

Pervez Musharraf says dictators and military rule have always set Pakistan right while civilian govts have always brought it to ruins, P 11

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Top 100 startups to get boost with ₹400 cr funds

Elevate 100, Initiative By Dept Of IT & BT, Aims To Provide Entrepreneurship Platform

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: If you believe your product or technology is the next big idea, get ready to pitch.

Pitch to Elevate 100 is an innovative programme of the state government, intended to give a push to young minds in Mangaluru, a known educational hub. It will also help spread the startup culture to more areas and at the same time, use technology innovatively to help address issues that have a larger impact. As many as 30 innovative applications were received for the programme from Mangaluru region.

Elevate 100, the initiative of the department of information technology and biotechnology, aims to provide a comprehensive entrepreneurship platform for startups. The top 100 technology based startups chosen through a rigorous hunt across Karnataka will tap into a whopping sum of Rs 400 crore of government funds. This is the largest pool of funds ever offered by any state government to startups. The action plan 'Pitch to Elevate' is a process to identify the top 100 startups across



ALL SET: A floor of this building at Kadri in Mangaluru will be handed over to set up a startup and incubation centre

Karnataka and provide them government funds/support. The pitching sessions will be held at Mysuru, Kalaburagi, Mangaluru, Hubballi and Bengaluru. This is not just to develop apps; the students-turned-startup-entrepreneurs will get an opportunity to come up with innovative solutions in health, education, agriculture and infrastructure, as these sectors will have a pan-India resonance.

A total of 1,700 startups registered for the programme.

Elevate was launched by the state government in partnership with the Deshpande Foundation, The Indus Entrepreneurs and other industry association partners like ABAI, IESA, ABLE and Nasscom to empower startups to scale operations. The 100 most innovative startups will be announced on August 29 and 30 at Bengaluru. Regional pitches will be held at Mangaluru from August 3 to 8. For details, log on to www.elevate.bengaluruite.biz

MCC to give space for incubation centre in Kadri free for 5 years

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Mangaluru: Mangaluru City Corporation (MCC) will hand over a floor with 5,000 sqft area at its complex in Kadri in the city for the proposed startup and incubation centre, without charging rent.

The MCC will not be collecting rent from the department of industries for five years. A startup and incubation centre will be set up at an estimated cost of Rs 1.18 crore on the second floor of MCC's building in Mallikatta in the city through MPLAD Funds of Union minister for commerce and industry Nirmala Sitharaman.

The Union minister during her visit to the identified space had assured that the centre with 60 seats will be set up within four months with an initial funds of Rs 1.18 crore. Later, the minister also had released Rs 50 lakh for the first phase of work. It will be the first startup incubation centre in Dakshina Kannada.

The incubation centre will accommodate 60 seats for startups, who may have the plug and play facility for short term or medium term. Industries in the region can ask the startups in the centre to give solutions instead of searching for startups elsewhere

As per plan, the centre will accommodate 60 seats for startups, who may have the plug and play facility for short or medium term. Industries located in the region can partner with the centre and look for solutions. Industries in the region can ask the startups in the centre to give solutions instead of searching for startups elsewhere.

In fact, the joint director of industry department had requested the MCC to hand over the premises for 30 years, but the council agreed to give it for five years.

A meeting in this regard was convened by deputy commissioner K G Jagadeesha on June 23 and it was decided to take up the interior works of the start-up and incubation centre with Nirmithi Kendra project director as its implementing officer. Meanwhile, the MCC sub office, which was functioning on the second floor of the building, has been shifted to MCC Office Building at Lalbagh.

MCC council chief whip Shashidhar Hegde said the request of industries department was discussed by the MCC council on July 31.

"The city corporation has decided to hand over the premises to the department open startup and incubation centre for five years without charging any rent," he added.