

Top News



It was wonderful to have Mr. [Masood Khan](#) over at the NIC. The President, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) had a tour of the facility, met with startup founders and listened to their ideas. He also appreciated Ministry Of IT & Telecom's efforts in uplifting the startup ecosystem of Pakistan.

Next, he had an interactive session with the [Teamup](#), [Ignite](#) and [Jazz](#) team to discuss areas of mutual collaboration and learnings from the NIC that can be replicated in AJK.

Featured Stories



Fintech is significantly reshaping the banking, insurance and investment landscape. To maximize its potential and nurture fintech startups across Pakistan, the NIC and Jazz xlr8, under the Hackivate banner, is proud to present a [Hackathon on Fintech](#) and an Innovation Challenge - powered by [Allied Bank Limited](#), held on the 10th and 11th April.



Our star startup [DeafTawk](#) was featured on [Pakistan Super League](#). The founders started with a vision to bring more work opportunities to the Deaf Community of Pakistan and went on to build a platform that is now expanding across Asia. [DeafTawk](#) provide their services in **6 different languages** and have provided over 94,000 hours of interpretation.



Zeeshan Shahid - Program Manager NIC and **Ali Rizvi** - Expert Innovation & Entrepreneurship Jazz, were invited on [Muskurati Morning](#) with Sahir Lodhi to talk about Hacktivate 4.0. [Watch here](#)



Aamer Ejaz - Chief Digital & Strategy Officer Jazz, was invited on [PTV News](#). He spoke about the impact the NIC and Jazz xlr8 are having in the startup ecosystem and shared his thoughts on fintech in Pakistan. [Watch here](#)



Haris Javed - Head of Digital Products & Growth Jazz, was live on [Mazrat Kay Saath](#). He talked about how Jazzxlr8 and the NIC are working together in providing a platform to grow the startup ecosystem to grow. [Watch here](#)



Welcome to our **10th Cohort**! We are excited to announce that after much effort and deliberation, the **final 22 startups** making it to our **10th Cohort** have been selected! We received a total of **833 applications** from across the globe and our acclaimed judges gave their best efforts to help us decide. It wasn't easy but we believe the founders making it through have what it takes to make an impact!



Our 9th and 10th Cohort startups went through a **Design Thinking Bootcamp** on 'Defining and Ideating your Startup' led by **Mian Talha Nasruddin** - Head of Digital Products, Growth & Startup Ecosystem Jazz with coaches **Samreen Naqvi** - Expert Digital Channels & Partnerships Jazz, and **Saad Salman Malik** - Manager User Experience & Design Jazz shared their learnings from Stanford D.

Webinars



To celebrate Womens Day 2021 here at the NIC we hosted a **Women's Day Special** webinar, live with the one and only [Fatima Mazhar](#). The Co-Founder of [Dukan.pk](#), shared inspiring stories and learnings from her life, and discussed how women need to play a bigger role by challenge themselves and inspiring others along the way. [Watch here](#)



We held a session on the **Future of Fintech - Opportunities and Challenges** with panelists included [Naureen Hyat](#) - Co-Founder, [Tez Financial Services](#), [Taimoor Ali](#) - Associate Director Innovation DFS, [Karandaaz Pakistan](#), [Jaffar Shirazi](#) - Regional Head, Alternative Distribution Channel, [Jazz Cash](#) and [Fahad Hasan](#) - Project Officer - [ADB](#) to discuss the fintech landscape of Pakistan. [Watch here](#)



Our guest on this episode of **Alumni Talks** boldly kissed corporate life goodbye and moved on to a prorate future his own business, as the CEO and founder of [Ezbike](#). [Mohammad Hadi](#) talked about the necessary things to consider before starting your entrepreneurial journey and the challenges as compared to a full-time job. [Watch here](#)

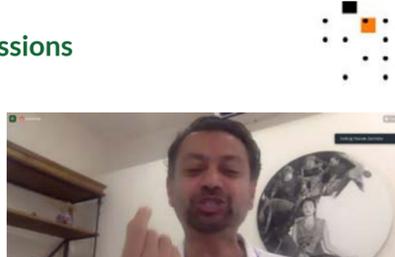


The NIC hosted yet another exciting **Pie & Deep Learning.AI** event in partnership with [Deep Learning.AI](#). The topic for this month's meetup was **Self-Supervised Learning for Object Detection**. Our speaker [Danish Nazir](#) shared some new research in the field and discussed how this method is effective when working with large data sets. [Watch here](#)

NIC Sessions



To spice things up, we invited startups from [Durshal](#) and [NUST School of Social Sciences & Humanities](#) for this session. The competition was neck-to-neck but in the end, team [Karwann](#) from NUST topped this week's Pitch Perfect with their outstanding storytelling skills. A big thanks to [Omar Abedin](#) - CEO [Pak-TekHub](#) and [Zouhair Khaliq](#) - Co-Founder [Teamup](#), for taking the time out to judge the pitches.



We invited [Naeem Zamindar](#) - Founder, Neem Exponential to conduct a session on Emotional Intelligence with the NIC team. He talked about the importance of calm, and shared 4 things to improve energy: diet, rest, gratitude and the breath. A truly inspiring session that left the NIC team with a better idea of how to think, work and optimize the body and mind.

The NIC Partnerships



The National Incubation Center signed an MOU with TMUC, to work together towards growing the startup ecosystem of Pakistan. TMUC will work closely with startups, to help them prosper with the learnings they need to scale up.



A big thank you to all our partners including Ignite, Ministry of IT and Telecom, Jazzxlr8 and Teamup along with Allied Bank Limited, Jubilee Life Insurance, NIC Karachi, The Islamabad Chapter, Fintech Association of Pakistan, ProPakistani, AWS, Next Wallet, ACCA, Daftarkhwan, Mashable Pakistan, TechJuice, FM100, Pakistan Observer, IDG Pakistan, PhoneWorld, PTV World, PTV News, TV One, News One, Waseb, Radio 1 FM 91, Digital Faisalabad and Faisalabad Chamber Of Commerce for joining hands with the National Incubation Center, Jazz xlr8 and Allied Bank Limited to conduct one of the largest hackathons on fintech in Pakistan.

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National Incubation Center

Plot 24-B, Street#6, First Floor, National Information Technology Board, H 9/1 Islamabad, Pakistan

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