



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



श्रीमती जीव प्रौद्योगिकी केन्द्र
Regional Centre
for Biotechnology



New Startups Onboarded

Bharat Biomaterials LLP: A sustainability-driven startup developing Terratan™, a next-generation, plant-based composite material designed as an eco-friendly alternative to traditional and synthetic leather. The company transforms agricultural waste such as sugarcane bagasse, cactus, and other agro-residues into high-performance bio-based materials, enabling circular economy practices while addressing the environmental challenges of the leather industry.

Prateek Yadav: An agri-bio entrepreneur, developing a sustainable bioprocess to convert brewer's spent yeast into high-value, application-specific yeast extracts. Leveraging controlled autolysis with optional enzyme and chemical modulation, the innovation enables low-cost, customizable inputs for fermentation, food processing, animal feed, and biopharma applications. The venture aims to upcycle brewery waste into biotech-grade ingredients, supporting circular bioeconomy solutions that are Made in India & Made for India.

Alumni Spotlight

Vanguard Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd., a graduated startup of BBB, was recently awarded "Excellence in Diagnostics" by BioSpectrum. The recognition reflects the continued impact of the startup's innovation journey, supported by the mentorship and ecosystem at BBB.

SYNERGY

(07TH JAN / 2026 / BBB NEWSLETTER / ISSUE NUMBER 21)

www.bbb.rcb.res.in

OCT - DEC, 2025

Startup NEWS

Stellar Diagnostics India Pvt. Ltd.

- Featured in the India Health Fund Annual Report 2024–25 for developing the world's first point-of-care rapid TB triage test. The low-cost, 20-minute test is currently undergoing ICMR-led multi-centric clinical validation.

Dr. Jayanti Kumari

- Received the prestigious BIRAC Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG)-24 for OncoALERT, a rapid, field-deployable oral cancer screening tool aimed at enabling affordable point-of-care early detection.

Grailmaker Innovations Pvt. Ltd.

- Earned global recognition as Co-founder Ms. Prathyusha Potharaju received the Women Entrepreneur Award 2025 from Bayer Foundation and Impact Hub, along with a €25,000 grant and international mentorship support

ZenovoCare Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

- Showcased its first TENS and EMS medical device prototype at national platforms, including INCPT 2025 at AIIMS New Delhi, engaging clinicians and conducting market research to refine product development.

East Ocyon Bio Pvt. Ltd.

- Achieved significant national and international recognition with selection for Bharat Innovates 2026 and the Saudi Biotechnology Accelerator 2025, and contributed to key biotech forums as speakers, advancing bench-to-bedside innovation dialogue.

BBB Startups Apply for National Grants

- This year, eight BBB-supported startups applied for the BIRAC BIG 2025 grant, and three startups applied for Bharat Innovates 2026, a national deep-tech innovation showcase led by the Ministry of Education with guidance from the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser.

INNOVATOR MIXER: WHERE IDEAS MET ENERGY

BSC BioNEST Bio-Incubator (BBB) hosted the Innovator Mixer on 16th October 2025, bringing together incubatees and innovators for an evening of networking, collaboration, and creative exchange. The event featured cultural and fun activities that helped build stronger connections, encouraged cross-pollination of ideas, and strengthened the startup community spirit at BBB.

BBB AT TIECON DELHI-NCR 2025: ENGAGING WITH INDIA'S DEEPTech FUTURE

The COO, BBB participated in TiEcon Delhi-NCR 2025, held on 30th October 2025. The event, themed "India's DeepTech Ascent," convened leading innovators, entrepreneurs, and ecosystem enablers to discuss emerging opportunities and advancements in the DeepTech sector.

IDEA IN ACTION: BIG 25 OUTREACH SERIES

Under BBB's outreach initiative IDEA, a series of awareness and capacity-building sessions were conducted to support applicants of BIRAC's BIG 25 scheme.

- Guidance Session with SINE-IIT Bombay (7 Nov 2025): Focused on understanding the BIG 25 scheme and preparing competitive proposals.
- Virtual Session with C-CAMP (13 Nov 2025): Covered BIG scheme overview, value proposition, product-market fit, and key success tips for applicants.
- Joint Grant Writing Session with KIIT-TBI (18 Nov 2025): Provided step-by-step guidance on the BIG application process and effective grant-writing strategies.

FOSTERING BIOTECH ENTREPRENEURSHIP: EXPERT TALKS FOR I3-BRIC PHD SCHOLARS

As part of BBB's continued efforts to nurture entrepreneurial thinking among I3-BRIC PhD scholars, a series of expert talks were organized in November 2025. The sessions provided insights into translational research, healthcare innovation, and startup ecosystems:

- 3 November 2025: Dr. Suman Laal delivered a talk on "Tuberculosis Diagnosis: Challenges and New Opportunities," highlighting unmet needs and innovation opportunities in TB diagnostics.
- 17 November 2025: Dr. Neetika Ashwani shared her journey in "ALKED ON: From the NICU to the Innovation Labs – Caring, Innovating, Impact!" bridging pediatrics, public health, and entrepreneurship.
- 25 November 2025: Mr. Chand Das conducted a session on "New Venture Planning – Angel Investor Perspective," offering insights into the startup ecosystem and lessons from high-growth ventures.

These sessions equipped scholars with practical insights into entrepreneurship, innovation, and translational research, inspiring them to transform their research ideas into impactful biotech startups while providing strategies to navigate challenges in launching and scaling ventures.

REGULATORY INSIGHTS: NAVIGATING CLINICAL VALIDATION IN THE NUTRACEUTICAL SPACE

BBB in collaboration with VeritasQ Research & Analytics, organized Regulatory Affairs Session 4 on 7 November 2025. The session, titled "Nutraceutical Space – Clinical Validation and Its Importance in Emerging Markets," was delivered by Mr. Devesh Kumar, Founder & Director of Innovate Research.

Mr. Kumar highlighted the crucial role of clinical validation in building credibility and enabling market access for nutraceutical products. The talk covered practical approaches to study design, regulatory compliance, and strategies to overcome infrastructure and cost challenges in emerging markets, providing valuable insights for startups navigating regulatory pathways.

HANDS-ON LEARNING: LFIA WORKSHOP EMPOWERS INNOVATORS

Under the Strategic Program LEARN, BBB, in collaboration with Stellar Diagnostics India Pvt. Ltd., conducted a hands-on workshop on “Design and Development of Rapid Serological Lateral Flow Immunoassay (LFIA)” on 18 November 2025.

The workshop offered participants practical training in assay development, covering reagent selection, optimization, and prototype creation. Attendees gained valuable skills to advance translational research in diagnostic assay development, bridging lab concepts with real-world applications.

DRIVING IMPACTFUL INNOVATION: BBB AT PFOI 2025

COO, BBB represented the incubator at the People's Festival of Innovations (PFoI) 2025 held at IIC, New Delhi on 17th November 2025. She participated in the official launch of SAATHI (formerly IDSIA) and served as a panelist in the session “Social Alliance for Accelerating Transformative & High-Impact Innovations.”

During the session, she shared insights on supporting high-impact startups and engaged with ecosystem stakeholders to promote collaborative, transformative innovation initiatives.

BBB ENGAGES FUTURE INNOVATORS AT HEALTHTECH-IDEA 1.0

COO, BBB was invited as a Resource Person at the HealthTech-IDEA 1.0 National Conference-cum-Exhibition on 7 November 2025 at GD Goenka University, Sohna, Gurugram.

The event focused on innovation, development, and capacity-building for future healthcare entrepreneurs. As a resource expert, the COO shared insights on integrated healthcare innovation, interacting with faculty, researchers, students, and industry participants, thereby strengthening BBB's presence and collaborations within the national health-tech ecosystem.

UNLOCKING REGULATORY READINESS: BIOSTARTUP WORKSHOP

As part of the BIRAC-RAPA series, BBB partnered in the one-day workshop “Unlocking Regulatory Readiness for Biostartups” held on 19 November 2025 at the Auditorium, R&I Park, FITT, IIT Delhi.

The COO of BBB represented the incubator and actively contributed to discussions on strengthening regulatory preparedness, guiding startups, researchers, and innovators in the biotech and MedTech sectors to navigate regulatory pathways effectively.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS: MOUS SIGNED TO BOOST STARTUP SUPPORT

In November 2025, BSC BioNEST Bio-Incubator (BBB), RCB strengthened its startup ecosystem through key partnerships:

- Wadhwani Foundation – National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN): BBB joined the Liftoff Program to support early-stage biotech, life sciences, and healthcare startups. This collaboration provides BBB startups access to a 12-week acceleration platform, expert mentorship, curated resources, and investor networks to enhance fundraising and scaling opportunities.
- Sharda Launchpad Federation (iTBI under DST-NIDHI Scheme): BBB signed an MoU to promote co-incubation, resource and infrastructure sharing, and joint entrepreneurship programs, further strengthening the startup support ecosystem.

SHOWCASING THE FUTURE: LAUNCH OF “INNOVATION ALMANAC 2025”

The first edition of “Innovation Almanac 2025” was launched as a flagship publication showcasing 40+ BBB-supported startups across biotechnology, healthcare, deep tech, clean tech, and allied domains. The Almanac highlights startup journeys, emerging technologies, product pipelines, and impact stories spanning diagnostics, therapeutics, med-tech, AI in healthcare, CGT, and sustainability.

More than a compilation, the Innovation Almanac 2025 stands as a testament to the resilience, determination, and vision of BBB’s startup community. It also highlights BBB’s role in advancing biotech entrepreneurship by supporting cutting-edge R&D, strengthening translational pathways, and fostering meaningful national collaborations.

The publication captures the creativity, innovation, and problem-solving spirit of our entrepreneurs, offering a window into the transformative solutions being developed within the BBB ecosystem. By bringing together success stories, learnings, and technological breakthroughs, the Almanac serves as an inspiration for aspiring innovators and a valuable resource for investors, partners, and policymakers. It reinforces BBB’s commitment to nurturing a vibrant, collaborative, and globally relevant startup ecosystem that drives scientific progress and societal impact.

DRIVING BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION: BFI LEADERSHIP AT BBB

BBB, RCB, hosted Dr. Gaurav Singh, CEO, Blockchain for Impact (BFI), and Dr. Satya Prakash Dash, Senior Advisor, BFI, for an engaging interaction focused on strengthening India’s biomedical and deep-tech innovation ecosystem.

The discussions centered on enabling high-impact biomedical innovation, advancing research-to-clinical translation, and fostering scalable and equitable healthcare solutions. Dr. Gaurav Singh shared perspectives on supporting science-led entrepreneurship through strategic collaboration, philanthropic pathways, and global partnerships, while Dr. Satya Prakash Dash emphasized the role of multidisciplinary platforms in driving transformative innovation.

Dr. Arvind Sahu, Executive Director, RCB, appreciated BFI’s vision and contributions to the national innovation ecosystem. The visit reaffirmed BBB’s commitment to building strong collaborative partnerships that accelerate biotech entrepreneurship and translational research.

INSPIRING LEADERSHIP AT BBB: VISIT BY MR. ADIL ZAINULBHAI

BSC BioNEST Bioincubator (BBB), Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, Network18 Media & Investments Limited, on 19 December 2025.

A distinguished leader, Mr. Zainulbhai has held several eminent roles, including Chairman of the Capacity Building Commission of India and the Quality Council of India (QCI), Chairman of McKinsey India, and currently serves on the boards of leading organizations such as Reliance Industries Limited, Reliance Retail, Network18 Media & Investments Limited, and Cipla. He is also the Chairman of the Boards of Governors of IIT Ropar and IIT Goa.

During his visit, Mr. Zainulbhai interacted with BBB-incubated startups and shared his perspectives on building scalable, impact-driven enterprises. He encouraged founders to think boldly while remaining grounded in purpose, quality, and long-term value creation. His insights reinforced the importance of a strong, collaborative, and sustainable startup ecosystem.

The visit added significant value to the BBB ecosystem, offering startups meaningful perspectives on leadership, scale, and long-term impact.

Key Updates

FOUNDERS' MEET 2025: POWERING THE NEXT WAVE OF IVD & CGT INNOVATION

The Founders' Meet 2025, held on 5 December 2025, brought together trailblazing startups, regulators, and ecosystem leaders to accelerate innovation-led growth and regulatory readiness in the In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) and Cell & Gene Therapy (CGT) sectors.

The program featured a high-impact panel discussion on "Regulatory Landscape: Strategic Insights for In Vitro Diagnostics & Cell and Gene Therapy Ventures", offering founders actionable guidance on navigating regulatory pathways from translation to commercialization.

Adding strong hands-on value, a dedicated Regulatory शिविर enabled startups to engage in one-on-one mentoring sessions with regulators and domain experts, addressing product-specific regulatory challenges and compliance strategies.

Expert sessions by representatives from BIRAC and CDSCO provided critical insights into regulatory frameworks, funding opportunities, and policy enablers essential for scaling biotech innovations in India.

The event also showcased inspiring startup journeys, fostering peer learning and meaningful networking. Thematic talks by BFI-Biome highlighted efforts to catalyze India's biomedical and health innovation pipeline, while the Wadhwani Foundation shared perspectives on ecosystem building and scale-up readiness.

Founders' Meet 2025 reaffirmed BBB's commitment to enabling startups with the knowledge, connections, and regulatory clarity needed to translate innovation into real-world impact.

ISBACON 2025: STRENGTHENING INDIA'S INCUBATION ECOSYSTEM

The Indian STEP and Business Incubator Association (ISBA) hosted ISBACON 2025 at IIT Guwahati, Assam, from 10-12 December 2025, bringing together leaders from across India to deliberate on innovation, entrepreneurship, and incubation.

BBB was represented by senior officials, including the COO and the Consultant (IP & Incubation), reflecting its active engagement in national incubation initiatives. The conference facilitated valuable knowledge exchange on emerging incubation models, best practices in startup support, and opportunities to strengthen collaborations with incubators, policymakers, academic institutions, and ecosystem partners nationwide.

MILESTONES THAT SHAPED THE BIOINCUBATOR'S JOURNEY

BBB continues to drive inclusive innovation and growth, empowering biotech startups across sectors. Here's a snapshot of our impact through the achievements and milestones of our incubation ecosystem.



FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

Unlocking Regulatory Readiness: Biostartup Workshop



Translating Science to Diagnostics: LFIA Workshop Highlights



FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

Catalyzing Change: BBB at People's Festival of Innovations 2025



Knowledge Exchange: I3-BRIC PhD Scholars

Your Entrepreneurship

RCB has the foundation — you just need to step into it.

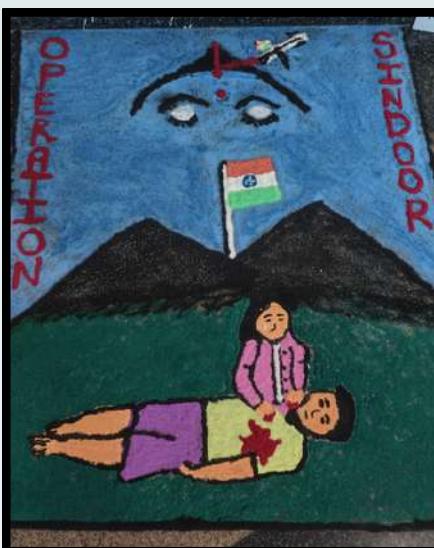
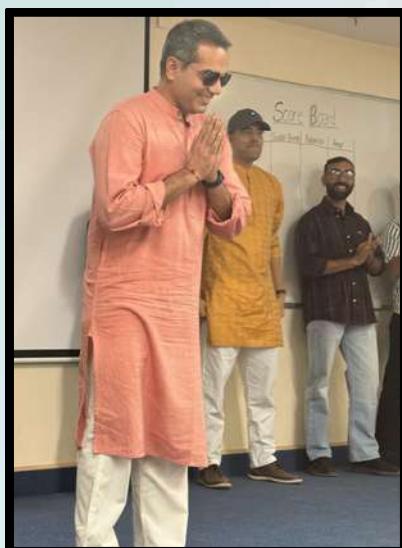
- 1. Infrastructure & Bio-incubation**
 - Access to BSC BioNEST bio-incubator
 - Wet labs, prototyping units, shared equipment
- 2. Funding & Grants**
 - BIRAC, DBT, PRAYAS, seed grants
 - Institutional PoC funds
- 3. Mentorship**
 - Faculty mentors
 - Clinician collaborators
 - Industry experts
- 4. Skill-Building**
 - Entrepreneurship bootcamps
 - Regulatory workshops
 - Pitching + design thinking training
- 5. Hospital & Industry Connect**
 - NICU partnerships
 - Pilot study support
 - Real-world feedback loops

RCB
राजीव जैव प्रौद्योगिकी केन्द्र
Regional Centre for Biotechnology

A video call interface is shown on the right side of the slide. The video feed shows a woman with long dark hair speaking. Below the video feed, a smaller window shows an audience of people seated in rows of chairs in a classroom setting. The video call interface includes a name tag 'Dr. Nivedita Athawale, Krish' and a location tag 'PGDB Classroom'. The video call interface has a dark background with a grid overlay.

FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

Innovator Mixer: Where Ideas Met Energy



FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

Collaborations that Drive Innovation

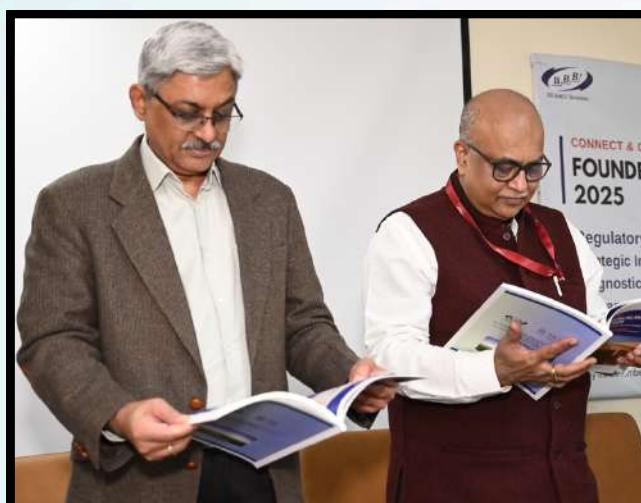


MoU with National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN): An initiative of the Wadhwani Foundation



MoU with Sharda Launchpad

Launch of INNOVATION ALMANAC 2025



FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

Snapshots from Mr. Adil Zainulbhai's Visit to BBB



Building the Future of IVD & CGT | Founders' Meet 2025



FRAMES OF MEMORIES: A PICTOGRAPH JOURNEY

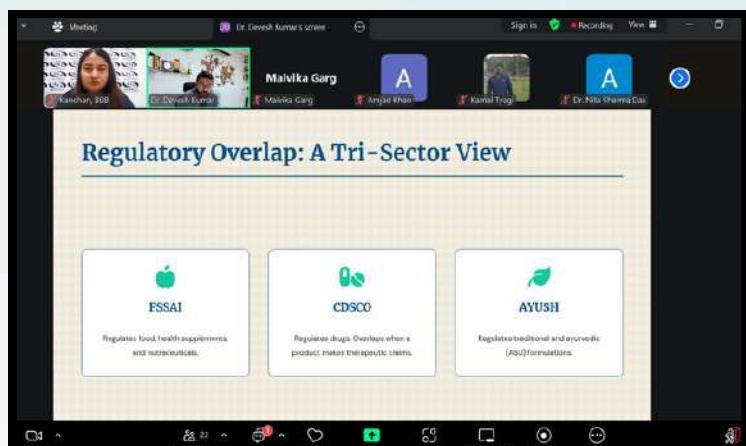
Inside Founders' Meet 2025



BFI Leadership Visits BBB



From Innovation to Compliance: Snapshots of BBB's Regulatory Affairs Sessions



MISSION

With a mission to support and nurture the biotech startup ecosystem, BSC BioNEST Bio-Incubator (BBB) is committed to empowering young bio-entrepreneurs by offering exceptional incubation facilities and infrastructure. BBB welcomes all startups and entrepreneurs to join and experience the vibrant and unique startup ecosystem we provide.

For more information, please visit

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