



## Media Release

### iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad and College of Defence Management Inks MoU and launches ABCD Cohort 2

**Highlights:**

- **Acclimatization Boot Camp for Defence (ABCD) is a unique program by iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad under the banner of iDEX-DIO.**
- **College of Defence Management (CDM) Hyderabad is the knowledge partner for this Cohort.**
- **The ABCD program empowers civilian technology Startups in their transition to defence applications.**
- **Cohort 2 will welcome 10-12 prototype-ready Startups for a 4-month discovery program.**

**Hyderabad, November 24, 2023:** In a ground-breaking initiative, iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad (IITH) has signed an MoU with the College of Defence Management (CDM) Hyderabad to support defence-oriented Startups. The MoU was signed at IIT Hyderabad by Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt, VSM - Commandant, CDM and Prof Suryakumar, Dean ITS, IITH. With this commitment, iTIC Incubator, under the banner of iDEX-DIO and in partnership with CDM, has launched Cohort 2 of the Acclimatization Boot Camp for Defence (ABCD). This program is aimed at facilitating the transformation of civilian tech Startups into defence-oriented applications.

Cohort 2 of ABCD is a continuation of the commitment to support Startups in reorienting their technology towards defence applications. The 4-month program is inviting promising Startups, who will have the unique opportunity to collaborate with knowledge partners, including active and retired armed forces personnel. These mentors will work closely with Startups to identify how their technology can be applied to address critical defence challenges. Once the problem statements are defined collaboratively, Startups will be guided in upgrading their prototypes with the support of iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad and will receive validation from their mentors.

At the culmination of the boot camp, Startups will be well-versed in crafting compelling proposals for defence procurements and grants, empowering them to make a tangible impact in the defence sector. The primary goal of this boot camp is to acclimatize Startups, help them discover defence applications, and assist in securing funding for defence projects.

**On the collaboration, Prof B S Murty said,** *"Through this collaboration with iTIC Incubator, IIT Hyderabad, we are stepping into a realm where technological innovation converges with national needs. The Acclimatization Boot Camp for Defence (ABCD) not only propels civilian tech Startups into the defence domain but also fosters a symbiotic relationship between Startups and the armed forces, fortifying our collective pursuit of pioneering solutions for defence challenges."*

**"We are thrilled to initiate this collaborative venture with iTIC," said Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt, VSM - Commandant, CDM.** *"This collaboration underscores our dedication to fostering the development and creativity of defence startups in India. Through our partnership with IIT Hyderabad, our goal is to leverage the capabilities of startups and spearhead revolutionary advancements in defence technology", added Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt.*

Startups interested in participating in Cohort 2 of ABCD can submit their applications through the official website: [www.itic.iith.ac.in/abcd2](http://www.itic.iith.ac.in/abcd2). The application deadline is set for **November 30, 2023**, with the program scheduled to commence in December 2023. Benefits for startups include valuable feedback from the defence ecosystem, access to iTIC and IITH infrastructure, guidance in proposal writing for defence procurements and grants, and entry into the defence market.

=====



## Media Release

### **About iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad:**

iTIC is a Technology Business Incubator (TBI) under the aegis of the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) and supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. iTIC is a Not-For-Profit Society that focuses on creating a supportive and nourishing environment for budding entrepreneurs in the field of technology. The focus areas of the iTIC incubator are deep tech sectors such as Healthcare, AI/ML, Quantum Computing, AR/VR, Cybersecurity, Robotics, IoT, Industry 4.0, Blockchain, Electronics, Advanced materials, Drones, Biotechnology, etc. iTIC aims to help entrepreneurs leverage a premier quality research and startup ecosystem with the goal of building a comprehensive platform to practice innovation and entrepreneurship so that these entrepreneurial ideas can be turned into sustainable, scalable, profit-making business ventures. iTIC provides support to startups such as Mentoring, Financial Aid, IP Support, Networking, and access to Dedicated office/ Coworking space, Software, IITH Technological Infrastructure, and Makerlab. Since its inception in 2015, iTIC has supported 130+ startups through Pre-incubation, Incubation, and Acceleration programs and has directly sanctioned more than INR 8 crores to startups. So far, the iTIC startups have generated over INR 1200 crores of revenues and created 1000+ jobs.

**To know more, please visit <https://itic.iith.ac.in>.**

### **About CDM:**

The College of Defence Management (CDM), located in Secunderabad, Telangana, is a distinguished institution dedicated to shaping strategic leaders for national security challenges. With a serene environment, CDM has trained over 10,000 officers, including civilian and international participants, in its Higher Defence Management Course. Recognized as a National Centre for Management Education, CDM's commitment to excellence is showcased through its innovative programs. Over four decades, CDM has contributed significantly to propagating contemporary management practices in the three services, establishing itself as a key player in the realm of defence education and leadership development.

**To know more, please visit <https://cdm.ap.nic.in/index.php>**

### **About iDEX DIO:**

Innovations for Defence Excellence - Defence Innovation Organization (iDEX DIO) is a pioneering initiative driving innovation in India's defence sector. Established to foster collaboration between the armed forces and the Startup ecosystem, iDEX DIO plays a pivotal role in identifying, nurturing, and implementing cutting-edge solutions. Through challenges, incubation programs, and strategic partnerships, iDEX DIO aims to enhance the technological capabilities of the defence industry. By creating a dynamic platform for Startups it accelerates the development and deployment of innovative products, reinforcing India's position as a global leader in defence innovation. iDEX DIO is instrumental in transforming ideas into impactful solutions for national security.

**To know more, please visit <https://idex.gov.in/about-dio>**

### **About IIT Hyderabad:**

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is one of the eight IITs established by the Government of India in 2008. In a short span of 15 years, the institute has become one of the top-ranked institutions in the country and has received global recognition. It has 300+ full-time faculty, 4,800+ students, 18 Departments + 1 Centre for Interdisciplinary Programs, nearly 300+ state-of-the-art Research Facilities, and five research and entrepreneurship centres. The institute has a strong research focus with approx. Rs 900+ crores of sanctioned research funding, with PG+PhD students accounting for about 60% of total student strength. IITH has more than 9800+ research publications with 1,46,000+ Citations, 190+ Published Patents, 3,700+ sponsored/consultancy projects with 500+ running projects, and about 135+ startups that have generated 1000+ jobs and a revenue of Rs. 1200+ Cr. Follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Koo](#), and [YouTube](#) for the latest updates.

**To know more, please visit <https://www.iith.ac.in/>**

---

You can view all press releases/ notes from IIT Hyderabad at <https://pr.iith.ac.in/pressrelease.html>.

---

Please direct all media queries to **Mrs Mitalee Agrawal | Public Relations Officer, IIT Hyderabad** |  
Cell: 8331036099 | Email: [pro@iith.ac.in](mailto:pro@iith.ac.in)

---