, participants explored Makers Village & Fab Lab through a visit organized by Kerala Startup Mission.



### Leader Connect

LEADER CONNECT's event on July 20, 2023, at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi, featured Vivek Govind, Senior Partner at Varma & Varma, Chartered Accountants.

### Big Demo Day 10.0

**Big Demo Day is** an event hosted by Kerala Startup Mission to help startups showcase their innovative products to various stakeholders and to the common public **Big Demo Day** is organized on 27/07/2023 focused on food tech through a virtual exhibition platform where selected startups exhibit their products and solutions to industry specific problems and get an opportunity to make connections with leading industrialists, investors, public companies and government departments etc. startup exhibited their products a portal. A webinar on global food tech market access was also held as of part of big demo day 10.0



### JETRO 2-day visit to KSUM

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) is a government-related organization that works to promote mutual trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world. JETRO's core focus is toward promoting foreign direct investment into Japan and helping small to medium size Japanese firms maximize their global export potential.

### Founders Meet 11.0

The Founder's Meet - Bangalore Edition brought together a diverse group of 150 participants from entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and investors for a day filled with knowledge sharing, networking, and collaboration.

### **Fireside Chat**

On the 13th of July 2023, the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) hosted a captivating Fireside Chat featuring Jai Thampi, an award-winning keynote speaker and thought leader in disruptive innovation, digital transformation, and IoT.

### Founders Meet 12.0

Founders Meet 12.0, held at Kerala Startup Mission, Kochi on 22nd July, featured engaging discussions and inspiring moments shared by John Mathew (CEO, Cavli Wireless), Shihab

Muhammed (Founder & CEO, SurveySparrow), and Tony Paul (Founder, Datahut), creating an impactful event for aspiring founders., 150+ founders have participated as part of this event.



### German Softlanding Program

Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) and 6 selected startups were part of an entrepreneurial expedition known as the German Softlanding Program in partnership with the German Indian Startup Exchange Program (GINSEP), NRW Global Business and The Office of Economic Development Düsseldorf. 14-18 August 2024

### Explore KTIZ and Fab Lab Visit

The "Explore @ KTIZ and Fab Lab Open House" event took place on August 5, 2023, at Kerala Startup Mission Kochi. Participants gained insights into startup support, funding, investments, and Maker Village through engaging talks.

### Lulu Digex.

The Lulu Digex event was held at Lulu Mall, Kochi, from August 17th to 20th. The Kerala Startup Mission utilized this platform to showcase various startups,, aiming to increase public awareness about KSUM initiatives by setting up a stall. Notably, startups were nominated for awards in four distinct categories: Retail Innovation, Women-Led Ventures, Next-Gen Innovation, and Social Sustainability.



### Leader Connect

Leader Connect hosted a session on August 10, 2023, featuring Nisha Jose, Chair of the KM Mani Centre for Budget Research, Author, and Social Enabler. The event took place at the Kerala Startup Mission in Kochi,.



### **Brunel University Delegation**

A successful event occurred at KSUM in Kochi when a distinguished delegation from Brunel University London, headed by Prof. Geoff Rodgers, Pro Vice Chancellor (Enterprise and Employment), and a team, visited. This meeting also saw the participation of NSRCEL from IIM Bangalore, fostering collaboration and innovation during the month of September 2024.



### Saint Gits Industrial Visit

On 13th and 16th of September, 120 MBA students from Saint Gits University visited the Kerala Startup Mission in Kochi. The students engaged in an industrial visit to gain insights into KSUM's initiatives, schemes, and programs. Additionally, they explored the Super Fab Lab facility during their educational excursion.

### Pharma Connect

Pharma Connect was a resounding success at XIME, Kochi took place on 23rd September 2023. Mohammed Hanish IAS, Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, inaugurated the event. With distinguished guests and discussions on startup opportunities and government schemes, the event promises to drive innovation in the pharmaceutical sector

### TIE UNIVERSITY INAUGURATION

TiE Kerala, in association with the Kerala Startup Mission, launched 'TiE University 2023–24', a collaborative initiative aimed at fostering innovation and empowering young entrepreneurs on 4th October 2023



### Explore KTIZ - Open House

70+ aspiring entrepreneurs took part in the Kochi edition of Explore @ KTIZ and Fab Lab Open House organized by Kerala Startup Mission on 7th October 2023 at Integrated Startup Complex.



### GenZ for Industry 4.0

The "GenZ for Industry 4.0" session, hosted on 9th October 2023, by Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion and Kerala Startup Mission at Kerala Technology Innovation Zone, Kalamassery, provided a remarkable platform for constructive interaction.



### UNIQUE ID DRIVE FOR STARTUPS

On October 10th, a visit to KIED facilitated a Unique ID drive, providing personalized information about KSUM, including its schemes, facilities, and funding opportunities. This interactive session aimed to address individual queries and enhance understanding of KSUM's offerings.





### HUDDLE GLOBAL 2023

Huddle Global 2023 was one of the most attended startup events in the country. 1000+ participants came for Huddle Global 2023 at Trivandrum.Spanning three days, the event attracted a diverse array of stakeholders in the startup ecosystem, including startups, investors, speakers, corporates, mentors, government representatives, students, institutions, and researchers. The event witnessed active participation from international players in the ecosystem, providing startups with insights to scale their enterprises globally. Interactions with investors, corporates, and government officials played a crucial role in refining startups' product-market fit. Huddle Global drew attendance from over 75 investors, 100 mentors, 158 government officials, 170 media professionals, 3000+ startups, 300+ High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs), and various other stakeholders. The panel discussions and parallel sessions offered valuable insights on funding, technology, business strategies, intellectual property, and research-oriented perspectives for the benefit of startups.

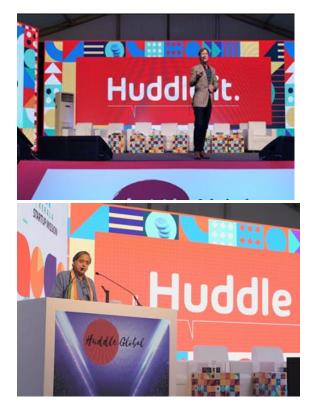
At Huddle Global 2023, a myriad of impactful programs unfolded, commencing with the Huddle Main Stage, where the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, inaugurated the event, marking Kerala's ascent as a burgeoning startup hub. The event facilitated impactful investor interactions, involving 75+ investors, fostering investment leads and crucial discussions. A significant highlight was the showcase by 79 startups, resulting in substantial business and investment opportunities. Corporate engagement reached new heights, with 150+ corporates exploring startup products, leading to detailed meetings with 120 startups. The event facilitated collaboration with 68 government departments, nurturing ongoing discussions vital for startups. Internationally, seven organizations, including Belgium, Australia, and SBI, signed MoUs, demonstrating support for startups. Over 100 mentors actively engaged with 200 startups, providing invaluable support for business scaling. Huddle Global received extensive media recognition, solidifying its position as a premier startup event, reflecting the event's impactful and comprehensive success.

The Founders Meet - Ultimate Edition gathered entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and investors for insightful discussions emphasizing entrepreneurial resilience. Sundown Huddle provided a unique sunset backdrop for immersive discussions on technology and knowledge. Tigers' Claw gave five startups in Food and AgriTech a platform to pitch before a jury, enhancing visibility. Pitch It Right facilitated exclusive meetings between startups and investors, ensuring targeted interactions. Startup - Investor Speed Dating by Velocity1, Open Pitch, and Close The Deal facilitated rapid-fire pitches,

showcasing ideas for both corporates and governments. The Corporate Leader Meetup emphasized corporate involvement in the startup ecosystem, while M.I.N.D connected startups with mentors for one-on-one guidance. Startup 360 addressed legal, technical, business, finance, and human resources aspects. Top 100 Coders connected talented coders with startups & industries. Startup Product Showcasing featured 79 startups, and the Branding Challenge & Designers Meetup revamped branding. Twelve startups seized the opportunity for product launches. The extensive social media outreach reached 1,453,663 unique users, solidifying Huddle Global's prominence. The resounding success of Huddle Global 2023, hosting over 15,000 delegates, served as a testament to Kerala's burgeoning tech potential.

Huddle Global 2023 marked a significant moment in Kerala's journey towards becoming a global leader in the startup ecosystem. The event's success, collaborations, and diverse programs showcased the state's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. With a focus on technology, collaboration, and inclusivity, Huddle Global has positioned Kerala as a thriving tech and startup destination. The future outlook is promising, with the event facilitating meaningful connections and providing avenues for business expansion, funding opportunities, and knowledge sharing. Kerala's vision to transform its capital into a tech hub is well underway, and Huddle Global 2023 has played a pivotal role in realizing this vision.





## Infrastructure

### Hands-on training session on PCB Design and Printing

Kerala Startup Mission Fab Lab Kerala - Trivandrum successfully conducted and issued certificates for the PCB design workshop on 13th and 14th of July 2023 at University College of Engineering Kariavattom.

After the workshop the college program coordinator Mrs. Vidhya A (FOSS coordinator - UCEK) commented "Thank you sincerely for the outstanding hands-on training session on PCB Design. The session was highly appreciated by all the students without exception. The training materials provided were incredibly valuable and informative. The trainer established an approachable presence, encouraging students to exchange ideas with him after the session. His engaging and interactive teaching style kept everyone focused and facilitated effective learning. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to engage your firm once more for our upcoming batch of students. Once again, we extend our heartfelt gratitude."



### KSUM @ FAB23 Bhutan International conference.

FAB23 Bhutan was the 19th edition of the international Fab Lab Conference and Symposium, the largest and most strategic digital fabrication event in the world. It provided a global forum for the ecosystem of makers, inventors, artists, academics, researchers, engineers, entrepreneurs, and creative people to connect, collaborate, and co-create pathways to our shared future - using technology as a platform to support that vision. Get inspired to design our future economies by visionaries and thought leaders from digital fabrication businesses, research institutions, academia, government, entrepreneurial endeavors, and community-based organizations.

FAB23 Bhutan International conference was held on July 2023, KSUM officials Mr. Karthik Parasuram B (Project Director), Mr. Yadu Sharon M G (Technical Officer), Mr. Jogin Francis (Technical Officer) and Mr. Vinod Kumar B G (Technical Officer) joined in the conference and presented Super Fablab - a hotbed of innovation for society and industry and Enabling the future through the Super Fab Lab - The Kerala experience and relevance for Bhutan. And also conducted a hand-on workshop to the participants in the conference using the Zund machine.



### SESSION ON CII STARTUP INITIATIVES

The CII and Kerala Startup Mission hosted a joint event on 14th July to promote CII's startup initiatives. Distinguished speakers, including Ms. Nimisha J. Vadakkan, Mr. Navas Meeran, and Ms. Madhu Vasanthy, highlighted the importance of Corporate Startup Connect, Market Access Funding Opportunities, Mentorship, Guidance, and Networking for entrepreneurs. The session aimed to bolster support and collaboration within the startup community in the region.



### World Bank Visit

A delegation from the World Bank, including Andres F Garcia (Senior Economist), Rami Galal (Economist), and Sony Thomas (Project Management Specialist), visited Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM). They held discussions with Mr. Anoop P Ambika, CEO of KSUM, and engaged with other team members. The delegation was introduced to diverse schemes and projects that foster ecosystem growth. The visit signifies a collaborative effort between KSUM and the World Bank to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Kerala.



### Founders Meet 14.0 - Malappuram Edition

The Founders Meet 14.0 - Malappuram Edition, held on December 28, 2023, at the Hyderali Shihab Thangal Academy for Civil Services



### Founders Meet at Palakkad| 15th Edition

The 15th edition of Founders Meet was held on 12th January 2024 at Palakkad IIT.



### The DPIIT Registration Drive

The DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) Registration Drive was effectively carried out on 29th January 2024 through a virtual platform.

### Unnathi Startup City| Reverse Pitching

The Reverse Pitching Program for collaborating with MATHIIT (Mathematics for Industry and Innovation at IIT) was successfully conducted on 31st January 2024.

### Launch of LEAP Centre at Kottarakkara, Kollam

Kerala's First Campus Industrial Park & Zoho R&D Labs supported by Kerala Startup Mission, Zoho and IHRD was officially inaugurated on 19th February 2024 by Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, at the College of Engineering IHRD, Kottarakkara. Shri K. N. Balagopal, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Smt. Dr. R Bindu, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education and Social Justice, Dr. Rathan Kelkar, IAS Secretary - Information Technology, Government of Kerala, Sridhar Vembu, Founder & CEO of Zoho, Tony Thomas, Co-founder of Zoho, Dr Arun Kumar, Director of IHRD, and Shri Anoop Ambika, CEO of Kerala Startup Mission were participated.



### Founders Meet at Kannur| 16th Edition

The 16th edition of Founders Meet was held on 23 February 2024 at Mizone Kannur.

### Crompton Innovation Hackathon

In the spirit of fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable solutions, the Crompton Innovation Hackathon supported by the Kerala Startup Mission was conducted from 06th to19th of July 2023.

### Webinar - Early-Stage Fundraising for Deep Tech Startups

A masterclass on fundraising for Deep Tech startups was conducted by KSUM along with Speciale Invest on 28th December 2023. 38 startups participated.

### Investor Cafe | December 2023



The December edition of the Investor Café was on 27th Dec 2023.

### **Innovation Summit for Doctors**

Innovation Summit for Doctors, organized by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Kerala and IMA Kochi in collaboration with the Malabar Angel Network (MAN) and Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), was held on February 25, 2024, at RECCA Club, Kochi. The summit attracted a total of 66 attendees, representing diverse segments of the healthcare industry.



# EXPOSURE VISIT AT INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED VIROLOGY (IAV), TRIVANDRUM

The Kerala Startup Mission's Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK) successfully organized an exposure visit to the Institute of Advanced Virology Thonnakkal, Trivandrum on January 30, 2024, as part of its ongoing efforts to foster collaborations between startups and research institutions. The visit had an active participation with more than fifteen startups and fifty plus researchers.









### WORKSHOP 'Research to Commercialization' at NIIST

Kerala Startup Mission's Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK) successfully completed a workshop on 31st January 2024 focused on 'Research to Commercialization' at the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), Pappanamkodu. More than seventy plus scientists and research scholars participated in the workshop.

### KSUM STALL AT GLOBAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL KERALA (GSFK) 2024, TRIVANDRUM

The Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) set up a stall at Global Science Festival of Kerala (GSFK), captivating visitors with a dynamic and informative space. Held in Thiruvananthapuram durug 15 January 2024 - 15 February 2024.



### MoU Signed Between CUSAT-STIC and KSUM

KSUM has signed a groundbreaking MoU with STIC, the instrumentation facility of Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) on 5 March 2024 at Integrated Startup Complex (ISC), Kochi.



# Technology Showcase from R&D institutions in association with SCTIMST-TIMed

KSUM - Research Innovation Network Kerala (RINK) teamed up with SCTIMST – TIMed to host a Technology Showcase at KTIZ, Kochi on 5th March, 2024. The event featured fourteen cutting-edge technologies from KUFOS, ICAR- CTCRI, Amrita Hut Labs, CSIR-NIIST and ICAR -CIFT offering

startups, industries, and entrepreneurs an opportunity to explore technology transfer and future collaborations. Twenty-five participants interested in technology transfer were attended.



### ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR INNOVATORS AND INCUBATEES OF ICAR-CPCRI & ICAR-IISR

KSUM successfully conducted an orientation program for the Innovators & Incubatees of ICAR - CPCRI and ICAR - IISR at Integrated Startup Complex, Kochi from March 6th to 7th, 2024. Twenty-two innovators and incubatees along with four officials from the institutions attended the bootcamp.



#### 'Researchpreneurship' - RINK VIRTUAL ORIENTATION PROGRAM

KSUM - RINK conducted a virtual orientation program on 22 March, 2024 for researchers, faculty members and R&D startups. The session was attended by more than hundred pre-registered participants from different sectors.

### Scale with Business Finland

#### Introduction:

On March 12, 2024, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) extended a cordial invitation to startups interested in expanding their operations to Finland through the "Scale with Business Finland" initiative. The event took place at ISC, Kochi, and aimed to provide valuable insights and opportunities for startups seeking to scale their operations in Finland.



# Leap 2024 Introduction:

LEAP 2024, held from March 4th to March 7th, 2024, at the Riyadh Exhibition and Convention Center in Malham, Saudi Arabia, emerged as the world's most-attended tech event, attracting over 172,000 participants from 183 countries. 12 Startups from Kerala participated in the event.





### **Innovation Tour**



The Innovation Tour was held at the Integrated Startup Complex in Kochi on December 2nd, 2024.

The Google Developers Groups - Startup Success Days



The Google Developers Groups - Startup Success Days at KSUM Kochi Campus, held on December 2nd, was a dynamic convergence of tech enthusiasts, founders, and industry experts.

### TiECon 2023



The largest entrepreneurs' convention in Kerala, TiECon Kerala 2023 took place on December 15 and 16, 2023, at Kochi.

UK ROYAL NAVY BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION OFFICIALS AND CHEVENING ALUMNI VISIT ISC



On January 12th, 2024, delegates from the UK Royal Navy, the British High Commission, and Chevening Alumni visited ISC Kochi.

### WOMEN IN STEM AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP CREATING LEADERS PROGRAM HOSTED BY THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION AND KSUM WITH THE (UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD) AND CHEVENING ALUMNI

The Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship Creating Leaders Program, organized by Kerala Startup Mission in partnership with the British High Commission, the University of Oxford, and Chevening Alumni, took place in Kochi on January 19th and 20th.



### VISIT OF MEITY AT KSUM KOCHI



Senior officials from Meity including the Secretary to the Government KSUM's Integrated Startup Complex (ISC) in Kochi on January 17th.

#### FAB ACADEMY 2024

The inaugural session of Fab Academy 2024 at Super FabLab Kochi



#### **INNOVATION TOUR**

On January 6, 2024, the event Innovation Tour was held at Integrated Startup Complex in Kochi.



### Leader Connect

In February, 2024, KSUM hosted the Leader Connect Session, featuring an engaging dialogue between Mr. Rajesh P, COO & Co-Founder of Wizr AI, and Mr. Saju James, Partner at Fragomen.



### Open Up 2024

In partnership with the Indian Ad Film Makers Community, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organized "Open Up 2024" at ISC, Kerala Startup Mission 0n 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.



### Co-Founder: Speed Dating

On February 14th, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organized an exciting event titled "Co-Founder: Speed Dating" to commemorate entrepreneurship on Valentine's Day at TIZ, Ernakulam.



### U.S. Education Trade Mission Delegation to KSUM

On February 16th, 2024, KSUM, Kochi hosted a significant event - the U.S. Education Trade Mission Delegation.





### Gen AI for Founders



On February 22nd, 2024, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) hosted an exclusive 1-day workshop titled "Gen AI for Founders" at the Integrated Startup Complex (ISC) in Kochi.

### Kerala AVGC-XR Founders Meet-up



On February 24, 2024, the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organized the Kerala AVGC-XR Founders Meet-up at Kochi.

### D2C Insider CXO Meet Kochi

The D2C Insider CXO Meet in Kochi, hosted by KSUM, on 24th February 2024



### Launch of the Public Library Satellite Centre at KSUM

On February 27th, 2024, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) orchestrated a momentous occasion, marking the inauguration of the Public Library - Satellite Center at KSUM's Kochi Campus.





### We Win

On March 16, 2024, ISC in Kochi hosted the We Win Kochi Edition.



### Government as a Marketplace

The Government as a Market Place scheme of Kerala Startup Mission is an initiative aimed at fostering collaboration between startups and the government to drive innovation and economic growth. Under this scheme, the KSUM acts as a facilitator, providing a platform for startups to showcase their products and services to various government departments and agencies. The scheme aims to solve public sector challenges by leveraging the creativity and agility of startups. It allows startups to pitch their solutions to government officials, enabling them to address real-world problems efficiently and effectively. By promoting collaboration between startups and the government, the scheme not only stimulates innovation but also supports the growth of the startup ecosystem in Kerala. It encourages startups to develop solutions that have a positive impact on society while creating opportunities for economic development and job creation. Overall, the Government as a marketplace scheme plays a crucial role in fostering innovation-driven entrepreneurship and fostering a conducive environment for startups to thrive in Kerala. The progress is as blow:

No of EOIs - 57, Projects Approved - 98, Value of Work Orders (in Lakhs) - 14.77 Cr

#### M.I.N.D - Mentor Inspired Networking on-Demand

In connection with this Huddle Global 2023, M.I.N.D (Mentor inspired Networking on-Demand), a oneon-one mentorship program for startups organized. The major objective of this program is to connect startups with the right mentors to provide guidance and support understanding their needs. 64 mentors were attended for 165 startups and through 298 sessions.



### Westart - A Pre-Incubation Program for Women Startups

Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) organized the WeStart, a Pe-Incubation program tailored specifically for women startups. The program aimed to provide comprehensive support, guidance, and resources to women entrepreneurs, fostering their growth and success in the startup ecosystem. Spanning over three months starting from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024, the program featured weekly online sessions covering various aspects of startup development and entrepreneurship.

### Women Startup Program - 4, Co-Incubation Program by NSRCEL

Kerala Startup Mission is a Co-Incubation Partner of NSRCEL Women Startup Program and FY 2023-24 witnessed its 4th edition. NSRCEL's Women Startup Program at IIM Bangalore, a CSR initiative by Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited, aims to support ambitious and innovative women entrepreneurs by enabling them to transform their idea into business ventures. First ideated in 2016, the Program is designed to focus on the enhancement of the entrepreneurial and managerial skills of women leading early and ideation stage ventures.

#### **International Women's Day 2024**

Over the years, KSUM has been resolute in its commitment to women's empowerment through entrepreneurship. The support extended to women-led startups in areas such as capacity building, startup assistance, funding and mental health and well-being has been truly commendable.

A week-long celebration of International Women's Day, focusing on empowerment, innovation and diversity in the startup ecosystem planned by KSUM has been planned. It was a mix of some online and offline events in social media and different Leap centers of KSUM

#### **Empowerment Knows No Boundaries**

In light of KSUM's continued efforts in Women empowerment through entrepreneurship, we have organized a special celebration of International Women's Day. As part of our festivities, we were honored to have Ms. Kabani C, Deputy Collector, Trivandrum as our Special guest. The startups in Trivandrum and KSUM employees have joined together to celebrate the day on 06th March 2024.



A gathering of founders of LEAP Palakkad happened on 07th March 2024 to celebrate Women's Day 2024. They have shared their experience and commitments as a women entrepreneur and desires for success. They have shared the challenges they are facing in entrepreneurship through games and open mic.

40 participants attended the program and they committed to help each other in future.



### WeWin Kochi By Headstart WE Club, Kerala Startup Mission & DBS Bank

WeWin Kochi Edition, organized by Headstart WE Club in collaboration with Kerala Startup Mission, Zsuccessfully convened on the 16th of March 2024. The event was strategically aimed at fostering the participation and advancement of women in the entrepreneurial landscape.

### Hoteltech Kerala

The 12th Edition of Kerala's Premium Hospitality Exhibition **HotelTech Kerala 2023** was organized on June **7 - 9**, **2023** at Gokulam Convention Centre, Kaloor Cochin. More than 55 exhibitors showcased their products and services in the event which included Kerala Startup Mission also.

#### Southern Star Army Academia Industry Interface

The two-day seminar on "Transformation to Atmanirbhar Bharat in Defence Technology" was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the Pangode Military Station with a focus on fostering indigenous innovation and collaboration in defence technology. The event brought together defence stakeholders, R&D institutes, academia, and private industries with the aim of promoting self-reliance and highlighting emerging industrial opportunities in the defence sector.



### FICCI Frames 2024

FICCI FRAMES has emerged as a pivotal platform for the Media & Entertainment (M&E) Industry, serving as a hub for discussions, innovation showcases, and networking opportunities. FICCI FRAMES 2023 was held on 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at Mumbai. Two startups from Kerala showcased their innovations and ideas at the program.

#### Startup Mahakumbh 2024

The Startup Mahakumbh 2024, hosted at the prestigious Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March, emerged as a pivotal event uniting every facet of India's burgeoning startup ecosystem. Nine startups associated with the Kerala Startup Mission actively participated in the event, showcasing diverse offerings ranging from experiential travel to IoT solutions and online scrap trading.

### ICAI Startup Sphere 2023

India's iconic startup event has been organized by the Institute of the Chartered Accountant of India ('ICAI') - ICAI Start-Up Sphere 2023 at Mumbai from 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June. KSUM in association with ICAI Startup Sphere, has taken 8 startups to Mumbai as part of the program.

### GATES India ICT Channel Summit 2023

GATES India ICT Channel Summit 2023 brings together 250+ Enterprise and B2B channels (SI, VAR, MSP etc) from across India in a Vendor Neutral platform. 5 startups were participated in the event held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

### International Exposure Programs GITEX\_Expand North Stars, 2023

Kerala Startup Mission has taken 50 startups to Expand North Stars, 2023 to Dubai. The event was from 15<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The startups participating in the event got business as well as investment leads. The India Startup Confluence organized by KSUM as part of the B2B meeting has attracted the NRI community along with the investors. The Ecosystem leaders from Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah participated in the event offering global expansion support for the startups.



#### Slush 2023

SLUSH 2023 stands as a unique global exhibition hosted in Helsinki, Finland, offering startups an unparalleled chance to engage with venture capitalists, investors, and prospective clientele. 12 Startups were given the opportunity to attend the program held from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.



### Global Exposure (Netherlands) - TNW Conference, 2023

TNW 2023 (The Next web) is a prominent technology event held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. It is known to be a global super connector for startups, scale-ups, corporations, governments and funding providers. KSUM in association with TNW has taken 5 startups to Amsterdam, Netherlands to attend the program



### **GINSEP 2023**

Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) and 6 selected startups were part of an entrepreneurial expedition known as the German Soft-landing Program in partnership with the German Indian Startup Exchange Program (GINSEP), NRW Global Business and the Office of Economic Development Düsseldorf held from 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023.



### Infrastructure Launch of Leap Co-Works - Kulakkada

The inauguration of Leap Co-Works in Kulakkada on July 29, 2023 at ASAP Community Skill Park Kulakkada.



## Kerala Technology Innovation Zone Integrated Startup Complex

The building having an area of 1.87 lakh square feet is functional. But the area left for furnishing at the 4<sup>th</sup> floor - tower 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor – tower 2 and at the basement area are being furnished and thereby the usable area can be increased by 10000 square feet. All those works are in progress.

#### **Construction of Annex building**

The construction of an Annex Building to the ISC having an area of 15000 square feet has been awarded and the initial work are in progress. The building will serve as protection from the probable land sliding to the northern side.

#### 10K Building - Fire NOC works

The building was transferred by the KINFRA to the KSUM which was not having fire safety. The work for getting the fire and safety clearance is almost completed and on getting the same, the space can be utilized for startups.

### **Construction of Digital Hub and Building 2**

Construction of Digital Hub having an area of 2 lakh square feet has been completed and the furnishing work is nearing completion. It is expected that the functioning of the building can be started by the last quarter of 2024.

The construction of the building 2 having an area 43000 square feet is also in progress.

(Audited Annual Accounts for 2023-24 form part of this report may be seen in the continued pages)