

The 5th meeting of the India Global Innovation Connect
New Delhi, 6-7 May 2026

INDIA'S PLACE IN THE SHIFTING GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY LANDSCAPE

Public program as of 21 January 2026

<i>Wednesday 6 May 2026</i>	
08:30 - Ongoing	<i>Registration</i>
09:30 - 10:00	<i>Official Opening Ceremony</i>
10:15 - 11:30	<p><i>Surveying the global technology innovation landscape; where does India fit?</i></p> <p>As the time to knowledge keeps shrinking, an increasingly multipolar technology innovation landscape is evolving under our eyes, with major economic, geopolitical, societal implications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What is the new balance of technology capabilities between the US and China? ✓ Is Europe remaining in the AI race? ✓ Which countries' innovation ecosystems are punching above their weight and in what technologies? ✓ <i>AND</i> where does India fit into this evolving landscape? A picture of the countries' stage of AI development. <p>A panel of leading experts scan this moving landscape and assess the next phase(s) of the evolution.</p>
11:45 - 12:30	<u><i>One-on-One conversation</i></u>
11:45 - 12:45	<i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Aerospace</i>

	<p>Like in some other key sectors, the Modi government is pursuing a policy of technology indigenization and self-reliance in the aerospace sector, with an expanding participation from the private sector and the development of partnerships with foreign space companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in aerospace? ✓ How to expand partnerships with foreign players – corporate and startups – to help address some of the challenges still slowing the development of the aerospace sector? ✓ How to expand further the involvement of startups in the technological leapfrogging of the aerospace sector? ✓ What next steps in the integration of Indian players in global aerospace supply chains?
12:30 - 13:45	<i>Buffet lunch</i>
13:45 - 15:00	<p><i>Innovating for the world: From national technology ecosystem to global technology innovator</i></p> <p>With its growing talent pool and skillset, a vast market that enables economies of scale, a vibrant technology innovation ecosystem, rapidly expanding digital infrastructure, and targeted public policies, India has what it takes to innovate for the world and is moving towards becoming the next global technology leader.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What technology strategic clusters to prioritize for their accelerating potential towards becoming a global technology innovator? ✓ How to develop a Research culture – increasing the share of GDP devoted to R&D, enhancing the capabilities of academic and corporate Deep Tech research, expanding international collaborations on R&D? ✓ What is required to support the long-term funding critical for the development of fundamental Deep Tech sectors? ✓ What are the technology domains where India is already leading globally and what are the potential next ones? ✓ What to learn from success stories from global technology innovator countries?
13:45 - 15:00	<i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Sustainability</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in sustainability? ✓ How to leverage open innovation ecosystems to boost sustainability technologies innovation? ✓ What role can cross-ecosystems collaboration play in accelerating India's sustainability transition over the next decade? ✓ What initiatives would most effectively promote international R&D cross-border partnerships in sustainable technologies?
15:15 - 16:30	<p><i>Creating a strategic alignment for innovation synergies between corporations and startups</i></p> <p>Corporations, worldwide, are turning to startups to help them keep pace with fast technological changes that need to be leveraged and integrated to maintain competitiveness and meet evolving market expectations. However, many collaborations between corporations and startups fail. Creating innovation synergies and getting optimum benefits from both parties involve more than corporate funding or acquisition of startups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What are the key elements of a strategic fit that would increase the chances of success in creating innovation complementarities between corporations and startups? ✓ How to ensure a full alignment from both parties on what a successful collaboration will mean, how it will be measured and on what will be in it for each party? ✓ What pitfalls to avoid?
15:15 - 16:30	<p><i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Semiconductors</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in semiconductors? ✓ Which countries can provide the best opportunities for cross-border partnerships that will accelerate the development of India's semiconductors sectors in a context of very fierce and resourceful global competition? ✓ How to leverage the capabilities of international research institutions to support research and tech entrepreneurs and help move from a technology concept to higher-end chips manufacturing?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What models for public-private partnerships have proved to be efficient in other countries for developing the semiconductor sector? ✓ Developing public and private partnership to accelerate India's fab capabilities
16:30 - 17:00	<i>Networking break</i>
17:00 - 17:45	<u>One-on-One conversation</u>
17:00 – 19:00	<p><u>Sign-up workshop</u></p> <p><i>IP as a startup critical asset: Assess, protect, manage, monetize.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Knowing and evaluating the IP you created ✓ Creating early-on an IP protection strategy and acting on it ✓ Ensuring to assign all the rights on IP created by anyone in the startup to the company. ✓ Managing IP as a strategic asset and not just as a legal matter
18:00 - 19:15	<p><i>Optimizing the Triple Helix model of innovation</i></p> <p>Silicon Valley represents the most recognized illustration of the Triple Helix model of innovation. There is also - among other examples - Singapore's Biopolis & Fusionopolis, Israel's Start-up Nation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What lessons can India learn from these models of innovation? ✓ How to ensure a full alignment of incentives and objectives for collaboration between academia, business and government? ✓ What does an "optimized" Triple Helix ecosystem for India should look like in practice? ✓ Addressing specific challenges: slow tech transfer cycles, weak IP enforcement, misaligned incentives in academia
18:00 - 19:15	<i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Fintech</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in fintech? ✓ How can fintech startups scale across borders while navigating vastly different regulatory and licensing regimes? ✓ What models of cross-border venture funding and partnerships would help fintech innovators reach underserved markets? ✓ How might AI, blockchain, and embedded finance reshape cross-border financial ecosystems over the next few years? ✓ Leveraging the potential of digital public goods in the fintech sector as global marketable exports
19:15 - 19:45	<i>Cocktail Reception</i>
19:45 - 21:30	<u>Sit-down gala dinner</u> Featuring a keynote speaker
<i>Thursday 7 May 2026</i>	
09:00 - 10:15	<p><i>Startups funding: Where is the money coming from now ... And on what criteria?</i></p> <p>As the scope of funding options for startups is broadening as new financing sources are gaining more importance, we are also witnessing a significant evolution in the traditional sources. VC Funds are for instance increasingly focused on specific technology sectors - AI, Deep Tech, Bio-Tech - while corporate VCs are increasingly looking at strategic value creation in their collaboration with startups, instead of just financial returns. At the same time, new forms of funding are gaining ground such as blended ones combining different sources of funding, or cross-border crowdfunding with the emergence of global platforms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What does this diversification and evolution of funding sources mean for startup founders looking at forms of financing that will best support their development while protecting their long-term interest?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ While some investors are now relying on Data or/and AI to decide on which startups to support, what are the limits of this approach? ✓ Given wider funding options for startup founders, how is the role of investors evolving beyond being a capital provider?
09:00 – 11:15	<p><u>Sign-up workshop</u></p> <p><i>Leveraging technology for maximum sustainability impact</i></p> <p>What are the ways and orientations needed from the creators of that sustainability technologies and users of these technologies ate the corporate level to ensure that they can have the greatest impact on the sustainability of our economic models and our ecosystems?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What AI, IoT and Blockchain applications can be leveraged optimally to ensure sustainability of operations? ✓ Where do we stand with technologies developed to recover valuable materials and nutrients or to convert waste into new products? ✓ How to leverage Big Data to improve resource efficiency, reduce CO2 emissions, improve supply chains efficiency?
10:30 - 11:10	<p><u>One-on-One conversation</u></p> <p><i>What does the fusion of geopolitics and technology mean for public and corporate policies... as well as for frontier technology startups?</i></p> <p>As we transition towards a new global balance of forces and the tremendous potential of frontier technologies keeps expanding, geopolitics and technology innovation will get ever more intertwined. Technology and is increasingly weaponized in the economic and geopolitical domains. Crucial strategic interests are at stake in the battle for digital sovereignty for India and many other countries whose prosperity, security and standing in the world will rest on their ability to develop a technology capability that will shelter them – to a maximum possible extent from technology dependency or coercion from the two technology giants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What are the implications of the fragmentation of the global technology landscape?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How to look at digital sovereignty beyond the national ability to control and govern its digital infrastructure, data, and technologies? ✓ What techno-economic alliances will help strengthen the position of India as a rising technology power? ✓ What initiatives to secure a place at the tables where rules on the governance of frontier technologies are being discussed?
11:10 - 11:40	<i>Networking break</i>
11:40 - 12:45	<p><i>From startup to company status: Managing the evolution from Pre-IPO to Post-IPO</i></p> <p>Moving from startup to corporation status represents one of the most challenging moments in the company's life. This implies a change of mindset, the blending of the entrepreneurial driven with corporate governance discipline and operational rigor, a permanent attention to financial markets expectations, the acquisition of some key financial knowledge, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What are the biggest cultural and/or operational shifts startups face after going public? ✓ How to manage post-IPO development effectively? ✓ What lessons do companies learn within their first year post-IPO?
11:40 - 12:45	<p><i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Defense</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in defense? ✓ What models of international defense R&D collaboration have proved to be effective without compromising nation security imperatives? ✓ Which dual-use technologies applications (AI, robotics, cybersecurity) present the most realistic opportunities for cross-border innovation in the defense sector? ✓ How is the "Make in India" policy being translated into actions when it comes to the defense sector?
12:45 - 14:00	<i>Buffet lunch</i>

14:00 - 15:15	<p><i>Riding the transformation of the software technology</i></p> <p>India is a recognized global leader in software technology, hosting some of the world prominent hubs for IT services, software development, and digital innovation. However, new developments such as the integration of AI as core component of applications, the expansion of low code or no-code development platforms, the growing impact of edge computing, are generating a shift in the way software technology will leveraged in the coming years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How are India's companies reshaping their strategy and offering to adjust to the global shift in software technology and maintain their competitive edge? ✓ What startups will need to do to secure some core advantage towards more resourceful Big Tech competitors? ✓ What to expect in terms of new compliance requirements given the transformation of the software technology industry, such as possibly enhanced disclosure requirements, IP, differentiated – sector specific – regulations?
14:00 - 15:15	<p><i>Building cross-ecosystems innovation synergies: Biotech and Healthtech</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The picture: where does India stand today in biotech and Healthtech? ✓ What role can cross-ecosystems collaboration play in accelerating India's biotechnology growth over the next decade? ✓ What regulatory changes would make international biotech collaboration with India smoother and faster? ✓ What would make foreign universities and research institutes collaborate more effectively with Indian labs in frontier biotechnology areas? ✓ How can India leverage cross-ecosystems collaborations to expand its bio-manufacturing capacity?
15:30 - 16:45	<p><i>AI: Fighting against the giants for a place in the sun</i></p>

	<p>As it entered the AI race later than the US and China, India is facing the challenge of catching up and asserting its position in a critical strategic domain dominated by two big powers. The country's AI drive has been accelerating, with the country's total investment on AI above the US\$ 20 billion mark, and with the India AI Mission focused on developing sovereign AI capabilities. There are, however, major issues to be addressed for bridging the gap with respect to foundational AI models, to cutting-edge research, to Data Centers capacity, to public and private funding, compared to where the US and China now stand. In this asymmetric competition in which India finds itself, what next actions from academia, private sector and government will allow it to join the AI global leadership league in the coming years?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How to leverage optimally the open digital innovation model to accelerate India's AI catching-up momentum? ✓ What actions to maximize the impact for AI development and innovation of some of India's specific assets? ✓ What partnerships between Academia, Industry and startups to develop a strong research-to-product dynamics? ✓ What targeted collaboration schemes with foreign partners (business, academic or institutional ones) should India prioritize at this stage of AI development?
17:00 - 17:45	<p><u>One-on-One conversation</u></p> <p>What key features should/would characterize India's positioning in the world by 2030?</p>
17:50- 18:05	<p>Concluding remarks: What do we take home?</p> <p>Sharing key Takeaways and Commitments</p>
18:15 - 19:00	<p>Farewell cocktail</p>