



Report on
FICCI TNIE Start-up STARS Awards
“Road to Sustenance, Excellence, Scaling and Impact”
29 December 2023 at Hotel Taj Club House, Mount Road, Anna Salai, Chennai

FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council jointly with The New Indian Express organized the **FICCI TNIE Start-up STARS Awards** (3rd Edition) with the theme “Road to Sustenance, Excellence, Scaling and Impact” on Thursday, 29 December 2023 at Hotel Taj Club House, Mount Road, Anna Salai, Chennai wherein more than 200 Startups across all sectors including Entrepreneurs, IT & ITES, Manufacturing, Telecom, Retail, Utilities, Automotive, FMCG, Hardware, Electronics and also Infrastructure Industry in terms of IT Parks, Academia participated. **Bank of Baroda, Veda Corp, Anova** and **Harsha Toyota** were Event Sponsors. Digital SEO was Digital Outreach Partner for the event.

Thiru. P. SELVA GANESH, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax (Chennai Circle), in his Inaugural Address, said that Startup founders should innovate while understanding the real-world use of their product or service. He urged entrepreneurs to understand the purpose of their innovation, who they are developing it for, and how it will sustain. He also highlighted the need to understand if the innovations serve a large section of population. The official added that the country has been marked by entrepreneurial spirit since the Indus Valley Civilisation. Referring to challenges of finding employment for the huge population, and the challenge of feeding the world, he said that startups must tackle these questions and identify the needs.

Thiru. SIVARAJAH RAMANATHAN, Mission Director & CEO, Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission, Government of Tamil Nadu, **Mr. MAHESH RAMACHANDRAN**, Chairman, Jury Panel, FICCI:TNIE Startup STAR Awards and Chairman, Tech Innovations, **Mr. K. RAMAKRISHNAN**, Senior MD, SPARK Capital Advisors, **Mr. BHUPESH NAGARAJAN**, Co-Chair, FICCI TNSC and Founder and CEO, Indira Projects and Development (T) Pvt Ltd, **Dr. RAJARAM VENKATARAMAN**, Convener FICCI Tamil Nadu ICT Panel & Member, FICCI National Committee on ICT, **Mr. VIGNESH KUMAR**, Senior Vice President, The New Indian Express also spoke on the occasion.

Caption: L to R: **Mr. K. RAMAKRISHNAN**, Senior MD, SPARK Capital Advisors, **Mr. MAHESH RAMACHANDRAN**, Chairman, Jury Panel, FICCI:TNIE Startup STAR Awards and Chairman, Tech Innovations, **Thiru. SIVARAJAH RAMANATHAN**, Mission Director & CEO, Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission, Government of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru. P. SELVA GANESH**, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax (Chennai Circle), **Mr. BHUPESH NAGARAJAN**, Co-Chair, FICCI TNSC and Founder and CEO, Indira Projects and Development (T) Pvt Ltd, **Mr. VIGNESH KUMAR**, Senior Vice President, The New Indian Express, **Dr. RAJARAM VENKATARAMAN**, Convener FICCI Tamil Nadu ICT Panel & Member, FICCI National Committee on ICT.
