



Atal Innovation Mission partners with Hitachi MGRM Net to accelerate nationwide innovation through MStar™ Global AI Connect platform

Sol signed to build a Democratized innovation ecosystem connecting students, incubators, and industry for a 'Viksit Bharat'

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 04 DEC 2025 10:47AM by PIB Delhi

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, Government of India, and Hitachi MGRM Net Ltd. (HMN) have, on December 1, 2025, entered into a partnership through the signing of a SoI (Statement of Intent). The purpose of the strategic alignment between these two organizations is the development and use of a single Innovation Platform called, "MStar™ Global AI Connect", which will rely upon Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other innovative technologies to help build a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship throughout India.

The SoI was signed by Dr. Deepak Bagla, AIM Mission Director, NITI Aayog; and Dr. Bharat Kaushal, Executive Chairman, Hitachi India and Managing Director, Hitachi MGRM Net Ltd.

The collaboration between AIM and Hitachi MGRM Net Ltd. will be instrumental in realization of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision for a "Viksit Bharat". It will enable building a federated, national-scale digital backbone that links together schools throughout rural, suburban, and urban areas within India to mentors, research institutions, incubators, accelerators, and industry players. The visionary goal of this initiative is to build out the school-to-startup pipeline, accelerate the lab-to-market translation of Indian innovations, and ensure that Indian innovations are exportable.

While addressing the signing of the SoI, AIM Mission Director, Dr. Deepak Bagla, stated, "Atal Innovation Mission has always believed that every child is a potential innovator. This partnership will help us identify and foster this potential in our young people. It will enable us to move from isolated success stories to a structured, scalable and inclusive pipeline of innovators, startups and job creators. It will help achieve the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi under the Atal Innovation Mission, to make innovation a nationwide movement starting from our schools."

On the occasion, Dr. Bharat Kaushal, Executive Chairman, Hitachi India said "Our vision with MStar™ Global AI Connect is simple: to put a problem-solving and innovation attitude into the minds and hands of every willing child in India, and to give them a network to reach mentors, incubators, industry and markets. We are honored to work with NITI Aayog and Atal Innovation Mission to build a platform that is inclusive by design—multilingual, accessible, and aligned to India's long-term development goals."

NITI Aayog and HMN desire to partner, in supporting various current and future initiatives of AIM programmes and AIM Beneficiaries in India and to further promote innovation and entrepreneurship among aspiring entrepreneurs. Guided by the vision of a Viksit Bharat, the Parties intend to collaborate to

build a federated digital innovation backbone that strengthens the school-to-startup pipeline and accelerates lab-to-market translation, export readiness and quality employment.

Key objectives, not limited but include:

1. Universal Reach: Facilitating nationwide enrolment of schools, students, mentors, institutions, incubators/accelerators, and partners with multilingual access and low-friction onboarding, including rural and underserved areas.
2. Virtual-physical fusion: Creating virtual ATLs (vATLs) and virtual AICS/ACICs linked to physical nodes to expand participation, access to resources, and remote mentorship.
3. End-to-end lifecycle: Orchestrating ideation-to-pilot workflows, Technology/Innovation Readiness Levels (TRUIRL) tracking, milestone reviews, challenge grants, and procurement pathways.
4. Talent pathways: identifying and nurturing gifted, talented, and skill-ready learners; embedding design thinking and problem-solving through projects, challenges, and hackathons.
5. IP and market linkages: Enabling IP creation/filing, ethical research practice, investor connects, CSR/grants, public procurement, and export facilitation. Public-value analytics: Delivering policy-grade insight on inclusion, skills, IPs, startups, jobs, and trade to inform Centre- and State-level decision-making.

A shared commitment to an innovation-led future

The joint initiative will integrate innovation resources across India, enhance teacher capacity, enable frontier-technology skilling, catalyze IP creation, and foster future-ready talent through a single interoperable innovation backbone.

This SoI reiterates the commitment of AIM in democratizing access to innovation and entrepreneurship, and Hitachi MGRM Net to developing digital public-value platforms for national impact.





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