





# ATCH:

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## TOP STORY OF THE MONTH



### **Championing Youth Innovation at NIC Karachi**

NIC Karachi proudly hosted an extraordinary afternoon of dialogue and inspiration with Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP). The exclusive Meet & Greet brought together our thriving community of founders from Cohort 12 and Cohort 13, creating a platform where Pakistan's brightest young innovators engaged directly with key policymakers and stakeholders shaping the nation's entrepreneurial future.

Accompanied by Fahad Shafiq, Coordinator PMYP Sindh, and Dr. Danish ur Rehman Khan from NED University of Engineering and Technology, the session sparked dynamic conversations around the challenges young entrepreneurs face, from funding gaps and accessibility barriers to scaling innovative ideas.

In his address, Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan outlined his vision for empowering Pakistan's youth through initiatives in funding, vocational training, and education—emphasizing the government's strong commitment to creating opportunities that drive real change. His words reaffirmed the critical role of youth entrepreneurship in fueling Pakistan's economic growth and building a more inclusive, future-ready ecosystem.

The energy, passion, and sense of purpose shared at this gathering underscored NIC Karachi's position as the country's largest innovation hub. This milestone session truly set the tone for a brighter future of entrepreneurship in Pakistan.

### NIC Karachi x Orbit Startups Acceleration Program





### **Elevator Pitch 103**

Elevator Pitch 103 with Hiruy Ephrem gave our accelerated startups practical tools to pitch with precision. From refining problem statements to showcasing traction and nailing unique value propositions, founders received live feedback and clear next steps to sharpen delivery and captivate investors with confidence.

### **Demo Day**

Founders in the NIC Karachi x Orbit Startups Acceleration Program showcased live product demos spanning AI CRMs, EdTech, virtual desktops, fleet management, and organic fertilizers. Guided by Kelly Pang, startups learned to craft 5-minute, customer-first demos that highlight differentiation, functionality, and real-world impact with clarity and confidence.



# WEBIT How many / often? Start with 5 Product people should be talking to customers at least ONCE A WEEK.

### **Customer Conversations**

In the NIC Karachi x Orbit Startups Acceleration Program, Kelly Pang's workshop on Customer Conversations equipped founders with tools to validate assumptions, conduct unbiased interviews, and uncover actionable insights. Startups learned to engage diverse users, embrace silence, and build smarter by letting customer voices guide real problem-solving.

fulflit.

Cohort 13
Startup Spotlight

**Fulflit Global Solutions** is redefining e-commerce logistics with cross-border warehousing and fulfilment solutions, helping SMEs unlock their true global market potential and seamlessly reach customers worldwide.

Founder: Fawwad Mohiuddin Haider

**Industry:** Logistics

**Fun Fact:** Starting as a solo founder in Karachi, Fawwad's mission is to make Pakistani SMEs global players—one shipment, one market, and one success

story at a time. 😚



Raahi Travels is redefining tourism in Pakistan by offering nature-based, purpose-driven journeys that go beyond transactional trips. From wellness retreats to cultural immersions, Raahi creates safe, inclusive, and rejuvenating experiences that reconnect people with nature, themselves, and each other.

Founder: Syed Rida Shahid

Industry: TravelTech

**Fun Fact:** From Sukoon wellness retreats to Junoon adventure series, every Raahi experience is curated to blend learning, connection, and sustainability—making travel not just a journey, but a transformation.



Cohort 13 Startup Spotlight

Inclusive Destiny is transforming accessibility in Pakistan through assistive technologies, inclusive education programs, and training for individuals with disabilities. From Urdu screen readers to skill development, it empowers people to learn, work, and thrivebuilding a more inclusive society.

Founder: Adeel Ahmed

Industry: EdTech

Fun Fact: Only 5% of blind students in Pakistan receive education—Inclusive Destiny is on a mission to change that.



Naught.0 is transforming carbon credit trading with a hybrid blockchain and platform, Hyperledger enabling transparency, security. and cost efficiency. By offering fractional ownership, it opens access for SMEs in emerging markets—making climate action scalable and inclusive.

Founder: Zoha Ayaz

Industry: FinTech | Women-Led

Fun Fact: Naught.0 aims to cut 10 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually through real-time verification and lower transaction costs.

# Startup Success Blueprint

### **Session 1: Sales Funneling**

**Arif Lakhani,** Co-Founder of Qistbazaar.pk, led a practical Sales Funneling session, guiding Cohort 13 startups on building pipelines, prospecting, pitching, and securing first customers.



### **Session 2: Building Al-Powered Apps**

**Muhammad Hassan Khalid** led a handson Al workshop, guiding Cohort 13 startups on building full-stack MVPs with Cursor Al and Lovable for faster product development.



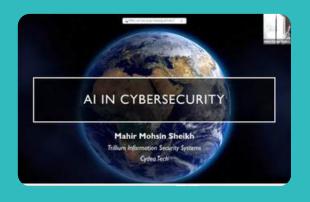
### Session 3: Startups & the Law

Raheel Samsam Ali Khan led an insightful legal session, helping Cohort 13 startups navigate founders' agreements, registration essentials, and real-world legal challenges for compliant growth.



### Session 4: Detect, Monitor and Mitigate Cyber Threats using Al

**Khizer Ahmed Siddiqui**, COO of Kaacib, led a dynamic session on building startups, guiding Cohort 13 founders through validation, value propositions, business models, and avoiding early-stage pitfalls.



# Startup Success Blueprint

### Session 5: Al in HealthTech

**Muhammad Talha Bin Rauf** led a powerful HealthTech session, helping Cohort 13 startups explore Al-driven diagnostics, ethical considerations, and innovative strategies shaping the future of healthcare.



**Jamal Uddin,** Head of Marketing at Zood Pakistan, led a dynamic Growth Hacking session, equipping Cohort 13 startups with strategies to design experiments, unlock traction, and scale effectively.

### Session 7: "You Don't Have to Do It Alone"

**Sarah Peracha**, CEO of Peracha Ventures, led a powerful session on scaling with confidence, helping Cohort 13 startups explore ecosystems, partnerships, leadership, and overcoming imposter syndrome.

### Session 8: How to Build a Startup

**Khizer Ahmed Siddiqui**, COO of Kaacib, led a dynamic session on building startups, guiding Cohort 13 founders through validation, value propositions, business models, and avoiding early-stage pitfalls.









### Founder Growth Lab

**Coaching & Mentorship for Every Stage** 

### Coaching on Global Sales and Supply Chain

Aaqib Sayed, Director of Growth & Partnerships at DigitalOcean, coached Loralai Olives, RILITS, and HealthTune on global sales, supply chain impact, and outbound growth strategies.





### Coaching on Strengthening Finances

We hosted a focused session with Harris Jamali, helping founders refine investor narratives, strengthen financials, and sharpen fundraising strategies in industrial automation and cross-border logistics.

### Coaching on Customer Acquisition

We hosted a fintech-focused mentoring session with Muhammad Furqan Karim Kidwai, helping founder refine market strategy, customer acquisition, and product-market fit in digital finance.







### **Coaching on Value Proposition**

Najab Haider, Director of Technology at Linked Things, mentored Cohort 13 startup manufacturing.pk, refining its value proposition, streamlining operations, and tackling supply chain digitization challenges.

### Founder Growth Lab

**Coaching & Mentorship for Every Stage** 

### Coaching on Product Development

We hosted a mentoring session with Medloop, Sparktrum, Scounts, and Bids Master Al, led by Junaid Shaikh, guiding founders on product development, scalable Al, and stronger tech foundations.





### Coaching on Branding & Marketing

Amneh Shaikh-Farooqui led a powerful Branding & Marketing session, helping Cohort 13 startups refine storytelling, positioning, and impact strategies across agriculture, health, wellness, and sustainability.

### Mentoring Session by EY MENA Ripples

EY MENA Ripples led an engaging mentorship session at NIC Karachi, guiding startups to refine business models, structure growth plans, and explore strategies for sustainable entrepreneurial success.





### Coaching on Legal, Compliance & Governance

Faiza Umrani led a focused Legal, Compliance, and Governance session, guiding Cohort 13 startup Vigilant 360 on regulatory alignment, governance structures, and long-term sustainability strategies.

### The Latest at NIC Karachi



### **NIC Karachi x CodeGirls**

NIC Karachi has signed an MoU with CodeGirls, led by Shamim Rajani, to advance gender inclusion in tech.

This collaboration focuses on mentoring, training, and empowering women through safe, diverse, and equitable opportunities.



### Pakistan Enters the Era of Digital & Virtual Assets

NIC Karachi, in collaboration with RWA Tokenization Academy and Blockanica Technologies, hosted a landmark event on digital and virtual assets, uniting industry leaders, regulators, and experts to explore opportunities, challenges, and Pakistan's readiness for tokenized economies.



### Tackling Pakistan's Digital Challenges

NIC Karachi joined GTV News HD's Hamara Pakistan Grand Show at ILMA University, engaging experts and community voices on phishing, fraud, identity theft, and deepfakes—spotlighting collective action needed to secure Pakistan's digital future.



### Bridging Academia & Innovation

NIC Karachi hosted a PN Engineering College, NUST delegation led by Dr. Mehreen Kausar Azam, exploring our incubation model and future collaborations to connect academia, research, and startups in driving impactful, tech-enabled national development.

### Lastest at NIC Karachi



### The Extraordinary Life of Riz

NIC Karachi hosted aerospace engineerturned-author Nida Farid for her book signing of The Extraordinary Life of Riz. An inspiring evening of storytelling, creativity, and energysaving insights celebrated her mission to ignite young imaginations.

### **GLOBE Pakistan Summit 2025**

NIC Karachi proudly joined the inaugural GLOBE Pakistan Summit 2025 by TDAP and Ignite, showcasing startups like PayFast, Discount World, Ticket Wala, and Connectia, while advancing dialogue on digital trade, ecommerce, and regional connectivity.



### WE ARE INDUCTING STARTUPS FOR COHORT 14

We are looking for passionate and high-potential founders building solutions in **Cybersecurity**, **Industrial Automation**, **Fintech** and **Women-led ventures**.

As part of our thriving innovation hub, selected startups gain access to an unparalleled ecosystem of support, including free office space, expert mentorship, industry linkages, international exposure, access to grants, legal and financial advisory services, and cloud credits worth thousands of dollars. At NIC Karachi, we believe in empowering founders to focus on building without the burden of overhead costs. With a proven track record of helping startups raise millions in revenue, employment, and investment, we are ready to back the next wave of disruptors.

Applications for Cohort 14 are now open, apply now - www.nickarachi.com/apply

# BUZZ Board

We spark wins and connections.



### Trade Tech Workshop by Pakistan Single Window

We, In collaboration with Pakistan Single Window, hosted a **TradeTech Workshop** led by Hafiz Muhammad Ahmad and Azka Rehman, equipping startups with digital trade tools, export navigation insights, and a live TIPP walkthrough to simplify global growth.

### Shaping Pakistan's Digital Finance Future

NIC Karachi hosted a closed-door roundtable on virtual assets with experts Ahmed Hamdhan, Khalique Zaman, Mohtashim Ahmad Siddiqi, and Harris Jamali. The session explored regulation, tokenization, and compliant exchanges, driving bold dialogue toward Pakistan's future-ready digital finance ecosystem.



### Strategic Applications of Al

Startups at NIC Karachi joined an exclusive Al Meetup led by Imran Husain, CEO of Celeritas Digital. Covering Al-driven design, optimization, and trends, the session offered practical frameworks for sustainable growth, fostering impactful innovation in Pakistan's startup ecosystem.

# BUZZ Board

### We spark wins and connections.



### Mango Mania by Mustafa Mango Farms

NIC Karachi's Mango Party was a summer hit! Thanks to Mustafa Mango Farms' A+++ mangoes and Mohsin Mubarak Nohario's flawless arrangements, the day was filled with sunshine, sweet flavors, laughter, and happy memories.



### **Inspiring Student Innovation at MAJU**

NIC Karachi joined #FYNexusMAJU at Mohammad Ali Jinnah University, where students showcased impactful final year projects. From tech solutions to business ideas, their passion was inspiring. Grateful to MAJU for inviting us as judges.

# Exclusives: From us to you

I Know Global Flags Aren't Always
General Knowledge, But It's Seriously
Concerning How Many People Failed
This Trivia Quiz



Practice **digital boundaries** by setting screen-free windows during your day. Use this time to journal, meditate, or simply sit quietly.

Disconnecting from constant notifications helps calm the mind, boost clarity, and nurture emotional balance.



### **Movie Recommendation**

Step into the exhilarating chaos of startup life with The Social Network, a cinematic journey through ambition, rivalry, and the relentless drive to build Facebook—offering timeless lessons for founders chasing their big idea.

### **Top News**

<u>Future of digital economy, virtual</u> <u>assets</u>

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The Future of Pakistan Startups?

It Might Start with This Bold

Government Move

From Karachi to Gaza: Pakistani startup ships prosthetics to child war survivors

### **Book Recommendation**

Play Bigger redefines how entrepreneurs win, not by competing in crowded markets, but by creating and dominating entirely new categories. Packed with real-world examples, it's a masterclass in designing markets where your startup becomes the category king.











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