

THE BIG DAY High-powered jury meets in Delhi on Saturday to pick winners of the first edition of Jio Economic Times Startup Awards

Best in Class to Decide India's Best Startups

Team ET

The countdown to the biggest and best startup awards in India has begun. On Saturday, August 8, a high-powered jury will meet in Delhi to choose the winners of the first edition of the **Jio Economic Times Startup Awards**, the culmination of months of effort and excitement.

From today until Friday, ET will take the wraps off the contenders who have made it to the shortlist of five from which the awards jury will make its selection. Every day, ET will unveil the shortlist in two categories; today it is the turn of **Bootstrap Champ** (those who have built a startup without outside funding) and **Top Innovator**.



THE SHORTLIST
» PAGE 5

ET has been the leader and trendsetter in startup coverage, recognising earlier than anybody else that what we are witnessing is a phenomenon that could change India forever. People, young and old, with no more than an idea in their heads, believe they can disrupt the existing order and create something better. It is possible to dream big, and make big dreams come true. The awards are a reflection of our commitment to celebrating not just entrepreneurial achievement but also the idea that human endeavour makes everything possible.

ET was deluged with applications right from the day we threw open the awards on June 12. Our aim has been to make the process fair, transparent and reflective of the diversity of the startup space.

3,700 Applications Received » 14

Stayzilla Wants ₹385 cr



Stayzilla, the online aggregator of budget and home stays, is in talks with investors to raise about ₹385

crore, reports **Madhav Chanchani**. » 5

WizRocket Lands ₹51.2 cr



Mumbai-based WizRocket has raised ₹51.2 crore from Sequoia Capital and Accel Partners, reports

Krithika Krishnamurthy. » 5

Saluting Spirit of Enterprise

» AWARD CATEGORIES

- 1 **BOOTSTRAP CHAMP**
- 2 **TOP INNOVATOR**
- 3 **COMEBACK KID**
- 4 **BEST ON CAMPUS**
- 5 **WOMEN AHEAD**
- 6 **SOCIAL ENTERPRISE**
- 7 **MIDAS TOUCH AWARD FOR BEST INVESTOR**
- 8 **STARTUP OF THE YEAR**

» JURYSPEAK

Not every idea succeeds, but rest assured, if you don't try, you won't succeed.

Nikesh Arora

Nothing is more critical than asking the question about why your company should exist & whether you feel passionate about it.

Kunal Bahl

Entrepreneurship is an eclectic marriage of art & science.

Meena Ganesh

Great entrepreneurs in their quest of problem-finding appear to show that a plausible impossibility is better than a convincing possibility.

Rohan Murty

Entrepreneurs who defend their ideas and win over critics stand out.

Rishad Premji

Entrepreneurship is, in its unalloyed form, a state of mind. It is how you think, the way you think & how you act.

Sharad Sharma

Think of an ultra-marathoner on steroids. Isn't that the perfect description of startup entrepreneurs?

VG Siddhartha

Entrepreneurship represents spirit of India & today's digital age has created a platform for next wave of Indian entrepreneurs to shape the way we live & improve our lives.

Satyan Gajwani

» JURY MEMBERS

NIKESH ARORA

President
SoftBank
(Jury
Chairman)



KUNAL BAHL

Cofounder & CEO
Snapdeal



MEENA GANESH

Cofounder
GrowthStory



ROHAN MURTY

Cofounder
Catamaran
Ventures



RISHAD PREMJI

Head of Strategy
Wipro



SHARAD SHARMA

Cofounder
iSPIRT



VG SIDDHARTHA

Founder
Café Coffee
Day



SATYAN GAJWANI

CEO
Times
Internet

