

RICH COMMUNIQUÉ

Jan - Mar 2026



COVER STORY



» Advancing Healthcare Innovation and the Bioeconomy

Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad (RICH) launched the Telangana–Hospital–Industry–Innovation Bridge at BioAsia 2026, marking a significant step towards strengthening the state's healthcare innovation ecosystem.



» Indo–Norwegian Task Force on Energy

RICH participated in the session and presented updates on the DREAMS project.



» RAMP Roundtable Discussions

RICH conducted roundtable discussions under the Greening of MSMEs project of the RAMP initiative.



» ADVANCING HEALTHCARE INNOVATION AND THE BIOECONOMY

Key initiatives from BioAsia 2026

TELANGANA–HOSPITAL–INDUSTRY–INNOVATION BRIDGE

Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad (RICH) launched the Telangana–Hospital–Industry–Innovation Bridge at BioAsia 2026, marking a significant step towards strengthening the state's healthcare innovation ecosystem.

Aligned with the Telangana Rising 2047 Vision, the initiative is designed to position Telangana as a global hub for healthcare innovation, translational research, and medtech manufacturing by enabling deeper integration between clinical environments and industry.

The initiative was formally launched by the Hon'ble Minister for IT & Industries, Shri D. Sridhar Babu, in the presence of senior government officials and leaders from the healthcare ecosystem. The launch brought together representatives from leading hospitals including AIG Hospitals, Kamineni Hospitals, LVPEI Centre for Technology Innovation, Ozone Hospitals, and others across Telangana.

Designed as a structured bridge between clinical ecosystems and industry, the programme moves beyond conventional collaboration models by embedding clinical and industry immersion pathways into the innovation lifecycle.

THE INITIATIVE FOCUSES ON FOUR KEY COMPONENTS:

- » **Clinical Immersions:** Enabling startups, researchers, and industry stakeholders to gain first-hand exposure to hospital workflows, identify unmet clinical needs, and understand validation pathways
- » **Industry Immersions:** Providing structured access to medtech manufacturing facilities, R&D centres, regulatory processes, and commercialisation ecosystems
- » **Capacity Building & Co-Development:** Supporting innovation through workshops, regulatory guidance, IPR advisory, and clinical validation frameworks
- » **Innovation Showcasing Platforms:** Creating opportunities for solution demonstration, cross-sector collaboration, and investor and market linkages

Through these components, the programme aims to strengthen Telangana's healthcare innovation pipeline and enable the development of clinically relevant, market-ready solutions.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)

FROM LAB TO MARKET: THE FUTURE OF BIOECONOMY

BioAsia 2026 marked an important milestone in advancing conversations around the future of biomanufacturing and India's role in the global bioeconomy. As part of the event, C4IR Telangana, together with the World Economic Forum and RICH, co-branded and conducted a dedicated biomanufacturing track focused on advancing global bioeconomy discussions.

The convening brought together policymakers, industry leaders, investors, researchers, and technology experts for focused discussions on scaling biomanufacturing capabilities and strengthening global supply chains. Sessions highlighted India's unique position to build on its leadership in vaccine manufacturing and expand into next-generation bioproduction. The sessions reinforced India's leadership in vaccine manufacturing and its emerging role in next-generation biomanufacturing.

Key discussions emphasised the importance of collaborative infrastructure, localized feedstocks, and early integration of commercial realities to enable efficient and scalable production systems. The growing potential of precision fermentation was also highlighted, particularly its ability to convert regional inputs into high-quality protein while reducing reliance on cold-chain logistics.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- » Launch of Telangana–Hospital–Industry–Innovation Bridge at BioAsia 2026
- » Focus on clinical–industry integration and translational healthcare innovation
- » Programme structured across immersions, capacity building, and innovation platforms
- » Biomanufacturing track convened with C4IR Telangana and World Economic Forum
- » Emphasis on scaling bioeconomy through infrastructure and innovation ecosystems
- » Key focus areas: vaccine manufacturing, precision fermentation, translational pathways

For more details: [Please Visit](#)





SECTOR-SPECIFIC HIGHLIGHTS

SUSTAINABILITY

» Indo-Norwegian Task Force on Energy

The Indo-Norwegian Task Force on Energy convened on 25 March 2026 at Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, New Delhi, with participation from stakeholders across India and Norway.

The session was co-chaired by Abhay Bakre, Mission Director, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, and Arvinn Gadgil, Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of Norway in India.

Discussions covered renewable energy opportunities, commercial partnerships, and progress on bilateral MoUs, with participation from companies across sectors such as solar, hydrogen, carbon capture, and energy storage. Technical cooperation areas included hydrogen safety, geothermal energy, and demand-side energy efficiency.

RICH, along with SIN and NPCL, participated in the session and presented updates on the DREAMS (Automated Demand Response) project, including its ongoing implementation and use cases in demand-side energy management.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» RAMP – Greening of MSMEs | Contract Signing with CII

On 9 March 2026, a contract was signed between RICH and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the Greening of MSMEs project under the RAMP initiative.

The engagement focuses on cluster-level interventions, stakeholder engagement, and conducting energy and carbon footprint assessments. It also includes the implementation of green technologies to support MSMEs in transitioning towards more sustainable and efficient operations.

» KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Indo-Norwegian Task Force held on 25 March 2026
- Participation from stakeholders across India and Norway
- Focus areas: renewable energy, hydrogen, carbon capture, energy storage
- RICH presented updates on the DREAMS project
- Contract signed with CII under RAMP initiative



STARTUP SPOTLIGHT

» Gudlyf

Gudlyf, working on Type 4 composite cylinders for high-pressure hydrogen storage, secured support from the Technology Development Board (Department of Science & Technology, Government of India) during the quarter.

The support is aligned with the development of indigenous hydrogen storage systems, with a focus on enabling solutions for high-pressure applications within the clean energy ecosystem.

Sector: Sustainability

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Thremear Pvt. Ltd.

Thremear Pvt. Ltd., a startup from the Acceleration Initiative for Devices, Diagnostics and Digital Health (AID) – Cohort 5, was granted its second patent during the quarter.

The patented innovation focuses on early screening technologies for detecting hormonal imbalance conditions, including PCOS, subfertility, and pre-menopause, as part of its work in women's health diagnostics.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Vyli Health

Vyli Health, a Sparcolife Digital Health initiative and part of the AID – Cohort 1, was granted a patent during the quarter.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Neordent Healthcare Solutions

Neordent Healthcare Solutions received a patent grant for its smart toothbrush technology designed to provide personalised feedback on oral health using imaging and artificial intelligence.

Sector: Life Sciences



» Miraqules

Miraqules received CDSCO clearance for commercial manufacturing and clinical deployment of its product designed for rapid control of severe bleeding in trauma situations, including emergency care scenarios.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



RICH ORGANISED EVENTS / SESSIONS

» Delaware Delegation Visit

RICH hosted a delegation from the State of Delaware, USA, on 6 March 2026, for a focused interaction with stakeholders from Telangana's research and innovation ecosystem to explore collaboration opportunities in Green Hydrogen and Bio-Pharma.

The delegation included representatives from the University of Delaware, NIIMBL, and the Delaware Prosperity Partnership.

RICH presented an overview of Telangana's science and technology ecosystem, including Green Hydrogen initiatives, the BioE3 programme, and Energy Leap, a Green Hydrogen Technology Accelerator Programme.

The session brought together leading institutions such as TIFR Hyderabad, ARCI, CSIR-IICT, JNTU Hyderabad, and NIT Warangal, enabling discussions on research collaboration and workforce development.

Sector: Sustainability

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» RAMP Roundtable Discussions

RICH, in collaboration with the Commissionerate of Industries, Government of Telangana, conducted roundtable discussions in Warangal and Hanumakonda on 23 January 2026 under the Greening of MSMEs project of the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) initiative.

The discussions brought together MSMEs from sectors including rice mills, granite, cold storage, cotton and ginning, along with startups, R&D institutions, industry associations, and government stakeholders to deliberate on sustainability, innovation, and policy convergence.

Key inputs covered RAMP initiatives and MSME policy interventions, the Greening of MSMEs roadmap and participation through EOIs, and the role of sustainability in improving global market competitiveness.

The session also included technical and capacity-building inputs, with CII delivering training on energy efficiency, and technology partners such as Thermax, Lauritz Knudsen, Tata Solar, and Schneider Electric showcasing solutions across clean energy and sustainable production.

Sector: Sustainability

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» DREAMS Resident Recognition and Awareness Session

As part of the DREAMS (Demand Response & Energy Management System) project, a Resident Recognition and Awareness Session was conducted on 11 January 2026 at SKA Metro Ville Society in the NPCL region as part of the Summer Pilot.

During the pilot, 10 high-performing consumers were identified from 100 participating households, with six residents from the society recognised for their energy-saving efforts.

The session saw participation from 35+ residents, with discussions focused on understanding electricity consumption patterns and practical approaches to reducing household energy usage. An additional 20 residents expressed interest in joining the ongoing Winter Pilot.

The programme continues to support consumer participation in demand response through energy monitoring, behavioural insights, and smart energy interventions.

Sector: Sustainability

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» RICH–Coromandel Industry Connect

The RICH–Coromandel Industry Connect Programme, held on 11 February 2026, brought together industry stakeholders and agri-tech startups to explore technology solutions for precision agriculture and crop advisory systems.

The session focused on key problem areas identified by Coromandel, including satellite-based crop health monitoring, pest and disease detection, crop nutrition advisory, rapid soil and water testing, and soil moisture and crop diagnostics using remote sensing technologies.

Startups including Vassar Labs, Bhoomicam, Aviac Technologies, NovosEdge, Ekosight, Proximal SoilSens, and Heliot presented solutions across remote sensing, satellite analytics, drone-based monitoring, IoT-enabled advisory platforms, and rapid soil diagnostics.

The session enabled discussions on potential collaborations and identification of suitable solution providers, while also highlighting areas for open innovation challenges and hackathons to address industry problem statements.

Sector: Food & Agriculture



» Leadership Insights: Founder Playbook – Working with Hospital Leadership

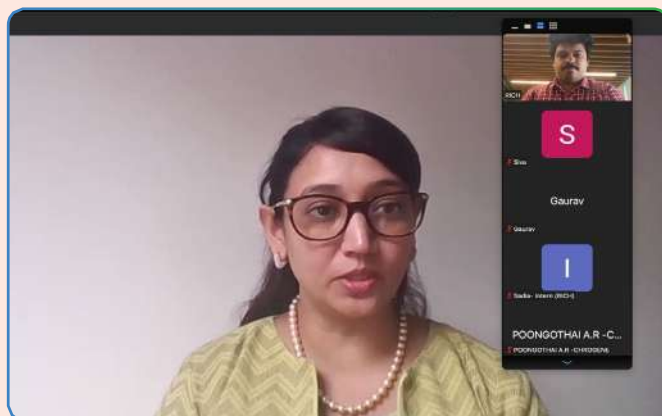
An interactive session titled “Leadership Insights: Founder Playbook – Working with Hospital Leadership” was conducted on 5 February 2026, featuring Ms. Deepti G, Managing Director at Ozone Hospitals and Founder of DSchool.

The session focused on practical aspects of engaging with hospital systems, highlighting the importance of co-creating value with hospitals, understanding decision-making structures, and identifying effective entry points for collaboration.

Discussions also covered factors such as timing, follow-up strategies, and common challenges faced by startups when working with hospital stakeholders.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Session with YDO – Young Doctors Organisation

RICH hosted clinicians from the YDO – Young Doctors Organisation on 31 January 2026, sharing an overview of the innovation ecosystem and its activities.

The session focused on enabling collaboration between clinicians and startups to address real-world clinical challenges. As part of the interaction, select startups had the opportunity to present their solutions directly to clinicians, facilitating discussions on feedback, clinical validation, and potential pilot engagements.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Navigating Buyers in MedTech | Interactive Session with Dr. Rajiv Chhibber

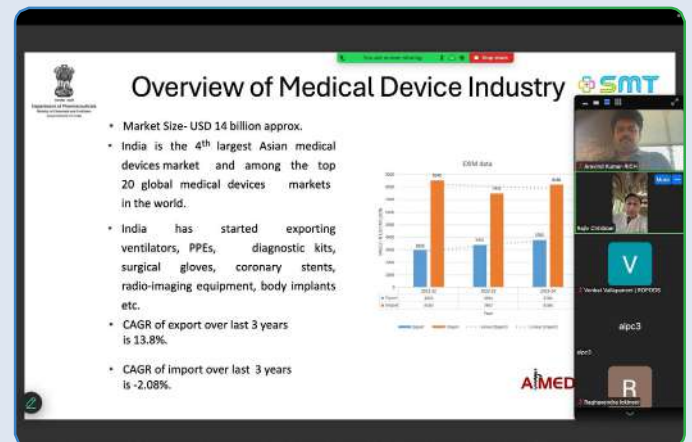
An interactive session on “Navigating Buyers in MedTech” was conducted, featuring Dr. Rajiv Chhibber (Sahajanand Medical Technologies), focusing on engagement with government, institutional, and global buyers in the MedTech sector.

The session provided an overview of the Indian medical devices landscape, highlighting its scale as a ~USD 14 billion market and its growing global presence across segments such as electronics, consumables, implants, diagnostics, and disposables.

Discussions focused on the transition from innovation to adoption, with emphasis on the broader ecosystem influencing purchasing decisions, including clinicians, hospital systems, regulators, and public health considerations. Key aspects such as clinical validation, compliance requirements, partnership-led approaches, and alignment with global standards were highlighted as critical for market access and scale.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



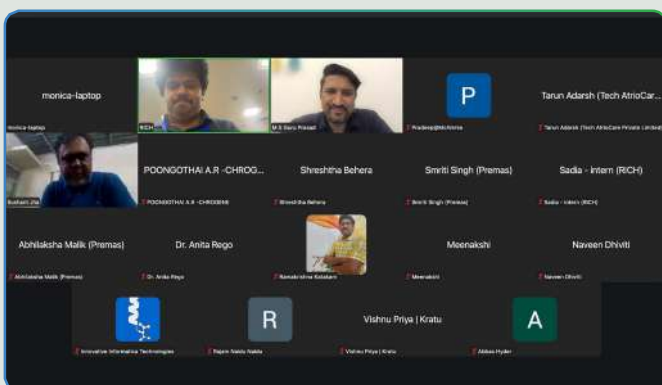
» International Business Development in Healthcare for Startups

A session on “International Business Development in Healthcare for Startups” was conducted on 5 March 2026 under the SAMARTHan@RICH – Capacity Building for Competency initiative.

The session was led by M.S. Guru Prasad, Associate Vice President – International Sales & Marketing at Apollo Hospitals, and focused on strategies for building and scaling international healthcare partnerships.

Discussions covered approaches to identifying sustainable global collaborations, building a strong international healthcare brand, and navigating cross-cultural negotiations and relationship management.

Sector: Life Sciences



WOMEN IN STEM

» Launch of Women in STEM Education & Careers – Cohort 3 (Postgraduate Batch)

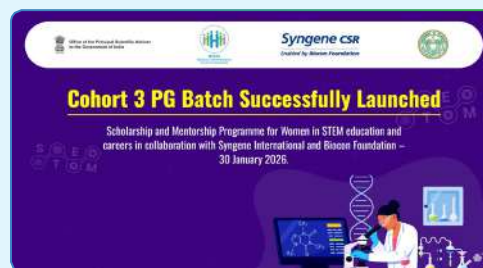
The Women in STEM Education & Careers – Cohort 3 (Postgraduate Batch) was launched on 30 January 2026 by RICH.

The programme is implemented by RICH in partnership with Syngene International Limited and Biocon Foundation – India, and focuses on supporting women pursuing advanced education and careers in STEM through mentorship, industry exposure, and structured engagement.

The Cohort 3 PG Batch brings together postgraduate scholars across STEM disciplines, with participation from a network of industry, research, and academic partners including CCMB, DRILS, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, BITS Pilani – Hyderabad Campus, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and other ecosystem organisations.

The launch event featured interactions with speakers from RICH, Biocon Foundation, Syngene, DRILS, CCMB, and industry representatives, providing participants with perspectives on research, industry pathways, and career development in STEM fields.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Mentor–Mentee Orientation and First Connect

The first Mentor–Mentee Connect under the Women in STEM Education & Careers – Cohort 3 (PG Batch) was convened by RICH on 19 February 2026, and hosted by Syngene International Limited.

The session began with a structured Mentor–Mentee Orientation, aimed at aligning expectations, roles, and engagement frameworks for the programme. This was followed by interactions with representatives from RICH, Syngene, and Biocon Foundation, focusing on mentoring approaches, industry readiness, and support systems for women in STEM.

As part of the engagement, participants were given a guided exposure to Syngene's laboratory facilities, providing insights into industry research environments.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)

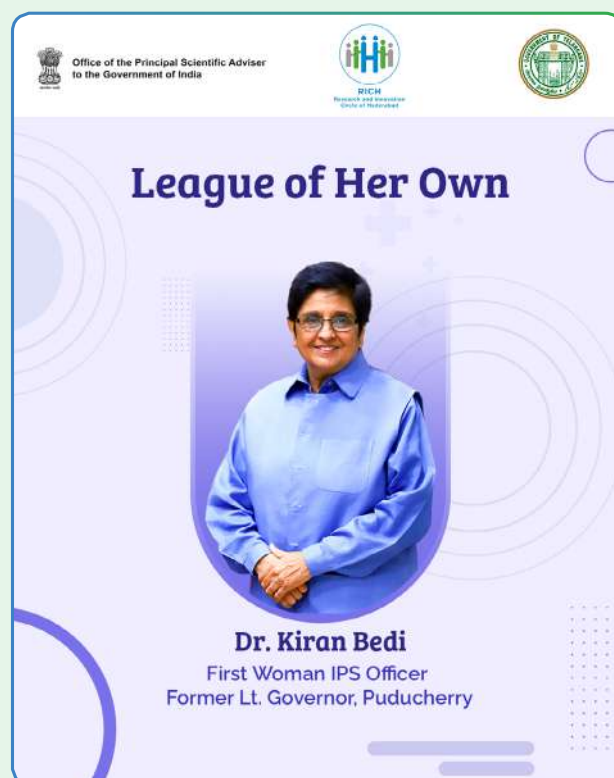
» League of Her Own – Dr. Kiran Bedi

In a recent edition of the League of Her Own series, Dr. Kiran Bedi reflected on her journey across public service and leadership.

She described her approach to the Indian Police Service as one grounded in discipline and responsibility, sharing experiences from key moments in her career, including leading a Republic Day Parade contingent and upholding the principle of equal application of the law.

Her reflections also touched on the role of personal experiences in shaping leadership perspectives, the importance of prevention in governance, and the significance of family support systems for women pursuing careers in STEM and leadership.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



RICH AT EVENTS

» I-HEAL 4.0 Session on AI in Healthcare and Care Delivery

Ms. Rashmi Pimpale moderated a panel discussion at a session on AI in Healthcare and Care Delivery, conducted as part of I-HEAL 4.0.

The session brought together clinicians, hospital leaders, and technology stakeholders to explore the role of AI in clinical workflows. Discussions covered areas such as clinical decision-making, patient management, startup-led innovation, and emerging applications of AI in healthcare delivery.

The interaction focused on practical perspectives on how AI is being applied within healthcare settings, with emphasis on its role in supporting clinical processes and improving patient care outcomes.

Sector: Life Sciences

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» Capacity Building and Skilling Programmes on Digital Agripreneurship

Ms. Maneesha Nangunoori, Project Manager – Food & Agriculture, RICH, delivered sessions under capacity-building programmes organised by the SBI ARISA Lab (AI, Robotics & IoT for Smart Agriculture), AgHub – PJTAU, on 19, 24, and 30 January 2026.

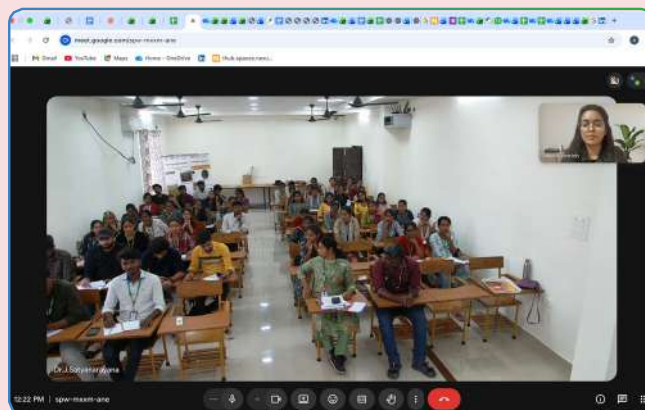
The sessions were conducted across programmes for final-year B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture students, as well as farmers and rural youth, focusing on digital agripreneurship and technology adoption in agriculture.

Key areas covered included the evolution of the agri-tech innovation ecosystem, government-led initiatives for digital agripreneurship, funding and incubation pathways for agri-startups, and schemes supporting digital agriculture adoption such as AIF Telangana, PMFME, NeGPA, PM-KUSUM, Digital Agriculture Mission, MIDH, and SMAM.

The sessions also addressed opportunities for rural youth skilling and adoption of digital agriculture practices, highlighting pathways for farmers and entrepreneurs to engage with emerging technologies and government-supported programmes.

Sector: Food & Agriculture

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» National Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

RICH, in collaboration with CII, participated in a National Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) organised by MSME-DFO on 23 March 2026 in Hyderabad.

The workshop focused on fostering awareness of intellectual property among MSMEs, highlighting its role in enabling innovation and unlocking value from intellectual assets. The session brought together MSMEs, startups, and ecosystem stakeholders for discussions on various aspects of IPR.

During the interaction, the RICH team presented an overview of its role in bridging research institutions, industry, startups, MSMEs, and government, along with key initiatives such as the RAMP scheme and the Greening of MSMEs project, encouraging participation from MSMEs.

Sector: Sustainability



» Launch of Outcome Report – First International Conference on S&T Clusters

The Outcome Report of the “First International Conference on Science & Technology (S&T) Clusters – Making Lives Easier through S&T” was released on 27 February 2026 during an online meeting convened by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India.

The conference, held on 4–5 December 2025 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, brought together stakeholders across government, industry, academia, international organisations, and startups to enable dialogue across six priority thematic areas.

The Outcome Report consolidates key insights, strategic priorities, and recommendations from the conference, outlining pathways for global cluster-to-cluster collaboration, interoperable innovation frameworks, and consortium-driven models to accelerate scalable and climate-aligned solutions.



MOUS & PARTNERSHIPS

» RICH – Microsoft MoU

RICH signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Microsoft, in partnership with Microsoft’s Datacenter Community Affairs team, to implement digital technologies for farmer livelihoods.

The collaboration focuses on leveraging data-driven and digital solutions to improve farmer livelihoods, enhance sustainability outcomes, and support innovation-led agricultural development.



» MoU with University of Western Australia and India's S&T Clusters

The University of Western Australia (UWA) and India's Science & Technology (S&T) Clusters, an initiative of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding on 3 March 2026.

The MoU establishes a structured, long-term collaboration across India's cluster-led innovation ecosystem, enabling joint research programmes, co-funding initiatives, startup collaboration, and student and faculty mobility across priority sectors.

This partnership integrates UWA into India's broader science and innovation framework, strengthening India–Australia collaboration and enabling cross-border engagement within the Indo-Pacific innovation ecosystem.

The MoU is an outcome of the First International Conference on S&T Clusters – Making Lives Easier through S&T, held on 4–5 December 2025 in New Delhi, which focused on fostering global partnerships and showcasing scalable technologies from India's S&T Cluster ecosystem.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



» MoU with PreferCo Centre of Excellence & Glatt Systems

PreferCo–Glatt Centre of Excellence for Bioprocess Scale-Up

RICH, in collaboration with PreferCo and Glatt Systems Private Limited, announced the launch of the PreferCo–Glatt Centre of Excellence for Bioprocess Scale-Up at BioAsia 2026 in Genome Valley.

The Centre of Excellence is designed to enable scale-up to 1,500L for microbial precision fermentation, integrating advanced automation, AI-enabled process intelligence, and global process expertise.

The facility is expected to support applications across biopharma, industrial biotechnology, functional foods, and sustainable materials, strengthening capabilities for large-scale biomanufacturing.

The initiative aligns with India's BioE3 vision and contributes to the expansion of bioprocessing infrastructure, supporting the development of scalable and globally competitive bio-based solutions.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)





LEADERSHIP INSIGHTS

During the quarter, Ms. Rashmi Pimpale, CEO, RICH, contributed to conversations across industry, academia, and policy platforms, sharing perspectives on innovation, leadership, and ecosystem development.

The following reflections capture key themes from these engagements.

LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVES | NEUCODE TALENT ACADEMY INTERACTION

Ms. Rashmi Pimpale, CEO, RICH, was featured in an interaction with NeuCode Talent Academy as part of a leadership-focused series exploring growth, decision-making, and professional journeys.

The conversation focused on her work at the intersection of research, academia, startups, and industry, with a focus on translating innovation into real-world impact. Drawing from her experience across the pharmaceutical sector and innovation ecosystem, she reflected on the importance of mindset shifts, continuous learning, and questioning established approaches in leadership roles.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)

TRANSLATING INNOVATION IN BIO-AI AND LIFE SCIENCES

Ms. Rashmi Pimpale shared perspectives during a panel discussion on the challenges of translating innovation in Bio-AI and life sciences.

The discussion highlighted that while scientific discovery remains strong, many innovations face challenges in validation, scalability, and industry alignment, often limiting their transition into real-world applications. A key gap identified was the mismatch in timelines between startups and industry, which can lead to delays in adoption without structured ecosystem support.

The session emphasised the need for enabling platforms that support validation and translation, to bridge the gap between research and deployment and facilitate wider adoption of innovation.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AS A STRATEGIC LEVER IN INNOVATION

Ms. Rashmi Pimpale shared perspectives during a panel discussion on the role of intellectual property (IP) in shaping startup outcomes.

The emphasis during the discussion was on the importance of integrating IP considerations early in the innovation lifecycle, positioning it as a foundational element rather than a later-stage addition. Early engagement with IP was noted as a key factor influencing how startups are perceived by investors and industry partners.

The session also brought out differing perspectives between founders and investors on IP strategy, and the need to align these expectations to enable stronger collaboration and long-term value creation.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)

ORGANISATIONAL DECISION-MAKING UNDER PRESSURE | XPLORE ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Rashmi Pimpale participated in a roundtable discussion on organisational behaviour and decision-making under pressure.

The discussion explored how policies, while well-intentioned, often evolve through interpretation and execution, leading to variability in outcomes. Key themes included the impact of ambiguity in policy design, the influence of leadership behaviour on organisational culture, and how repeated exceptions can gradually redefine acceptable practices.

The session also highlighted how, during periods of stress, organisations tend to prioritise core variables such as customer, revenue, and continuity, offering insights into how values are reflected in decision-making during critical moments.

For more details: [Please Visit](#)



Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad

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