

Dear Fellow IITian:

You may be aware that the IIT Alumni Centre, Bengaluru (IITACB) was established by the IIT Alumni in the Bengaluru area with the aim to give back to the nation by contributing in every possible way towards making a Viksit India.

The Vision of IITACB, as we envisaged it, is:

1. *To create a community that will act as a nodal agency for interaction between various IITs and the Industry as well as to interface with the Government on behalf of the IITs.*
2. *To provide a platform for the IIT Alumni to network so that they can contribute in a manner that will benefit the IITs and their research and development activities as well as promote innovation through startups.*

Our main emphasis is to greatly enhance the IIT-Industry connect and build Centres of Excellence in various domains. We wish to make the Indian industry aware of the expertise and capacities within the IIT system so that they can leverage the skills in the IITs to make their companies more globally competitive. IITACB is the only Alumni Centre of its kind in the world and is recognized by the Ministry of Education – we send regular reports to the Ministry of Education and the IIT Council.

For achieving these goals, IITACB has built its own 93,000 square feet building in the Electronics City area of Bengaluru with the collective contributions from the IITs, IIT Alumni, Industry, and well-wishers. The IITACB building was launched on September 9-10, 2023, in an excellent manner through a 2 day programme. It has a 350 seater auditorium, several seminar halls of various capacities ranging from 30 to 100 as well as Networking and exhibition areas and a roof top restaurant. All the 23 IITs have their Extension Offices in the building. One floor is dedicated for an Incubator with 180 seats, along with several meeting rooms. We are planning to establish a couple of Centres of Excellence in our building.

So what does success look like for IITACB?

1. IITACB is able to catalyse projects worth Rs. 5000 crores for the IITs in the next 5 years. This is an audacious goal but can be achieved with the collective efforts of the Alumni.
2. IITACB engages in knowledge dissemination through hosting multiple seminars on selected topical themes that are relevant in current times. We should also continue our very successful on-line webinar series that alumni and others from around the world watch.

3. IITACB organises multiple workshops for the industry on topics that industry feels they need help in to be competitive in global markets.
4. With 180 incubator seats we expect about 20-30 startups incubated, assuming that each incubator will require several seats. We have a unique value proposition here – we can as IITACB connect start-ups to Angel funds and Venture Capital funds run by IIT Alumni. In addition, many senior IIT alumni would be interested in mentoring of the incubate companies and IITACB can be an effective channel.
5. IITACB should establish 2 to 3 Centres of Excellence in our building that are world class and impactful.
6. Over the next five years, we would like more than 100 companies to join IITACB as Institutional Members and leverage IITACB. Within a 5-km radius of our facility the GDP of the area is over USD 20 Billion and there are nearly 3,000 companies (large and small) that can benefit from linkages to the IITs.

These are exciting times with science and technology impacting all of society in multiple ways and our training in the most sought-after Institutes in the world (the IITs), makes us the most qualified folks to catalyse this process and bring about lasting change. Instead of taking projects to universities overseas, we want the projects to be sent to the IITs and we as alumni should be able to ensure high levels of professionalism from all the players.

Last but not the least, IITACB provides a venue for networking and cultural events. The IITs use this as a hub to hold events in Bengaluru. As Alumni of the IITs, I invite you to join IITACB and participate in multiple activities. Become members of this pioneering effort NOW and help us make IITACB a vibrant institution.

Warm Regards,



(Ashok Misra)

President, IITACB