

FROM THE **EDITOR**

The Malaysian government is supporting Entrepreneurship Education, Startups and SMEs

The terms Entrepreneurship and Innovation though used synonymously by many people are two different activities that are increasingly important in all areas of business and government. Their intersection can build a successful commercial venture further making them the essential ingredients. Entrepreneurship today which is recognized as a crucial catalyst to innovation, is not confined to the West alone. Asia too is infused and ignited with the entrepreneurial spirit, especially Malaysia, being embedded the culture of entrepreneurship making it a gateway to entrepreneurship and innovation.

In today's entrepreneurship era, where entrepreneurship is considered essential to the growth of national economy, Malaysia is all set to become a full industrial nation and also a main global player. In order to ensure a conducive environment for entrepreneurship, the Malaysian government encourages entrepreneurship development and also gives recognition to entrepreneurs because they can contribute to the development of the country.

To further foster entrepreneurship development, the government incorporated a special ministry, the Ministry of Entrepreneurship Development and



Ngo Hoang Anh Chief Editor

Co-operation, specifically orchestrated to manage, govern and promote the growth of entrepreneurship in Malaysia. To keep the original entrepreneurial spirit alive, the Malaysian government is supporting Entrepreneurship Education, Startups and SMEs. To strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country and to position Malaysia as the startup capital of Asia, the government is at the forefront to inculcate entrepreneurial skills amongst young people by making entrepreneurship education a vital element.

The contribution of Innovation and Entrepreneurship is crucial in today's digital-driven economy. And, a stronger collaboration between the duo navigates the startup ecosystem and spearheads the growth of the digital economy. The special edition of this magazine postulates the new emerging trends in the field of entrepreneurship in Malaysia.





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About ASIA Inc. 500

Asia Inc. 500, along with its valued partners lays emphasis on exploring and recognizing 5000+ individuals and organizations every year across Asia and helps to reach out to a wide audience, prospective clients & investors.

Our platform is a great source of information and connect in areas of Al, Blockchain and other upcoming technologies and frameworks. At the end of every quarter, we choose and rank the best 500 organizations in various aspects all throughout Asia.

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MyPreneurship Spurring the growth of Malaysia's distinctive entrepreneur ecosystem



Yayasan Usahawan Malaysia (Malaysian Entrepreneurship Foundation) or better known as MyPreneurship was founded back in 2013 to spur the growth of Malaysia's distinctive entrepreneur ecosystem. The foundation has since played a defining role in creating a platform to connect the various stakeholders in this ecosystem which includes entrepreneurs, SMEs, venture capitalists and startups to government agencies and the community at large to support the ongoing growth of entrepreneurs and businesses.

With entrepreneurship being a key driver towards the well-being, progress, and unity of the nation, MyPreneurship hopes that as entrepreneurs – both individuals and businesses will come together to play an integral role in helping to improve lives and enhance productivity; thus spurring Malaysia to achieve its economic goals.

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S E B A

SME & ENTREPRENEURSHIP BUSINESS AWARDS

The SME & Entrepreneurship Business Awards (SEBA) was set up as an initiative to not only recognize Malaysia's outstanding entrepreneurs and enterprises but to also uncover growing talents and upcoming companies that are transforming the face of industries they operate in. SEBA, which is held annually under the auspices of MyPreneurship, was also designed and catered with entrepreneurs in mind, bridging industry player and stakeholders, while providing a platform to connect, communicate and collaborate.

About SEBA Business Club

The SEBA Business Club, making its inaugural launch

this year at the SME & Entrepreneurship Business Awards Recognition Gala Night 2018 is aimed at supporting Malaysia's SME business landscape by harnessing the experience and expertise of both past and current award recipients. This exclusive business club brings together the crème de la crème of the country's top SMEs and entrepreneurs to empower the exclusive grouping of the elite and like-minded business community. The synergistic platform hopes to connect and allow for greater collaboration amongst its members and promotes not just businessonly activities but also links to various NGOs and CSR programs to ignite alliances and successful business propositions.

Business Awards Vanity or Sanity?

With the variety of awards out in the market today, deciding which ones to enter could be challenging! Could it be more of a hassle than a potential business gain? Here are five reasons why nominating for the much anticipated annual SME & Entrepreneurship Business Awards (SEBA) will benefit your business.



1. Improve Employee Motivation

Awards are a fantastic way to recognize the hard work and achievements of your employees. It provides a way to focus on the success of the company and a feel-good factor coupled with a sense of pride. Besides celebrating the victory of winning the awards, employees can also be treated to a glitzy awards dinner which can yield networking opportunities.

2. An opportunity to attract new business

We'll let that quote speak for itself. A prestigious business award win can not only help give your business that seal of quality but also act as a good third-party endorsement for your brand. It also gives a stamp of authority and credibility within your industry peers and makes for a great talent enticement. Pitch yourself as the best and attract only the best talents to push your business forward.

3. Free marketing

Improve your brand awareness and promote your business to new and potential customers by maximizing

a business award win. Include the prestigious award logo as part of all your marketing collateral and celebrate employee's hard work and success by identifying PR opportunities. It's fantastic to be recognized so it's important to make sure that people know what your business has achieved. Winning a business award can also open doors to getting contracts, finding new supply channels and breaking into new markets.

4. Networking and reputation reinforcement

For SME's, awards are undoubtedly the best way to not only showcase the caliber of the work that is being done but to also rub shoulders with the very best of the business community. Being shortlisted(or winning) will improve client retention, and assuredly send your clients home chatting to their friends about how great you are. And, as we all know, word of mouth and personal recommendation is still the most influential factor in the business world today.

5. Benchmark against your peers

Prestigious business awards are the perfect platform to come out of your corporate shell, show off that perfectly executed marketing campaign or business strategy and set yourself high among industry peers. The process of applying for the award itself could help you think about ways you could be doing things better and with that, be able to identify areas for improvement within your business. A winning application would force you and your team to think of ways to stand out from the competition whether it's through innovation, diversity, growth or even people development. More often than not, that benefit to your business itself would outweigh the award prize itself.



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The world is currently amidst a technological transformation that will fundamentally change the way we live and work. It is difficult to predict precisely how this transformation will impact different industries and countries. However, we know that this transformation is unlike anything we have seen before due to the sheer pace and breadth of these changes.

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Malaysia Jowards Industry

Many see these changes as an ushering of a new era of growth, change, and opportunity. The ramification it brings for manufacturing firms is forcing nations and governments to re-evaluate how the manufacturing industry operates and contributes to economic growth. Nations are now increasing their focus on developing advanced manufacturing capabilities by investing in high-tech infrastructure and quality education. These are done by facilitating the transformation of the manufacturing industry to the next technology frontier and raising their economic well being.

The First Industrial Revolution started with the advent of steam and water power, enabling the mechanization of production processes, while the Second Industrial Revolution was driven by electric power and mass manufacturing techniques. Information technology and automation brought in the Third Industrial Revolution. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is exploding on the back of a range of technologies that are blurring the distinction between physical, digital and biological spaces. Industry 4.0 transforms how products are designed, fabricated, used and operated as well as how they are maintained and serviced. It will also transform the operations, processes, supply chain management and energy footprint of Factories.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently unveiled fresh plans for Malaysia to become one of the main destinations for the high-tech industry by 2025.

The Prime Minister launched a four-pronged strategy for Malaysia to be on a stronger footing in the manufacturing sector through higher productivity, contribution, innovation and increase the number of high-skilled workers at the launch of the National Policy on Industry 4.0 (Industry4WRD).

The manufacturing sector has contributed 23% to the gross domestic product and 98.5% of

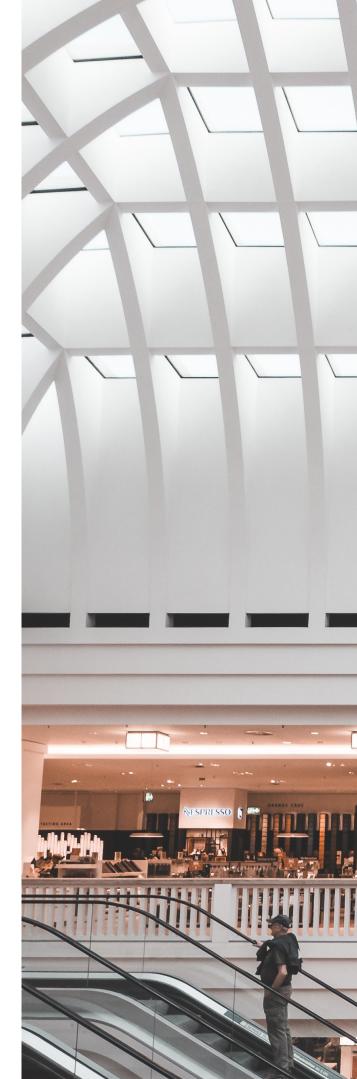
Malaysian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are in this sector.

In relation to innovation, the prime minister envisioned the country to be ranked among the top 30 nations in the Global Innovation Index by 2025. Currently, Malaysia is ranked 35th in the index.

"The potential for growth is limitless, but it all boils down to knowledge on the application," he said in his speech at the launch.

For Malaysia to become a developed nation, Dr Mahathir said the fourth industrial revolution (IR4.0) was a crucial step to leap forward for the manufacturing industry, noting that exhibitions and conferences would encourage companies to change.

He also encouraged Malaysian manufacturers to bring the technology to exhibitions and show companies how they can increase production and lower the cost. He added that knowing the exact formula will help companies save money to buy the new technology.





ENTREPRENE

n this technology-driven world where most of them(men) are tech-savvy, it often stands as a question if there are any women who are equally technical as men? And the answer is an absolute yes. There are women in digital who are entirely capable of making a difference and are the actual face of trendsetters. Technology had always been a boon to women enriching their skills to contribute their part to the global economy.

EURSHIP

NOVEMBER - 2018



Ever since the widespread adoption of technology, women who were once meant to be backstage have now come into the limelight becoming the most accomplished and ambitious entrepreneurs. Technology has pitched a stage for many women as such to come with a startup company of their own, encouraging other women as well to ignite a motivation in them.

Despite a significant gender gap or gender discrimination, it was their fierce passion that has moderated women entrepreneurs to outperform their male counterparts. It has given them a medium wherein their voices could be heard, their stories could be read and their experiences were taught as lessons to the upcoming young women entrepreneurs. Breaking through the glass ceiling, below is the list of the most powerful women entrepreneurs in Malaysia who have risen above challenges and inspired many leaving an indelible impact.

Tan Hooi Ling, Co-founder of GrabTaxi

Hooi Ling Tan is the co-founder of Southeast Asian ridehailing company Grab that was launched in Malaysia in June 2012. She was a former Business Analyst at McKinsey & Co. and Senior Director at Saleforce.com who co-founded the app with classmate Anthony Tan while at Harvard Business School. Grab offers more services beyond ride-hailing and is a major player in the Southeast Asian market. It is a big competitor to Uber and is now available in 26 cities globally. It recently launched new initiatives, and app features to enhance safety standards.

Vivy Sofinas Yusof, Founder of Fashion Valet

Vivy Sofinas Yusof, Founder of Fashion Valet, is among those Malaysian entrepreneurs who managed to achieve success in such a young age. Vivy who earned a spot on FORBES 30 Under 30 Asia list in 2017, is also a model, blogger, and fashion icon. Fashion Valet is the country's first online fashion store which is a one-stop shop for customers looking for high-quality fashion at affordable prices.

Mac Chung Lynn, Director and Group CEO of Nando's

Mac Chung Lynn is the founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of Nando's Chickenland Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Nando's Chickenland Singapore Pte Ltd. Chung Lynn, as the CEO of both companies, is responsible for driving the business strategies of Nando's Malaysia and Singapore.

Deborah Henry, Philanthropist

Deborah Henry, the former beauty queen turned philanthropist, co-founded Fugee School, a non-profit charity organization that provides basic education to refugee children. Henry who is known for her humanitarian work was included in Forbes's list of top Asian philanthropists in 2013. She is also a World Vision's Child's Rights Advocate and was appointed as Louis Vuitton and UNICEF's local ambassadors alongside Dato' Nicol David.

Christy Ng, Founder of Christy Ng Shoes

Christy Ng is the Founder and CEO of Christy Ng Shoes (ChristyNg.com) – an online shoe company specializing in handmade custom-made shoes, wedding shoes, high heels shoes, and women fashion footwear since July 2010. From selling shoes at a flea market while working for a Swiss Pharmaceutical company to founding an online e-commerce platform offering a wide range of women's footwear, Christy stands as a successful entrepreneur in Malaysia.

Yasmin Rasyid, Founder and President of EcoKnights

Yasmin Rasyid is the Founder and President of EcoKnights, a not-for-profit environmental organization which focuses on environmental education and awareness, community empowerment and development, and environmental communication. She is also the Vice Chairperson of MENGO, and Co-founder of PopTani Asia.





Cheryl Yeoh, Former MAGIC CEO

Cheryl Yeoh was the founding CEO of the Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC), a government-funded agency to support entrepreneurship in Malaysia and ASEAN that was launched by President Barack Obama and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak on 27 April 2014. Yeoh, known as a charismatic leader, has put Malaysia and its startups on the world map. She is also the Co-Founder of Reclip.



Ai Ching Goh, Founder of Piktochart

Ai Ching Goh is the Co-Founder and CEO at Piktochart, a web-based app for creating professional-grade infographics using themed templates that are being used by over 10,000 businesses worldwide. Ai Ching is a globally-recognized startup leader under whose leadership Piktochart has been recommended by Forbes Magazine. She has become an ideal role model for many aspiring entrepreneurs and startup leaders.

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The fourth industrial revolution is here and we are on the cusp of the technological revolution that will change how we live, work, and communicate. The change brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution has been impacting many sectors. Not leaving a stone unturned, the impact has spearheaded in reshaping government, education, healthcare, and commerce. With the rapid advancement of disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, Blockchain technology, nanotechnology, and quantum computing, there is a dire need to re-engineer the education landscape and delivery.

There is rapid change with industry 4.0 and the only key to facing these challenges is education. These challenges can be addressed when the process of teaching and learning at higher education institutions is changed. The role of higher education institutions is to offer programmes that prepare students for the changes brought by Industry 4.0. Equipping universities to empower students to adapt education to the requirements of such industries, the Malaysian government has infused entrepreneurial education to the curricula of higher education.

Recognizing the importance of embedding and fostering enterprising culture into the system, the Malaysian government has merged industry and academia. Students now don't have to fear not having jobs as there will be new types of jobs created. In the world that we live in where the future is uncertain, students will be enhanced with the needed skills that will allow them to make their own way.

The government of Malaysia not only recognized the importance of self-employment and entrepreneurship in employment creation and economic growth but also has worked to cultivate entrepreneurial interest among students. It has made mandatory the inclusion of entrepreneurship education in Malaysia lower and higher learning institutions.

Entrepreneurship across the world is viewed as an engine that drives the economy. Today, Entrepreneurship education is an increasingly popular subject in colleges and universities in Malaysia. The government has carried out many policies in the development of entrepreneurship like the New Economic Policy (NEP) (1971-1990), the National Development Policy (NDP) (1991-2000), and the New Economic Model (NEM) (2010).

The government has been successful in the inculcation of entrepreneurship values and changing the mindset of the students in higher education institutions to view selfemployment as a viable alternative to salaried employment.

Top 10 Startups acce ECOSYStem

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This is an era of startups and it gives me immense joy to know and learn about the young talents that come up with their innovations, infuse their thoughts and talents into building products that set them apart. Amazed by such revolutions, there are few others who developed the zeal to not only acknowledge their efforts and contributions to the global economy but also walked their path. Few such startups that captivated my thoughts and made me freeze in wonder are those which started with almost little money or no money, yet grew out to become famous startups making a huge turnover. I would like to list out those few startups that joined the billion dollar club and some made millions of dollars becoming the focus.

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elerating the Startup in Malaysia

Iflix

Iflix is a streaming video provider that offers video-on-demand (VOD) services with no subscription fees required. Enabling unlimited access to thousands of TV shows & movies, the services are offered in 25 countries of Asia and Africa. Founded in 2014, the app is available in 14 languages, including English, Chinese, Burmese, Arabic, and Swahili. So far, Iflix has managed to ink 230 studio partnerships.

Year Founded: 2014 Total Funding: **\$298M in 5 funding rounds** Last Funding Type: **"Private Equity Round" as of Feb 21, 2018** Lead Investors: **US-based media giant Hearst**

Grab

Grab is a Southeast Asian ride-hailing company that offers booking service for taxis, private cars, and motorbikes through one mobile. Formerly Known as GrabTaxi, Grab offers more services beyond ride-hailing and is a major player in the Southeast Asian market. It is a big competitor to Uber and is now available in 26 cities globally. It makes transport freedom a reality for 620 million people in Southeast Asia.

Year Founded: 2012

Total Funding: **\$6.6B in funding over 18 rounds** Last Funding Type: **"Series - H" as of Nov 8, 2018** Lead Investors: **Hyundai, Booking Holdings**

Carsome:

Founded in the year 2015, Carsome is an online selling platform for automotive which provides fast, fair and free car selling and buying services. If you want to sell a car, ask Carsome to do it and it is done super fast. Malaysia's first automotive website that provides the smartest, easiest and fastest car selling, connects car buyers and sellers to new and used car dealers respectively, providing them a platform to trade seamlessly.

Year Founded: 2015

Total Funding: **\$27.4 million**

Last Funding Type: **"Series B" as of June 6, 2017** Lead Investors: **Gobi Partners & IdeaRiverRun**

StoreHub:

StoreHub is a retail solutions startup that helps retailers digitize their businesses. Launched in 2013, the technology company built a Cloud-based Point of Sale (POS) application that is used by 3,000 retail stores across 15 countries. The powerful iPad POS system changes the way business is done. The company raised US\$5.1 million (RM20.2 million) from Vertex Ventures.

Year Founded: 2013 Total Funding: \$6.1M in 3 funding rounds Last Funding Type: "Series A" as of Jan 25, 2018 Lead Investor: Vertex Ventures





Dahmakan:

Dahmakan is a food-delivery startup that offers a variety of healthy food selections. It delivers ready-to-eat meals in SE Asia, controlling the entire process from food production to delivery. Closing a \$1.3 million seed funding round in 2017 from backers that include NFQ Capital, East Ventures, Asia Venture Group, and Grupara, Dahmakan has become the first food-delivery startup to raise significant capital in Southeast Asia that year. It has secured USD2.6 million (RM10.4 million) in pre-Series A funding.

Year Founded: 2015

Total Funding: **\$3.9M in 2 funding rounds** Last Funding Type: **"Seed-Series Unknown" as** of Jan 4, 2018

Lead Investor: Y Combinator

Jirnexu

Jirnexu is a FinTech startup founded in 2012 and headquartered in Kuala Lumpur. The FinTech solutions provider operates financial comparison services and enables banks, insurance companies, and other service providers to think mobile-first. It empowers them to extend their reach to millions and helps them to innovate the way they generate leads online. Further, leveraging the power of Jirnexu's financial comparison tools, they can win new customers.

Year Founded: 2012 Total Funding: **\$8M in 4 funding rounds** Last Funding Type: **"Venture- Series Unknown"** as of Oct 26, 2017

Lead Investors: DMP VC & SBI Group

WOBB

WOBB is a Malaysian job search platform offering help in job seeking for young Malaysians and others who are still looking for more opportunities. Unlike traditional job-hunting platforms, this job portal focuses mainly on the transparency of company culture. WOBB has a database of more than 60,000 job seekers and helps young businesses in Malaysia use their work culture to attract great people to join them. It is the only WORK culture-centric job search platform.

Year Founded: 2014 Total funding amount: \$398,300 Latest funding type: Venture – series unknown Lead investors: Cradle Fund

Kaodim

Kaodim is a Southeast Asian service marketplace hiring a range of services that include cleaning, moving, appliance care, and even photography. The online platform to find professional services helps make better engagements and makes it easier for users to connect to these services. It has more than 20,000 customers and facilitates its sales in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Year Founded: 2014 Total funding amount: **\$11.6 million as on Nov 6**, 2017

Latest funding type: **Series B** Lead investors: **Square Peg Capital**

iPrice

iPrice is a price comparison platform which gathers information on product availability and pricing from various e-commerce websites, like Lazada and Shopee. It offers shoppers the widest selection of products and brands, provided by hundreds of partners in Southeast Asia and also aggregates products from clothing e-tailers such as Zalora and ASOS. iPrice has also formed B2B partnerships, such as with Samsung in Indonesia and Mediacorp in Singapore. iPrice operates in Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Year Founded: **2014** Total funding amount: **\$9.8 million** Latest funding type: **Series B** Lead investors: **Line Corporation**

HostelHunting

HostelHunting.com is a student-focused room rental startup that offers the easiest and safest way for students to find and book a student room. It is one of the most popular platforms for student accommodation bookings operating in Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

Year Founded: 2014

Total funding amount: **\$500K**

Latest funding type: Series A

Lead investors: Hoop Partners, Accord Ventures and KK Fund

By Raghavendra Hunasgi, Founder & Global Convener – Asia Inc. 500



Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad

RICH is a one-of-its-kind initiative of the Telangana Government that has been conceived to unlock the national treasure created by the top scientific research and academic institutions and to actively facilitate the process of taking the research to market.

RICH is creating an eco-system for 'Research to Market' by bringing together a collaborative network of top research institutions, academic institutions, mentors, funders, entrepreneurs and companies supported and actively facilitated by the Telangana Government. The overall purpose is to help identify, nurture, incubate and commercialize the Intellectual Property (IP) from research and academic institutions and scientists, thereby encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, creating jobs, and benefitting society.

RICH in Telangana started its initial operations by focusing in the areas of Aerospace and Defence, Food and Agriculture, and Life sciences sectors. Starting in 2017, it has interacted with over 400 startups and entrepreneurs across the sectors to mentor and help them to scale up and support them in various activities like validation of ideas, challenges faced in regulatory, manufacturing, funding, marketing and development of business plans, etc. Also, during this short span, RICH has expanded its operational focus and now started working with a number of startups actively in other areas such as AR/VR/ML, IoT, Blockchain, and Solar Energy sectors etc.

Ajit Rangnekar

Director General Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad (RICH) (Government of Telangana Initiative)

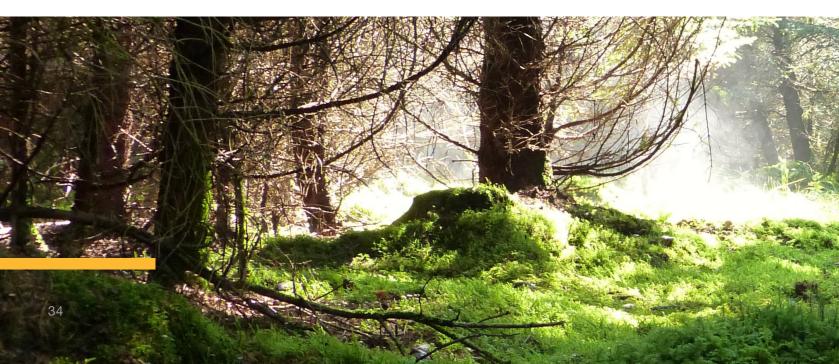


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- Protecting the IP created from research and creating mechanisms to license the IP. RICH works with IP experts from ICRISAT and NRDC to advise startups and Institutions on IP strategies.
- Initial evaluations of technical, market, legal and economic feasibility of the research projects, using panels of industry and academic experts
- RICH has created a directory of available resources available in Partner Institutions, in terms of IP they have created, their equipment and expertise, together with lists of mentors, investors, and service providers, which will serve as a collection of crucial information to all stakeholders. It has also documented funding schemes of the State and Central Government available for startups.
- **Providing industry connect:** RICH has reached out to leading industry players of the sector to understand their needs and challenges. These are shared with Institutions and startups who bid for providing tailor-made solutions to Industry problems. RICH also facilitates industry: academia knowledge sharing through high-quality conferences, CEO roundtables etc
- **Providing talent:** Lack of trained manpower is a major concern for every startup and small/medium company. In view of the existing



gap, RICH works with Government Agencies to organize skilling programs for students and industry workforce to provide industryready manpower in partnership with industry and academic experts. RICH also helps with identification of scaling options and arranges training inputs in design thinking, business management, and project execution for scientists and entrepreneurs.

- Identification and documentation of the best practices and knowledge from across the world for rapid commercialization of research and innovations.
- Influencing government policies and interventions for creating an innovation and entrepreneurial culture in the State. Specifically, in regulatory affairs, RICH will collaborate with the State government to streamline the regulatory requirements which are a critical step for the industry in obtaining product approvals. This exercise will contribute to the State's efforts for Ease of Doing Business, and
- Providing early-stage financing to ventures through Research to Market Fund (RMF) created by the State government. RICH will also create a screening tool for collating preliminary information about start-ups for use by incubators and investors as a selection criterion for financing or incubating the ventures.



ASIA INC. 500 PAST EVENTS

Global Entrepreneur Summit (GES)

On its Journey to recognize individuals and organizations, and their contributions to the global economy, Asia Inc. 500 held its first official Road to GES (Global Entrepreneur Summit) Growth Conclave 2017 on November 24, 2017. Held at the tech startup incubator T-Hub on the IIIT-Hyderabad campus, the conference had over 50 women who made it big in their respective fields.

In the first edition of Growth Conclave, ASIA Inc. chose to support Women in Tech in alignment with Global Entrepreneur Summit 2017 who will be future leaders, game-changers, board members, executives and entrepreneurs, sportswomen, and politicians.

The Chief Guest for the conclave was Ms. Katherine B. Hadda, U.S Consul General, and the event witnessed prominent women leaders from various walks across the globe.

The conclave focused on women leaders and entrepreneurship with a theme that talked about rights, responsibilities, and respect that women get and deserve in the industry. The aim of the awards presented at the summit was to support women who will be a changing face of the world.

Pharma Digital Transformation Conclave

Asia Inc. 500, the leading Digital Platform for Thought Leaders in Asia, hosted the first ever Pharma Digital Transformation Conclave on March 8, 2018, at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Hyderabad. The event witnessed the participation of top-notch leaders from the pharma industry across the city of Hyderabad.

The conclave that was co-hosted by Volteo, the recognized leader in ServiceNow sales, and ServiceNow, the world's fastest-growing enterprise cloud software company, had more than 30 C-suite executives participating in the biggest CIO roundtable event.

Asia Inc. 500 honored the top most influential pharma leaders who have embraced technology and made a significant contribution to the pharmaceutical field manifesting in a Pharma Digital Transformation. Out of 104 nominations from 71 brands, the jury has selected top 7 nominations and awarded them.

Asia Inc. 500 & IBC

Asia Inc. 500 and Nucleus Vision, in collaboration with the governments of Telangana and Goa, and NITI Aayog have launched the first edition of the International Blockchain Congress held from August 3-5, 2018. India's first ever International Blockchain Congress which is the world's largest industrygovernment Blockchain conference was attended by hundreds of government officials, global Blockchain leaders, innovators, enterprises, and technologists.

The first edition of the conference was attended by distinguished guests such as Mr. Tim V Draper, Founder of DFJ Ventures, Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO Niti Aayog, Mr. KT Rama Rao, IT Minister, State of Telangana, Mr. Rohan Khaunte, IT Minister, Goa, Mr. CP Gurnani, CEO Tech Mahindra, Mr. Mohandas Pai, Chairman, Manipal Global Assoc., Mr. Min Kim, CEO of ICON Foundation, Mr. Ian Balina, Global Community Influencer, and many others.

Asia Inc. 500 also unveiled its first ever magazine on Blockchain "INDIA ARRIVES IN BLOCKCHAIN", a special edition which unleashes the arrival of Blockchain in India. It was launched by Sri K T Rama Rao, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Govt. of Telangana, during IBC. Asia Inc. 500 was also associated with Global Blockchain Summit 2018, Malaysia, that brought together blockchain gurus, technology players and influential audience of government. The second edition of the exclusive magazine "Empowering Global youth through Blockchain Technology" was released during this phenomenal event.



Vizag Fintech Festival 2018

Vizag Fintech Festival 2018 is the largest financial technology festival in India. Asia Inc. 500 has collaborated with the government of Andhra Pradesh to organize the festival. The week-long event which took place from October 22-26, 2018, was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, N. Chandra Babu Naidu and the Hon'ble IT Minister, Nara Lokesh. The event also witnessed the presence of key dignitaries like Sri. Ganta Srinivasa Rao, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Sri. JA Chaudhary, IT Advisor to Govt. of AP, Sri. K. Vijayanand, IAS, Principal Secretary ITE&C Dept., and Sri. Anoop Singh, IFS, Special Secretary ITE&C Dept.

Fintech Valley as a platform, brought pioneers and enablers of innovation to host an exclusive group of leading corporates, startups, academia and regulators from around the globe. The event also had the world's first humanoid citizen robot, Sophia, as the star attraction of the Vizag Fintech Festival where Sophia was engaged in an intriguing interaction with the State IT Minister N Lokesh and other delegates.

Asia Inc. 500 launched its Third and exclusive edition of its magazine - "VIZAG - Asia's own Fintech Valley" at the Vizag Fintech Festival. Sri Nara Lokesh, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh unveiled the third edition along with Sri J A Chowdary, Special Chief Secretary & IT Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

ASIA Inc. 500 Upcoming Events

N.O.W SUMMIT - Shaping The Future

As India is witnessing a steady rise in women entrepreneurship and more women pursuing their career towards this direction, Asia Inc. 500 is gearing up to host its 4th event to honor, award, support and connect women thought leaders and industry stalwarts at one place.

About 8% of women in India run their own startups, over 30% have a share in the Senior Management positions in the corporate and only 10% of formal enterprises are being operated by women. It is, therefore, imperative for both the organizations and people to accelerate the need to increase gender diversity in the workplace and society.

N.O.W summit aims at bridging the gap on various aspects hampering the progress of women by bringing together 600+ the most sought-after

women leaders, entrepreneurs, mentors, startup investors etc., who support women leadership through interactive keynotes, and panel discussion. This also invokes tremendous learning and valuable insights on what it takes to be leaders of tomorrow, from the ones today.

About ASIA Inc. 500

Asia Inc. 500, along with its valued partners lays emphasis on exploring and recognizing 5000+ individuals and organizations every year across Asia and helps to reach out to a wide audience, prospective clients & investors.

Our platform is a great source of information and connect in areas of AI, Blockchain and other upcoming technologies and frameworks. At the end of every quarter, we choose and rank the best 500 organizations in various aspects all throughout Asia.



