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NEWSLETTER



Highlighting Innovation, Accelerating Success

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Student Startup Story - KIIF

UID Ignite your ambition

ChronoDock: Transforming Wristwatches into Desk Clocks



Manasi Mohan & Addanki Arjun
Co-founders ChronoDock

Innovation often begins with a simple observation. Manasi Mohan and Addanki Arjun, founders of ChronoDock and students at UID, Karnavati University, identified a common challenge among watch enthusiasts: premium wristwatches placed on desks remain vulnerable to scratches and accidental damage.

Their solution, ChronoDock, transforms wristwatches into desk clocks, combining protection, functionality and distinctive presentation.

Through Karnavati University's Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP), supported by KIIF, the founders received ₹20,000 in initial funding for prototyping and design refinement.

Today, ChronoDock is a market-ready product, with its launch approaching, demonstrating how student innovation can transform everyday observations into entrepreneurial opportunities.

KIIF Supported startup CMXCIX Technologies LLP Secures ₹10.00 Lakh Funding

Selected under the Startup Gujarat 2020 Policy through KMET, strengthening its journey towards technology development and business growth.

CMXCIX Technologies LLP has been selected to receive ₹10.00 lakh in startup funding support under the Startup Gujarat 2020 Policy, facilitated through KMET and Karnavati Innovation & Incubation Foundation (KIIF), Karnavati University.

The funding will support CMXCIX Technologies in strengthening its, product development and business growth. The achievement reflects KIIF's continued efforts to connect promising startups with institutional support, funding opportunities, and the wider entrepreneurial ecosystem, enabling founders to convert innovative ideas into scalable ventures.

Mentor Insight

From the Desk of Shri R. D. Barhatt Joint Commissioner of Industries, Startup Gujarat Cell, Government of Gujarat



R. D. Barhatt
Joint Commissioner of Industries,
Startup Gujarat Cell, GOG

When Startup India began in 2016, the idea of building a startup was still unfamiliar to many. A decade later, India has over 2.23 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups, with Gujarat contributing more than 19,270. The scale of this growth is remarkable. What matters now is how we translate this momentum into lasting economic value.

The startup ecosystem has evolved considerably. Entrepreneurship is no longer confined to a few metropolitan cities, and innovation is increasingly visible across manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, sustainability and emerging technologies. Yet, a growing startup base also raises an important question: how many of these ventures can build sustainable businesses, find paying customers and create lasting value?

From an ecosystem perspective, we need to focus as much on the quality of entrepreneurship as on its quantity. Founders need more than encouragement; they need access to markets, industry expertise, appropriate capital and mentorship to navigate the difficult decisions that come with building a business. This is where incubators have an important role to play. Incubators can help bridge the gap between an early idea and a market-ready enterprise by bringing together founders, mentors, industry and investors. My recent interaction with the startup ecosystem at Karnavati University was an opportunity to engage with this evolving landscape and its emerging aspirations.

Building a lasting startup ecosystem requires us to look beyond numbers and focus on the impact we create. Strong industry partnerships, meaningful mentorship and access to real market opportunities can help founders move beyond promising ideas to building resilient, scalable businesses.

As Gujarat enters its next phase of startup growth, our focus must be on nurturing enterprises that contribute to sustainable economic development, create long-term employment and address the challenges of tomorrow. The real success of an ecosystem lies not just in the startups it creates, but in the businesses it helps endure. Enabling that journey is a shared responsibility, calling for continued collaboration between government, industry, academia, incubators and investors.

KIIF's Highlights

Igniting India's Next Wave of Deep-Tech Innovation: GENESIS NextGen Startup Summit – Gandhinagar Edition 2026

KIIF, as the implementing partner of MeitY Startup Hub under the GENESIS initiative, convenes innovators, investors, industry leaders and policymakers at Karnavati University to forge meaningful collaborations and accelerate India's technology-driven entrepreneurial future.







Karnavati Innovation and Incubation Foundation (KIIF), the implementing partner of MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) under the GENESIS initiative, hosted the GENESIS NextGen Startup Summit – Gandhinagar Edition 2026 at Karnavati University on 16 October 2026.

The inaugural session brought together distinguished dignitaries, including Shri Mukesh Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Higher and Technical Education Department, Government of Gujarat; Dr. Panneerselvam Madanagopal, CEO, MeitY Startup Hub; Shri R. D. Barhatt, Joint Commissioner of Industries, Government of Gujarat; Dr. Suresh Malodia, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Karnavati University; and Ms. Bhuvaneshwari Nagarajan, Manager, MeitY Startup Hub. Their addresses underscored the importance of institutional collaboration, entrepreneurship and technology-led development in advancing India's innovation ambitions.

The summit featured substantive discussions on India's hardware and semiconductor manufacturing potential, with contributions from Dr. Kusum Agarwal, Dean Academics, Karnavati University; Dr. Neeraj Aggarwal, Associate Director, Indian Cellular and Electronics Association; Mr. Akshat Jain, Solutions Lead, IndieSemiC Private Limited; and Mr. Mihir Joshi, Managing Director, Gujarat Venture Finance Limited.

Further sessions examined intellectual property commercialisation, identity technology and the democratisation of artificial intelligence. Speakers included Mr. Parimal Khade, Joint Director, Centre for Intellectual Property and Innovation Exchange; Mr. Zach Ninan, Head of Innovation, UIDAI; Prof. Anirban Dasgupta of IIT Gandhinagar; Mr. Avinash Punekar, CEO, iCreate; Mr. Yashvardhan Verma, Group Head, Public Policy and Corporate Affairs, Cars24; and Ms. Prathyusha Koneti, Global Innovation Program Manager, Digital Innovation Hub, Apollo Tyres.

Founder perspectives formed another important dimension of the summit. Mr. Bhavik Modi of Yuji Labs Private Limited shared insights into the challenges and breakthroughs of building a technology venture, while Mr. Hunny Bhagchandani, Founder of Torchit, reflected on the journey from ideas to impact. Sessions on GENESIS Pilot 2.0, led by Ms. Vandana Kaushal, Manager, MeitY Startup Hub, further highlighted opportunities available to emerging ventures under the initiative.

The summit culminated in a startup investment pitch arena, where selected startups presented their ventures to an investor jury, followed by the prize distribution ceremony and closing remarks.

By bringing together policy, research, industry and investment, the summit reinforced KIIF's role in strengthening regional innovation networks and creating pathways for promising startups to access expertise, partnerships and capital. It also reflected the broader ambition of the GENESIS initiative: to enable technology-driven enterprises beyond established startup centres to contribute meaningfully to India's innovation-led growth.

From Curiosity to Creation: Inspiring Young Innovators

Karnavati University Inspires Young Minds from PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya Sabarmati, Ahemdabad & CRPF, Gandhinagar.

On 12 October 2026, under the DICE initiative, KVS students engaged with startups, participated in a hands-on wood design workshop led by Paras Parmar, Founder of Aviskrit Design, and explored AI prompt writing. The activities encouraged creative problem-solving, entrepreneurial thinking and practical application of emerging technologies.





Innovation to Investment: Identifying India's Next Generation of Deep-Tech Leaders

46 Applications. 16 Finalists. One Leap Forward for India's Deep-Tech Future through the GENESIS 1:1 Matching Investment Cohort at KIIF, powered by MeitY Startup Hub.

Karnavati Innovation and Incubation Foundation (KIIF), under MeitY Startup Hub's GENESIS initiative, conducted the Final Selection Meeting for the 1:1 Matching Investment Component to identify high-potential startups for the GENESIS Investment Cohort.

Following a rigorous evaluation of 46 applications, 16 startups advanced to the final stage and presented their ventures before the Final Evaluation Committee. Key assessment parameters included technological innovation, business viability, scalability and investment readiness.

The selection marks a significant step in KIIF's commitment to advancing India's deep-tech ecosystem by supporting promising ventures and accelerating indigenous, technology-driven innovation.




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KARNAVATI INNOVATION & INCUBATION FOUNDATION

Get In Touch

Phone
8980004435

Mail
kiif@karnavatiuniversity.edu.in

Website
www.kiif.org

Location
Karnavati University,
Gandhinagar

PARTNERS

SEED FUND SCHEME

SSIP

INSTITUTION'S INNOVATION COUNCIL
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