

Home » Nation » Current Affairs

## Chennai salutes app entrepreneurial skills

Deccan Chronicle | K.T.P. Radhika | August 24, 2015, 05:25 am IST

Like  45 | Share  45 | Tweet  2 | Share  30



Chandu Nair initiating the panel discussion along with Nancy J Anabel of MSSRF, Gokul Visweswaran of NFN labs and Dinesh Kumar S of Contus. (Photo: DC)

**Chennai:** Thought the ongoing Madras week festival is just about celebrating the history of the city? Those who had been following the events were up for a surprise Sunday evening when organisers of the gala chose to salute the entrepreneurial spirit of the city by holding a panel discussion on 'Metro Utility Apps' at Westin hotel Velachery.

City-based entrepreneur and advisor to startups, Chandu Nair chaired the discussion with three organisations from Chennai that build mobile applications for various sections of the society. Initiating the discussion, Nair said India has one of the fastest growing mobile app markets. Some categories like personalisation app segment are growing about 553 per cent in the country. "Chennai has a great set of entrepreneurs and organisations working on different types of apps that benefit different people and organisations across the world," he said.

The first company to present its app was city-based NFN Labs that builds consumer-friendly mobile applications. NFN, a company founded by four friends from Chennai – Narayanan Hariharan, Sonaal Banger and Rajesh Padmanabhan – is venturing into spaces like location-based services apps like iPanchangam that can calculate the day and time for auspicious ceremonies based on geographic locations, app for checking

PNR status in iOS and Android platforms etc. Gokul Visweswaran, the director of the company said, "We founded the company in 2011 and started by making solutions for our own problems like apps for PNR status. People started liking it."

The second app that was presented to the audience was a social impact mobile app called Fisher Friend Mobile Application- build by MS Swaminathan Research foundation for the fisherman community. The app that was launched in 2013, provides fishermen immediate access to real-time information on weather, potential fishing zones, ocean state forecasts, and market related information. "Built in android platform, the app is available in Tamil, English and Telugu as of now. We are also planning to launch it in Malayalam, Kannada and Odiya," said Nancy J Anabel, Director Information Education and Communication at MSSRF. The foundation is planning to partner with various state governments and NGOs for the wider reach of the app among the fisherman community. " Tamil Nadu government has shown interest in this app and we have got positive signals from other state governments as well," said Ms. Anabel.

Contus, a B2B app making company that makes business centric apps for companies across the country as well as abroad also presented their solution. The company that makes dashboard apps for auto companies like Mahindra and Mahindra and M commerce solutions for many companies in US, UK and Canada was started in 2007 with a six member team and an initial investment of about Rs 25 Lakhs has now about Rs 32 crore turnover. The team size has grown up to 250 now.

States:  
Tamil Nadu

Tags: [nation](#) | [South](#) | [Tamil Nadu](#) | [Chennai](#) | [Madras week festival](#)

### You May Like

Sponsored Links by Taboola

**The Most Outrageous, Amazing, Perfectly Timed Pix You'll Ever See!**

Well Timed Photos

**Are routine pelvic exams 'more harm than good' for healthy women?**

Smart Health

**Beware: You Can Be Financially Independent by 45 If You Plan Your Finances Well**

Bigdecisions

**10 Billionaires Behind Bars**

MyFirstClassLife

**Best Beauty Secrets From Around The World**

Womens24x7

**Top 11 Cancer Causing Foods You Eat Everyday**

Bulletin Daily News

**Nigerian mob burns man alive for stealing soup: media**

World Observer

**Disney heiress Abigail disowns her share of family profits in West Bank company**

World Observer

**How Illegal Aliens Cross the Border**

Visboo Educational Posts

**Latin America: No More Abundance**

The Financialist by Credit Suisse

**How Cranberries Benefit Blood Glucose**

Diabetes Care

### ALSO READ

- IAF's Sarang gets women officers
- Indians kidnapped by IS: Vijay was returning from Libya for good
- UDF-BJP nexus in bar case: VS Achuthanandan
- Madras HC seeks info on drive to hire disabled as teachers

Give your rating: ★★★★★ Average: 0 stars from 0 ratings

Leave a comment  Latest

ME What is your opinion?

Name  Email   Post

### Talk of the town

Advertisement

Show more



**Dear Internet User,** Online right now on this website.  
**Congratulations!** We have just selected you to be our possible winner of:  
**Rs 50,000 Big bazaar, Reliance mart & Walmart Vouchers!** [Click here: www.india-rewards.com](http://www.india-rewards.com)

Philips 2in1 LED lamp  
One bulb. Two lights.  
Experience it here

Over 10,000 members joining daily!

shaaadi.com

Bride

18 - 24

Search FREE

### LATEST NEWS

**BIP 'will suffer in 2017,' warns Hardik Patel at rally in Ahmedabad**

If you do not give our right (reservation), we will snatch it, says Hardik Patel

**Panasonic launches Eluga Switch phablet**

The Eluga Switch sports a 13MP rear camera and 8MP front-facing camera

**Watch: The jaw-dropping trailer of Aishwarya and Irrfan's 'Jazbaa'**

The actress has also lent her voice to one of the songs in the film

[More >](#)

Philips 2in1 LED lamp  
One bulb. Two lights.  
Experience it here

### You May Like

Promoted Links by Taboola

**You Won't Believe Your Eyes With These Amazing, Hilarious, Perfectly Timed Pix!**

Well Timed Photos

**Nigerian mob burns man alive for stealing soup: media**

World Observer

**Disney heiress Abigail disowns her share of family profits in West Bank company**

World Observer

**Pakistan again pounds border areas of Jammu and Kashmir**

**Sell Car**

Zigwheels

**Women TTEs, passengers travel in danger**