

ASPIRE  
IITB RPF

**VOLUME III**  
**THE**  
**INNOVERSE**  
**GRID**

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**JANUARY 2026**



**aspire**  
IITB Research Park  
Foundation

# Convergence with Purpose

## **Connect. Collocate. Collaborate.**

At ASPIRE, industry-academia engagement is envisioned as a progression—beginning with connection, deepening through collocation, and culminating in collaboration. The engagements captured in The Innoverse Grid – Volume III largely reflect this crucial first phase: platforms designed to connect ideas, institutions, researchers, and industry partners, creating the conditions for deeper dialogue and long-term partnership.

In this edition of The Innoverse Grid, ASPIRE brings into focus a series of engagements that collectively demonstrate how purposeful connection serves as the foundation of industry-academia collaboration at IIT Bombay. Spanning national platforms and international partnerships, the initiatives featured in this volume highlight how structured interaction enables early alignment between research, industry participation, and talent engagement—setting the stage for deeper forms of engagement.

The engagements documented here—from technology showcases and sector-led forums to international R&D exchanges and career-focused platforms—illustrate how connection evolves into informed dialogue. These platforms allow faculty-led research to be positioned within application-driven contexts, enable students to engage with global industry environments, and encourage industry partners to move beyond transactional participation toward sustained involvement.

Crucially, these connections are not intended as isolated touchpoints. They are designed to initiate conversations that mature over time—opening pathways toward collocation through continued proximity and shared engagement, and eventually toward collaboration in the form of pilot initiatives, joint research, and long-term partnerships. This progression underscores ASPIRE's emphasis on continuity as a driver of relevance, trust, and shared outcomes.

The Innoverse Grid – Volume III is therefore more than a compilation of events. It offers insight into how deliberate convening at the point of connection can translate intent into opportunity—strengthening pathways from academic research to industry application, and reinforcing ASPIRE's role as a facilitator of outcome-oriented engagement.

As you move through this edition, we invite you to view these engagements as part of a larger narrative—one where meaningful connection lays the groundwork for collocation, collaboration, and enduring impact.



# ASPIRE in Action



## Global Fintech Fest

**7–9 October 2025 | Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai**

ASPIRE – IIT Bombay Research Park Foundation led IIT Bombay's participation at GFF 2025, anchoring a first-of-its-kind unified pavilion that brought together multiple centres and initiatives under a single presence. The participation highlighted IIT Bombay's growing role in technology-led innovation across banking and financial services ecosystem.

The IIT Bombay booth showcased research and innovation spanning artificial intelligence, data analytics, quantum technologies, risk modelling, and fintech entrepreneurship. ASPIRE played a pivotal role in curating participation and positioning academic research within a cohesive narrative of translational outcomes and industry relevance.

The event witnessed strong engagement from industry leaders, startups, policymakers, and international delegations, opening discussions around collaborative research, pilot deployments, and industry-academia partnerships in emerging fintech domains. ASPIRE strengthened the visibility of IIT Bombay's contributions to the global fintech landscape.



## IITB FinEdge

### 28 November 2025 | ASPIRE IIT Bombay Research Park Foundation

IITB FinEdge 2025 was conceived as a flagship platform to bring together academia, industry, startups, and students to explore the evolving role of technology in the BFSI sector. The event, led and hosted by ASPIRE, explored the convergence of artificial intelligence, data-driven decision-making, and financial innovation.

The event recorded the participation of approximately 340 on-site participants. The programme featured keynote sessions, panel discussions, industry-led hackathons, and a startup pitch showcase.

Two parallel hackathons were organised in collaboration with industry partners MagicBus and Telegenz, enabling students to work on real-world problem statements and gain hands-on exposure to applied fintech challenges. A dedicated startup pitch session showcased early-stage ventures, while panel discussions across banking, insurance, and financial markets offered insights into technology adoption and future industry needs.

IITB FinEdge 2025 reinforced ASPIRE's role as a convenor for meaningful dialogue, applied research, and talent engagement within the fintech ecosystem.





## JETRO-IIT Bombay Career Fair

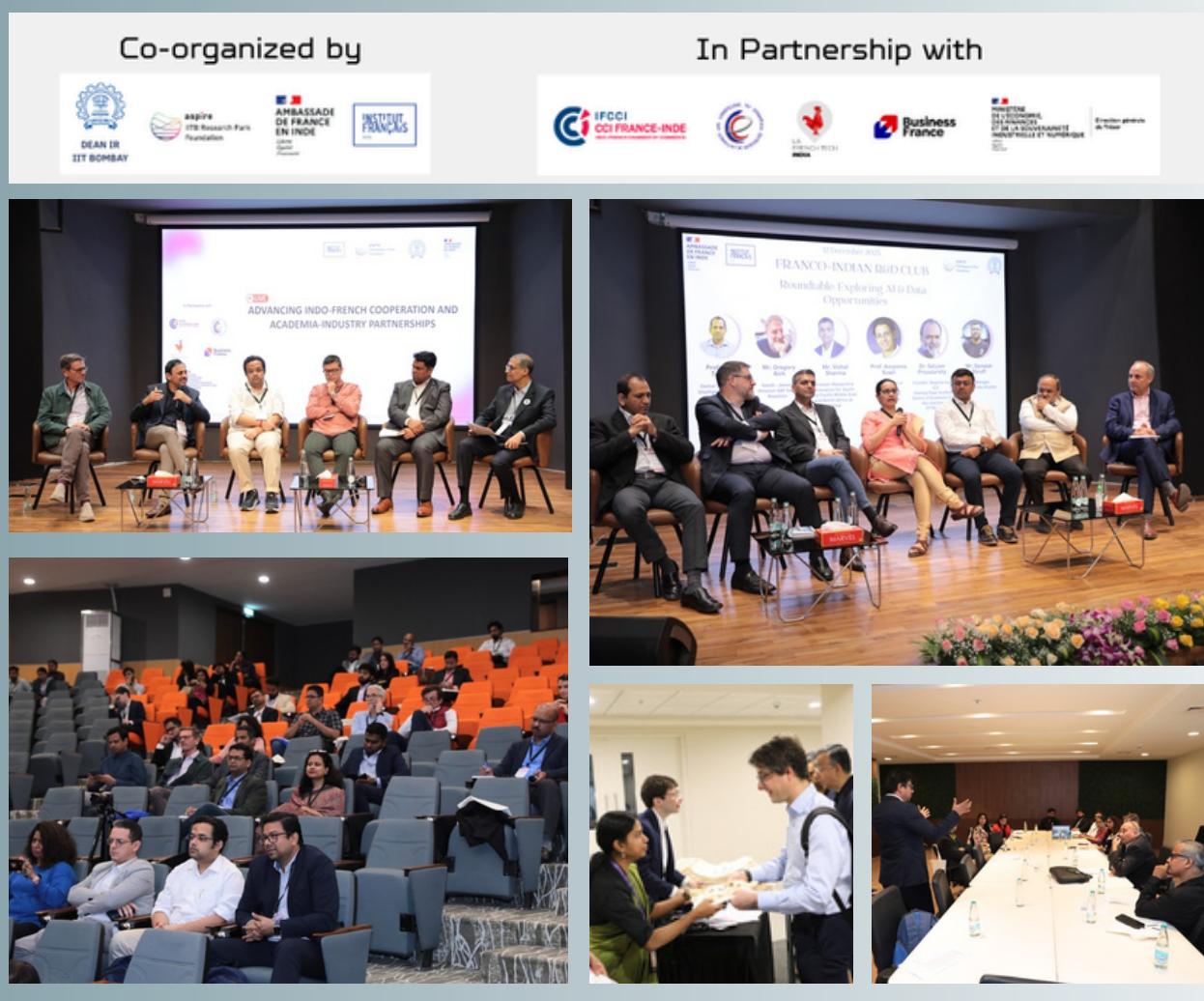
**27 September 2025 | IIT Bombay**

The JETRO-IIT Bombay Career Fair 2025 marked an important milestone in strengthening India-Japan industry-academia engagement. Organised in collaboration with JETRO and the IIT Bombay Placement Cell, the fair aimed to connect students with career opportunities in leading Japanese organisations. Building on the successful edition held in 2024, the 2025 fair reflected the growing momentum and sustained commitment to this bilateral collaboration.

The event saw participation from over 800 students, who engaged with representatives from companies such as Sony, NTT Data, Idemitsu, Mitsubishi Electric, and Camlin Kokuyo. Students gained insights into organisational culture, recruitment processes, and global career pathways.

Beyond recruitment, the career fair served as a platform for cross-cultural exchange and dialogue on skill development and long-term collaboration between Japanese industry and Indian academia, aligning with ASPIRE's broader mandate of facilitating industry engagement and student exposure.





## Indo-French Club R&D Event

**12 December 2025 | ASPIRE IIT Bombay Research Park Foundation**

The Indo-French Club R&D Event 2025 was jointly organised by IIT Bombay, the French Consulate in India (Mumbai), the Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI), and ASPIRE (IITBRPF). The event served as a precursor to the Indo-French Year of Innovation 2026, with a focus on strengthening industry-academia collaboration in artificial intelligence and data-driven innovation.

The event brought together stakeholders from academia, industry, startups, and policy across India and France. Structured around high-level roundtables, startup pitch presentations, and themed working groups, the programme enabled focused discussions on AI applications across strategic sectors such as aerospace, healthcare, sustainability, energy transition, and creative industries.

Startup pitches showcased Indo-French ventures working across diverse AI-ML domains, while parallel working-group sessions facilitated deeper exchange between faculty members, industry leaders, and international experts. The event reinforced ASPIRE's role as a platform for international industry-academia collaboration and future joint initiatives.



## TechConnect @IIT Bombay TechFest

**22–24 December 2025 | IIT Bombay**

ASPIRE participated in IIT Bombay's TechFest 2025 through TechConnect, a dedicated engagement platform designed to showcase research-driven innovation and industry-ready technologies. The ASPIRE booth featured solutions and demonstrations from member organisations and collaborators across sectors such as energy, electronics, diagnostics, and advanced manufacturing.

In addition to the exhibition, the TechConnect Elevator Pitch Session provided a focused platform for faculty-led innovations, with eighteen faculty teams presenting their technologies in concise five-minute pitches. These sessions highlighted application potential, scalability, and opportunities for industry collaboration.

The event enabled direct interaction between faculty, students, startups, and industry representatives, facilitating discussions around technology transfer, pilot projects, and collaborative research. TechConnect reaffirmed ASPIRE's role in translating academic research into deployable solutions and fostering long-term partnerships.





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**The Innoverse Grid  
captures only a part of  
the broader ecosystem  
ASPIRE continues to build.  
For more on our  
programmes,  
partnerships, and  
upcoming initiatives, visit:**

**[www.iitbresearchpark.com](http://www.iitbresearchpark.com)**