



# RICH COMMUNIQUE

April - June 2025



## COVER STORY



### » RAMP Roundtables – Sector-Specific Strategies to Strengthen Telangana’s MSMEs

In Q2 2025, RICH deepened its engagement with the MSME sector through three dedicated roundtables as part of the RAMP (Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance) initiative...



### » PHC Visit in Devarakonda Region



### » MoU signing with IIMR



### » RAMP ROUNDTABLES – SECTOR-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN TELANGANA’S MSMEs

In Q2 2025, RICH deepened its engagement with the MSME sector through three dedicated roundtables as part of the RAMP (Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance) initiative. These high-level discussions brought together stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and startups to co-develop strategies that foster innovation, improve regulatory compliance, and enhance competitiveness. The insights generated are shaping RICH’s ongoing efforts to create sector-specific interventions and policy recommendations.

Inaugural remarks through all sessions by Shri Rajkumar Ohatker and Rashmi Pimpale highlighted the state’s commitment to green, innovation-led growth.

#### **Plastics Cluster – 15 May 2025**

Held in Hyderabad, this roundtable focused on challenges within the plastics sector, with a particular emphasis on promoting a circular economy. Key discussions revolved around sustainable alternatives to gaps in recycling infrastructure, and the lack of widespread certification frameworks. Industry leaders, and MSMEs shared their perspectives on transitioning to green practices, incentivising segregation-at-source, and aligning with emerging sustainability standards.

[\[View Event Post\]](#)



## Pharma & Chemical Cluster – 28 May 2025

This roundtable brought together representatives from MSMEs, regulatory experts, and academic researchers to focus on raising compliance levels and encouraging clean chemistry adoption. Discussions centred on enabling smaller firms for shared R&D infrastructure, and collaborative models for regulatory readiness. The session also explored how digital transformation, particularly in process monitoring and traceability, could help MSMEs remain competitive in the international markets.

[\[View Event Post\]](#)

## Food Processing Cluster – 25 June 2025

The roundtable on the Food Processing Sector under the RAMP initiative brought together industry leaders, MSMEs, startups, and policymakers to discuss strategies for driving sustainability, innovation, and policy alignment.

A panel of experts from Continental Coffee, Sid's Farm, Nutricircle, and APEDA shared insights on energy efficiency, clean technologies, and collaborative R&D. The roundtable concluded with a call for collective action, focusing on ZED clusters, shared infrastructure, awareness drives, and startup-led solutions to position Telangana as a leader in climate-resilient MSMEs.

[\[View Event Post\]](#)

# SECTOR-SPECIFIC HIGHLIGHTS

## LIFE SCIENCES



### » AID COHORT-7 CLINICAL & INDUSTRY IMMERSION

The AID Cohort-7 Clinical & Industry Immersion (March 19–21, 2025) concluded successfully, giving startups valuable exposure to hospitals, research centres, and industry partners.

Over three days, participants gained insights into product development, regulatory pathways, and clinical validation through visits to CSSH, Atharv Ability, Kamineni Hospitals, Malla Reddy School, Startoon Labs, T-Works, and T-Hub.

The immersion fostered collaboration and real-world learning to help refine healthcare innovations.

[\[View Post\]](#)



### » POSHANA JATHARA – NALGONDA

RICH was invited to participate in “Poshانا Jathara,” an awareness event organized by the Women Welfare and Child Development Department in Devarakonda, Nalgonda District.

Ahead of the event, Team RICH met with Ms. Ila Tripathi, Collector of Nalgonda, for a meaningful discussion on public health priorities in the region. RICH will continue to explore opportunities in public health innovation and how it can support grassroots-level health initiatives in the district.

We look forward to continued engagement and collaboration with the district administration on impactful, community-driven health interventions.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » WOMEN IN STEM

We received over 350 applications from aspiring young women across the country for the 3rd cohort (UG batch) of the Women in STEM programme. After careful evaluation based on merit, motivation, and alignment with the programme's goals, 20 outstanding students were selected to join the UG batch of third cohort.

The closure of second cohort was celebrated with an impact showcase highlighting the transformative journeys of the scholars.

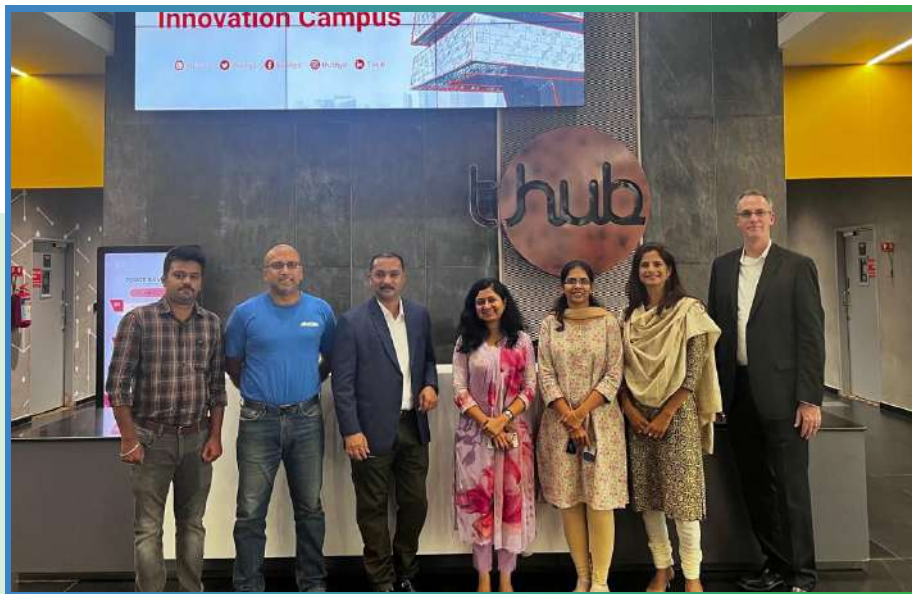
[\[ Impact Report | Cohort 2 Closure \]](#)



## » INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AI IN HEALTHCARE

The event, co-organised by Yashoda Hospitals, Google, Microsoft, IIITH, and ISB, brought together experts to explore AI's role in revolutionising healthcare. Panel discussions addressed AI's role in diagnostics, data privacy, and responsible deployment.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » AMGEN MEET

RICH had the pleasure of hosting the team from the Center for Observational Research – Amgen. The visit featured a meaningful exchange, where RICH showcased the strength and potential of Hyderabad's Life Sciences ecosystem and shared ongoing efforts to advance it by nurturing innovation, enabling cross-sector partnerships, and supporting startups and research institutions working at the intersection of science, technology, and healthcare.

[\[View Post\]](#)

## FOOD & AGRICULTURE



## » MoU WITH IIMR

With this MoU, we aim to build a strategic partnership between RICH and Syngenta to jointly support, mentor, and provide market and ecosystem access to agritech startups and FPOs, by leveraging each other's networks, expertise, and infrastructure for piloting innovations, capacity building, and advancing sustainable agricultural development.

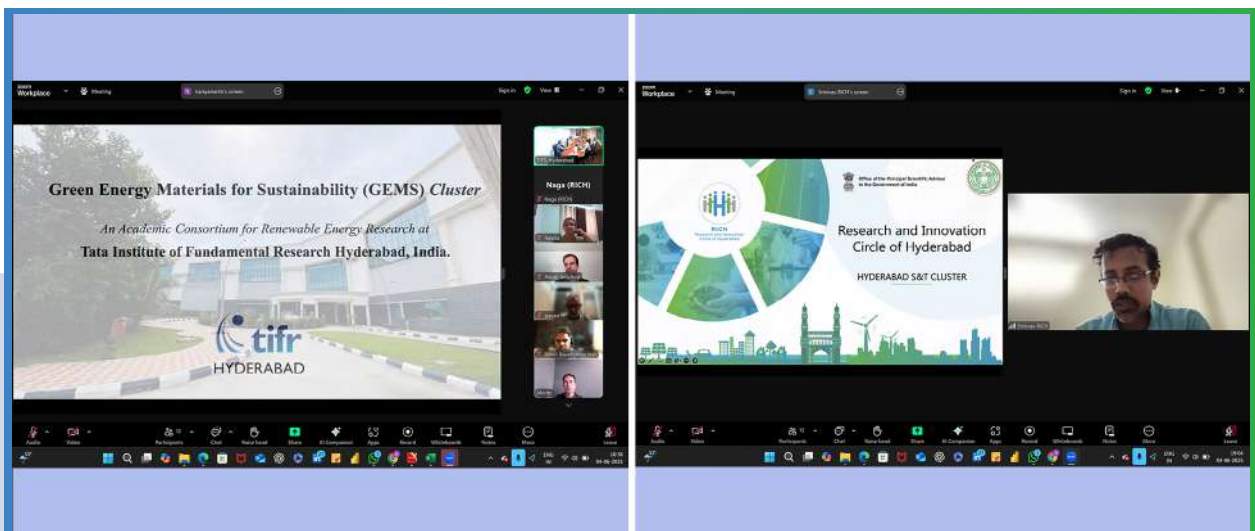
[\[View post\]](#)



## » MoU WITH SYNGENTA

This collaboration aims to bridge scientific innovation with grassroots agri-practices. Pilot programs will test digital advisory tools, integrated pest solutions, and climate-smart farming practices.

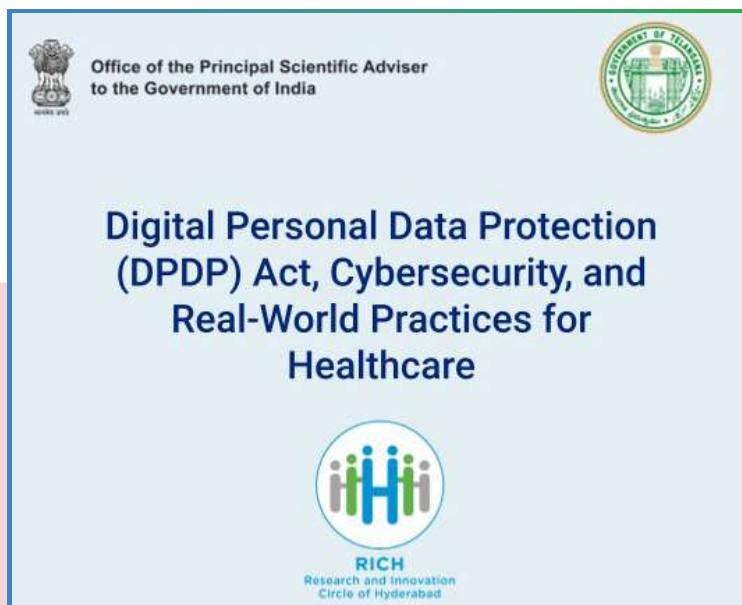
# SUSTAINABILITY



## » GEMS CLUSTER KICKOFF

This multi-disciplinary cluster is now developing prototypes of flexible batteries, hydrogen cell components, and recycled composite materials. RICH's coordination role includes industry onboarding and funding facilitation.

[\[View Event Post\]](#)



## » DPDP ACT WHITE PAPER

As India embraces a data-driven healthcare future, the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act represents a major shift in how patient data is governed.

In collaboration with NALSAR University and IIIT-Hyderabad, the Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad (RICH) has released a white paper based on a multi-stakeholder workshop exploring real-world practices, global benchmarks, and cybersecurity imperatives tailored to India's healthcare ecosystem. The paper features insights from legal experts, healthcare leaders, and innovators to help shape future-ready data governance in Indian healthcare.

[\[View Event Post\]](#)



## » PSA ANNUAL REPORT FEATURE

Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, released the S&T Clusters Annual Report 2024–2025 on June 26, 2025. The report highlights key outcomes from eight regional clusters working through a consortium-based model.

The initiative, launched under PM-STIAC, aims to address regional challenges with science-led solutions aligned to Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Prof. Sood called for stronger inter-cluster collaboration, while Dr. Parvinder Maini emphasized the need for deeper industry engagement in Phase 2.0.

[\[View Report\]](#)



# STARTUP SPOTLIGHT

---



## **Startup Name:** Kuppismart Solutions Pvt Ltd – Agri-Tech for Livestock

Livestockify is an innovative startup dedicated to transforming poultry farming through cutting-edge IoT and AI technologies. They have developed an advanced health monitoring device that analyzes bird vocalizations, water quality (monitoring and automating pH, temperature, and TDS), and incorporates a vision system for 24/7 hen behavior surveillance, automated counting, and weight estimation — all in real time.

This enables early disease detection and proactive management. Their solution empowers poultry farmers with actionable insights, optimizes flock health, enhances productivity, and promotes sustainable farming practices.

With Livestockify, they are pioneering a data-driven approach to revolutionize the poultry industry for a healthier, more efficient future.

[\[View Post\]](#)

# RICH ORGANISED SESSIONS

## » TIFR WORKSHOP

The workshop brought together researchers from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Telangana-based startups to discuss translational research strategies. Topics included early-stage tech licensing, co-owned IP mechanisms, and the structuring of academia-startup joint grant proposals. The event laid the foundation for institutionalised research collaborations backed by proof-of-concept funding.

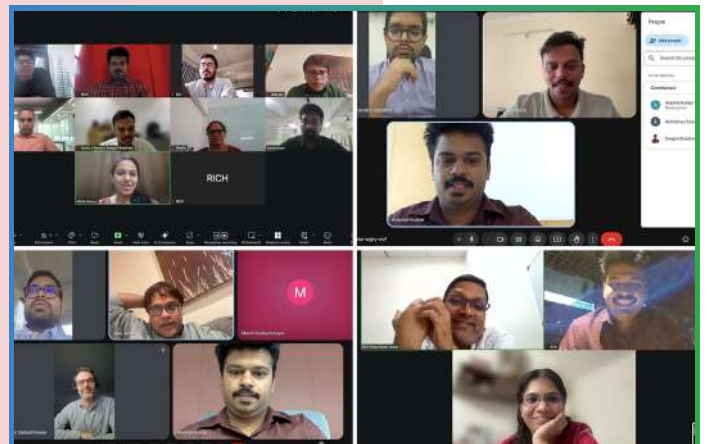
[\[View post\]](#)



## » AID COHORT 7 MENTORSHIP SERIES

Conducted over a series of structured engagements, this mentorship program supported AID startups in addressing domain-specific challenges. Founders received tailored guidance on clinical validation, product-market fit, and scaling strategies. RICH curated mentors from its wide network of healthcare professionals, startup advisors, and IP experts. These sessions have directly contributed to investment readiness and accelerated regulatory pathways for several cohort members.

[\[View Post\]](#)




# » WOMEN IN STEM SEMINARS

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**Syngene csr**  
Enabled by Bilcon Foundation

**Navigating Academic Careers: Lessons and Insights from the Professional Journey of Dr. Pallavi Rao**  
Principal Research Scientist & Deputy Head of the Center for Advancement of Research Skills (CARS), DRIS



*“There are countless opportunities out there, and you just need to tap into them. I would like to say - be curious. Keep that curiosity alive and dare to dream big. Aim high, and I'm confident that each of you has the capability to achieve it.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**INDUSTRY-DRIVEN SKILLS AND CAREER GROWTH: A Conversation with Dr. Nidhi Khurana**



Science Career Coach Head of Marketing and New Initiatives at GV Research Platform Chief Scientific Officer at Shionogi Therapeutics

*“Never follow the herd blindly. Ask questions, never shy away from expressing doubts, and always seek clarifications when needed. However, ensure you ask the right person and always make informed decisions.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**Syngene csr**  
Enabled by Bilcon Foundation

**Scholarship and Mentorship Programme for Women in STEM education and careers (Second Cohort)**


**Seminar Topic: Securing research grants: Strategies for students to stand out by Dr. Sravanti Vaidya**



*“It is good to have just persistence, diligence, and passion and that will make the difference with good or mixed preparation and responses to the various questions about what you present.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**EMERGING TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS IN LIFE SCIENCES.**



Sushmita Sundar  
Head of Life Sciences

*“Research is the foundation of innovation, and every small step in discovery holds the potential to create monumental change. Stay what you want, stay open to collaborations, learn from others, and draw inspiration from their journeys—but always remember, the ultimate decision rests with you. The world is wide open for you to make your mark.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**FROM DATA TO DIALOGUE: The Power of Science Communication**



Dr. Sarah Iqbal

*“Be fearless in your choices, whether it's pursuing science, research, or any other path. Don't let the opinions of others hold you back. Be braveness, independent, confident, and always stay engaged with science, as it's not just a subject but a way of life. And most importantly, be fearless about communication. Speak up, make yourself seen and known in any space, whether personal or professional. Overcome hesitation and make your voice heard.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**THE CAREER TOOLKIT: Essential Skills for Beginners**



Ms. Ritishi Soughi  
Success and Finance at Surbana

*“The first few years of your career are for learning and growing, so work hard and give your best. It will set you up for success in the years to come. If you're entering the workplace, stand tall, be confident, and never let anyone silence your voice. Believe in yourself and own your space with grace.”*

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

**GROW WITH CONFIDENCE: A Personality Development Session,**



Executive Director of Bilcon Foundation  
Program Manager, DRIS

*“Speak up. Whether in a classroom, a lab, or a boardroom, your ideas matter. The world needs more women with the courage to communicate confidently. Before expecting others to believe in you, you must recognize your own strengths. Confidence begins the moment you acknowledge your potential.”*

## RICH AT EVENTS



### » START-UP MAHAKUMBH – DELHI, 3–5 APRIL 2025

RICH took part in the Start-up Mahakumbh, one of India's largest and most dynamic gatherings of the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. As a representative of Telangana's robust startup and research landscape, RICH showcased its programs across agri-tech, med-tech, and sustainability innovation. The team connected with key stakeholders from central ministries, startup enablers, investors, and other state delegations, highlighting the impact of initiatives like SISFS, RAMP, and Women in STEM. The event provided valuable exposure for Telangana-based innovation models and led to several collaborative conversations on national policy alignment and co-incubation strategies.

[\[View Post\]](#)



### » GREENTECH HACKATHON & E-SUMMIT – VASAVI COLLEGE, 8 APRIL 2025

Agri team from RICH participated as a jury panel member in the Greentech Hackathon organised by Vasavi Engineering College, where student innovators presented novel ideas in sustainable agriculture, clean energy, and waste management. Evaluating over 40 prototypes, RICH's team engaged directly with students to mentor and guide them on market fit, technology readiness, and pilot validation. Winning solutions included AI-enabled soil sensors, solar irrigation modules, and recyclable bio-packaging alternatives. The summit was instrumental in surfacing youth-led ideas aligned with RICH's sustainability mission and in building a bridge between academia and field-ready innovation.



## » AGTECH LEARNING TABLE – ISB & SAMUNNATI, 9 JUNE 2025

This policy-focused session convened thought leaders from agriculture, finance, and technology sectors to reimagine digital public infrastructure (DPI) for farmer producer organisations (FPOs). RICH contributed key takeaways from its blockchain traceability and satellite-linked advisory pilots, helping frame best practices for data-sharing and interoperability. The dialogue also explored ecosystem governance, FPO digitisation, and co-designing of DPI tools for scale. RICH's presence ensured that on-ground implementation realities were well-represented in the roadmap discussions.



## » GREENCO SUMMIT 2025 – HICC, 12–13 JUNE 2025

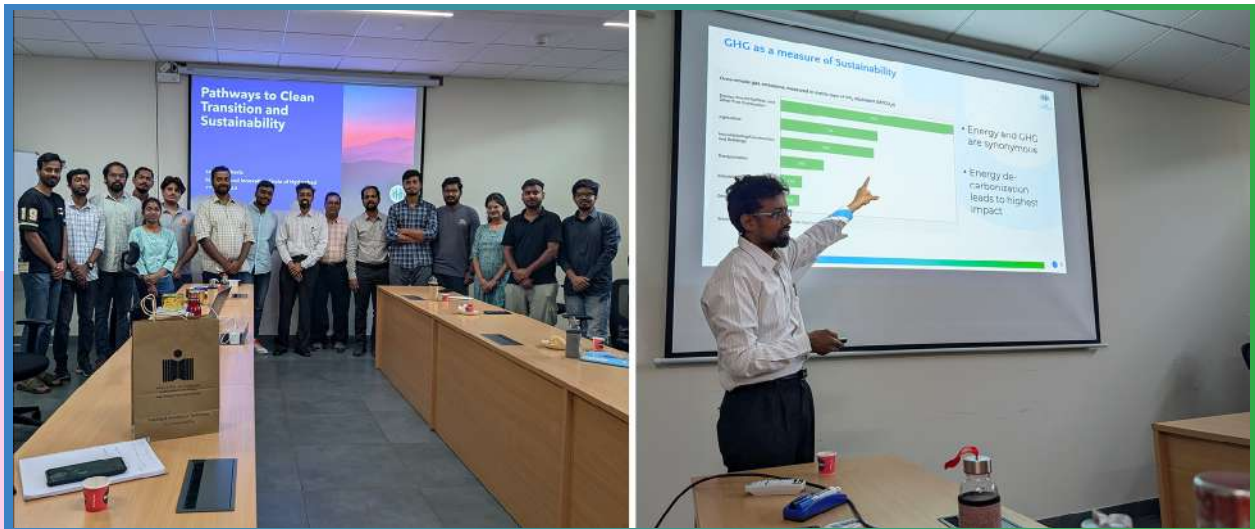
Organised by CII, the GreenCo Summit brought together leading industrialists, sustainability experts, and government officials to advance India's green manufacturing agenda. RICH's Sustainability team participated in knowledge-sharing sessions and bilateral meetings with potential collaborators in energy storage, circular materials, and industrial decarbonisation. The summit also served as a launchpad for dialogue around RICH's GEMS cluster initiative and its integration with state-level MSME policies.



## » INDO-NORWEGIAN TASKFORCE ON ENERGY – NEW DELHI, 28 APRIL 2025

RICH represented Telangana in this strategic bilateral meeting aimed at advancing clean energy collaborations. Discussions revolved around joint pilots in solar, offshore wind, battery storage, and hydrogen fuels. RICH presented its ongoing collaboration with Smart Innovation Norway under the DREAMS project, which focuses on demand response and smart grid readiness. The taskforce reaffirmed the importance of sub-national partnerships in executing scalable energy solutions.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » IITH LECTURE ON CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITIONS – 7 APRIL 2025

Invited as part of the Greenko School of Sustainability's expert lecture series, RICH's Director of Sustainability addressed postgraduate students on the pathways to a green transition in India. The session focused on industrial symbiosis, green cement, flexible batteries, and urban energy management. It was followed by lab visits and one-on-one interactions with faculty to explore research partnership opportunities.

## » RIVO ROUNDTABLE – VACCINATION & ONCOLOGY

Organised by PHFI and supported by Pfizer, the RIVO Roundtable brought national stakeholders together to discuss equity in access to oncology treatments and vaccines. Dr. Sushmitha Sundar represented RICH and shared use cases from the life sciences cohort that addressed preventive care through diagnostics and early detection. The session explored models for collaborative trials, funding for translational research, and data stewardship in public health.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » INDIA BIOPHARMA LEADERS CONCLAVE – 5TH EDITION

This premier biopharma summit provided a platform for RICH to contribute to the national discourse on scaling up clinical trials, contract manufacturing, and R&D funding. Presentations focused on emerging needs for quality assurance, harmonisation with international regulatory frameworks, and co-creation between government labs and private players.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » ROUNDTABLE ON PREVENTIVE HEALTH – IIIT-H, STARTUP SATURDAY

Held at the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, IIIT Hyderabad, the event gathered early-stage healthtech startups, investors, and researchers to explore solutions in preventive health. RICH's interventions were showcased as examples of public-private collaboration in enabling diagnostics, wearable technologies, and awareness campaigns in low-resource settings.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » GEOSPATIAL APPLICATIONS IN AGRICULTURE – FGD

The focus group, co-convened with NRSC, aimed to identify real-world use cases for geospatial data in agriculture. Startups like Vassar Labs and Crop Intellix demonstrated solutions for yield estimation, irrigation scheduling, and pest forecasting. The session produced a roadmap for integrating satellite data layers with local advisory systems and community dashboards.



## » AI FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT – AIRCN FGD, 6 JUNE 2025

This roundtable under the AIRCN initiative engaged TSRTC, transport technologists, and academic researchers in designing AI-based interventions for real-time fleet management, passenger load analysis, and emission reduction. RICH presented a proposal for piloting these tools within Telangana's transit network.

[\[View Post\]](#)



## » ROUNDTABLE ON GREEN BUILDING MATERIALS – 3 APRIL 2025

Held in partnership with Villgro Foundation and Habitat for Humanity, this roundtable addressed barriers to adopting low-carbon materials in construction. Industry and research experts discussed certification needs, incentive frameworks, and design standardisation. The dialogue is set to feed into a pan-India market assessment and demonstration pilots to promote green materials in public infrastructure projects.





## » RICH JOINS PANEL FOR AKASH EPAM SOCIAL IMPACT INNOVATION PROGRAM

On June 13, Ravikiran G, Director – Food & Agriculture at RICH, participated as a panelist in the Akash EPAM Social Impact Innovation Program hosted by AIC IIT-H. The session was held to evaluate startups shortlisted for Cohort 3 of the program.





## **Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad**

**RICH, Cabin No. 16, T-Hub Foundation,  
Plot No 1/C, Sy No 83/1, Raidurgam Panmaktha,  
Hyderabad Knowledge City,  
Hyderabad, Telangana – 500081  
Email: [cmanager-rich@telangana.gov.in](mailto:cmanager-rich@telangana.gov.in)**

