



Indian National
Academy of Engineering

NAEK 한국공학한림원
The National Academy of Engineering of Korea

9th INAE-NAEK Workshop

“Next Generation Technologies,
Creative Computing & IT Talent Exchange”





9th INAE-NAEK Workshop

on

Next Generation Technologies, Creative Computing & IT Talent Exchange

Aug 11 (Tue), 2026

Online Mode

ABSTRACT BOOKLET

9th INAE-NAEK Workshop

on

Next Generation Technologies, Creative Computing & IT Talent Exchange

Aug 11 (Tue), 2026 (ONLINE)

Technical Program

Time	Program
09:30-09:40 (IST) 13:00-13:10 (KST) (10 minutes)	Inauguration Session - Welcome Address by Mr. J. D. Patil, President, Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) - Welcome Address by Prof. Euijoon Yoon, President, National Academy of Engineering of Korea (NAEK)
09:40-10:20 (IST) 13:10-13:50 (KST) (40 minutes)	Keynote Speech - Speaker: Mr. Hyunil Sohn, Head of Krafton India <i>Address on “Trends in India’s Interactive Market in comparison to Korea and other global markets</i> - Speaker: Prof Santanu Chaudhury, Vice-President, INAE and Dean & Professor, School of Advanced Computing, Ashoka University, India <i>Address in area of IT Talent/ Innovation Exchange</i>
Technical Session I: Creative Computing: Convergence of Art, Design, and Engineering Session Chair: Dr Alok Nath De , Founder & CEO - TechCrafter.cps & Former CTO & CVP - Samsung India	
10:20-11:10 (IST) 13:50-14:40 (KST) (50 minutes including Q&A)	- Speaker (INAE): Prof. PJ Narayanan, FNAE, Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Hyderabad & Former Director IIIT Hyderabad, India <i>Topic: Technology & the Arts: Tool, Guardian, and Rival</i> - Speaker (NAEK): Prof. Jihyun Lee, Graduate School of Culture Technology, KAIST / Member, NAEK <i>Topic: From Perspective to Latent Space: Order, Randomness, and the Vanishing Author</i>
Panel discussion I: Creative Computing and Human-Centred Innovation: Where Art Meets Engineering Moderator: Dr Alok Nath De , FNAE, Founder & CEO - TechCrafter.cps & Former CTO & CVP - Samsung India	
11:10-11:50 (IST) 14:40-15:20 (KST) (40 minutes including Q&A)	Panellist 1 (INAE): Dr. Sriram Rajamani, FNAE, Managing Director, Microsoft Research India Panellist 2 (INAE): Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay, FNAE, Professor and Former Director, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India Panellist 1 (NAEK): Prof. Jin Woo Lee, Assistant Professor, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Graduate School of Culture Technology (GSCT), NAEK Panelist 2 (NAEK): Prof Jusub Kim, Professor, Department of Art & Technology, Sogang University <i>(5 min X 4 speakers followed by 20 min interaction)</i>

Technical Session II: Next-Generation IT Innovation and Global Talent Exchange

Session Chair: **Dr Rohini Srivathsa, FNAE**, Board Member | Adjunct Professor | Business & AI Strategy Advisor & Former CTO, Microsoft India & South Asia

11:50-12:40 (IST)
15:20-16:10 (KST)
(50 minutes including Q&A)

- Speaker (INAE): **Mr. K Ananth Krishnan, FNAE**, Formerly Chief Technology Officer, Tata Consultancy Service (TCS) India
Topic: India-Korea opportunities for IT Innovation and Talent Exchange
- Speaker (NAEK): **Mr. Jungwook Lim**, Co-CEO, Startup Alliance / Member, NAEK
Topic: From Deep Tech to Talent: Building the Korea-India Startup Bridge.

Panel discussion II: Building India–Korea Innovation Ecosystems: Talent, Startups, and Future Technologies

Moderator: **Dr. Rohini Srivasthsa, FNAE**, Board Member | Adjunct Professor | Business & AI Strategy Advisor & Former CTO, Microsoft India & South Asia

12:40-13:20 (IST)
16:10-16:50 (KST)
(40 minutes including Q&A)

Panellist 1 (INAE): **Dr. Shankar Venugopal**, Vice President at Mahindra & Mahindra, Chennai, India
Panellist 2 (INAE): **Dr. L. Venkata Subramaniam**, Former Head of IBM Quantum India and CEO, Qbit Force, India
Panellist 1 (NAEK): **Mr. Jungwook Lim**, Founder and CEO of Redrob and Mckinley Rice, NAEK
Panellist 2 (NAEK): **Mr. Pankaj Agarwal**, Founder & CEO, TagHive
(5 min X 4 speakers followed by 20 min interaction)

13:20-13:30 (IST)
16:50-17:00 (KST)

Closing Remarks



Mr. Sean (Hyunil) Sohn
Chief Executive Officer of KRAFTON India

Mr. Hyunil Sohn is the Chief Executive Officer of KRAFTON India, where he leads the company's business strategy and operations in one of the world's fastest-growing gaming markets. Since joining KRAFTON in 2020, he has held key leadership roles, including Head of Corporate Development, overseeing strategic investments, mergers and acquisitions, and new business initiatives.

Prior to KRAFTON, Mr. Sohn served as Chief Financial Officer at PUBG Corporation. Earlier in his career, he held senior positions in investment banking and project finance at the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and Shinhan Bank, where he led and executed numerous cross-border financing, infrastructure investment, and M&A transactions across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Mr. Sohn received a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Management from the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) and an MBA in Finance and Accounting from Tsinghua University, where the program was conducted in Mandarin Chinese. His expertise spans corporate strategy, investment banking, project finance, mergers and acquisitions, and global business development.



Prof. Santanu Chaudhury

Dean & Professor, School of Advanced Computing,
Ashoka University

Professor Santanu Chaudhury, Vice-President, INAE is the Dean of the Vachani School of Advanced Computing and Professor of Computer Science at Ashoka University. Prior to joining Ashoka University, Professor Chaudhury served as Director of IIT Jodhpur and Director of CSIR–Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-CEERI), Pilani. He also served as Dean (Undergraduate Studies) and held several Chair Professorships at IIT Delhi. Throughout his career, he has successfully combined academic excellence with institution building, leading the establishment of interdisciplinary schools, centres of excellence, innovation ecosystems, and nationally significant research initiatives.

A distinguished computer scientist and academic leader, he obtained his B.Tech. in Electronics and Electrical Communication Engineering (1984) and Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering (1989) from IIT Kharagpur. With a career spanning over three decades, he has made seminal contributions to artificial intelligence, computer vision, multimedia systems, and digital heritage while playing a pivotal role in shaping engineering education and research in India.

Professor Chaudhury has published more than 350 research papers in leading journals and international conferences, holds 15 patents with technologies commercialised by industry, and has authored and edited books on multimedia ontology and digital heritage. His research interests encompass computer vision, artificial intelligence, AI applications, augmented and virtual reality, multisensory media, robotics, medical imaging, document image understanding, and cyber-physical systems.

A recipient of the INSA Young Scientist Medal (1993) and the Distinguished Alumni Award of IIT Kharagpur, the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), and the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR). He has also served in several national advisory capacities for the Ministry of Education, DST, MeitY, NITI Aayog, CSIR, DBT, ICAR, and SERB/ANRF, contributing significantly to India's AI and technology research ecosystem.



Dr. Alok Nath De (FNAE)

Founder and CEO, TechCrafter.cps

Dr. Alok Nath De is Founder and CEO of TechCrafter.cps with thrust on AI-enabled deep-tech solutions for Med-health, Manufacturing and Mobility sectors. He has been Corporate Vice-President of Samsung Electronics, S.Korea and Chief Technology Officer of Samsung India. Dr. De has thirty-six years of industry and research experience including BEL, Nortel, Hughes, ST-Ericsson and Samsung. In last 20 years, he has also been Adjunct or Visiting Professor with IISc, and IITs in Jodhpur, Delhi and Roorkee. He holds Ph.D. from McGill University, Montreal; M.E. from IISc-Bangalore; and B.Tech and Distinguished Alumnus of IIT, Kharagpur.

Dr. De is Fellow of IETE, IEI and INAE, where he is also Governing Council member. He served, for three years (2022-'25), as Chairman for Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)'s National AgriTech program. He is a recipient of 'Alexander Graham Bell Prize' in Canada. He has received 'IETE Memorial Awards', IDC Insights Award for 'Telecom Innovation', Zinnov Award for 'Intrapreneurship', ASSOCHAM Award for 'Corporate Tech Leadership', Nasscom 'AI Gamechanger', IESA 'Innovative Product', TechCircle for 'Business Transformation', IEEE 'MGA Innovation' and India Council '2024 Technologist of the Year' Awards.

Over the years, he has built a many cutting-edge products and solutions with 50+ patents under filed/grant. With his leadership, Samsung India touched 7500+ patents cumulatively by its silver jubilee year; and receiving National IP award multiple times. Through Corporate Venture and as Angel Investor, he has invested in 40+ startups in India. Recently, he has co-edited a book on '6G Mobile Wireless Networks' with Springer and has delivered 'IEEE Sir JC Bose Milestone Commemorative Lecture 2024'. He was cited in World's Top50 CTOs.

Follow Dr. Alok:

website: www.techcrafterintl.com www.aloknathde.com

linkedin: <https://in.linkedin.com/in/drdescitechlab>



Prof. P. J. Narayanan (FNAE)

Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Hyderabad

Prof. P. J. Narayanan is a distinguished computer scientist and one of India's leading researchers in computer vision, computer graphics, and artificial intelligence. He is a Professor at the International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Hyderabad and served as its director from 2013 to 2025, during which he played a pivotal role in transforming the institute into a globally recognized centre of excellence in research and innovation. He obtained his B.Tech. in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kharagpur, followed by an M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, USA. Prior to joining IIIT Hyderabad in 2000, he held research positions at Carnegie Mellon University and the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), DRDO, Bengaluru.

Prof. Narayanan founded the Centre for Visual Information Technology (CVIT) at IIIT Hyderabad, which has evolved into one of India's foremost research centres in computer vision, graphics, medical image analysis, and machine learning. His pioneering contributions span 3D computer vision, virtualized reality, computational cameras, GPU computing, and parallel algorithms. His research has significantly advanced technologies for immersive visual computing, intelligent imaging systems, and high-performance computing, resulting in numerous influential publications and collaborations with academia, industry, and government.

A Fellow of several prestigious professional societies, Prof. Narayanan has received wide recognition for his outstanding research and academic leadership. He has actively contributed to national technology initiatives and has served in leadership roles in professional bodies, including as President of ACM India. Through his research, institution building, and mentorship of generations of researchers and entrepreneurs, Prof. Narayanan has made enduring contributions to the advancement of computer science and engineering education in India and internationally.

Technology & the Arts: Tool, Guardian, and Rival

Modern technology has made strong inroads into every domain of human endeavour. Though art was historically among the slowest to adapt, digital tools now play a transformative role. When technology operates strictly in service of creative intent, it serves as a tool—eliminating friction, speeding up execution, and freeing the artist to focus on judgment over repetition. When used to protect fragile heritage, technology acts as a guardian, capturing work with high fidelity to preserve delicate materials and decaying formats before they are lost to time. Finally, when technology originates content itself, it becomes a rival—forcing us to confront fundamental questions about authorship, agency, and what it truly means to create. When technology steps beyond being a helper and becomes a generator, it shifts from an instrument of human expression to a substitute for it. The true danger of the AI rival is not just the potential displacement of human artists, but the subtle devaluation of human effort—risking a cultural ecosystem where speed and endless synthesis eclipse depth, intent, and authentic lived experience.



Ji-Hyun Lee

Professor, Graduate School of Culture Technology, KAIST

Ji-Hyun Lee is a Professor at the Graduate School of Culture Technology at KAIST. She received her Ph.D. in the School of Architecture (Computational Design) at Carnegie Mellon University, where her dissertation focused on integrating housing design and case-based reasoning. She served as an Assistant Professor at National Yunlin University of Science and Technology (NYUST), Taiwan, from 2002 to 2007. Since joining KAIST in 2007, her research has focused on three interdisciplinary areas: (1) calculation for UX and service design, (2) physical and virtual proximity in cities, and (3) user-centered home and furniture customization. Her work develops computational frameworks that apply algorithmic and heuristic methods to design, advancing the concept of "culture technology" as an extension of computational design.

Currently, she is the Director of the Information-Based Design (IBD) Lab at KAIST. She previously served as Director of the Division of Arts, Culture and Convergence at the National Research Foundation of Korea (2019–2021). She received the Sasada Prize from the Association for Computer-Aided Architectural Design Research in Asia (CAADRIA) in 2019, served as Secretary of CAADRIA (2008–2010), and is Editor-in-Chief of the Korea Institute of Design Research Society (KIDRS). In 2025, she was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering of Korea (NAEK).

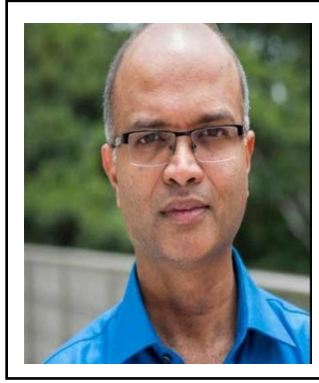
From Perspective to Latent Space: Order, Randomness, and the Vanishing Author

Creative Computing takes shape at the intersection of arts, design, and engineering. Yet "creation" is defined differently in each field, and this disagreement is not an obstacle but the condition that constitutes the domain: arts contributes vision — new ways of seeing; design contributes empathy — new ways of living; engineering contributes execution — new ways of building.

This talk traces their convergence as a single genealogy running from fifteenth-century Florence to the real-time generative media of the present. Brunelleschi's perspective was an algorithm executed by hand; fractal geometry and shape grammars showed that simple rules yield complex form; and the chance operations of Duchamp and Pollock were later reinterpreted as variables within algorithms. Through the graphical user interface, multimedia authoring tools, parametric modeling, and the user-generated content era, both the agent and the medium of creation have been continuously reconfigured.

Today this trajectory arrives at a shift from interactive to responsive media. Unlike deterministic systems with a finite number of branches, AI-driven media navigating a generative latent space in real time produce emergent behaviors. Here the artist designs not the work but the system, its constraints, and its latent potential, while the actual manifestation is co-authored by the AI and the audience. The single authorial position once organized by the vanishing point is thereby dissolved.

The talk closes with three unresolved problems: the balance between legibility and wonder, where full explanation can dissolve the very encounter it sets out to explain; the problem of the instance, where a designed space of possible works has no established methodology for exhibition or evaluation; and persistence, the survival of work dependent on specific models, weights, and hardware.



Dr. Sriram Rajamani (FNAE)

Corporate Vice President, Microsoft CoreAI

Dr. Sriram Rajamani is Corporate Vice President, Microsoft CoreAI, where he leads a product initiative focused on transforming software engineering through the integration of large language models (LLMs) with program analysis, testing, and formal verification. A globally recognized computer scientist, his research has significantly advanced the fields of software reliability, programming languages, distributed systems, security, privacy, and artificial intelligence for software development. Dr. Rajamani is also a globally recognized research leader who contributed to the establishment and growth of Microsoft Research India for over 20 years, including leading the lab as Managing Director till 2024.

Over a distinguished career spanning more than three decades, Dr. Rajamani has pioneered several influential technologies for software verification and program analysis. His work on the SLAM project established one of the first practical software model-checking frameworks and has had a lasting impact on improving the reliability of large-scale software systems. More recently, his research has focused on reimagining programming and software engineering in the era of generative AI, combining the capabilities of foundation models with rigorous software engineering methodologies to enhance developer productivity and software quality.

Dr. Rajamani received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of California, Berkeley, an M.S. from the University of Virginia, and a B.E. in Computer Science from the College of Engineering, Guindy, Chennai. He has been recognised with numerous prestigious honours, including election as an ACM Fellow for his contributions to software analysis and defect detection, and has also been elected Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE). His achievements include the CAV Award for pioneering contributions to software model checking, and Distinguished Alumnus Award from College of Engineering, Guindy.

An inspiring researcher, technology leader, and mentor, Dr. Rajamani continues to shape the future of trustworthy AI-driven software engineering, fostering collaborations between academia and industry to address some of the most challenging problems in computing.



Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay
Director, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata

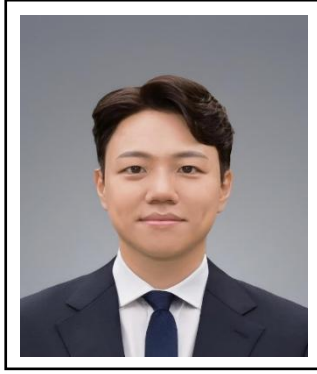
Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay is a distinguished Indian computer scientist whose scholarly work spans computational biology, evolutionary computation, machine learning, pattern recognition, and bioinformatics. She currently serves as a Professor in the Machine Intelligence Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata. Having joined ISI as faculty in 1999 after obtaining her PhD from the same institute, she later assumed leadership as Director of the institute for two terms from 2015 – 2020 and 2020 – 2025.

Her academic formation includes a B.Sc. (Honours) in Physics from Presidency College, Kolkata; a B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering from Calcutta University; an M.Tech in Computer and Information Technology from IIT Kharagpur; and a PhD in Computer Science from ISI.

Prof. Bandyopadhyay's research contributions are prolific and wide-ranging. She has authored or co-authored hundreds of publications in reputed journals and conferences, with work often focusing on multi-objective optimization, soft computing techniques, data mining in biological data, and scalable algorithms for high-dimensional problems.

Her achievements have been recognized via numerous honors, including the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in Engineering Science (2010), the Infosys Prize in Engineering and Computer Science (2017), and the civilian award Padma Shri for Science & Engineering (2022). She is a Fellow of INAE, INSA, IASc, NASI, IEEE and TWAS. Since 2018, she serves as a member of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council.

As the first woman to hold the post of Director at the Indian Statistical Institute for two full terms, Prof. Bandyopadhyay stands as a role model for many aspiring scientists. In her capacity as a leader, scholar, and mentor, she continues to foster interdisciplinary research and guide the next generation in computational science and bioinformatics.



Jin Woo Lee

Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Culture Technology, KAIST

Jin Woo Lee is an assistant professor at the Graduate School of Culture Technology (GSCT) of KAIST, where he focuses on developing machines that bridge the physical and digital worlds to enrich musical creativity. He has been working on music technology, physics-based computer simulation, and acoustic transducer design, at KAIST Musical Acoustics and Transducer Instrument Engineering Laboratory. Prior to the current position, he was a postdoctoral associate at the Research Laboratory of Electronics (RLE) of MIT and a member of Laboratory for Audio, Music, and Acoustics at MIT Music Technology. He received Ph.D. in Intelligence and Information from Seoul National University (SNU) in 2024, following his B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH) in 2019. As an engineer, he has actively collaborated with artists across various fields, including museum curators, instrument makers, and musicians.



Jusub Kim

Professor, Department of Art and Technology, Sogang University

Jusub Kim is a creative technologist, researcher, and educator exploring the intersection of art and technology. His research explores the creative potential of computing and the development of new computational media that can shape the future of arts, culture, and society. Previously, he worked at Rhythm & Hues Studios in Los Angeles as part of the software team, where he contributed to the production of nearly a dozen major Hollywood films, including *Life of Pi*, which won the Oscar for Best Visual Effects at the 85th Academy Awards. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical & Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park, an M.S. & B.S. in Electronic Engineering from Yonsei University in Seoul. He was the founding chair of the Art & Technology undergraduate and graduate programs at Sogang University, where he also established the Creative Computing Group and the Art With Impact Program. Currently, he is a professor in the Department of Art and Technology at Sogang University's College of Media, Arts, and Science in Seoul.



Dr. Rohini Srivathsa (FNAE)

Board Member | Adjunct Professor | Business & AI Strategy Advisor
Former CTO, Microsoft India & South Asia

Dr. Rohini Srivathsa is a Board Member, Adjunct Professor, and Business and AI Strategy Advisor, with three decades of experience at the intersection of research, strategy, technology and leadership.

Rohini began her career in R&D at AT&T Bell Labs in the US, then pivoted to strategy consulting at BCG and IBM Business Consulting (erstwhile PwC) in India and emerging markets. Her R&D and strategy experiences converged into her decade-long journey as CTO, most recently as the CTO of Microsoft India & South Asia, where she helped organizations accelerate AI-led digital transformation with a focus on business value and trust.

Today, Rohini continues to shape the future of technology as an Independent Director at ACKO, AI Strategy Advisor, Adjunct Professor at ISB Executive Education and CTO AI Leadership Program at IIT Kanpur, and mentor to the next generation of business and technology leaders. A Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) and the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), she brings together deep technical expertise and boardroom experience to guide organizations through the AI era.

Rohini serves on several national and international advisory bodies, including the Advisory Council of Carnegie Mellon University and ANRF Catalytic Partnership Program. Previously, she has contributed to the World Economic Forum's AI for India 2030 initiative, the National Quantum Mission, and the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).

Rohini holds an MBA from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania USA, and a PhD in Computer Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin USA.



Mr. K Ananth Krishnan (FNAE)

Former Chief Technology Officer, Tata Consultancy Services

Mr. K Ananth Krishnan retired in July 2023 as the Chief Technology Officer of Tata Consultancy Services, India's largest IT company.

He was in this role for 17 years, and was responsible for Research, Innovation and Co-Innovation. Under his leadership, TCS created a significant portfolio of patents, papers and IP, as well as a very large open innovation network (TCS COIN) across academia, startups, strategic partners and customers. The TCS Research and TCS Pace brands delivered significant outcomes across all of TCS technology and business services, products, platforms and social impact programs. Earlier, he led many large initiatives including the establishment of company-wide internal systems, communication and collaboration networks. He has also been an Enterprise Architect and head of the Systems Software Group.

His areas of expertise include the governance and management of Technology, Research, Innovation and Open Innovation networks as well as inter-disciplinary applications of Computer Science and Engineering. Other areas of work include Enterprise Architecture, Performance of large applications and Systems Software.

Ananth has served on several Governing Councils of Academia, Industry Advisory boards, multilateral industry bodies and Government committees. He had been a regular invitee to the Board of TCS since 1999 till his retirement. He continues to be active as a certified independent director and as a member of government, academic and other committees.

He was elected a Fellow of Indian National Academy of Engineering in 2013. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus of IIT Delhi in 2009. He has been listed in Computerworld's Premier 100 IT Leaders (2007), and in Infoworld's Top 25 CTOs (2007).

Ananth is an M. Tech. in Computer Science, and an M. Sc in Physics from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and a BSc in Physics from Fergusson College in Pune. He was a successful quizzer in his younger days and is still occasionally active. He has settled down with his family in Chennai.

India–Korea opportunities for IT Innovation and Talent Exchange

This talk examines the emerging opportunity for India and Korea to build a benchmark partnership in next-generation IT innovation and global talent exchange.

Building on long-standing civilisational links, recent strategic alignment and complementary national capabilities, both countries are well placed to move beyond trade and investment towards a deeper innovation collaboration. Korean technology leaders such as Hyundai, Samsung and LG have already demonstrated the value of India as a market and global capability hub. However, Indian IT firms remain less visible in Korea, and bilateral mobility among students, researchers, innovators and academic institutions remains comparatively underdeveloped.

The talk identifies frontier technologies—artificial intelligence, sovereign and agentic AI systems, semiconductors, cybersecurity, risk governance and quantum computing—as priority areas for collaboration. It further highlights opportunities in high-impact application domains enabled by IT, including financial services, advanced manufacturing, materials, defence and aerospace, energy transition, health, agriculture, supply chains and logistics.

Recent institutional enablers, including the India–Korea Center for Research and Innovation, IIT–Korean university partnerships, the Korea Education Center and scholarship programmes, provide a practical foundation for joint research, language learning and talent mobility. India's national technology missions, research parks, startup ecosystem and innovation platforms offer mechanisms for translating research into market outcomes. Korea could contribute strengths in human capital, business R&D and advanced innovation systems.

The talk concludes that a structured India–Korea innovation agenda, focused on the areas outlined for the immediate future, as well as long term challenges like climate change, urbanisation, demographic transition, health, materials and sustainable energy, can generate resilient economic impact and globally relevant technology leadership.



Mr. Jungwook Lim

Executive Director, Startup Alliance Korea

Jungwook Lim is Executive Director of Startup Alliance Korea, a non-profit organization founded in 2014 to support the growth of Korea's startup ecosystem. He returned to this role in January 2026 after three years in government.

He served as Deputy Minister at the Ministry of SMEs and Startups, where he led policy on startup support, venture capital investment, and technology-based entrepreneurship. His career before that spans journalism, internet platforms, and venture capital: he began as a reporter at the Chosun Ilbo, worked at Daum Communications, served as CEO of Lycos in the United States, and was a partner at TBT Partners, a venture capital firm. This range has given him a view of Korea's internet and startup industry from five different seats over thirty years.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and a master's degree in business administration from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering of Korea, writes a monthly interview series with startup founders for Nara Kyungje, the magazine of the Korea Development Institute, and speaks frequently on the global startup ecosystem, venture investment, and startup policy.

From Deep Tech to Talent: Building the Korea-India Startup Bridge

Korea's startup ecosystem has changed shape in the last few years. Venture investment in the first half of 2026 reached about USD 4 billion, roughly twice the level of the same period a year earlier, and the country counts 27 unicorns. More importantly, the center of gravity has moved. What is coming out of Korea now is not consumer apps but deep tech: AI semiconductors, robotics, and physical AI. Startup Alliance Korea has identified more than 150 meaningful companies working in physical AI alone.

Korean startups are also going abroad in larger numbers, supported by a decade of government policy encouraging global expansion. But they go mostly to the United States and, increasingly, to Japan. Exchange with India — the largest and youngest technology market in the world — still feels thin, in both startups and talent, given how much the two ecosystems have to offer each other.

And yet, meaningful exchange has begun, quietly and on a small scale. This talk introduces four people who made it happen. Two Indians built companies in Korea: Pankaj Agarwal of TagHive and Ravi Shankar Pandit of Konnect. Two Koreans went the other way: Chunsoo Kim, who runs India-dedicated venture funds, and Cheolwon Lee, who built True Balance into a credit platform serving Indians whom banks could not score. What these four have in common is that each found his own way through. The talk closes by asking how success of this kind can be made systematic rather than accidental — what Korea and India would need to build so that the next four become forty.

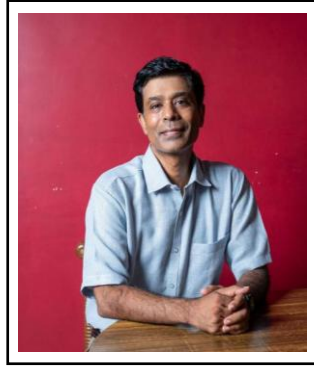


Dr. Shankar Venugopal
Vice President, Technology & Intellectual Property,
Mahindra & Mahindra

Dr. Shankar Venugopal is a Vice President at Mahindra & Mahindra. He leads the technology innovation and intellectual property portfolio for Mahindra's automotive and farm business. He is the Dean of the Mahindra Technical Academy.

Shankar has led technology innovation at GE, Dow, Honeywell and Cummins prior to joining Mahindra. He holds a Ph.D. in Materials Science from IISc and a management degree from IIM Bangalore. He is a prolific inventor with forty International and Indian granted patents.

He won IISc's Best Thesis Award, GE's Edison Inventor Medal and the Prolific Inventor Award from the World Intellectual Property Forum. He was a member of the B20 Task Force for driving technology, innovation and R&D for business growth.



Dr. L. Venkata Subramaniam
Quantum Ambassador, IBM Research India

Dr. L. Venkata Subramaniam is a distinguished technology leader, innovator, and thought leader with over 27 years of experience in advanced computing, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and digital transformation. A graduate of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, he has built an exceptional career spanning research, industry, academia, and technology evangelism. He recently concluded a remarkable tenure at IBM Research India, where he played a pivotal role in driving innovation, fostering emerging technologies, and nurturing India's quantum computing ecosystem. He currently leads Qbit Force, working towards accelerating the adoption of quantum technologies and strengthening India's deep-tech innovation landscape.

Recognised internationally as an IBM Quantum Distinguished Ambassador, Dr. Subramaniam has been instrumental in promoting quantum education, research collaborations, and industry-academia partnerships. His contributions span quantum computing, high-performance computing, AI, blockchain, cloud technologies, and digital engineering. A prolific inventor and mentor, he holds multiple patents and has inspired thousands of students, researchers, entrepreneurs, and technology professionals through lectures, workshops, publications, and outreach initiatives.

A passionate advocate for technology-led societal transformation, Dr. Subramaniam actively contributes to national initiatives aimed at building India's capabilities in frontier technologies. He works closely with universities, research institutions, start-ups, industry bodies, and government organisations to develop talent, promote innovation, and translate cutting-edge research into impactful applications.

As a speaker, Dr. Subramaniam is widely appreciated for his ability to bridge fundamental science with real-world engineering challenges. His insights into quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and the future of digital technologies make him a sought-after keynote speaker at national and international conferences. His vision continues to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators to harness emerging technologies for sustainable economic growth and societal benefit.



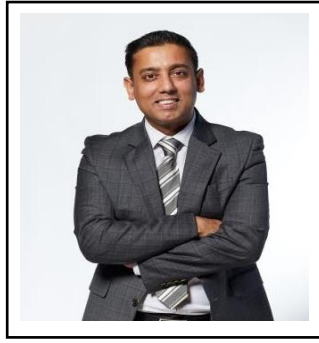
Felix Jungwoo Kim
CEO, McKinley Rice Co. Ltd.
Attorney at law

Former Vice President, Korean Bar Association

Former Special Advisor for Political Affairs, Korean Bar Association

Former Director, Seoul Bar Association

Former Representative to Korea, Indian Importers Chambers of Commerce & Industry (IICCI)



Pankaj Agarwal
Founder and CEO, TagHive

Pankaj Agarwal is the Founder and CEO of TagHive, a Samsung Ventures-backed EdTech company founded in 2017, headquartered in South Korea with operations in India and five other markets. He believes education is a force multiplier that can transform communities.

He is the inventor of Class Saathi, an AI-powered, offline-capable clicker system that brings real-time assessment to classrooms with no reliable internet, now used in over 15,000 classrooms. Class Saathi has been selected as an MIT Solve Global Learning Challenge Solver Team, included in the HUNDRED Global Collection 2026, and featured in the inaugural UNICEF Learning Cabinet.

Pankaj holds over 75 international patents and spent 11 years at Samsung before founding TagHive. He has a B.Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur, an MS from Seoul National University, and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He is also the author of *Maximize Your Life*, a trained magician, and fluent in Korean.