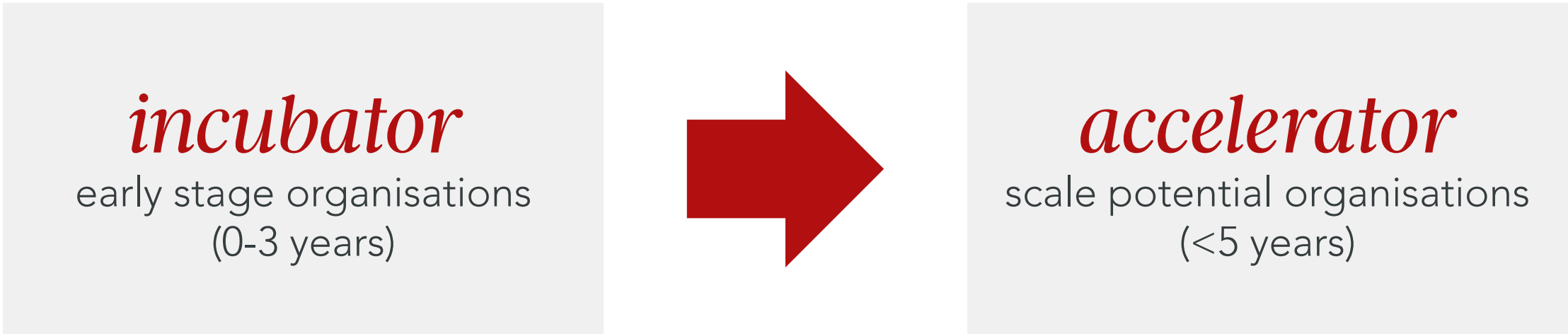


the^delta

incubator | accelerator | 2026-27

supporting early stage social entrepreneurs



<i>148</i> social enterprises supported	<i>₹136 cr+</i> catalytic capital unlocked	<i>~9.9x</i> grant multiplier*	<i>2.01%</i> selectivity rate**
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*Grant multiplier: Average follow-on funding raised within 12 months after graduation divided by grants disbursed, averaged across organizations and cohorts; based on self-reported data. It is calculated for 11 cohorts of incubator.
** Selectivity rate: Average selectivity across all 13 cohorts.

the^delta incubator

Nurturing early stage high potential social enterprises
solving for critical development and social challenges.

Cohort
2026-27

problem

For over 400 million informal workers in India, legal vulnerability often translates directly into income insecurity and exploitation. Most workers are unaware of their rights, while existing legal literacy efforts are one-time and low-touch. Legal aid typically begins only after someone enters the justice system, leaving a significant "first-mile" gap. An unresolved wage dispute can quickly spiral into debt, housing insecurity, or loss of livelihood. Yet there is no accessible, always-on system that helps people understand their rights before a crisis occurs.

solution

Jann16 builds AI-powered, multilingual, audio-enabled legal chatbot assistants on WhatsApp, co-created with lawyers, NGOs, and technology partners. Their tools help individuals understand their rights in simple language, while enabling NGO field workers and helplines to deliver consistent "legal first aid" at scale without building parallel infrastructure. Currently operating through partnerships across Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu, it aims to build a network of 100+ NGOs reaching over one million people.

current impact

- 6 domain-specific legal assistants built
- 500+ legal queries supported through live pilots
- Partners operating across 6 states

co-founders



Avanti Durani

Tufts University (BA);
Mumbai University
(LLB); Ex Artha Global;
Ex IDFC Institute



Prashant Mara

NLSIU (LLB);
Managing Partner
BTG Advaya; Ex
Infosys; Ex Osborne
Clarke

- jann16.org
- Year founded: 2026

problem

India sits at the crossroads of two severe crises: electronic waste and a deep gender digital divide. Over 70 lakh corporate laptops are retired in India every year, heavily contributing to toxic, unmanaged e-waste. Concurrently, a critical digital access crisis persists where 74% of rural women cannot perform basic laptop tasks, and only 1 in 3 women nationwide has ever used the internet. This lack of regional tech infrastructure deeply isolates rural populations, leaving immense human potential completely untapped.

solution

Sama Digital Foundation systematically connects corporate end-of-life devices to community needs to unlock learning and livelihoods. Their model manages the complete lifecycle in-house : handling device sourcing, rigorous technical assessment, repair, data wiping, and formal certification. By creating an accessible digital infrastructure layer first, they enable long-term learning, micro-entrepreneurship, and sustainable income-generation opportunities directly for underserved women and youth across India. It aims to empower 1 million women and youth by 2030.

current impact

- 16,500+ laptops distributed across 22 states
- 320,500+ total beneficiaries, 65.52% women and girls
- Launched Sama Saathi for creating digital women entrepreneurs at the village level, with active pilot sites in Neemuch and Yavatmal

founder



Manisha Sinha

DSE (MBA);
Ex-Citibank,
Ex-NavGurukul

- thesama.in
- Year founded: 2024



Empowering founders from underserved Tier 2+ districts to build revenue-earning companies

problem

India produces nearly 10 million graduates every year, yet only 4 in 100 land a white-collar job. Solving this means turning India into a nation of job creators, not job seekers. But the startup map is skewed: 80% of India holds under 1% of its startups. Founders in Tier 3 to 6 districts face three gaps: belief, with few local role models; ecosystem, with scarce mentors and communities; and capital, with under 2% of funding reaching them. As a result, vast entrepreneurial potential stays untapped across these districts.

solution

The Shifu Fellow programme aims to support driven early-stage founders from India's underserved districts through three forms of support: early funding, access to follow-on capital, and up to ₹1 crore in startup credits, alongside bootcamps, mentorship, storytelling support, and warm introductions. It will be delivered by builders who have navigated these same barriers. Bihar, Jharkhand, and Andhra Pradesh are Shifu's priority states for ground-level work, alongside online outreach across India. The ambition: support 15,000 fellows within next 5 years.

current impact

- 15,000+ Young Indians reached



co-founders



Mausmi Ambastha

NIFT (MF Tech);
Co-founder, Threadsol
(Acquired);
CNBC Young Business
Woman 2017



Sri Maneru

NIT Warangal (BTech);
Co-founder, Almabase;
Co-founder, Shifu
Ventures



Prateek Sethi

BIT Mesra (BTech);
Ex - Almabase;
Co-founder, Shifu
Ventures.

- shifufoundation.org
- Year founded: 2025

SLAM Labs

AI-enabled maths learning inside government schools

problem

For underprivileged children, the door to rewarding livelihoods closes at age 13 — at the maths gate. Rote learning, no learner agency, and edtech requiring reading fluency lock out those who need help most. Only 43.3% of youth aged 14–18 can solve a simple division problem (ASER 2023). Existing solutions depend on infrastructure — trained teachers, computer labs — that simply does not exist at scale across India's government schools.

solution

SLAM Labs embeds a pedagogy-first, AI-enabled learning system inside government-school schedules, working within the system rather than around it. Every topic follows a Concrete-Pictorial-Visualisation-Abstract progression. Instructional Language Models generate visual explainers in the child's own language, on demand. The 2024–25 pilot recorded up to 42% gains in conceptual understanding, with 80 schools and 11,000+ students already confirmed through government partnerships for 2026–27. It aims to reach 1M+ children by 2031.

current impact

- Up to 42% learning gains (2024–25 pilot)
- 80 schools and 11,000+ students confirmed for 2026–27



co-founders



Madhumita Halder

IIT B (BTech);
co-founder, MadRat
Games; fortune 40u40



Rajat Dhariwal

Carnegie Mellon (MS);
IIT B (BTech);
co-founder
curry.studio; ex
amazon;
fortune 40u40

- slamlabs.org
- Year founded: 2024

Mangai

Local work opportunities for all women and graduates in India



problem

India produces nearly 10 million graduates each year, 70% from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Most aspire to white-collar "AC-laptop" jobs in Tier 1 cities, but only about 2 million such jobs are created annually, leaving millions unemployed or underemployed. Meanwhile, 300-500 K non-trading SMEs in smaller cities could generate quality local jobs. However, they are constrained by leadership, market access, and talent. Low productivity and margins prevent them from attracting the skilled workforce needed to grow.

solution

Mangai addresses two barriers that limit SME growth: market access and managerial capability. It does this by freeing up founder capacity through structured talent placement and accelerating CEO growth through peer learning, market and tech exposure and a stronger local ecosystem for talent and capital. As SMEs become more productive and competitive, they create more high-quality jobs for youth and women in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

current impact

- On ground research on MSME's in tier 2 and 3 cities

co-founders



Shruthi Iyer

IIPHS (PGP);
Ex-CEO FMCH; Ex-ED
MMI; Mulago Fellow,
Acumen Fellow; TFI
Fellow



Krishna Venkitaraman

HEC Paris (MBA);
Ex-McKinsey & Co.;
Co-founder X-Leap;
Managing Partner KR
Corp

- Year founded: 2026

the^delta accelerator

Supporting high potential social entrepreneurs at scale

Cohort
2026-27

CodeYogi Foundation

AI-first skilling for India's underserved youth, at smartphone scale

problem

India risks locking out the vast majority of students from the AI opportunity. About 42% of schools lack computers; roughly 70% of graduates never touch one. That's over 150 million students from low-income families. No existing model reaches them, teacher-led, computer-based programs and online platforms all depend on PCs, English, or physical presence, which thin out long before they reach India's farthest students.

solution

CodeYogi transforms any smartphone into an AI-powered classroom. Its AI mentor guides each student from zero to becoming a proficient AI practitioner in their own language through structured lessons, hands-on assignments, and personalized evaluation. The program scales through district and state government partnerships, supporting Digital India and National Education Policy mandates at zero cost, with no additional infrastructure requirements and no burden on teachers, enabling them to reach a broad base of students across partner districts.

current Impact

- 375,000+ students enrolled across 100+ districts and 9 states in just two years
- 75,000+ students demonstrated practical AI proficiency
- Inclusive reach: 49% girls, 95% learning exclusively on smartphones, and 53%+ from non-STEM backgrounds
- State-level institutional adoption through an MoU with the government of Uttarakhand, prescribing their curriculum as a credit course for AI skills across all state colleges



co-founders



Prashant Chaudhary

IIT Delhi (B.Tech);
Founder DevsLane



Rakesh Sehgal

IIT Delhi (BTech);
Co-founded Paytunes



Priyanka Sethi

JIIT (M.Tech) ; Co-founder DevsLane;
Ex-CS Professor;

- codeyogi.org
- Year founded: 2025

Panaah Communities

Enabling equitable learning and livelihoods for underserved children and youth

problem

Children and teenagers in Pune's low-income urban settlements receive fragmented, one-off support: weak foundational learning, high dropout risk, no acceleration for high-potential students, and no bridge from school to work. Interventions rarely compound across a child's journey — early gains don't hold, and poverty cycles persist.

solution

Panaah runs hyper-local learning-and-earning hubs inside settlements, delivering three connected verticals across a child's arc: Solvers, offering foundational learning and dropout re-entry for Grades 5–10; Scholars, providing academic acceleration for high-potential students; and Professionals, building career pathways from Grade 11 to first employment. It's built as a compounding, place-based system, not a set of isolated programs; interventions reinforce each other across a child's journey.

current Impact

- Supported 2,200+ children and youth
- 15 centers and 100+ team members across Pune & Mahabaleshwar
- 3x growth in budget, learners, and sites over the past year



co-founders



Sayed Mohammad Shoeb

AISSMS College of Engineering (B.E); Ex-Voyage Educare Foundation



Arshiya Das

University of Calcutta (M.A); Teach for India alum



Hasnain Naqvi

Gujarat Technological University (B.E); Ex-Voyage Educare Foundation

- panaahcommunities.org
- Year founded: 2023

SAMAVESH

Enabling underserved youth through access, mentorship, and opportunity



problem

Millions of learners from marginalised communities are excluded from higher education due to barriers like missing legal documents, limited digital access, low awareness of scholarships, and inadequate mentoring. These challenges disproportionately affect marginalized communities, transgender persons, and persons with disabilities, limiting educational mobility. At the same time, young people lack opportunities to become civic entrepreneurs and community leaders, reducing community access to rights, education & public services.

solution

SAMAVESH enables young people from marginalised communities to secure legal identity, access scholarships, higher education, and mentoring while building digital skills, civic entrepreneurship, and community leadership. By combining rights awareness, technology-enabled access, academic support, livelihood training, and one-to-one mentoring, we transform eligibility into opportunity and create pathways out of poverty.

current Impact

- 5,000+ students supported with scholarship access, ₹13+ crore unlocked
- 800+ students assisted with essential legal documents
- 1,100+ students given academic support, mentoring, and life-skills training
- Active in Maharashtra and Jharkhand

co-founders



Pravin Nikam

SPPU (LLB); LSE (MSc);
Acumen Fellow; Ford
Global Fellow; National
Youth Award Recipient;
Chevening Scholar



Sidharth Hendre

MIT Pune (B.A. Political
Science); Goonj Fellow;
American India
Foundation: BIF Fellow;
Ex-Pratham

- samaveshindia.org/
- Year founded: 2011

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