A March full of excitement! AssisTech Foundation witnessed an eventful month with the onset of Cohort 5 of ATF Enable Acceleration Program, a partnership exploration event at Microsoft to assist Cohort 5 startups, networking, Lenovo initiating much needed conversation on fostering inclusion and awareness events etc.

ATF Cohort 5 Startup Workshop & Induction Session

Picture - A group picture with the Cohort 5 startup founders and Team ATF and Board of Directors

With the intend of ending the financial year 22-23 on an exciting, optimistic and success envisioning note, we conducted an induction session to welcome the 10 assistive technology startups which are selected to be a part of ATF Enable Acceleration Program Cohort 5. As a part of induction, we organized a 2-day in-person workshop at Bangalore on March 09, 2023 - March 10, 2023. The workshop will be a networking opportunity for startups along with receiving guidance and support from industry leaders, subject matter expertise, venture capitalists and corporate partners. Startup founders also got a chance to interact with their respective business mentors one-on-one and were able to leverage their extensive knowledge and expertise and get help with their growth strategy and trajectory.

ATF & Microsoft - Leveraging partnership for Cohort 5 Startups

Picture - A moment with ATF Cohort 5 Startup Founders @ Microsoft Office

Following the lead of limitless opportunities, we feel delighted to highlight that Microsoft hosted all the Cohort 5 Startup founders at their office and provided them with amazing insights and exposure towards the startup ecosystem, leadership and other growth and success factors. It was indeed a rare opportunity where founders got to network with Senior Leadership of Microsoft across India along with other significant stakeholders of the Assistive Technology ecosystem.

Some key moments are highlighted below wherein Mr. Sandeep Alur (Director – Microsoft Technology Center, Microsoft Corporation India), Mr. Shriram Parthasarthy (Head - Digital Media Marketing, Microsoft) and Mr. Girish Kamath (Vice President & Managing Director India At Picsart) are interacting with the startup founders.

We also took this opportunity to invite our ecosystem partners - Sashi Rajamani & KG Mohan (SVP) along with Shiva Jayagopal (CEO & Founder, Winvinaya Foundation)

Fostering Inclusiveness in Technology - Lenovo Tech World India

Picture - A moment amidst the panel discussion on Fostering Inclusiveness in Technology

Lenovo's annual flagship technology event **#LenovoTechWorldIndia** on 16th March reiterated the entire setup of what the company promises to accomplish with the help of technology in the coming years.

Lenovo discussed vastly about emergence and adoption of smarter technology in the world and how India is successfully coping up with it that catalyzes to build an empowered society. With the same spirit, a discussion on the topic "Fostering Inclusiveness in Technology" was scheduled wherein our CEO & Co-Founder Prateek Madhav shared his insights. The fireside chat also included Deepa Malik Athlete & Paralympic Winner
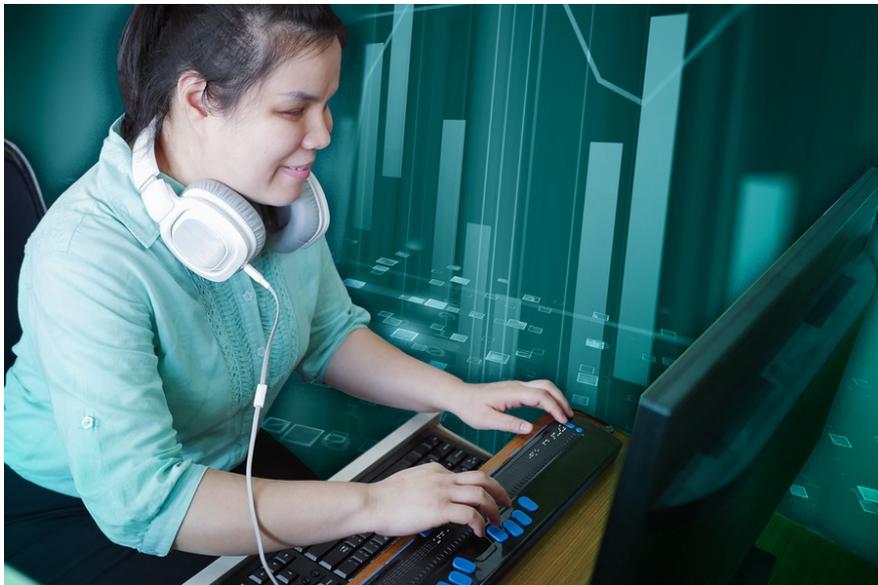
Watch Now

Picture - Our CEO with the inspirational paralympian Deepa Malik

Picture - A moment with the astonishing music composer Ricky Kej

MIT making data visualization more accessible for blind and low-vision individuals

Researchers have created prototypes that enable screen-reader users to quickly and easily navigate through multiple levels of information in an online chart. An interdisciplinary team of researchers from MIT and elsewhere is striving to create screen-reader-friendly data visualizations that offer a similarly rich experience. They prototyped several visualization structures that provide text descriptions at varying levels of detail, enabling a screen-reader user to drill down from high-level data to more detailed information using just a few keystrokes.

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