

Dholakia Ventures (DV) initiated DV8 Infinite Possibilities - G20 for StartUps - Digital Innovation Alliance, a 500+ invite-only event in Surat, co-hosted by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India and Indian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (IVCA) with an aim to mobilize global capital for innovation and speedy acceptance of a platform in India for “critically important sectors” such as agri-tech, health-tech, edtech, fintech, secured digital infrastructure and circular economy.

This event was In-line with Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision for G20 Presidency of creating an inclusive, ambitious, decisive and action-oriented nation.

Event was co-hosted by MeitY, GoI.

500+ Industry stalwarts took part in the event and shared insights on Indian and global start up.

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“DV8 - Infinite Possibilities - G20 for Startups - Digital Innovation Alliance” was co-hosted by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), an annual flagship initiative by Dholakia Ventures on 7th January, in Surat, Gujarat. With an objective to provide a platform to encourage 100+ startup founders and future leaders who draw inspiration from the experience of 50+ stalwarts from the venture capitalists (VC's), Eminent Investors & Industry Veterans.

The market in India is expanding quickly and is expected to reach \$100 billion by 2025. Several successful startups and unicorns have already appeared in this market. The D2C industry is being further fueled by shifting consumer preferences for convenience and seamlessness as well as rising affordability. White. Inc.'s timely entry into the market enables the business to position itself and establish itself amidst the escalating competition. This money is evidence of their development, and we have faith that White.Inc will soar to new heights.

Dravya Dholakia, Founder, Dholakia Ventures, said, “DV8 - G20 - DIA” summit draws on insights from business and policy leaders, outlines some of the significant potential and challenges facing the digital sector from the perspectives of sustainable business, investment outlook, and lessons from unicorns during the epidemic. Healthcare, Green and Renewable Energy, Education Technology, Financial Inclusivity, and Supply Chain concerns have been elevated in importance as a result of the development of the digital economy as a G20 theme. Under DV8, we intend to create a cohesive ecosystem to nurture future leaders and entrepreneurs by providing the 500+ invitees with a platform to engage with experienced venture capitalists and network with startup founders.”

Dravya Dholakia in his early days had not capitalized an easy pick from the legacy of his father, Savjibhai Dholakia, (the famous Diamond king, Founder and Chairman of Hari Krishna Exports) but worked in Kochi as a common man running for his livelihood. The early days of Dravya indelibly changed his life and made him an ace angel investor.

Mr. Jeet Vijay, CEO, MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) said as India takes on the G20 presidency to be hosted by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeiTY) – the nodal ministry for the G20 Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) – will focus on three priority areas. These are, 1. digital public infrastructure (DPI), 2. cyber security, and 3. digital skill development. India believes in the philosophy of inclusion. India's population scale and open-source public digital platforms such as UPI and Aadhaar have delivered economic and social inclusion and spurred innovation.

Shri. H. K. Mittal, Chairman, Startup India Seed Fund Scheme said easy availability of capital is essential for entrepreneurs at the early stages of growth of an enterprise. Funding from angel investors and venture capital firms becomes available to startups only after the proof of concept has been provided. Similarly, banks provide loans only to asset-backed applicants. It is essential to provide seed funding to startups with an innovative idea to conduct proof of concept trials. Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization. This would enable these startups to graduate to a level where they will be able to raise investments from angel investors or venture capitalists or seek loans from commercial banks or financial institutions.

Mr. Vikas Jain, Co-founder, Micromax Informatics Ltd, said, "DV8 Infinite Possibilities - G20 is a wonderful startup summit to bring everyone on a single platform and to discuss the growth of the market. The decentralization of the entire financial infrastructure led to the formation of the assets that are now turning into unicorns."

Shri. Arokiaswamy Velumani, Founder, Thyrocare, said, "Startups across countries presented their most cutting-edge approaches and fixes for the issues facing each sector. The white book also offers market insight for the five emphasis areas, including an overview, potential, and future projections." Dholakia Ventures (DV) is a sector-agnostic venture capital firm with a base of operations in Surat. The pursuit of innovation-focused entrepreneurship has sown the seeds of growth for 50+ start-ups in Fintech, Healthcare, Deeptech, SaaS & Information Technology, Logistics, Space & Defense, Edtech, Digital Marketing, E-Commerce, Electric Vehicle, Consumer-tech, Gaming, Automobile, Sustainability etc. to name a few in the last 2 years.

Shri. Harsh Sanghvi Ji, Hon'ble Home Minister of Gujarat, said, "Global attention is now focusing on digital solutions and systems that enable the efficient supply of crucial societal activities and services as nations work to achieve the SDGs. This is a great initiative by Dholakia Ventures. It will help young budding startups to grow in the lexicon of entrepreneurship."

Smt. Darshanaben Jardosh, Minister of State for Railways & Textiles, Government of India, "I thank and congratulate Dravya Dholakia and Dholakia Ventures for DV8- Infinite Possibilities - G20 for Startups - Digital Innovation Alliance " Summit. Startups in India have made some outstanding progress. There were only a few hundred firms when we first launched the Startup India movement. We will use the 80,000+ startups and 106 unicorns we currently have to examine how the startup movement may be accelerated globally and inside the G20. We will see some phenomenal changes in the environment and ecosystem of the start in India in the next 5 years.

Shri. Balwant Singh Rajput, Ministry of Industries, Khadi and Village Industries, Civil Aviation and Labor - Employment in the Government of Gujarat, "The experiential learning from the real-life stories of the eminent panelists shall provide the much-needed impetus to these young entrepreneurs. It is a great platform for budding entrepreneurs to meet angel investors and market experts. The government of India is dedicated to supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem."

Of the 500+ invitee delegates, 100+ Portfolio companies from 50+ Venture Capitalists, Industry Veterans, Eminent Investors and renowned family offices attended the summit pan India. It was a unique opportunity to meet the best VCs and stalwarts from the National Startup Ecosystem. There were various programs like Startup Showcase: Interact and showcase products to eminent VCs, Networking Zone: Interact and elevator pitch to raise the first or next round of funding, Meeting Rooms: Take your interaction further with access to venture capital firms and family offices and Experiential Zone: Engage and unwind with the best experience Surat offers."

The various panels consisted of stalwarts from Venture Capital, Startup, Corporate and Government professionals such as Vikas Jain, Micromax; Prateek Gauri, Sire; Anirudh Khusape, Jio GenNext; Kamal Bansal, GVFL; Prateek Jain, Paytm, Rajneesh Jaswal, Koo; H. K. Mittal, Startup India Seed Fund Scheme; M. S. Rao, T-Hub; Sanjay Mehta, 100x; Padmaja Ruparel, Indian Angel Network; Dr. D. R. Parmar, Industries Commissionerate, GoG; Dr. Neha Sharma, Cradle -EDII.

Heritage Cyberworld, an ecosystem partner for DV8-G20-DIA was visited by the Hon'ble Home Minister of Gujarat and were acknowledged for providing end-to-end risk management and fraud prevention services in the form of forensics investigation, techno-legal services, risk management & fraud detection, dark web intelligence, cyber security & app development, drone service, iot & blockchain technology for smart city solutions, security audit & cyber forensic.

The event was hosted in association with Indian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (IVCA) , in collaboration with Indian Angel Network (IAN) & IAN Fund, Event partner - Gujarat Venture Finance Limited (GVFL), Knowledge partner - Basic roots consulting, Technology partner - AWS, Ecosystem partner - Heritage Cyber world & Truewass LLP, Startup partners - White IN, BugBase, FlipSpaces; Experience partner - Anytime at K's, All That Dips, BelGrey, Kind 1, Ghalib & Co, Alpino, Urban Naps, Malaki, Jani and lastly with our outreach partners- MICA, i-Hub, GUSEC, DEvX, Heritage Infraspace & Venture Catalysts.