

Innovation Programmes**Maker Village™, the Electronics Incubator in Kerala:**

Maker Village is a joint venture of Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), and Government of Kerala through KSUM (Kerala StartUp Mission), IIITM-K (the nodal agency, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Kerala) and Startup Village. Maker Village has a simple objective: provide all facilities to nurture consumer electronics startups, as part of India's thrust into ESDM (Electronic System Design and Manufacturing). Focus: IoT, robotics and wearables.

The Facility and Equipment:

A 25,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility has been set up in the Technology Innovation Zone, KINFRA Hi-Tech Park in Kalamassery, Cochin, Kerala. The facility will be equipped with Test and measurement equipment, standard boards (eg. Arduino and Raspberry Pi), ECAD stations, Fab Lab with 3D printers and scanners. The medium-volume SMT (Surface-Mount Technology) manufacturing line, run by a partner, is capable of industry-strength production of Printed Circuit Boards, and is a unique strength of Maker Village.

The incubation process:

The entrepreneur can be engaged in two phases: pre-incubation (idea to proof of concept-3 months) and incubation (concept to prototype-18 months). Later, they are eligible for seed funding, and can be introduced to funds such as Electronics Development Fund and private early stage investors.

Selection, mentorship, advice, acceleration:

Potential candidates can apply at <http://www.electronicincubator.in> and are selected after an evaluation by an expert committee. Screening happens on a monthly basis. They are given technical and business mentorship, and provided acceleration through marketing, legal, IPR and finance partners.

**Status:**

- Facility ready, some equipment arrived, others on order
- Four pre-incubatees on-boarded in June 2016, others in pipeline to be inducted
- Outreach to students, young professionals, subject matter experts, business mentors

