



Confederation of Indian Industry

Twelveth India Innovation Summit 2016

“The Spirit of Innovation - Celebrating the Entrepreneur”

28th/29th July 2016: Bangalore

Background Note

The India Innovation Summit is the flagship event of CII in Bangalore since 2005. The Summit provides an ideal platform for Indian Industry to study and understand the various nuances of innovation across all verticals of the Industry and the essential role of innovation in business success for Industry in the digital era.

In the recent times, the emergence of startup ecosystem as the prime mover of employment for the younger generation across various sectors brought the role of innovators into the mainstream focus in India. The mindshare and the market share is being garnered by the young generation of entrepreneurs, and many of them are the first generation entrepreneurs. The initial success of these ventures has resulted in attracting the young talent in large numbers, and it is now treated as the first option for a career choice. The role models established by the initial wave of young promoters became the beacon of success for a large number of youngsters to make self-employment as their first career move, and this is the inflection point, which India is a witness to.

The theme of the 12th innovation summit is "**The Spirit of Innovation – Celebrating the Entrepreneur**" and it reflects the current mood and context of the younger population in the country. The theme strives to address the spirit of the innovator, the trigger for doing something different and the zeal the make it is as a scalable business in spite of numerous challenges faced by the innovator both at the personal level and ecosystem level. It takes much more to be an entrepreneur than coming up with an interesting idea as an innovative thinker. It is somewhere along this journey the innovator in the person transforms into an entrepreneur in terms of overall mission, market, and model.

The event addresses the journey of different entrepreneurs across various sectors in India to unravel the motivation, purpose, and impact and therefore celebrate the spirit of those innovators. There are many nuances in the lives of these entrepreneurs, and there are many types of successes or failures; ups and downs and lessons from these trials and tribulations. It is a great learning experience for anyone to listen to these inspiring stories of grit, determination, and perseverance to achieve audacious goals. The events and actions may differ by the stage of their journey as well as the scope and sector of their operating arena and those contrasts make them an interesting study of innovation models.

The theme covers the industry verticals of Hospitality, Digital media, Transport, Finance, AI/Robotics, Cleantech, Food & Fashion and Healthcare. These industries form the core of the innovation areas in India today, and the players include startups, corporate outreach programs, venture capital, consumers, and government. The entrepreneurs are drawn from these sectors across various stages of their journey of innovation and entrepreneurship for sharing their experience and insights.

The focus and common thread across all these emerging and leading entrepreneurs are the soul, sweet and spirit behind their efforts and accomplishments, and the event thrives to unravel those soft and emotional drivers that make them succeed against the odds. As it is often said, this journey of entrepreneurship is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration and the stories of many successful entrepreneurs are a testimony to this.

The two-day event is a meeting of the minds from diverse sectors and an engaging audience of more than 500 people. The unique mix of corporate leaders, Govt. representatives, academia, media and local citizens makes this a great networking event as well as a learning experience.
