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***News Release***

India Innovation Growth Programme Announces Winners for 2015

*The Department of Science & Technology and Lockheed Martin-led programme received a record 1,300 applications from innovators across the country*

**Keynote address by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon’ble Union Minister, Ministry of Science & Technology & Earth Sciences, Government of India**

**NEW DELHI, May 13, 2015** – The DST-Lockheed Martin India Innovation Growth Programme entered its ninth year with a record 1,300 applications for innovative ideas across industries ranging from agriculture and textiles to defense and healthcare.

The programme aims to enhance the growth and development of India’s innovation and entrepreneurial pursuits by launching earlystage Indian technologies into the global marketplace.More than 6,000 technology applications have been evaluated throughout the life of the programme.

“Through the India Innovation Growth Programme, we challenge innovators to bring forth ideas and innovations that will shape the future of industries across the country,” said Lockheed Martin Chief Technology Officer Keoki Jackson. “This is a tremendous partnership between government, academia and industry as well as a primary example of how we are supporting Make in India’s goal to position the country as a hub for global manufacturing.”

Making his keynote address Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon’ble Union Minister, Ministry of Science & Technology & Earth Sciences, Government of India congratulated the young winners of the competition and stated that there was no dearth of scientists in India and there is innovation taking place all over the country. He added that the real achievement will happen when these innovations translate into something which benefits mankind by addressing and solving several problems which are also missions for the Government of India.

The programme’s ‘Mind to Market’ strategy provides advanced training in technology commercialization strategies, venture formation, venture finance, technology marketing, competitive technical strategies and presentation skills. This year, key technologies submitted through the programme include a uturistic eco-friendly safe rechargeable magnesium-ion battery,bone grafts designed via a biomimetic approach from natural materials, NetPlug : Give the power of internet to your products, Energy saving device for producing uniform charcoal heat through LPG, , and X-ray visible polymers for non-invasive imaging applications.

The winning innovations of IIGP 2015 provide technologies that can facilitate the promising missions of the government of India, viz., Swachch Bharat – Clean India, Green India, Make in India, Digital India, and the recently adopted Healthy India. The IIGP through its past and present Winners shall strive to strengthen these flagship government initiatives by being a technology enabler.

Since its launch in 2007, the programme has helped participants find business partners in India and abroad, resulting in more than 300 business engagement agreements being signed between 2007 and2014. According to the most recent economic impact assessment conducted by Ernst & Young, the programme helped participants and their companies generate revenues exceeding INR 1,500 crore ($236 million) during the period between 2007 and2012, contributing significantly to the country’s economic growth.

From the more than 1,300 applications, 50 innovatorswere invited to participate in a week-long advanced training session covering the basic principles of product commercialization, readiness for market, business models, intellectual property rights and competitive positioning by faculty members from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Following presentations on their innovations, 20 innovators received a cash award of Rs1 lakh each and ten will be taken on an all-expenses paid trip to the Silicon Valley in the United States to deliver their pitches.

**About the India Innovation Growth Programme**

Lockheed Martin, FICCI and the University of Texas IC2 Institute launched the India Innovation Growth Programme in March 2007. It was joined by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and the Indo-US S&T Forum in November 2008. The programme aims to accelerate innovative Indian technologies into markets in the United States and around the world. The India Innovation Growth Programme is the only programme of its kind because of its focus on teaching and using world-class commercialization strategies. Since its introduction in India, the programme has received an overwhelming response from innovators, inventors, scientists and researchers working across diverse sectors throughout India.

For more details on the programme, visit: [www.indiainnovates.in](http://www.indiainnovates.in).

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