



Report on
FICCI TNIE Start-up STARS Awards
“Road to Sustenance, Excellence, Scaling and Impact”
Wednesday, 29 December 2021 at Hotel Taj Club House, Mount Road, Anna Salai, Chennai

FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council jointly with The New Indian Express organized the **FICCI TNIE Start-up STARS Awards** (1st EDITION) with the theme “Road to Sustenance, Excellence, Scaling and Impact” on Wednesday, 29 December 2021 at Hotel Taj Club House, Mount Road, Anna Salai, Chennai wherein more than 300 Startups across all sectors including Entrepreneurs, IT & ITES, Manufacturing, Telecom, Retail, Utilities, Automotive, FMCG, Hardware, Electronics and also Infrastructure Industry in terms of IT Parks, Academia participated. **Tata Tele Business Services, EPIKInDiFi Software & Solutions and 5k Car Care** were Event Sponsors.

Thiru. MANO THANGARAJ, Hon’ble Minister for Information, Technology, Govt of Tamil Nadu said start-ups have been demanding office spaces at Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) and strategy is being prepared to support the start-up system. He also said that the **Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin** is keen on using digitisation for the welfare of the common man. He said ‘BharatNet Project has four packages – “Of these, two have been rolled out and the rest face legal issues, which will be resolved in a few days.

Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Principal Secretary, IT, Govt of Tamil Nadu highlighted that the State is lagging behind when it comes to implementing innovative ecosystem for start-ups. He said the State has good human capital, manufacturing ecosystem and good market but yet the youth is preferring Bengaluru. He said “We have to work out strategies to fill up the gaps to create a favourable ecosystem”.

Mr. Shankar, Co-founder, CAMS and Former President, TiE Chennai stressed on the need for start-up mentors. **Dr. C. Velan**, Center Head, Chennai City Operations, CapitaLand highlighted how the pandemic helped start-ups in developing touchless solutions. **Mr. Vignesh Kumar**, Senior Vice President, The New Indian Express highlighted how emerging technologies are reshaping the lives. The main aim of the first edition is to help nurture the start-up ecosystem in the state. **Dr. Rajaram Venkataraman**, Convener, FICCI Tamil Nadu Technology Panel & CEO, Veltech TBI Ecosystem delivered the Welcome and Theme Address. Mr. R Sudharsan, State Coordinator, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council proposed the vote of thanks.

Caption: L to R: **Dr. C. Velan**, Center Head, Chennai City Operations, CapitaLand, **Mr. Vignesh Kumar**, Senior Vice President, The New Indian Express, **Thiru. MANO THANGARAJ**, Hon’ble Minister for Information, Technology, Govt of Tamil Nadu, **Dr. Rajaram Venkataraman**, Convener, FICCI Tamil Nadu Technology Panel & CEO, Veltech TBI Ecosystem, **Dr. Neeraj Mittal**, Principal Secretary, IT, Govt of Tamil Nadu
