

NEWS LETTER

JULY TO SEPT 2025

Your Quarterly Window into
Innovation Excellence

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Spotlight Three Years Strong, And Just Getting Started

**Where milestones met momentum,
and a new chapter began.**

NIC Hyderabad marked a defining milestone this quarter, three years of impact, with a celebration that captured the spirit of Pakistan's growing startup movement.

Federal IT & Telecommunication Minister Shaza Fatima Khawaja joined founders, investors and partners to celebrate the graduation of 32 startups from Cohorts 4 and 5, and to recognise how Hyderabad's entrepreneurs are helping shape Pakistan's digital future.

While we looked back on three years of progress, we also opened a new chapter with the induction of Cohort 7, a fresh wave of founders ready to build what's next. And at our 6th Investor Summit, national and global investors met the startups that will carry this momentum forward.

Add to that a season of national awards and international recognition, and it's clear: innovation from Hyderabad isn't just thriving, it's setting the pace for what comes next.





Cohort 7: The Journey Begins

Over four dynamic days, NIC Hyderabad heard more than 100 pitches from founders driven by solid research, fearless ambition, and months of preparation. Each presentation showcased bold, problem-solving ideas that reflected the spirit of innovation across Sindh. The panels, featuring industry experts, seasoned entrepreneurs, and ecosystem leaders, turned evaluation into mentorship, offering sharp insights and constructive feedback that helped founders refine their models and sharpen their storytelling. The final day was dedicated to startups outside Hyderabad, who pitched virtually, ensuring every promising idea, no matter where it came from, had a fair chance to shine.

The Chosen 25

From over 300 bold ideas, 25 startups made the cut. Over the next four months, they'll pitch, pivot, and push boundaries with the support of mentors, industry experts, and an active investor network.



By the Numbers

300+

Applications
Received

25

Startups Selected

10+

Industries
Represented



Orientation Day: Where It All Starts

The Cohort 7 orientation set the tone for the journey ahead with team introductions, program insights, and a high-energy scavenger hunt that sparked collaboration and connection. The day was filled with enthusiasm, curiosity, and the shared ambition to create impact. 92 News HD also featured the event, spotlighting how diverse founders, from Hyderabad to Karachi, are launching their next big chapters at NIC Hyderabad.



Investor Summit 2025: Capital Meets Momentum

Our 6th Investor Summit brought leading funds and industry heavyweights together to meet Hyderabad's game-changing founders.

Investors & Partners who joined:

Karim Teli (Shark Tank Pakistan), Dastak Ventures, Fatima Gobi Ventures, sAI Venture Capital, Sturgeon Capital, Invest2Innovate (i2i), i2i Ventures, Alpha Beta Core and Keenu.

Their presence sent a powerful message: the national investment community sees Hyderabad as a serious hub for innovation.





National & Global Spotlight

HBL P@SHA ICT Awards:

Global Animal Passport Registration won in the Inclusions & Community category, highlighting how AI-powered livestock identity is making a social impact.

LOADe Technology was awarded Winner in the Supply Chain & Logistics category for building Pakistan's first tech-enabled logistics ecosystem.



Innovation awards:

Royal Sketches Art Studio won the Innovation Award at Innovative Youth for Competence.



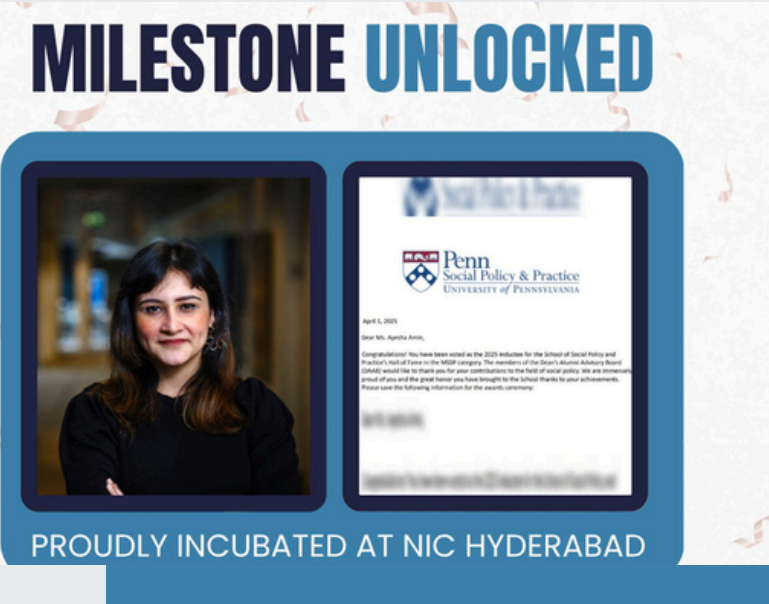
Future Leaders Award:

Global Animal Passport Registration, GBM, Agrotech Vision, and Brisk Predict were recognised as winners of the Future Leaders Award 2025 at ITCN Asia in Karachi, spotlighting the next generation of innovators from our ecosystem.



International Honors:

BUILDING BRIDGES TO CAPITAL



Breaking Barriers: Ayesha Amin Makes History at UPenn:

Ayesha Amin, founder of Baithak – Challenging Taboos, inducted into University of Pennsylvania’s SP2 Hall of Fame.

Women Innovators Represent Pakistan on Global Stage

Anmol Zehrah (AgroTechVision) and Mahnoor Iqbal (Aizaz) selected for the EmpowerHer: U.S.–South Asia Women Innovators Program, meeting U.S. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Elizabeth Horst.



EarthRenewal.AI Goes International with Tech Showcase:

EarthRenewal.AI showcased at IEEE YESIST 2025 in Kuala Lumpur and validated solutions in Colombo.



Media Features:

Animal Passport inspired viewers nationwide on the Expresso Morning Show and Express News, highlighting its AI-powered biometric livestock identity system.

Founder Success & Collaborations

GriftX x Nettetax

GriftX and Nettetax have teamed up to connect financial literacy with tax compliance, helping individuals and businesses navigate the financial ecosystem confidently.



Sutta Cloth Store x Aagaz Studio:

Sutta Cloth Store is now the official fabric supplier for Aagaz Studio's exclusive fashion line, strengthening collaboration between local innovators in fashion and textiles.



Elite Startup Bootcamp: Three Days, Infinite Lessons

Led by Hassan Syed, our three-day bootcamp gave founders a deep dive into building and scaling startups. Participants explored markets, business models, MVPs, pricing, customer pipelines, and client engagement, while also learning how to structure their companies, create pitch decks, and optimize for growth. Practical sessions on advisory boards, MoU drafting, and brand positioning equipped founders with the tools to build sustainable, scalable businesses.



Mentorship Moments Partnership & Profitability



Asad Abdulla (Genesis Holdings): The Partnership Advantage

Shared actionable insights on how strategic alliances can turn collaboration into tangible revenue, helping founders understand the value of partnerships for growth.

Asad Abdulla: One-on-One Mentoring

Held personalized sessions with Dexter Technologies and AI Curix, offering tailored guidance on leveraging alliances for maximum impact.





M. Farhan Iqbal (Pace Solutions): From Partnership to Profitability

Explained how strategic collaborations can be structured to generate revenue, providing practical guidance for startups looking to leverage partnerships effectively.

Mentorship Moments

Growth & Marketing:

Ali Raheel (WebHR): From Likes to Loyalty

Unpacked smart digital marketing strategies, showing founders how to convert social engagement into long-term customer relationships.



Adil Naeem (Meri Pharmacy): Building Customers for Life

Revealed strategies to build loyal customers, delivering both group sessions and one-on-one coaching for deeper learning.

Ahmed Rauf Essa (Telemart & ARE Ventures): Driving Omnichannel Growth

Shared practical tips to connect, convert, and retain customers, alongside real-world lessons from his entrepreneurial journey.



Mentorship Moments

Tech & Strategy:

Farah Mehboob (Valider): Early-Stage Tech Strategies

Guided founders on designing scalable, sustainable tech solutions and choosing the right systems and tools to support long-term startup growth.

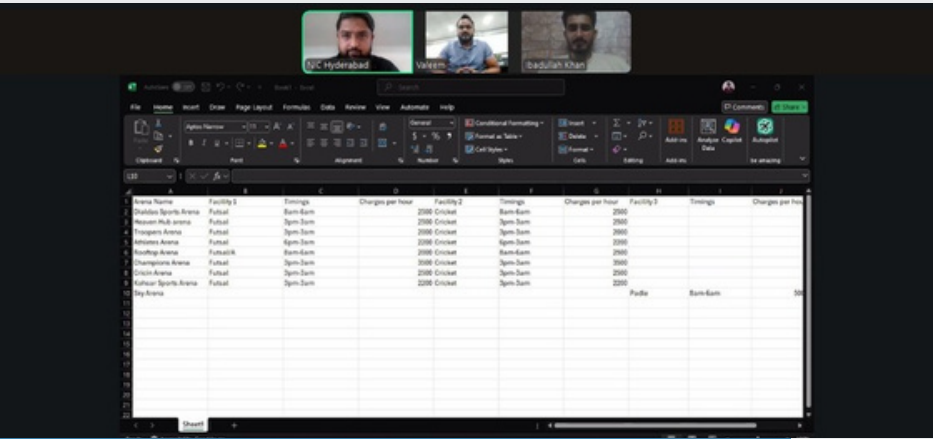


Hassan Syed: From Idea Spark to Lasting Impact

Inspired founders to turn their initial ideas into actionable ventures, emphasizing execution, consistency, and the power of creating meaningful impact.

Syed Ahsan Aslam (Golootlo): Startup Growth Journey

Shared practical tips to connect, convert, and retain customers, alongside real-world lessons from his entrepreneurial journey.



Muhammad Ghayas Uddin: Personalized Mentoring

Offered one-on-one guidance to multiple startups, addressing specific challenges around growth, operations, and leadership strategy.

Mentorship Moments

Legal & Funding:

Imran Azeem (Wafi Tameer): Tameer Awards 2025 Briefing

Highlighted how the 12th Tameer Awards can help startups gain recognition, credibility, and investor attention while celebrating innovation.



Muhammad Ahmad (Pakistan Single Window): Unlocking Global Markets

Explained how digital trade solutions can simplify cross-border operations, enabling startups to access global markets efficiently and compliantly.



Ecosystem Engagements

Ignite Leadership:

Rafique Ahmed Buriro, CEO of Ignite, toured our facility, engaged with startup founders, and held in-depth discussions with the NIC Hyderabad team on driving innovation and scaling entrepreneurial impact across Sindh.





Diplomatic Visit:

U.S. Consul General Scott Urbom joined a Lincoln Corners session on Exploring U.S. Diplomacy, touring NIC Hyderabad, and engaging students on global careers.

Policy Dialogue:

Federal IT & Telecom Minister Shaza Fatima Khawaja convened key stakeholders to address fund repatriation and regulatory hurdles in the Prime Minister's Cloud Credit Enablement Program.



Startups on the National Stage

ITCN Asia Karachi:

GriftX, LOADe, PodVare, and GaragePro showcased solutions from financial literacy to smart vehicle management, proving Hyderabad startups can compete nationally.



KATI Startup Showcase:

Nettax and Pak BioEnergy impressed industry leaders at the Korangi Association of Trade & Industry.

Academia & Outreach:

Inspiring Innovation at Mehran University:

Our outreach sessions at Mehran University sparked powerful conversations on turning academic projects into real-world ventures, motivating students to think beyond the classroom and explore entrepreneurship as a career path.



SABS University Students Explore Incubation:

Students from the Department of Architecture at SABS University visited NIC Hyderabad to experience the incubation process firsthand, gaining valuable insight into how creative ideas evolve into scalable startups.

Expanding Perspectives on Inclusive Entrepreneurship:

The NIC Hyderabad team participated as speakers at a ForB training session, sharing perspectives on inclusive innovation and deepening our understanding of Pakistan's evolving startup ecosystem.



Bridging Academia and Innovation:

Multiple visits to Mehran University's BIC included judging their final pitch and elevator pitch days, with NIC startups like Mixeal and Nettetax joining the judging panel.

Community & Culture

HerSpace Youth Leadership Bootcamp:

With EU and Global Youth Mobilization support, 25 young leaders explored gender-responsive climate action.



Independence Day Celebration:

Founders pledged for a self-reliant Pakistan, joined a spirited quiz, and sang along to Vayvo and Owl Vision's patriotic tunes.

Creative Spaces:

From Core Cognitive's Mind Science Workshop to RS Art Studio's Tropical Paradise competition, creativity and networking thrived at NIC Hyderabad.



Coming Up Next: Q4 Is Already Buzzing

- Cohort 7 acceleration journey
- Cohort 8 Induction
- EvolvX Batch 4

JOIN OUR JOURNEY

Where bold ideas meet the mentors, markets, and momentum to scale.

Funded by IGNITE & MOITT



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