

KDEM NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026 EDITION

21458+

DPIIT RECOGNISED
REGISTERED
STARTUPS

181

NUMBER OF
INCUBATORS/
ACCELERATORS

1000+

TOTAL GCC IN
KARNATAKA

31

NEW IT/ITES/GCC
COMPANIES

~370K - 400K

TALENT ANNUAL HEI
PASS OUT

\$7.8B

VC FUNDING IN
KARNATAKA

”

Beyond Bengaluru today contributes nearly 3% of Karnataka's digital economy. By 2030, we are targeting 10%. We have the right policies, the right ecosystem and KDEM as the execution engine to deliver this transformation.

SHRI PRIYANK M KHARGE

Minister of E, IT & Bt and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka



”

As we move forward on Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Technology, and statewide growth, KDEM is one of the institutions the Department trusts to ensure policy intent reaches the ground in every cluster we are building.

DR. MANJULA N, IAS

Secretary, Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka





With the Beyond Bengaluru initiative, emerging tech clusters are evolving into high-impact innovation hubs, powered by local talent and regional leadership. These clusters are becoming integral contributors to Karnataka's economic momentum.

MR B V NAIDU

Chairman
KDEM



Karnataka is a leader in IT/ITeS and GCCs, holding 50 per cent of India's mid-market GCC share. To tap into the vast global opportunity, we are targeting Fortune 2000 companies with India's first GCC policy, which includes a unique "nano GCC" model.

MR SANJEEV KUMAR GUPTA

CEO
KDEM



Engaged with Grassroots Innovators at TEJAS Raichur Workshop

Date: 1st April 2026

KDEM participated in the TEJAS - Transforming Entrepreneurial Journeys Across States & Districts Workshop at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur. Launched by DPIIT under Startup India in collaboration with the Government of Karnataka, the workshop engaged grassroots innovators & aspiring entrepreneurs, supporting the development of scalable and impactful ventures.



**Strengthening
Karnataka's startup
ecosystem, where
innovation is built
beyond boundaries and
scaled with intent.**



Driving GCC Innovation: Insights from ET Edge Summit 2026

Date: 1st April 2026

KDEM participated in the 11th ET Edge GCC Summit 2026, co-powered by Intellion Offices by Tata Realty. The summit highlighted how Karnataka's GCC initiatives continue to strengthen state leadership through talent development, investment attraction, and cluster-building programs that support innovation and global enterprise growth.

MXR Business Connect: Scaling Innovation Across Karnataka

Date: 2nd April 2026

KDEM participated in MXR Business Connect, which brought together government representatives, investors, global trade organizations, and startup leaders. The engagement focused on the Beyond Bengaluru initiative and the need to build a distributed, high-impact innovation ecosystem across Karnataka's emerging technology clusters.



NITTE-MRPL Coastal Startup Fest 2026: Fostering Innovation in Coastal Karnataka

Date: 3rd April 2026

KDEM participated in the NITTE-MRPL Coastal Startup Fest 2026, a partner event that brought together startups, investors, and industry leaders. The two-day festival showcased the region's entrepreneurial spirit while enabling meaningful connections, collaboration, and opportunities to strengthen Karnataka's startup ecosystem.

GCC Leaders Roundtable 2026: Driving Talent, Trust, and Transformation

Date: 3rd April 2026

KDEM organized the GCC Leaders Roundtable - Chennai 2026 along with partners ZyoIn Group and Workplace Awards. The roundtable brought together 25+ leaders across aerospace, logistics, fintech, SaaS, and global development to discuss domain expertise, enterprise-wide AI adoption, industry-academia collaboration, and evolving talent strategies.



Thank you to the leaders driving ideas, impact, and the future of GCCs



Founders Nexus 2026 Episode 5: Women in Leadership

Date: 6th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in Founders Nexus 2026 Episode 5: Women in Leadership, organized by Dikshana Global Development Foundation. The event brought together startup founders, emerging entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, and ecosystem enablers for reflective conversations, practical insights on personal branding, and meaningful networking.

SBI Launches First GCC in India: Insights from the Leadership Forum 2026

Date: 6th April 2026

KDEM organized the SBI GCC Leadership Forum 2026 in Bengaluru in coordination with State Bank of India and Zyojn Group. The forum brought together ecosystem leaders and enablers to discuss leadership evolution, innovation-led GCC growth, AI adoption, and the role of decentralized “Nano GCCs” in driving Karnataka’s and India’s global capability centre ecosystem.




Wave Makers Wednesday

Building a startup is fun when you have like minded people around you! Come join for a meet and greet of innovators, founders and businesses!

- ✔ Present your work
- ✔ Collaborate
- ✔ Contribute
- ✔ Network




Wave Makers Wednesday: Fostering Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

Date: 8th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in Wave Makers Wednesday, organized by AWAKE India and Startup Tumakuru. The event brought together women entrepreneurs, innovators, and researchers to collaborate, co-create, and develop services and products that contribute to Karnataka’s and India’s economic growth.

Startup Saturday Tumakuru: Building a Strong STEAM Ecosystem

Date: 11th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in Startup Saturday, organized by Startup Tumakuru. The event focused on research, innovation, and entrepreneurship, bringing together researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs to ideate, collaborate, and grow a sustainable STEAM ecosystem in Tumakuru.



STARTUP SATURDAY

Building a Strong STEAM Ecosystem in Tumakuru
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics)

Come join us as we build a strong and sustainable STEAM ecosystem in Tumakuru through Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship!

Ideate | Learn | Collaborate | Grow

<p>Date & Time</p> <p>April 11, 2026 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM</p>	<p>Location</p> <p>Ananya Incubation Center by Startup Tumakuru, Jayadeva Hostel campus, Bangalore - Honnavar Hwy, near Town Hall Circle, Ward No. 18, Tumkur, Karnataka 572101</p>
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Who Can Register?
Researchers | Innovators | Entrepreneurs

+91 8660 946 945

Register here



Strategic Partner




Silicon Beach Startup Meet-Up 2026: Fostering Coastal Karnataka Innovation

Date: 13th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in the first Silicon Beach Startup Meet-Up at Vertex Workspace, Mangaluru. The event brought together 60 local startup founders and ecosystem enablers, featured 8 product launches across IT, education, nature, and healthcare, and highlighted Karnataka's IT and startup policies.

Strategic Dialogue with Consilio India: Building Karnataka's Legal Tech Ecosystem

Date: 13th April 2026

KDEM engaged with Consilio India's leadership to discuss talent development, academia-industry integration, Legal AI ecosystem building, and GCC expansion opportunities. The dialogue focused on positioning Karnataka as a leading destination for global Legal Tech capability centres.



Sona Star GCC Forum: Driving Talent and Innovation in Bangalore

Date: 15th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in the Sona Star GCC Forum, organized by Sona Star in collaboration with the Indo American Chamber of Commerce. The event highlighted Bangalore's leadership in tech-driven GCCs, with a focus on talent development, infrastructure, innovation, and policy support.

Pitch Your Idea Program: Driving Innovation in Kalyana Karnataka

Date: 15th April 2026

KDEM partnered for the “Pitch Your Idea” program under the Kalyana Karnataka initiative by the IT BT Department, Government of Karnataka. The program brought together 120+ founders, with 25+ startups pitching their ideas, along with strong participation from FPOs and ecosystem enablers.



Webinar
GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES
for
Research Innovation
Entrepreneurship

Date: April 16th, 2026
Time: 3 PM
Webinar fee: ₹299/-

- Government Grants
- Angel Investments
- CSR grants
- STEAM Ecosystem

Strategic Partner
Karnataka Digital Economy Mission
Limited Slots!

Webinar on Growth Opportunities for Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Date: 16th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in the Startup Tumakuru webinar. The session explored funding and growth avenues, including government grants, angel investment, CSR funding, and the development of a strong STEAM ecosystem to help founders, innovators, and entrepreneurs scale effectively.

Karnataka Unveils GIA 2.0: Advancing Global Innovation Partnerships

Date: 16th April 2026

KDEM participated in the announcement of GIA 2.0 under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister Shri Priyank M Kharge. The initiative aims to strengthen international partnerships and position Karnataka as a global tech hub, with a focus on DeepTech, AI, emerging technologies, Bridge to Bengaluru 2026, and Bengaluru Tech Summit 2026.

Empowering Karnataka's Innovation Future: GIA 2.0 Unveiled!

Sri Priyank M Kharge ji, Minister of E, IT & Bt and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Govt. of Karnataka leads the charge to transform Karnataka into a **global innovation hub** with the launch of **GIA 2.0**.

Key Highlights

Over **2,000 Startups** supported globally

40+ Countries engaged in strategic partnerships

Focusing on **DeepTech, AI, & Emerging Technologies**



Strengthening Defence Innovation in Mysuru

Date: 16th April 2026

KDEM hosted Smt. Chandrika Kowshik, Director General - DRDO, and Shri Pavan Ranga, CEO - Rangsons Aerospace, at the Mysuru cluster. The interaction showcased 5 defence-focused startups, shared strategic insights from DRDO leadership, and explored pathways to align regional innovations with national defence priorities.

Build Smart, Fund Smarter: Webinar on Hardware Startups

Date: 17th April 2026

KDEM hosted Smt. Chandrika Kowshik, Director General - DRDO, and Shri Pavan Ranga, CEO - Rangsons Aerospace, at the Mysuru cluster. The interaction showcased 5 defence-focused startups, shared strategic insights from DRDO leadership, and explored pathways to align regional innovations with national defence priorities.

webinar

Build Smart Fund Smarter POC To Production Without Burning Your Own Money

One Founder's Grant-to-Growth Story

Guest: 
**Hariprasad
Nandavara Jayaram**
Anmaya Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

Host: 
Sumanth Shenoy
Stelna Designs. LLP.



Karnataka: The Epicenter of Innovation and Global Tech Power

Karnataka stands at the forefront of technological leadership, housing 50% of India's AI talent and a thriving ecosystem of 18,000+ startups, including 50 unicorns. With over 900 GCCs and a skilled workforce fueling its growth, the state is rapidly advancing in AI, quantum, semiconductors, and biotech.

- **Dr. N Manjula, IAS**
Secretary, Dept. of E, IT, Bt
and S&T, Govt. of Karnataka



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Industry Dialogue in Delhi: Shaping Bengaluru Tech Summit 2026

Date: 17th April 2026

KDEM participated in an industry dialogue hosted in Delhi to set the stage for Bengaluru Tech Summit 2026. The session brought together policymakers, industry leaders, and ecosystem enablers to discuss collaboration, innovation, and sectoral priorities aligned with Karnataka's technology and startup vision.

TiECON Mysuru 2026: Fostering Startup Growth and Innovation

Date: 17th April 2026

KDEM participated as the strategic partner for TiECON Mysuru 2026, a premier platform connecting startups, investors, and ecosystem leaders. The event facilitated knowledge sharing, mentorship, and networking opportunities, supporting Karnataka's vision of building a scalable and innovation-driven entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Strengthening Startup Momentum in Mangaluru

Date: 23rd April 2026

KDEM engaged with founders at Vertex Workspace, Mangaluru, sharing insights on Karnataka's startup policies, flagship initiatives such as Elevate and Elevate NXT, and pathways to access state support. The session brought together 60+ participants and featured 8 product launches across IT, education, nature, and healthcare.

Fortune India Startup Summit 2026: Driving Policy, Purpose, and Entrepreneurship

Date: 23rd April 2026

KDEM participated in the Fortune India Startup Summit 2026 at Four Seasons, Bengaluru. The summit brought together leaders, startups, and ecosystem enablers to discuss sustainable business building, real-world challenges, and impactful entrepreneurship across sectors.



The CHRO Boardroom AI, JOBS & CAREER TRANSITIONS

FOCUS: AI JOB IMPACT • RESKILLING • MID-CAREER PATHWAYS • ACTION



**AI is reshaping healthcare work.
Let's prepare talent for what comes next.**

The CHRO Boardroom 2026: Shaping the Future of Work in Healthcare

Date: 24th April 2026

KDEM participated as a partner in The CHRO Boardroom in Bengaluru, convened by CHRMP with Kaushalya Karnataka, NHRD Bangalore, and KDEM. The invite-only dialogue explored workforce challenges across BioTech, Pharma, MedTech, and Digital Health, with a focus on continuous reskilling and systemic workforce redesign.

Advancing Global MedTech Partnerships through GIA

Date: 27th April 2026

KDEM engaged with the delegation from the Consulate-General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Bengaluru through the Global Innovation Alliance as part of the Dutch MedTech Innovation Mission. Discussions focused on MedTech Centres of Excellence, joint innovation, startup co-development, and commercialization pathways.



Indo-German Leadership Exchange

State Host

Strategic Partner



Indo-German Leadership Exchange: Fostering Global Collaboration

Date: 28th April 2026

KDEM participated as the Strategic Partner for the Indo-German Leadership Exchange in Bengaluru. The event brought together leaders from India and Germany to share experiences, explore opportunities, and strengthen collaboration, leveraging Karnataka's position as a hub for GCCs and innovation-led growth.

CXO Conclave 2026 - Chapter One: Driving Growth Beyond Bengaluru

Date: 28th April 2026

KDEM participated as a partner in Vertex Workspace's CXO Conclave 2026 in Mangaluru. The conclave brought together CXOs, policymakers, and industry leaders to align on growth execution beyond Bengaluru, with discussions on incentives, talent, scale, and regional expansion.



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Karnataka Digital
Economy Mission

INDO-GERMAN LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE



LET'S BUILD STRONGER PARTNERSHIPS, FOSTER OPEN DIALOGUE, AND GROW TOGETHER.

Indo-German Leadership Exchange: Advancing Engineering & Tech Partnerships

Date: 28th April 2026

KDEM hosted the Indo-German Leadership Exchange alongside the Government of Karnataka, Indo-German Chamber of Commerce, and NextFactor360. The session brought German enterprise leaders together to explore AI, DeepTech, Industry 4.0, digital engineering, advanced manufacturing, and expansion opportunities Beyond Bengaluru.

E-Summit 2026 Belagavi: Connecting Startups with Mentors and Investors

Date: 28-29th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in E-Summit 2026, Belagavi. The two-day summit offered live founder experiences, mentorship sessions, investor pitches, and interactive panels, connecting startups, investors, and experts to foster practical learning and growth opportunities.



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CONNECTED, AUTONOMOUS & ELECTRIC VEHICLE
Expo
29 - 30 April 2026
KTPO, Bengaluru

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ए और ए आई
ARAI
Automotive Research Association of India

Let's welcome our
Guest of Honour
Ajay Krishnan
Vice President-ESDM
Karnataka Digital Economy Mission
(KDEM)

REGISTER NOW

+91 87440 88838
info@futuremobilitymedia.com



CAEV 2026: Driving Innovation in Connected and Autonomous Electric Vehicles

Date: 29-30th April 2026

KDEM participated as a strategic partner in Connected, Autonomous & Electric Vehicle Expo 2026. The event brought together industry leaders, innovators, and policymakers to explore advancements in connected and autonomous electric vehicles, sustainable mobility, and future-ready automotive ecosystems.

Startup X-Factor 2026: Connecting High-Intent Startups Across India

Date: 30th April 2026

KDEM organized a virtual session of Startup X-Factor, a curated platform connecting founders, investors, and ecosystem leaders. The session focused on high-quality interactions, access to funding, mentorship, and partnerships, enabling startups across India to engage with the right stakeholders.



2nd Roundtable on Public-Private Partnerships in the NewSpace Economy

Date: 30th April 2026

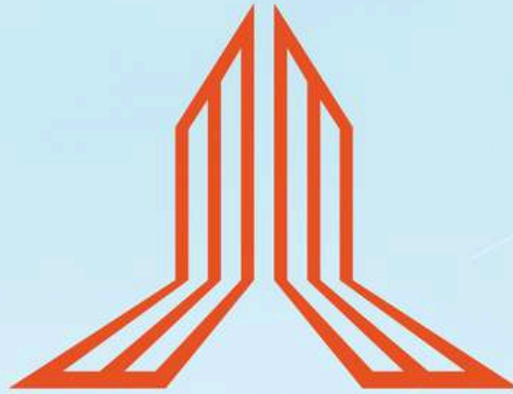
KDEM participated in the 2nd roundtable convened by CII in Bengaluru, focused on action-oriented public-private partnership frameworks to accelerate India's NewSpace economy. The session brought together 32 experts from government and industry to identify collaborative projects, strengthen government-industry synergy, and advance strategic initiatives.



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