

# COBONEWS

VOL. VI, NO. 1, Jan 2026 Edition



विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग  
Department of  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



NM-ICPS



IHFC

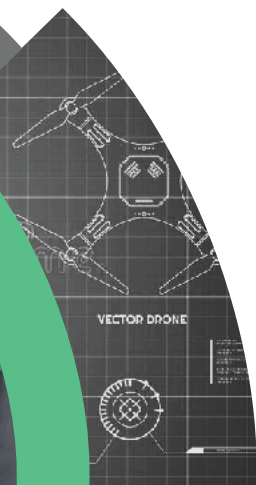


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DEFENCE



INDUSTRY X.0

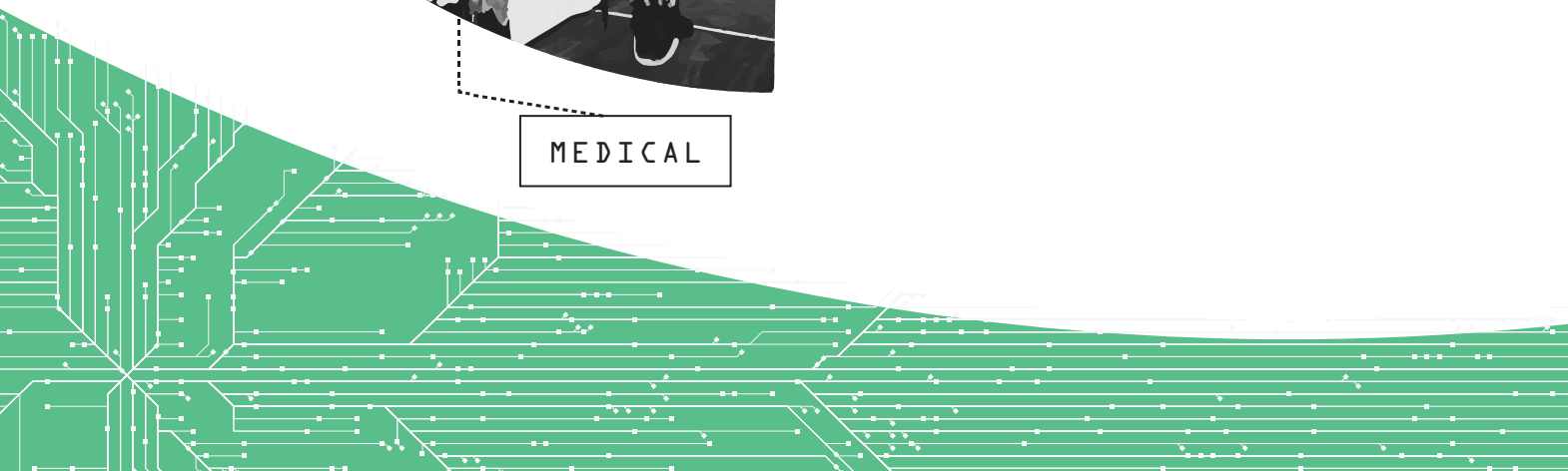


2020 20  
25 26 27

AGRICULTURE



MEDICAL



## MESSAGE FROM OUR VISIONARIES



**Prof. Rangan Banerjee**  
Director, IIT Delhi

“

Happy New Year 2026. As we concluded five years of IHFC last year it was a delight to see the startups and technology demonstrations in the celebration event in September 2025, in the presence of the Secretary DST. Our incubatees have contributed in national initiatives. Our drone based company helped our armed forces in Operation Sindoor. It was interesting to see the development of a full-scale plate bending machine to help orthopaedic surgeons. I hope IHFC will be able to nurture the ecosystem for collaborative robotics to make a difference in people's lives.

We look forward to your ideas and support in taking IHFC forward in 2026.

”



**Dr. Ekta Kapoor**  
Scientist - G & Head,  
Frontier & Futuristic  
Technologies (FFT),  
DST, Govt. of India

“

As IHFC completes five years of its operations and enters its sixth year, it is truly gratifying to reflect on the milestones achieved in the areas of technology development, capacity building, entrepreneurship support, and international engagement. These efforts have contributed to strengthening the institutional and programmatic ecosystem under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).

Building on the experience gained so far, the Mission will continue to emphasise collaborative efforts among government, academia, and industry, with a focus on sustained innovation and long-term national priorities for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

On this occasion, and while extending Season's Greetings, we reiterate our commitment to advancing research, supporting talent development, and enabling technology-led solutions in line with the goals of the NM-ICPS Mission. Jai Hind!

”

“

On behalf of IHFC, it gives me immense pleasure to wish you a happy New Year 2026! Upon completion of the existence of IHFC for 5 years, we are now confident to fly high with the experiences (both positive and critical). For example, many of our startups started garnering funds from VCs and other funding agencies, which is very heartening. Our ten Co-innovation Centers (CICs) at the four zones of India are also working together with us in a mission mode to achieve the goals of NM-ICPS under which IHFC was formed in 2020. In fact, many foreign countries are looking forward to IHFC to collaborate in innovation and entrepreneurship space. In another significant development, we spearheaded to create a Design Facility in 2025 at our Drone Technology Park (DTP) located in the Sonipat campus of IIT Delhi by making several hi-end software available to the startups/researchers to analyze their drones, and test them using our in-house test equipment. This is a unique facility in the country. Let the readers spread this message for more and more usage of the same.

”

**Prof. Subir Kumar Saha**

Project Director, IHFC  
Professor, Dept. of  
Mechanical  
Engineering, IIT Delhi

“

As we welcome the New Year with renewed optimism, IHFC proudly marks six years of enabling innovation and entrepreneurship. Today, we support over 40 start-ups and 25 early-stage entrepreneurs — some already making their mark, others brimming with promise. We are also actively collaborating with state governments and central boards to introduce cobotics to young minds, especially at the secondary school level, nurturing future engineers and entrepreneurs. Believing that this generation will be the driving force behind Viksit Bharat 2047, we have established 10 Co-Innovation Centres across India in partnership with forward-looking institutions, creating shared spaces where ideas can flourish. With this vision, we are building an ecosystem where innovation thrives and the future of cobotics takes shape.

”

**Ashutosh Dutt Sharma**

Chief Executive  
Officer, IHFC, IIT  
Delhi

## ABOUT IHFC

The I-Hub Foundation for Cobotics (IHFC), the Technology Innovation Hub of IIT Delhi, was established in June 2020 as a Section 8 company under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. Registered as a Section 8 company, IHFC brings together academia, government and industry to drive innovation. Focused on four application areas: Agriculture, Defence, Medical and Industry X.0, IHFC pursues four core mandates: Research & Development; Entrepreneurship and Startup; Education, Research and Upskilling; and International Collaboration.

IHFC's vision and mission revolve around translating cutting-edge research into state-of-the-art technology products and services in the field of collaborative robotics (cobotics). From developing indigenously made technologies to establishing innovation facilities such as the Medical Cobotics Centres, Drone Technology Park, and Co-Innovation Centres in collaboration with premier institutes all across India, IHFC fosters innovation, promotes entrepreneurship, and drives socio-economic impact through the deployment of advanced technologies.

### Grand Projects



Rehabilitation  
Robotics



Human-Robot  
Interaction



Healthcare  
Robotics



Industry X.O



Intelligent Sensing  
& Secure  
Communication



Drone  
Applications



Nanorobotics



Agribotics



Assistive  
Robotics

### Startups incubated & accelerated



80L Robotics



Alphenix



Arka Aerospace



Artculus



Astrek



Aviate



Aduyog



Botlab Dynamics



Bwise



Cyran Solutions



Diagnovate



DTE 4 Calamity &  
Humanity Pvt. Ltd



Enord



Exobot



Femacare



Gravitaz



GRO Robotics



IVF Precisions



Intelligent  
Marine Mobility



Jet Aerospace



Kaidoko



Kelvin 6K



Kineshia



Lightray



Mirasim



Meiyur  
Technologies



Mountford



Nawe Robotics



Neurodrishti



Novae Avenue



Pixuate



Rancho Labs



SeiAnmai  
Technologies



Systemantics



Simhatel



The Innovation  
Story



Thumbikkai



Trouve



TSAW Drones



Xterra Robotics



ViTachyon



## IHFC TURNS 5!

IHFC celebrated its **5th anniversary** at IIT Delhi's Research & Innovation Park with a flagship exhibition showcasing its **25 cutting-edge deep-tech technologies** spanning defence, healthcare, robotics, AI, agriculture, and smart infrastructure. The exhibition reflected IHFC's end-to-end support for innovation from pre-seed mentoring to incubation and acceleration.

The event was graced by **Prof. Abhay Karandikar (Secretary, DST, Govt.)** as Chief Guest, along with **Dr. Ekta Kapoor (Scientist G & Head, FFT, DST, Govt.)** and **Prof. Rangan Banerjee (Director, IIT Delhi)**. Marking five years of advancing collaborative robotics and translational research, **IHFC has supported 40+ startups, 46+ R&D projects, 10 co-innovation centres, and 5+ global collaborations**, strengthening the industry-academia ecosystem. The exhibition featured curated startups, R&D, and READY projects, and witnessed strong participation from industry experts, government officials, and extensive media coverage as IHFC steps into its sixth year.



"For five years, IHFC was nurturing cobotics and deep tech innovation. This showcase highlighted not just machines, but possibilities."

The corridors of IIT Delhi's Research & Innovation Park buzzed with curiosity and awe on Wednesday, as the 5th-anniversary exhibition of the I-Hub Foundation for Cobotics (IHFC) unveiled a vivid panorama of India's deep-tech future. - Economic Times



The I-Hub Foundation for Cobotics (IHFC) at the IIT, Delhi, buzzed with energy. Prototype drones hummed overhead, robotic arms flexed with human-like precision, as clusters of students, researchers, and industry leaders leaned in to see the next big idea unfold. This wasn't just another exhibition, it was a window into the future of Indian deep-tech. - Tribune India

IHFC, the TIH of IIT Delhi, Showcases 25 Cutting-Edge Technologies to Mark its 5th Anniversary - India Education Diary



आई-हब फाउंडेशन फॉर कोबोटिक्स (IHFC) के स्टार्टअप में प्रदर्शित किया गया. "बीवाइज-फ्रेंड्स ऑफ बी" का लक्ष्य देशी मधुमक्खी प्रजातियों की रक्षा करना और जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों से निपटने के लिए स्थायी समाधान देना है. इस तकनीक से मधुमक्खियों की मृत्यु दर कम होगी, उनकी उत्पादकता बढ़ेगी और किसानों की आमदनी में सुधार होगा. - Etv Bharat

## EXPANDING OUR MCC ECOSYSTEM

Expanding on its med-tech ecosystem, IHFC inaugurated three Medical Cobotics Centres to strengthen translational MedTech innovation in India, bringing together medical professionals, engineers, researchers, and students to co-create indigenous healthcare solutions. Of these, the **Medical Innovation Centre at Maulana Azad Medical College** was inaugurated on July 8, the **Medical Cobotics Centre at SGT University** on August 28, and the **Medical Cobotics Centre at DALVKOT, Bengaluru** on December 1, established in partnership with DALVKOT.

Equipped with advanced simulation labs, collaborative workspaces, and world-class infrastructure, these centres focus on robotic surgery, AI-driven diagnostics, assistive healthcare, and next-generation medical technologies, reinforcing IHFC's commitment to advancing indigenous healthcare innovation.



Maulana Azad Medical College



SGT University



Dalvkot Utility Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.

## CIC COMMUNIQUE

### DeepTech Startup Summit 2025 at NMIT

IHFC's Co-Innovation Centre with Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology (NMIT), Bengaluru hosted the DeepTech Startup Summit 2025 on September 12-13, 2025. The summit brought together startups, investors, policymakers, and academia to explore emerging technologies, funding pathways, and collaboration for responsible deep-tech innovation in India.



### CIC Mentor Workshop at IIT Madras Research Park

A CIC Mentor Workshop was organised on November 26, 2025, bringing together mentors from all the 10 Co-Innovation Centres of IHFC to review the ongoing activities and engage in strategic discussions on strengthening the innovation ecosystem. It facilitated alignment of best practices, and roadmap planning to enhance collaboration and impact across centres.



Karunya Institute of Technology and Science, Tamil Nadu



B.S. Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology, Tamil Nadu



Indian Institute of Engineering Science & Technology (IIST), Kolkata



Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi



Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar



Delhi Technological University, Delhi



People's Education Society University, Karnataka



Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Karnataka



SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Tamil Nadu



Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Punjab

\*18 R&D Projects and 8 Startups across CICs have been approved for funding



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



### INAUGURATION OF CIC AT DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY (DTU)

IHFC inaugurated its 10th Co-Innovation Centre (CIC) at Delhi Technological University, strengthening academia-industry collaboration and enabling students and entrepreneurs to ideate, prototype, and build deep-tech innovations in Robotics, AI, ML, and IoT.

### WORKSHOP ON ASSISTIVE ROBOTICS

IHFC organised a Workshop on Assistive Robotics, bringing together academia, startups, and industry to advance its Grand Project on affordable prosthetics, including the AI-driven Bionic Hand and ENRICH EMG-controlled prosthetic hand, led by Prof. Nayan M. Kakoty (Tezpur University).



### SHOWCASE AT INDIA MOBILE CONGRESS

At India Mobile Congress 2025, IHFC's incubated startup DTECH came into the spotlight with its COBRA snake robot, an indigenous search-and-rescue solution, useful for disaster management developed under DST's NM-ICPS mission.



### IHFC PARTNERS WITH THE AMERICAN CENTRE

IHFC in collaboration with the Genex Space, the American Centre, and the Physics & Astronomy Club of IIT Delhi, showcased IHFC technologies with potential space mission applications to young students.

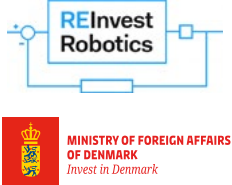


### WORKSHOP ON REHABILITATION ROBOTICS

A workshop focused on translating our R&D Grand Project on rehabilitation robotics to market, highlighting projects achieving TRL 5-6 and addressing clinical and regulatory pathways was organized. The workshop brought together experts from academia and industry.



## KEY COLLABORATIONS



### REInvest Robotics and Invest in Denmark

IHFC partnered with **REInvest Robotics and Invest in Denmark** to strategically advance Indo-Danish collaboration in robotics and deep-tech, enabling high-value engagement between Danish investors and IIT Delhi faculty, startups, and students to drive global partnerships, investment, and technology exchange in human-centric robotics.

### AI4India

IHFC partnered with **AI4India Org.**, Intel, and BharatGen to host an official **Pre-Summit Event** at IIT Delhi for the **India-AI Impact Summit 2026**, inviting AI startups and R&D teams across key sectors to compete for exposure, incubation opportunities, and up to ₹2 crore in funding support, reinforcing IHFC's strategic role in advancing impact-driven AI innovation.



### Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

IHFC collaborated with **Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)**, marking a strategic step toward large-scale outreach in school education and enabling direct engagement with students and teachers across Kendriya Vidyalayas. The partnership leverages KVS's nationwide presence to foster early exposure to innovation, problem-solving, and emerging technologies, creating a strong foundation for future STEM and deep-tech talent.

### International Telecommunications Union

IHFC partnered once again with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to organize the India Nationals of the 'Robotics for Good Youth Challenge' 2026, a United Nations-led global robotics competition. Building on this collaboration, IHFC further aims to expand the partnership globally with a focus on scaling capacity-building initiatives.





## UPSKILLING COMPETITIONS

*Building India's Future Tech Talent*

### DD Robocon 2025



IHFC served as the Organiser and Knowledge Partner for DD Robocon 2025, India's premier national robotics championship, held **in collaboration with Prasar Bharati** at IIT Delhi. Student teams built autonomous and manual robots for the RoboHoop (basketball) Challenge, demonstrating advanced engineering and robotics skills. Gujarat Technological University (GTU) emerged as the national winner and represented India at ABU Robocon 2025, Mongolia.



### Robotics For Good Youth Challenge 2025

In partnership with the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** and the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**, IHFC conducted the Robotics for Good Youth Challenge 2025 – India Nationals, bringing together **271 young innovators** from across country. Focused on the theme: food security, the winning junior and senior teams qualified for the Global Grand Finale at the AI for Good Global Summit 2026 in Geneva, gaining global exposure and UN-led networking opportunities.



दूरसंचार विभाग  
Department of  
Telecommunications



### AI VidyaSetu 1.0 – Code For New Bharat



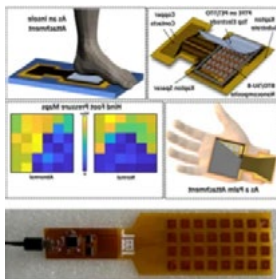
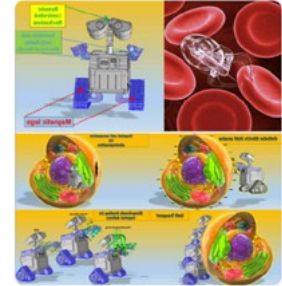
IHFC, in collaboration with **PM SHRI and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan**, organized AI VidyaSetu 1.0 – Code for New Bharat 2025, a nationwide AI based hackathon aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047. The initiative engaged **18,000+** students from **913 PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalayas** across 25 regions, enabling school students to solve real-world challenges through AI and coding.



## IHFC STORIES CREATING IMPACT

### Nanorobotics Drug Delivery System

Prof. Soutik Betal (IIT Delhi) has developed magnetically guided nanorobots for targeted drug delivery and nerve repair, integrated with a Lab-on-Chip platform for rapid pathogen detection. The project was selected for the **ANRF Maha Med-Tech Technical Evaluation**, underscoring its translational healthcare potential.



### Self-Powered Sensor System

Prof. Dhiman Mallick (IIT Delhi) has developed a self-powered flexible sensor prototype enabling applications in smart prosthetics, rehabilitation, gait analysis, wearable robotics, gaming, and touch-based control systems, advancing energy-efficient sensing technologies.

## READY TO STARTUP

*From Pre-Seed To Incubation Success*



### ViTachyon Robotics

ViTachyon Robotics (IIT Delhi) is building advanced robotics and AI solutions, including telepresence and inspection robots, telerobotic ultrasound systems for remote diagnostics, and VLM-powered mobile robot assistants for offices, clinics, and warehouses



### NeuroDrishti

Neurodrishti is a deep-tech MedTech startup developing AI-powered smart glasses for visually impaired users. The solution leverages computer vision, AI, and speech processing to enable reading, object detection, navigation, and enhanced independent living.



### Diagnovate

Diagnovate is a health-tech startup focused on non-invasive, affordable diagnostics using AI and sensor-based smart tools. Starting with breath analysis, it aims to enable early detection, personalized care, and preventive healthcare at scale.

# BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY

## COBOTALKS *Our Monthly Webinar Series*



20th August 2025

53rd

**Prof. Ashish Dutta**

Title: Brain Computer Interface Based Hand Exoskeletons for Stroke Rehabilitation.



10th September 2025

54th

**Ms. Perna Dash**

Title: AI merging Ed-Tech for Childhood Cognition



15th October 2025

55th

**Dr. T. Asokan**

Title: Design and control of Field Robots



12th November 2025

56th

**Mr. Saurya Mishra**

Title: Future of Cobotics for Healthcare and Surgery



10th December 2025

57th

**Prof. Sitikantha Roy**

Title: Wearable Robotics: A Human Centred Approach



**Watch More on YouTube**

Scan the QR code to visit our YouTube channel and watch all the insightful Cobotalks sessions

## PITCH PERFECT

*Your Next Leap, Backed By Capital*



**PITCH PERFECT 2.0**  
YOUR NEXT LEAP, BACKED BY CAPITAL

Event Partner: EASY KNOWLEDGE  
Investment Partners: Indicorn Angels, seafund  
Ecosystem Partner: Google for Startups, BIORx

Meet us at 9 AM:  
10 Nov 2025: 87, Alumni Centre, Bengaluru  
12 Nov 2025: 101, Powai, Mumbai  
17 Nov 2025: 101 Park, 57, Delhi, New Delhi

### Pitch Perfect 2.0

Building on its strong success in 2024, IHFC launched Pitch Perfect 2.0, its flagship pitching, incubation, and acceleration program for AI, Robotics, and deep-tech startups. Conducted across Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Delhi, the initiative enabled founders to pitch directly to leading investors, with incubation support of up to ₹1 crore and acceleration funding of up to ₹5 crores.

The program was supported by **Easy Knowledge as Event Partner**, **Indicorn Angels and Seafund as Investment Partners**, and **Google for Startups and BIORx Venture Advisors as Ecosystem Partners**, reinforcing a robust, investor-driven pathway for startup growth.



## WATCH OUT FOR:

### DD ROBOCON 2026



Date: 2-5 July  
2026  
Venue: IIT Delhi  
Theme: Kung Fu  
Quest

### IHFC TO VISIT ODENSE ROBOTICS, DENMARK



Strengthening its partnership with Odense Robotics, IHFC will visit Denmark in May 2026 to advance collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange in robotics.

## I-HUB FOUNDATION FOR COBOTICS



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Piya Basu      Akshay Mangal  
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Articles contributed by IHFC's  
R&D, Startup, CiC and READY  
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