

CM to inaugurate IIT-Kanpur conclave

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Kanpur: Chief minister Yogi Adityanath will inaugurate a two-day conclave celebrating the entrepreneurial ecosystem created by the alumni of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-K) here on January 27.

The event aims at not only promoting entrepreneurship among students but also helping the existing startups by exploiting IITK's experience in innovation and research and its vast alumni network, said the media head of the event Mihikaa Jain.

About 40 distinguished speakers, including some from the US, would address the conclave.

Jain said, over the last couple of years, this event had become one of the most awaited events for the budding entrepreneurs to interact with industry experts. The event was also a great platform for leading industries and investors to connect with startups and entrepreneurs and get a pulse of the ecosystem.

This is also a great opportunity for small and large corporations

to do a brand awareness exercise amongst startup ecosystem.

Mihikaa said the event was an initiative of IIT-K alumni association under the banner of Startup Master Class (SMC).

It came into existence 4 years ago but this will be the first time when the conclave will be held in Kanpur.

IIT-K alumni association, president, Pradeep Bhargava said: "The SMC was for the entrepreneurs and by the entrepreneurs. It builds collaboration, inclusiveness and interactions enabling the startups to succeed."

It is a fully volunteer run, not-for-profit network of individuals and institutions (alumni of PAN IIT network) combining their skills and resources to promote entrepreneurship, said Mihikaa.

Through its 8th edition, organised across various cities in India, including Bangaluru, Pune, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, the SMC has engaged more than 5,000 startup enthusiasts.

More than 200 delegates, 500 startups and 100 venture capital firms would also take part in it.