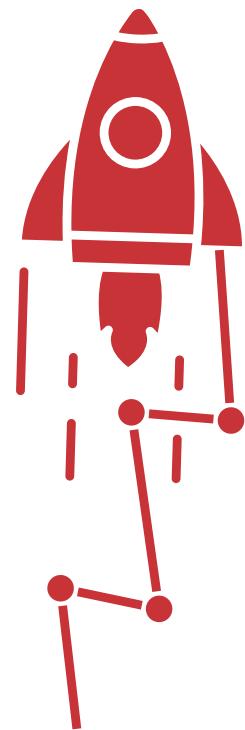


# JANUARY 2026 EDITION

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**NEWSLETTER**



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**Highlighting Innovation,  
Accelerating Success**

# KIIF

KARNAVATI INNOVATION &  
INCUBATION FOUNDATION



## Students Startup Story - KIIF

### Toodles: An Outgrowing Baby Furniture Idea That Began as a Students Project



Toodles was born from a simple yet powerful observation: babies outgrow products quickly, creating both expense and waste. Designed by Sreya Gayathri, Unnati Phafat, and Vimokshi Jain from Product Design, UID, Toodles is a modular wooden feeding chair that grows with the child across multiple early-life stages. It begins as a feeding chair for 6-12 months, transforms into a walker with integrated toy storage for 1-2 years, and later converts into a table-and-chair set for children aged 2-5 years, supporting learning and play.

Built primarily from sturdy, recyclable wood, Toodles offers greater stability and safety than typical plastic alternatives while reinforcing a strong sustainability focus. Guided by mentors Shoeb Khan and Abhishek Karmakar, the project evolved from an academic concept into a real-world ready solution. With ₹75,000 support under SSIP through KIIF, the team was able to further develop and refine the product, taking a meaningful step toward market application and impact.



## Mentor Insight

### From Desk of Jaideep Banerjee

At Karnavati University, and through the Karnavati Innovation and Incubation Foundation (KIIF), learning, innovation, and incubation are viewed as interconnected and continuously evolving processes driven by experience, experimentation, and real-world engagement beyond the classroom. The mentor's perspective emphasises the importance of building adaptability, strategic thinking, and execution capability as core competencies for founders navigating today's dynamic innovation landscape.



Prof. Jaideep Banerjee  
Director – Learning & Development Cell,  
Karnavati University

With over three decades of experience in building brands and scalable businesses, our mentoring approach focuses on translating insight into action helping startups sharpen business models, strengthen brand narratives, and design market-ready go-to-market and omni-channel strategies. The emphasis remains on experiential learning, consumer understanding, and disciplined market validation as foundations for sustainable growth.

Looking ahead, the future of innovation and incubation will be shaped by deep mentorship, faster learning cycles, and stronger ecosystem collaboration. Platforms such as KIIF play a critical role in enabling this shift by bringing together talent, ideas, and opportunity. The focus remains on nurturing founders who are not only venture-ready, but also equipped to build responsibly, innovate with purpose, and scale with resilience.

## Team Highlights

### From Idea to Business Model Canvas: Learning the Business Model Canvas at Idea Forge

At the Idea Forge for UIM, Mr. Jignesh Thakor conducted an insightful session on the Business Model Canvas (BMC), guiding students on structuring their innovations and improving pitching skills. The session demonstrated how BMC and its tools can turn ideas into strong, presentation-ready business models.



### KIIF Builds Global Connect at University of Wollongong Australia (India)

KIIF was invited to participate in a discussion at the University of Wollongong Australia (India) focused on the potential creation of a startup fund. The meeting, coordinated with Expert Dojo, enabled meaningful dialogue on supporting Indian founders and building global innovation collaborations, and was a productive step toward exploring future partnership opportunities.



# KIIF Highlights | January 2026

## 1:1 Mentoring Session for Taali Toys

### Strategic guidance on branding, positioning, and go-to-market for Impact-Driven KU Alumni Startup

Machajo Private Limited, a women-led startup supported by KIIF and founded by alumni of KU, recently participated in a strategic mentoring session with Dr. Kirtika Chetia (Mentor BrandManagement).

The session focused on refining marketing strategy, brand positioning, and go-to-market approach, helping the team gain clarity on market outreach and future growth direction.



## KIIF's Startup in Space: Cubesat Aerospace on PSLV-C62

### Women-led startup launches its Cube Satellite aboard ISRO's PSLV-C62/ EOS-N1 mission

Cubesat Aerospace LLP, supported by KIIF, launched its Cube Satellite aboard ISRO's PSLV-C62 EOS-N1 mission.



From a bold idea to space orbit, this milestone marks a proud moment for Indian innovation and highlights the impact of women-led, startup-built technology



## Ahmedabad Innovation Summit 2026: Building the Future Together

At the Ahmedabad Innovation Summit 2026, Team KIIF represented at the Event along with its incubated startups to celebrate National Startup Day. The presentation highlighted KIIF's vision, structured incubation support, and impact-driven approach to nurturing founders. The participation reflected KIIF's commitment to fostering collaboration, innovation, and a strong startup ecosystem while empowering founders on their growth journey.



## DeployNXT strategic collaboration

### ISRO-IN-SPACE Capacity Building & MoU Signing with Maargin & ABX3PV

DeployNXT marked an Important Milestone by strengthening its position in India's growing space ecosystem. Supported by KIIF under the GENESIS EiR 2.0, the startup signed MoUs with Maargin and ABX3PV for component manufacturing, co-development, integration, and testing, laying a strong foundation for its deployable space structures program. Further recognition came when DeployNXT was invited by the DST, Government of Gujarat, to a high-level Space Technology roundtable, highlighting its growing credibility and momentum in the space sector.



## Strengthening Global Collaboration Through Strategic Engagement

### MoU signing with Vox Academy

KIIF recently organized a closed-door interaction with Ms. Vijayalakshmi Karuppasamy, Founder and CEO of Vox Ventures and Vox Academy, with strong investor linkages in Japan. The occasion marked an important milestone with the MoU signing between Vox Academy and Karnavati University.

Ms. Karuppasamy shared valuable insights on global market access, technology commercialization, and cross-border collaboration, especially focused on opportunities in the Japanese market. The session also included interactions with startups such as Microheal, Preppsom, Andeya, Arnobot, Battle Mitra, and Drone Matrix, offering them strategic guidance and support to explore expansion opportunities in Japan.



IDEA FORGE: Canvas Innovation Fest 2026, hosted at UIM, Karnavati University, emerged as a vibrant national platform for student innovation and entrepreneurship. The two-day fest saw 25 teams compete in a national-level Business Model Canvas pitching competition after intensive learning and mentoring sessions. The event featured insights from Mr. R. D. Barhatt, Joint Commissioner of Industries, along with Mr. Amit S. Shah, Dr. Etinder Pal Singh, Mr. Shiven Chaturvedi, and Mr. Shani Pandya, enriching discussions on innovation, market readiness, and entrepreneurship, and enabling students to present structured, impactful, market-oriented ideas.

## AI Industry Insights: Panel Discussion at ADW 2026

Panel discussion on AI Industry Insights on AI Development at Ahmedabad Design Week 2026 (ADW), supported under the GENESIS initiative by MeitY Startup Hub, as part of the Pre-AI India Impact Summit. The session brings together leading voices, including Sahid SK, Nikunj Goyal, Zuowen Wang, Kulwant Nagi, and Prof. Blair Kuys, with moderation by Preet Deep Singh. The discussion explores AI innovation, industry adoption, and India's evolving AI ecosystem, fostering dialogue between founders, experts, and academia.



## IDEA FORGE 2026: A National Platform for Innovation

### 25 teams showcase ideas at a national-level Business Model Canvas pitching competition





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GRADE A+**  
ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY

**KIIF**  
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