



Press Release

Launchpad Plan9 celebrating the 'Digital Evolution'

Lahore, January 13, 2017

Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB)'s project Plan9 has initiated five day Launchpad at Arfa Software Technology Park, Lahore to celebrate the 'Digital Evolution', pioneered back in 2012, now receiving overwhelming response from budding entrepreneurs and the mushroom growth of incubators is a validation of the fact that Plan9 has been successful in instilling the entrepreneurial culture in Pakistan. The first session started on Thursday for Speed Networking participated by full time job holders and University students, who experienced working with various startups and interacted with their co-founders for better understanding to kickstart their startups.

Today Plan9 Startup EXPO is being held from 3 pm to 5 pm at ASTP showcasing entrepreneurial ideas, providing an opportunity to the future entrepreneurs to be part of the Startup EXPO, where they get to witness the execution of startups and network with entrepreneurs who have already been a part of the startup ecosystem while the main event of Plan9 Launchpad is being organized on Sunday January 15, 2017 at same venue from 3 pm to 5 pm, where 20 finalists will be presenting in front of the industry experts. 10 finalists from Lahore will be selected to be a part of Plan9's family where they get the best system of local and international professional mentors, exceptional networking opportunities at multiple events and workshops and also get to be a part of international competitions and exchange programs. Entry is open to witness the remarkable transformation in technology in the premises is subject to bringing CNIC along.

Plan9 has designed multiple pre-Launchpad activities to bring the startups up to speed with entrepreneurship including but not limited to motivational talks, scavenger hunt, pitch and presentation workshops, business plan and market validation workshop, fire side chat, tips on launching, team building, speed networking and much more. Through Capital Factory and Facebook acting as their knowledge partners, this will be a week full of continuous knowledge flow.

While these activities cater to startups, Plan9 is also engaging young kids through their WhizKids program. WhizKids is kicking off the first ever Makeathon this winter. Powered by WhizKids, in collaboration with DIY Geeks, Bookme.pk & Cheetay Makeistan and Pak Wheels, a diverse range of workshops and competitions are in store for the participants. Through the Makeathon, the aim is to give the kids a taste of practicality and the makers-space community which will add another dimension to the outlook of the kids. The initiative caters to children aged 10 - 18 years. With 9 activities ranging from Building from Scratch to a Robotic War, an exciting 2 days are in store for the participating kids.

Register here: <https://goo.gl/forms/DEQjvudlXGCKJAAu1>

For more details, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/732816196876410/>