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INNOVATE IN INDIA, FOR THE WORLD

Novartis is making Hyderabad a key development hub in its global innovation gambit

Novartis CEO **Vas Narasimhan**



Network 18 www.forbesindia.com

DELL TECHNOLOGIES ENTREPRENEUR CHALLENGE: EMPOWERING INDIA'S RISING STARS



ell Technologies, a leading name in the world of technology, has consistently championed the spirit of entrepreneurship in India and its initiative, Dell Technologies presents Entrepreneur Challenge powered by CNBC-TV18, was a testament to this commitment. This platform befittingly honoured and encouraged the spirit of entrepreneurship, providing young aspiring start-ups a stage on which to share their ideas and propel them forward.

Rigorous Selection Process

The grand finale of the challenge was the culmination of a meticulous selection process. Over 1,700 entries from across India were meticulously screened and from these, 200 contenders were shortlisted by EY, the process partner. Through rigorous quarter-final and semi-final rounds, the jury - comprising Siddarth Pai, Founding Partner & Chief Financial Officer ESG Officer, 3one4 Capital; Vargab Bakshi, Vice President & County Head - India, Wix.com; Kritika M, Senior Director, 10,000 Startups, NASSCOM; Biren Ghose - Managing Director - Asia Pacific Country Head & Global Excom Member, Technicolor Creative Studios; Sathyanarayana BV -Chief Executive Officer, DERBI Foundation

(Dayanand Sagar Entrepreneurship Research Business Incubation); Kavita Mehra Senior Director, General Management, India COE, Dell Technologies and Shruti Mishra, Deputy Editor, CNBC-TV18 - carefully assessed each venture's innovation, resilience. technology adoption, and scalability. Ultimately, the top 11 finalists were invited to present their ground-breaking ideas at an evening to remember.

Meet the Finalists

The diverse group of finalists represented a vibrant cross-section of India's entrepreneurial landscape. Here's a

Mohit Dadhich Nebulaa Innovations glimpse into their ventures:

Entries in the General Category:

- Happylocate Relocation Services:

 A one-stop solution for employee relocation management.
- Nebulaa Innovations: Redefining agriculture by utilizing AI for automatic grain analysis.
- Aspartika Biotech: Transforming silk pupa waste into omega-3 fatty acids through sustainable technology.
- Thinkerbell Labs: Revolutionizing Braille learning with the world's first self-learning Braille device.



- Niramai Health Analytix: Leveraging AI for earlier and more accurate breast cancer detection.
- Tazmic: A gen-AI design tech company streamlining processes for fashion, architecture, and design.

Entries in the Women's Category:

- Bluepinefoods: Creating healthy and delicious food options for a better lifestyle.
- AI-Genix International: Providing affordable, reliable, and eco-friendly insect pest management solutions.
- TeraLumen Solutions: Utilizing terahertz technology to develop innovative devices for various applications.
- Garuda Aerospace: Developing lowcost drone solutions for data collection and industry optimization.
- Next Big Innovation Labs: A deeptech company building state-of-the-art bio-printing technology.

Insights from Industry Leaders

A panel discussion deep-dived into the Indian start-up ecosystem as the panellists - Madan Padaki, President, TiE Bangalore; Shashi Kumar, Founder & CEO, Akshayakalpa Organic and Samriddhi Bhattacharyya, Country Head, Small Business Solutions, Dell Technologies - moderated by Shruti Mishra, Deputy Editor, CNBC-TV18, shared valuable insights into current trends and future prospects for the sector.







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Celebrating the Winners

The grand finale culminated in the announcement of the much-awaited winners. Mohit Dadhich of Nebulaa Innovations emerged victorious in the general category, while Pooja Venkatesh of Next Big Innovation Labs secured the top spot in the women's category. Geetha Manjunath (Niramai Health Analytix) and Jyotirmayee Dash (TeraLumen Solutions) were recognized as runners-up in their respective categories. Additionally, the audience bestowed the Audience Choice Award upon Pooja Venkatesh of Next Big Innovation Labs via a digital real-time polling exercise.

Vision for the Future

By providing a platform for showcasing innovative ideas, mentorship, and recognition, Dell Technologies presents Entrepreneur Challenge powered by CNBC-TV18 serves as a catalyst for India's entrepreneurial journey, empowering aspiring entrepreneurs, fostering technological adoption, and fuelling sustainable growth.