

TiE-ISB Connect 2007 Attracts Record Number of Business Ideas and VC's

TiE-ISB Connect, India's most exciting networking event for entrepreneurs and investors has grown bigger and better. This year's conference will feature over 400 business plans, six new tracks, 50 VC's and globally recognised business leaders like **Dr. Anji Reddy**, Chairman, Dr. Reddy's Labs, **N Prasad**, Mylan Labs, **Verne Harnish**, Gazelles Inc, **Dr. C. Rangarajan**, Chairman, Twelfth Finance Commission and former Governor, Government of Andhra Pradesh and Reserve Bank of India, **Raghu Pillai**, President and Chief Executive, Retail Operations and Strategy, Reliance Stores and **Tom Campbell**, Dean, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley and **Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan**. The event is third in a row and will be held at the ISB Campus, [Hyderabad](#) from November 14 - 16.

The conference will begin on Wednesday, November 14, with 'Jumpstart your Venture' session followed by the inaugural session in the evening. TiE-ISB Connect has also lined up a series of entrepreneurs interest keynote and panel discussion sessions over the following two days. Industry experts will deliver speeches on entrepreneurial development and potential opportunities in sunrise sectors such as Retail, Life Sciences, Internet, mobile, healthcare Media and Entertainment. This information should help young entrepreneurs to expand their knowledge and network with potential investors and business mentors. Another popular, annual session 'Business Plan Showcase' will provide opportunities for young entrepreneurs to showcase their ideas and business plans to leading VC's of the world.

Speaking to the media, J A Chowdary, President, TiE, Hyderabad, said, "Young entrepreneurs turn to business leaders and mentors as their most trusted advisors, to help realize their dreams and assist them with determining the right path for becoming successful in their businesses. At TiE-ISB Connect we have created a number of touch points for our participants to ensure they find the right resources and information they require to shape their entrepreneurial dream."

"In addition to our annual networking platform, we have also put together a number of ways our participants can interact with the TiE-ISB team and business mentors. Compared to last year, we recorded a significant increase in the business plans submission and we also expect multifold increase in the delegate attendance.

Our strength lies in creating a solid line up of business thought leaders who share our vision of promoting entrepreneurial development,' said Prof. V. Chandrasekhar, Executive Director, Wadhvani Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (WCED) at the Indian School of Business, 'At TiE-ISB Connect we constantly focus on sunrise sectors and add participant centric interactive sessions to elevate audience interest. This has been a major contributor in building double digit growth in our participation list over the past two years.' "We are looking forward to see what is new, and provide feedback and ideas for future entrepreneurs. TiE and ISB is committed to make it a great event." He added

Some of the well known and leading VC's feature in the list of 60 firms attending this year's event like the NEA IndoUS Ventures, Sandalwood Partners, DFJ Ventures, Google, Yahoo, Greylock Partners, Cannon Partners, Sequoia Capital, Light Speed Ventures, Seed Fund and many others. These 60 venture capitalists and investors, bring over USD 5 billion for India-centric investments through the entire entrepreneurial lifecycle - angel investment, early and growth stages.

Over the last two years, VC groups had interacted with the thirty five entrepreneurs seeking funding (both early-stage and growth-stage). Eight of the business plan showcase participants received business leads and support in refining business strategy. Three of them signed strategic partnerships and four of them attracted angel investments and are in advanced stage of discussion.

This year it should be much more productive for the VCs as the selected entrepreneurs are established in their business and have shown traction. We have selected 36 plans for show casing and there are 20 Elevator pitches of unique Idea stage entrepreneurs in addition said Dr. Chandrasekar.

TiE-ISB Connect is organized by the TiE, Hyderabad Chapter and the Wadhvani Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (WCED), ISB. TiE-ISB Connect provides a unique networking opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs, early-stage ventures, and growth-stage ventures with potential investors, successful entrepreneurs and mentors. The event sponsors are NEA-IndoUS Ventures, GMR, Satyam, Indu Projects, iLabs, AppLabs, Venture East, Sierra Atlantic, Pressmart and 24x7guru.com.

For know more about the TiE-ISB Connect Conference and to register, kindly visit www.tie-isbconnect.com.

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