



Vidya Vikas Education Trust's

Universal College of Engineering



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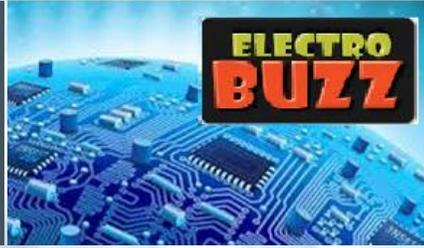


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IN INDIA, A DRIVE TO HELP START-UPS

Facebook launches the second edition of a program intended to mentor startups with creative ideas.

FACEBOOK LAUNCHED IN early May its second edition of the India Innovation Accelerator, a technology mentoring program meant to guide innovation in one of the fastest-growing Asian economies. The accelerator is formed in partnership with T-Hub, a public-private partnership between the government of the Indian state of Telangana, three academic institutes and private sector leaders.

"We understand the challenges startups face to get their ideas off the ground and we are committed to paving the way for the next generation of startup success in the country," said Satyajee Singh, head of platform partnerships at Facebook India and South Asia, in a statement.



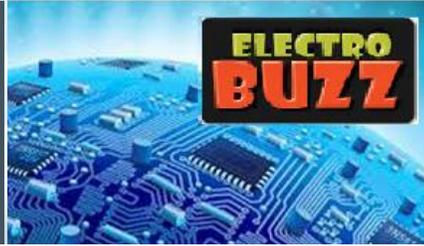
This is the second edition of the program, with the first having mentored new companies in the winter and spring of 2018. Nine out of 20 shortlisted applications were selected last year for the three-month program. This year's theme will focus on artificial intelligence and its application to solutions that could improve Indian communities. Facebook said it will provide mentorship, technical expertise and training on how to best use the Facebook developer tools, according to a report from The Economic Times. The company will also give access to experts from inside Facebook.

The 2019 edition of the program will try to tackle a wide variety of problems such as empowerment of women and girls, agriculture, health care, education, and climate change.



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A study that the McKinsey Global Institute released in April shows India's businesses are moving to the digital economy at a pace that trails only Indonesia. India is also the second fastest-growing market for digital consumers, the report said.

The initiative for startups comes as governments in India and other countries consider new regulations for Facebook and other social media companies during elections. In April, Facebook officials acknowledged that more work was needed to prevent its platform being manipulated during the current Indian general elections, set to conclude on May 19.

HOW THE NEW TECH MONOPOLIES HURT SMALL BUSINESSES AND INNOVATION

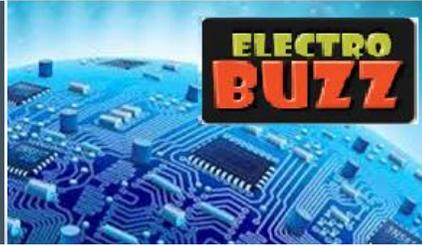
America's big tech companies provide valuable products but also wield enormous power over our digital lives. Nearly half of all e-commerce goes through Amazon. More than 70% of all Internet traffic goes through sites owned or operated by Google or Facebook. As these companies have grown larger and more powerful, they have used their resources and control over the way we use the Internet to squash small businesses and innovation, and substitute their own financial interests for the broader interests of the American people.

America's big tech companies have achieved their level of dominance in part based on two strategies:

Using Mergers to Limit Competition: Facebook has purchased potential competitors Instagram and WhatsApp. Amazon has used its immense market power to force smaller competitors like Diapers.com to sell at a discounted rate. Google has snapped up the mapping company Waze and the ad company DoubleClick. Rather than blocking these transactions for their negative long-term effects on competition and innovation, government regulators have waved them through.

Using Proprietary Marketplaces to Limit Competition: Many big tech companies own a marketplace — where buyers and sellers transact — while also participating on the marketplace. This can create a conflict of interest that undermines competition. Amazon crushes small companies by copying the goods they sell on the Amazon Marketplace and then selling its own branded version. Google allegedly snuffed out a competing small search engine by demoting its content on its search algorithm, and it has favored its own restaurant ratings over those of Yelp.

Weak antitrust enforcement has led to a dramatic reduction in competition and innovation in the tech sector. Venture capitalists are now hesitant to fund new startups to compete with these big tech companies because it's so easy for the big companies to either snap up growing competitors or drive



them out of business. The number of tech startups has slumped, there are fewer high-growth young firms typical of the tech industry, and first financing rounds for tech startups have declined 22% since 2012. With fewer competitors entering the market, the big tech companies do not have to compete as aggressively in key areas like protecting our privacy. And some of these companies have grown so powerful that they can bully cities and states into showering them with massive taxpayer handouts in exchange for doing business.

DELHI BUDGET 2019: AAP REPRESENTS RS.60,000 CRORE BUDGET WITH FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH



The AAP government on February 26, 2019 presented a Rs 60,000 crore budget for 2019-20 laying emphasis on the education, health and transport sectors and said it is “two times more” than the one presented in 2014-15. Presenting the budget in the Delhi Assembly, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the budget is dedicated to soldiers martyred in the Pulwama attack. The Delhi Assembly session began with a standing ovation to the the Indian Air Force for carrying out pre-dawn air strikes on terror camps inside Pakistani territory.

“I salute the bravery of Indian Air Force pilots who have made us proud by striking terror targets in Pakistan,” Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said in a tweet.

“The budget estimates for 2019-20 are pegged at Rs 60,000 crore which is two times more than the budget presented in 2014-15,” Sisodia said. Sisodia announced an allocation of Rs 100 crore for providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers as recommended by the Swaminathan Commission.

Sisodia said Delhi is the first state to implement Swaminathan Commission report on farming sector.

“For providing 1.5 times of MSP to farmers of Delhi, as per Swaminathan Commission report, the 2019-20 budget allocates Rs 100 crore,” he said.



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The AAP government also allocated over Rs 15,000 crore to education sector for 2019-20. Allocation for entrepreneurship plans, introduction of family business curriculum, setting up of a teachers training university and an applied science university are among the various initiatives announced in the budget.

The deputy chief minister said the free wifi project of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government would start in the next financial year.

The AAP claimed that the budget of 2014-15 was Rs 30,940 crore while last year a budget of Rs 53,000 crore was presented. He also advocated full statehood for Delhi, saying it was denied by the Centre, leading to the problems of recruitment of teachers, doctors and other employees, opening schools and hospitals.

He said Jan Lokpal would have been appointed if Delhi had full statehood.

Under the doorstep delivery programs, 100 services would be brought under it, Sisodia said adding that Rs 500 crore has been allocated in the budget for the CCTV project.

There has been an increase of 73 per cent in the budget for infrastructure projects and in transport sector, Sisodia said adding that 4,000 new buses are being procured by the government which would materialise by the next financial year. The deputy chief minister said Rs 100 crore has been allocated for a state electric vehicle fund. An amount of Rs 7,485 has been allocated for the health sector, he said adding that a new scheme will also be launched to provide financial help to differently abled parents for marriage of their daughters. The deputy chief minister said Rs 600 crore has been allocated for development work in unauthorized colonies while the total outlay for the transport sector has been kept at Rs 1,807 crore, which is twice than the last fiscal.

Elaborating about the environment sector, he said a new policy would be started to ensure that 80 per cent of trees that has to be cut to set up a business has to be replanted.

SPORTS SHORTS: WINNING START FOR INDIA ON AUS HOCKEY TOUR

The Indian men's hockey team started their Australia tour on a winning note, beating WA Thundersticks 2-0 to at the Perth Hockey Stadium, in Perth, on Wednesday.

Goals from Birendra Lakra (23rd minute) and Harmanpreet Singh (50th) secured victory for the visitors in their opening match of the tour, on which they also play the Australian national team. Both the teams played fluently in the first quarter and created a few scoring opportunities. Debutant Jaskaran Singh got

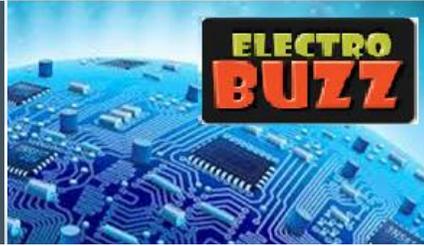
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the first real chance for India in the fifth minute but failed to keep his shot on target. The Thundersticks did try to penetrate India's defense but failed to get past Harmanpreet and Rupinder Pal Singh, who



were rock solid at the back. Akashdeep Singh also had a shot at goal for India towards the end of the first quarter, but Thundersticks's goalkeeper Ben Rennie made a fine save to deny the visitors. India started dominating proceedings in the second quarter, but captain Manpreet Singh and Mandeep Singh were both denied by rival goalkeeper Rennie. Patience, however, paid dividends as India took the lead in the 23rd minute through a fine field goal by Lakra. India's efforts in the closing stages of the second quarter saw them win a penalty-corner, but Rennie made a diving save to deny the visitors and keep

the scoresheet at 1-0 at half-time. The third quarter was a hard-fought one as both India and Thundersticks tried to take the upper hand.

In the 40th minute, Birendra Lakra was in the thick of action again as he found Sumit on the edge of the circle, who showed a burst of pace and made a circle entry towards the right side, but could not produce a final pass. Mandeep also found himself in a similar position two minutes later, but Thundersticks defended well to thwart the danger. The last quarter started well for the Indians as they pushed for a second goal, which finally came through a penalty-corner conversion by Harmanpreet in the 50th minute.

Just three minutes from the final hooter, the home side were awarded back-to-back penalty-corners but India defended stoutly to keep their lead intact.