

NASSCOM 10000 Startups announces Change Makers Summit 2016

New Delhi, 03 October 2016 : With a view to highlight women efforts in the startup ecosystem, assess opportunities and connect them with the business eco-system, NASSCOM 10,000 startups program announces the Change Makers Summit 2016. The day-long event is scheduled to take place on October 7, 2016 in Bengaluru. From receiving less than 2% applications from Women founders in the first year to having more than 10% of the total applications in 2016, NASSCOM 10,000 Startups program has seen a great rise in the number of women taking up tech entrepreneurship.

NASSCOM 10000 Startups Change Makers Summit will provide women lead startups access to knowledge sessions, funding options via SME lending, access to the angel investor networks, and accelerator and incubation support. Select startups will be given opportunities with respect to funding, mentoring and actionable coaching. The team has received a total of 280 applications so far and is in a process of evaluating them for the funding, government grants and acceleration opportunities. Interestingly, maximum number of applications received is from the booming ecommerce sector followed by fintech, artificial intelligence and IoT.

Speaking on the announcement, KS Vishwanathan, Vice President-Industry Initiatives, NASSCOM commented, *"We came across an increased number of applications from women entrepreneurs this year which is a really good sign for the entire ecosystem. With more women addressing their interest towards entrepreneurship, it is essential to introduce such customized programs to promote women entrepreneurship across sectors and business offerings. We have to slowly introduce dynamics that allow us to live in a culture that boosts us to be inventive and enthusiastic, where our ideas can be fostered and transmuted into great inventions, which can glorify female entrepreneurs the same as men."*

Entrepreneurship has gone mainstream; spreading to every corner of the country and so has the aspirations of Indian women who are leaving no stone unturned to achieve their aspirations and goals to build global startups from India. It is these women founders who are bringing in the change in paradigms and challenging the status quo that we want to showcase globally.

The Change Makers Summit has partnered with SonderConnect, India's leading platform for women entrepreneurs and Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence (CEE) which have helped over 50+ business get no collateral loans under various Govt schemes and Run Skills Development programs that ensure jobs and self-employments, to recognize & showcase 12 selected Growth Stage startups across India by providing them angel funding.

In terms of outcomes, the following will be the benefits for participating startups:

- Three selected startups will get SME loans up to Rs. 10 lakhs each. CEE to facilitate the communication, business proposal creation, counselling and approval support.
- Three selected startups will get funding from Angel investors with loans up to Rs. 10 lakhs each
- Ten startups will be selected into incubators
- Twelve startups will be selected for deep mentoring with the country's leading experts

About NASSCOM 10,000 Startups

10,000 Start-ups is an ambitious attempt by NASSCOM to scale up the start-up ecosystem in India by 10x. 10,000 Start-ups aims to enable incubation, funding and support for 10,000 technology start-ups in India over the next ten years. The program's vision is to foster entrepreneurship, build entrepreneurial capabilities at scale and strengthen early stage support for tech start-ups. The initiative brings together key stakeholders of the ecosystem including start-up incubators, accelerators, angel investors, venture capitalists, start-up support groups, mentors, and technology corporations. Since its launch in April 2013, we've done about 800+ events in 22 cities of the country which were attended by a whopping 35,000 attendees and received 13,800 Applicants, 2276 Start-ups Shortlists, and 1350 Impacts. The program is supported by Google for Entrepreneurs, Microsoft Ventures, Kotak, Amazon Web Services and IBM.

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