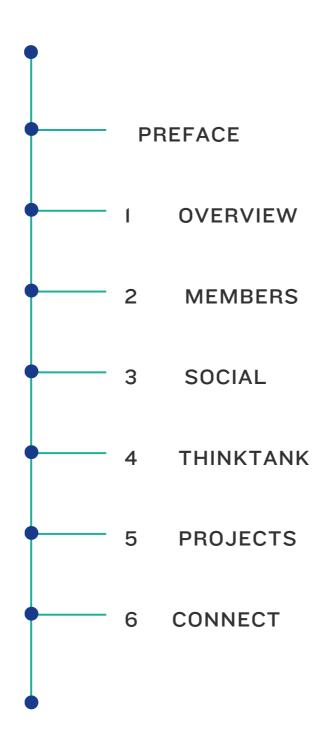


. An IIT Alumni Council initiative .



## CONTENT



"IIT Alumni Council is now the largest global body of alumni across all the twenty-three IITs and partnering Universities. The member alumni actively participate in social ventures that are configured to solve key national challenges. These ventures develop and deploy appropriate technologies using the well-proven venture capital-funded start-up format. In order to overcome the market gap for a suitable project implementation agency for technology demonstration and research projects, the Forum has now been created. The Forum will complement our other initiatives for deeptech startups such as the incubator, the institute and the fund."



Ravi Sharma President & Chief Volunteer





FORUM | 03

### **PREFACE**

Forum is a non-profit Section 8 company which acts as a project implementation agency. The Forum was founded with the support of a large group of IIT Alumni who are engaged in the provision of project, professional and technical services globally.

Forum is one of the three facilitator arms of the IIT Alumni Council - the other two being the Startup Incubator and the Research Institute. The startup incubator provides roaming across incubators and access to research infrastructure. The Research Institute facilitates technology development using research resources and infrastructure available within India.

The Forum was conceived by the IIT Alumni Council during the covid lockdown in 2020-21.

The macro objective of the Forum was - to cost effectively plan, speedily implement and efficiently monitor - technology demonstration projects in sectors identified and supported by the IIT Alumni Council.

Project team member of the Forum are mainly from three categories:

- Experts, scientists, academicians and technocrats with relevant experience and expertise in the project domains.
- Experienced professionals from areas like public policy, ESG, accountancy, venture capital etc
- Executives from industry and companies engaged in the same industry

The intellectual horsepower assembled for each of the ongoing projects is considered to be unmatched by any competing entity in terms of price performance, reach and depth.



The Forum helps selected demonstration projects to:

- estimate costs and carry out preconstruction activities
- access capital and strategic partners
- manage compliance and regulatory matters
- implement and monitor projects.

At the same time, the Forum helps the MegaFund and donors to:

- identify and evaluate social ventures
- identify and quantify risks inherent in those ventures
- identify vendors and other input providers for the project.

Forum helps professional and technical services firms to:

- standardise their product offerings for cost effectiveness
- place their spare capacity with the Forum for long term use.
- work on a cost plus, low margin, long term model



## OVERVIEW

The Forum is a project implementation agency which evaluates, monitors, implements and supports technology demonstration projects.

The Forum Platform was set up as a subsidiary of the MegaFund. It does not distribute any dividend and surpluses are redeployed for social ventures. Shortfalls are made up by annual grants from the MegaFund members. Forum is eligible for 80G benefits, CSR etc

During the beta operations in 2021-22, the MegaFund team members took note of the severe supply-demand gap for project implementation work. There were several instances of market failure for projects using disruptive technologies to catalyse a paradigm shift. This was leading to delays in commercialisation of proven technologies. In most cases, the delay was for years, sometimes decades.

#### Specifically:

- It was extremely difficult to estimate the effort and costs involved in the initial stages.
- This lead to high quotes and deployment of Tier 2 professionals from within the project consultant organisation on the projects.
- This could result in delays, project failures, cost over-runs and fall in morale of the promoters and scientists.

The Forum was established as a facilitator organisation to help correct this situation.

Specifically the Forum would,

- create a domestic ecosystem to help implement projects for deep tech and appropriate technology ventures
- help accredited investors, industry partners and sponsors to identify, evaluate and diligence these ventures
- use data science and other technologies to reduce the costs of Partner Members such as providers of professional services and technical firms

Forum was formed under the Companies Act as a subsidiary of the PanIIT Fund.



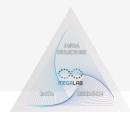
Forum interfaces with the three mission organisations of the IIT Alumni Council:

- MegaReach alumni outreach initiative
- MegaLab health initiative and the
- MegaFund social impact fund initiative

These three mission organisations represent three large groups of IIT Alumni:

- The MegaReach mission comprises alumni who are corporate executives and industry leaders worldwide
- The MegaLab mission comprises of individuals with an interest in health or with professional interests in the healthcare sector
- The MegaFund mission comprises of alumni with an interest in investing in the social, startup and deeptech sectors or in private equity and public equity funds

The three mission organisations are collectively referred to as MegaSpheres with an over-arching objective to upgrade the quality of life of the premium educated Indian to global standards.



Forum interfaces with the two other mission facilitators of the IIT Alumni Council:

- Incubator initiative which operates in a venture studio model and helps incubate and aggregate startups in areas which have a technology gap.
- Institute initiative which operates as an aggregating and commercialising entity for indigenous technologies or suitably modified foreign technologies.



These three mission facilitators represent three large groups of IIT Alumni:

- The Institute membership comprises of researchers, scientists and technologists, mostly with a PhD or equivalent qualification.
- The Incubator membership comprises of startups, other incubators, mentors and other participants in the startup ecosystem.
- The Forum membership comprises of IIT Alumni who manage or work in professional or technical services firms.



#### megaSpheres

QUALITY OF LIFE INITIATIVE OF THE IIT ALUMNI COUNCIL

In pursuit of its mission,
MegaFund supports three
facilitator organisations FORUM, INCUBATOR & INSTITUTE



The three mission organisations and three mission facilitators under the megaSpheres initiative are synchronised to achieve the platform goal of accelerated socio-economic progress through appropriate technological and financial interventions. Idea stage ventures are incubated at the Incubator. Forum facilitates access to strategic resources and growth capital. Institute helps access research resources and indigenous technologies.



The Forum would access resources of the IIT Alumni group to empower social ventures implementing disruptive technologies to:

- set up technology demonstration projects which would enable scale up subsequently through access to
- the public capital markets by listing on stock exchanges
- or private equity from funds, angel investors, family offices and HNIs
- global opportunities and technologies to enhance their short-term viability and
- fortify their long-term comparative advantage



The Forum is an independent and autonomous organisation. It is not funded by, controlled by or partnered by the Government of India or any of the Indian Institutes of Technology. The primary linkage is with the alumni of the IITs in their individual capacity.

The first hundred Forum founders are referred to as Founder Members. The Forum Council is elected once every three years from among the Charter Members and acts as the coordination body for the global think tank of IIT Alumni.

The Forum validates and onboards social projects which meet one of three criteria:

- first is if they need seed stage patient risk capital in excess of Rs 1,000 crores
- second is if they have the potential of generating import substitution or export promotion of at least Rs 5,000 crores annually.
- third is if they impact an existing domestic market of at least Rs 10,000 crores.



## **MEMBERS**

Founder members are classified as Sponsors, Life Fellows and Honorary Fellows. Project team members are the Charter Members. Empanelled project, research, technical and EPC firms are the Partner Members.

Four categories of Charter members:

Technologists | T Industry | I Professionals | P Startups | S Four categories of Partner members:

Govt entities | G Overseas partners | O Licensed entities | L Domestic leaders | D

















From a nation development perspective, the ecosystem being spawned by the Forum can help achieve:

#### Α.

Technology based solutions for some of society's most pressing problems ranging from energy to healthcare to food security and territorial integrity.



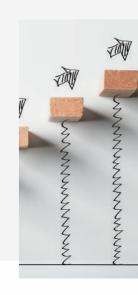
Global leadership in deeptech by developing critical foundational and frontier technologies for the new economy

С.

Import substitution and export promotion.

D.

Interventions that help correct market failure.





By creating and leveraging a nationwide network - of startups, investors and independent professional /technical services firms - the Forum Network (www.forums.org.in) aspires to become the leading project implementation agency on four key metrics in India:

A.
Speed and cost effective implementation of technology demonstration projects.

B.
Upscale from the demonstration project level to global scale of production.

C.
Protecting and defending the IPR involved in the projects.

D.
Continuously improving on developed technology based on feedback from impact assessment studies.



Forum Platform will deploy professional and technical firms to help in all areas related to the project implementation. These include:

#### Α.

Fully automated ai based systems for regular support functions such as accounting, payroll, treasury, MIS etc.

#### B.

Back office based support for shared services such as documentation, legal, web publishing, engineering drawings, CAD, travel management, freight movement etc.

#### C.

Project monitoring tools which fuse data from multiple sources including satellite images, drone collected images, hyperspectral imaging etc.

D.

Cloud based testing and tracking services with remote IOT



Forum derives its comparative advantage from:

1. Strong interlinkages with the patron members of the IIT Alumni Council, who are global leaders in technology and venture capital

2.
Direct reach to IIT Alumni Council global chapters, which connect the largest technology community in the world

3.
Formal linkages with the mission organisations and facilitation arms of the IIT Alumni Council

4. Access to a large base of CXOs globally who are willing to donate part of their time to the initiative



The Forum primarily operates a centralised:

A. data platform to host the data and operating software.

B.
database and analytics engine for
startups and investors of the deep tech
ecosystem

C. capacity through its member organisations for due diligence work on startups, funds and investors/LPs

D.
database of skillsets and competencies
available in partner service organisations
and the overall IIT Alumni ecosystem



The Forum partner membership is organised around four categories of corporatised entities (G.O.L.D.)

#### Government entities

- PSUs
- Body corporates
- Government departments

#### Overseas corporates

- Global domain leaders
- Niche area specialists
- Entities with specialised proprietary equipment and capabilities.

#### Licensed entities

- Accountancy, tax and legal
- Medical and healthcare
- Fire, ISO, quality council etc

#### Domestic

- EPC and project management
- Equipment fabrication
- Design and engineering services

The Forum charter membership is organised around four categories of engineers (T.I.P.S.):

#### **Technologists**

- Scientists
- Academicians
- Data scientists and software
- Operations and management

#### Industry experts

- Market leaders in various domains
- PE Funds registered with SEBI
- Global Funds and institutional investors

#### **Professionals**

- Service providers like CAs
- Medical & healthcare
- Capital and private equity markets

#### Startups

- Deeptech
- Early movers
- Paradigm disruption



# SOCIAL

One of the key interventions of the Forum is in the social sector - across the entire value chain - from financial foundations and CSR donors to operating entities and ground workers. Forum aspires to help corporates to enhance the impact of their CSR and research spend by:

1. Identifying key areas where the maximum possible impact can be generated.

2.

Structuring and incubating suitable social ventures, including startups.

3.

Creating and implementing appropriate financial structures.

4.

Assessing and evaluating the impact of the interventions.

The Forum also undertakes social sector mandates which are delivered by using resources from partner members and various mission entities of the IIT Alumni Council.

#### Corporates

- Identifying areas for CSR intervention
- Impact assessment studies
- Project management units
- Co-funding of initiatives with other corporates

#### Government

- Technology studies
- Decision support studies
- Public policy analysis
- Bespoke mandates

#### Regulators

- Investor and startup analytics
- Regulatory policy inputs
- Compliance automation
- Bespoke studies

#### Non-profits and Social Sector

- Project studies
- Social impact bonds
- Organisation building & institutional strengthening
- Systems and processes, compliances & filings









4

### THINKTANK

The Forum was conceived of by the IIT Alumni Council in 2021. The initial supporters constitute the Central Council of the Forum which is also called the Thinktank. All members of the Thinktank work on a honorary basis.

Forum Council is a thirteen member thinktank chosen from all categories of Members, mission organisations and facilitators. The Council for the perior 2020-25 is appended.

#### **AWARDED FELLOWS**

Founder members from each of the categories - Distinguished, Life, Honorary, Lifetime awards

#### PARTNER MEMBERS

Founder members from each of the four categories (GOLD)

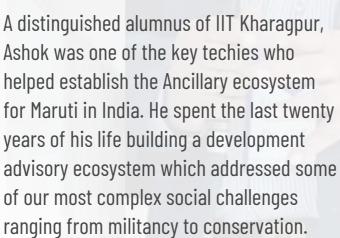
#### **CHARTER MEMBERS**

Founder members from each of the four categories (TIPS) are represented.

## ashok madhukar

FOUNDER AND GUIDING LIGHT

Ashok Madhukar is the IIT
Alumni leader who set the
path for IIT Alumni to shift
from looking after the welloff alumni and highly funded
IITs to using technology for
national development.
Starting as a lone crusader,
he finally catalysed the
change that disrupted the
course of the IIT Alumni
movement.



Ashok Madhukar passed on in 2021 but his guiding spirit remains.

## ravi sharma

#### IIT ALUMNI COUNCIL NOMINEE

A seasoned corporate leader and philanthropist, Ravi heads the megaspheres initiative which addresses the social challenge of providing a world class quality of life in India. The megaspheres initiative comprises of three mission organisations - MegaReach, MegaLab and MegaFund.



Ravi now spends his entire time on philanthropic work and non profits. He founded the Chetna Foundation and acts as the Chief Volunteer of the IIT Alumni Council. He is also the Chairman of the Telecom Equipment Manufacturers Association.

## muffazal lakdawala

MEGALAB NOMINEE

Rated as one of the top bariatric surgeons in the world, Dr Muffi's patients have included the rich and famous, the terminally ill and the supremely powerful.

In March 2020, Muffi shut down his highly successful bariatric practice & put his life in peril to lead the NSCI Dome cCvid centre in Mumbai single-handedly. With limited knowledge of virology and a team of data scientists, the NSCI Covid Centre managed over 20,000 covid positive patients without any mortality. As the face of the fight against covid, he was covered in the Kapil Sharma show. The WHO global broadcast mentioned NSCI Dome as the only silver lining in the cloud of global doom.

## satish mehta

MEGAFUND NOMINEE

A seasoned professional with a successful track record for conceptualising, creating and administering venture capital and private equity funds.



Satish has been closely involved in creating the social impact fund ecosystem for the IIT Alumni Council.

An alumnus of IIT Bombay, he spent sixteen years in accountancy and management consulting before embarking on a career in fund management at the beginning of the century. He helped conceptualise the startup ecosystem including the startup and social stock exchanges.

## ankit lekhra

### INCUBATOR NOMINEE

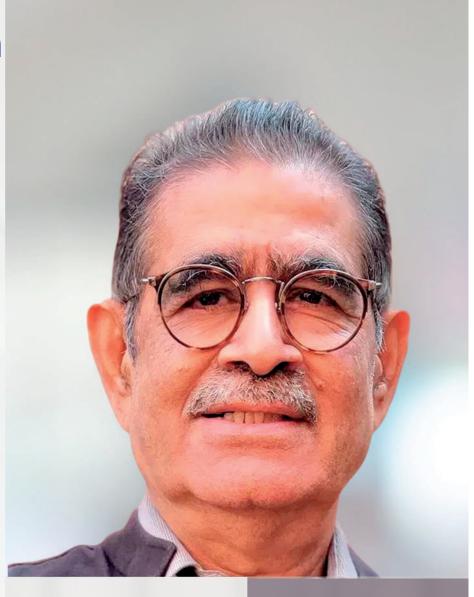
Ankit is an alumnus of IIT Guwahati. He is a pioneer in building Al driven platforms for tracking research and innovation. He set up Incubiq, India's first automated patent and research tracker which is backed by the Government of India, the South Korean government, and IIT Dhanbad.



## mahesh uppal

INSTITUTE NOMINEE

Mahesh holds a PhD from IIT Kanpur. He is an alumnus of St Stephens, New Delhi; City University, London and Cambridge University. Over the last thirty years, he has emerged as one of the foremost experts in India in the area of public policy and telecom strategy.

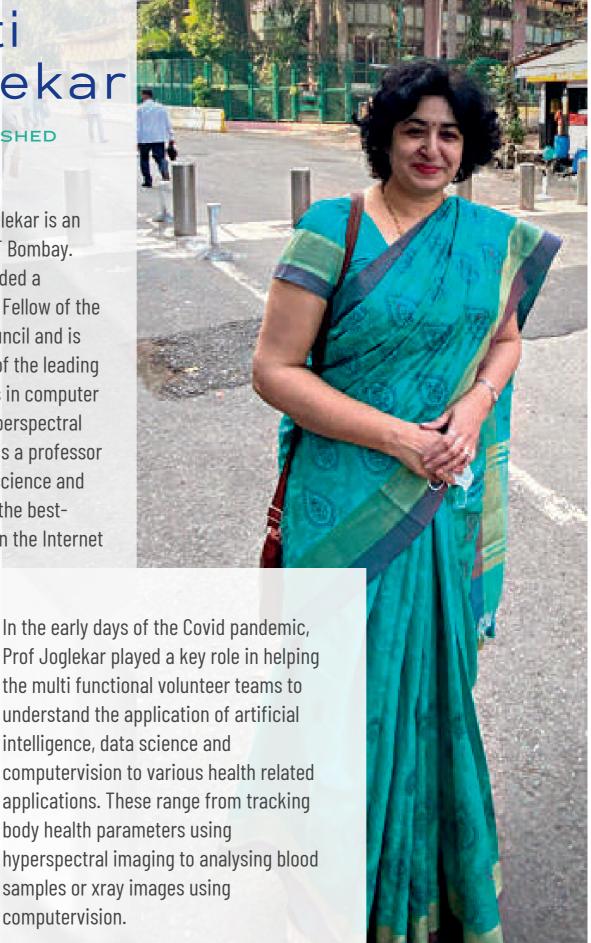


Dr Mahesh Uppal was part of the core team which helped conceptualise the IIT Alumni Council & related entities between 2014 & 2019. He contributed extensively to the process of creating TRAI. As a consultant, he has closely tracked the evolution of India's telecom sector. He has advised national & global businesses, UN and other international agencies, as well as civil society groups. His comments on emerging policy & regulatory issues are widely reported the media.

## jyoti joglekar

DISTINGUISHED **FELLOW** 

Prof Jyoti Joglekar is an alumnus of IIT Bombay. She was awarded a Distinguished Fellow of the IIT Alumni Council and is rated as one of the leading global experts in computer vision and hyperspectral imaging. She is a professor of computer science and the author of the bestselling book on the Internet of Things.



## sanjiv goyal

**FELLOW** 

A visionary futurist, former corporate leader, angel investor, and Silicon Valley tech entrepreneur, pursues innovation and entrepreneurship to harness cutting-edge technology, improve humanity's quality of life, and overcome poverty.



mrinalini gupta

HONORARY **FELLOW** 

A seasoned fund manager with a successful track record for building Indian brands and growing profitable businesses in the natural and virtual world. Founder of the Ashmolean Fund.



## vinay juvekar

CHARTER MEMBER

Prof Vinay Juvekar is a highly acclaimed and well-regarded academician. He is an alumnus of UDCT, Mumbai University and spent a significant part of his career as a faculty of the Dept of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay. He served as the L&T Chair Professor of Chemical Engineering at IIT Bombay.



Prof Juvekar joined IIT Bombay in 1984. Over the last 40 years, he has played a vital role in developing indigenous technologies in petrochemicals & various other aspects of chemical engineering, including colloids & nanotechnology. In recent years, he has applied his knowledge of quantitative modelling to areas such as microbial reactors & micro/nanosystems. He is widely considered one of Asia's best chemical engineering academicians, with several publications, patents and research findings.

### srinivas rachakonda

CHARTER MEMBER

A seasoned corporate leader from the oil and gas industry. Senior Advisor McKinsey & Co, former President Essar Oil and founding team that built the Jamnagar oil refinery. Chemical Engineer from IIT Bombay.



## dheeraj rathi

PARTNER MEMBER

An alumnus of IIT Bombay, Dheeraj was the first IITian to lead a full function multi disciplinary CA Firm. This was pursuant to the regulators permitting engineers to lead CA firms. This move is expected to catalyse automation and data science in the compliance function for ease of doing business.

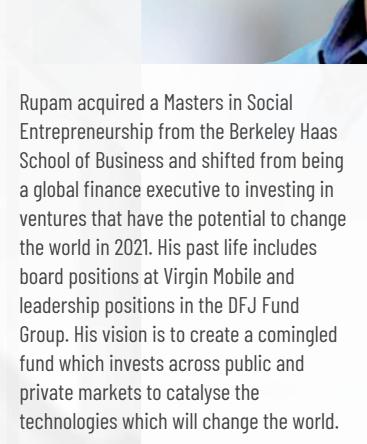


Dheeraj wears many hats - an angel investor, a passionate believer in modern healthcare, a keen student of data science, an extremely successful partner of a large professional firm and a board member of nearly twenty Indian companies. He represents the multi-disciplinary talent that is working assiduously to transform legacy professions like accountancy, taxation & management consulting through cutting-edge technologies ranging from Al to blockchain.

rupam shrivastava

PARTNER MEMBER

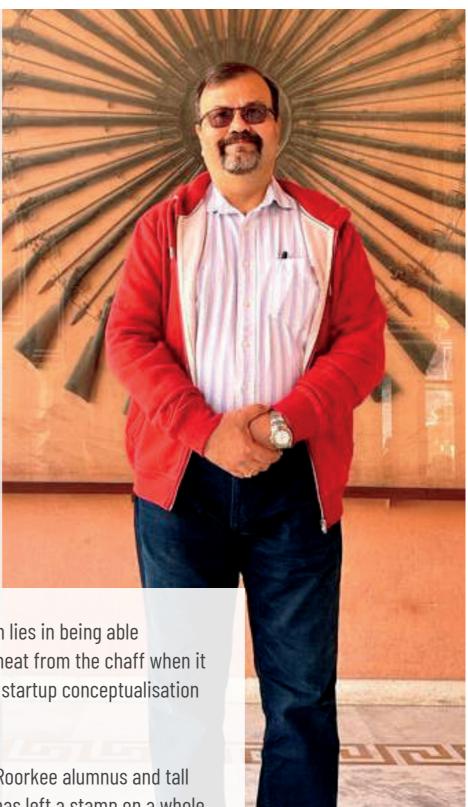
Rupam is a silver medalist from IIT Delhi, where he did a BTech in Electrical Engineering. He holds an MS from MIT, USA and an MBA from Colombia University. He has a CFA and is a global Tier! Finance professional.



## sanjay nagi

**PARTNER MEMBER** 

A seasoned decision support professional with a successful track record in angel investing, startup mentoring and management consultancy. Awarded as a Life Fellow of the IIT Alumni Council.



His key strength lies in being able separate the wheat from the chaff when it comes down to startup conceptualisation and strategy.

SANJAY, an IIT Roorkee alumnus and tall alumni leader, has left a stamp on a whole generation of startups in the NCR area. A person who walks his talk, startups mentored by him lead on metrics like good governance, sharp strategy and follow-up funding.

# iitalumni 5 PROJECTS

IIT Alumni Council was launched on Independence Day 2019 as the anchor organisation for a global movement of IIT Alumni who were committed to national development. The Forum was conceived of by the Council in 2020.

IIT Alumni Council initiatives are configured for

#### **SUPPORTING**

socio-economic development of India through technological and financial interventions

#### **PROMOTING**

Brand India and Brand IIT Alumni

#### **IMPLEMENTING**

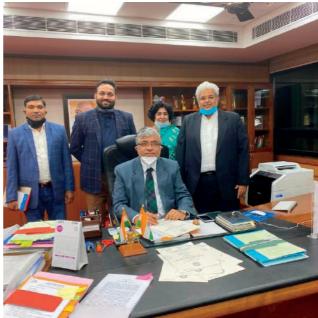
venture capital and startup paradigms for the above

# PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE FORUM



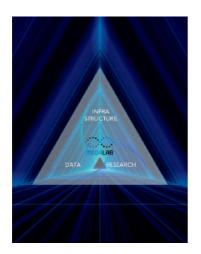












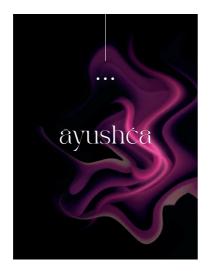


HEALTHSPAN ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE

The C19 Task Force was set up by the IIT Alumni Council as a Rs 700 crore initiative to catalyse the national fight against Covid. The C19 Task Force morphed into the MegaLab initiative in August 2021.

Forum acts as the sole advisors to the MegaLab initiative and their constituent startups. PanIIT Foundation, a section 8 company is the anchor entity of the MegaLab initiative.

www.megalab.iitac.online



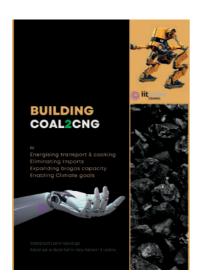
## ayushća

HEALTH
VILLAGE WITH
SUSTAINABLE
HABITATS

Ayushca has been conceptualised as a next-generation, self-contained private biosphere to accommodate up to 50,000 residents. The smart health villages have been configured to fit in three land parcel sizes - 30, 125 & 300 acres. IIT Alumni Council proposes to build 25 Ayushca Health Villages over the next 15 years. Each Ayushca will include an Ayurvedic hospital, a wellness resort, a wellness estate, a critical care centre, an IIT alumni club, diagnostic labs, organic farming etc.

Forum acts as the sole advisors to the Ayushca project. Ayushca was conceived of by the Incubator initiative and is housed in a Section 8 company - PanIIT Foundation.

www.ayushca.iitac.online



#### COAL2CNG

MICROBIAL
METHANATION
OF COAL
TECHNOLOGY

COAL2CNG has been conceptualised in the context of the current climate changes challenges. The initiative envisages converting underground coal into CNG at a global scale with an ambition to make India the largest producer of CNG within ten years. The energy basket envisaged includes coal, thorium and solar with all the coal being converted to CNG and thorium being used as a fuel for nuclear energy.

Forum acts as the sole advisors to the Coal2CNG project. Work related to a pre-construction research for a demonstration unit of 500,000 tpa is currently underway.

www.coal.iitac.online



#### BATUATECH

AUTOMATED PROJECT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

BatuaTech has been conceptualised as a fully automated Al powered stack for the financial management of projects, startups & social initiatives. The cloud based SaaS solution is fully compatible with legacy accounting systems like Tally and has been built ground up for automated concurrent audit, automated compliance filings and banking systems interface. The overall objective is to minimise the effort involved thus contributing to better compliance, lower leakage and ease of doing business.

Forum acts as the sole advisors to the BatuaTech project. Work related to creation of the backend cloud software has been completed.

www.batua.iitac.online



2019-2022



The IIT Alumni Council invested most of its resources in its third year to set up and initialise the MegaLab mission which housed all the healthcare related projects of the Council. The Forum carried out a impact assessment study for the Council's third year and fourth year operations.

Forum acts as the sole impact assessment and project evaluation advisors to the Council. The IIT Alumni Council is a Section 8 non-profit company.

www.anniversary.iitac.online

## 6

## CONNECT

mailbox@forums.org.in

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Forum refers to PanIIT Forum, an Indian non-profit company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, its network of member firms, and their related entities. Forum and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities.

Please see www.forums.org.in for a more detailed description of the Forum and its member firms.

This material is prepared by the Governance Council of the Forum. The Council was manned by a group of alumni drawn from various mission organisations of the IIT Alumni Council. None of the Council members has received any remuneration for the services rendered. No sponsorship or fee has been received for the same.

Donations made to the Forum are of a purely charitable nature and do not entitle the donor to any kind of preferential treatment or arrangement.

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