

# RBIH SPARK

Our Monthly Innovation Digest



## Welcome to the 27th edition of RBIH Spark, Our Monthly Innovation Digest

As a catalyst for financial sector innovation, we work to design customer-centric products and processes, accelerate fintech startups, and provide actionable insights through in-depth research and analysis. This newsletter is your monthly scoop into all the latest developments at RBIH. In this edition, we bring you highlights from the former RBI Governor's announcement of MuleHunter.ai to how Unified Lending Interface (ULI) is driving financial inclusion.

### Monthly Milestones

#### Frictionless Finance Accelerator Takes Off

We successfully launched the Frictionless Finance Accelerator, a collaboration between RBIH, WISE Tech | SPJIMR, and YES BANK, setting the stage for fintech innovation. The event introduced the first cohort of startups poised to drive transformative financial solutions, with inspiring addresses from Mr. Rajesh Bansal (CEO, RBIH), Mr. Prashant Kumar (MD & CEO, YES BANK), and Dr. Varun Nagaraj (Dean, SPJIMR). Engaging panel discussions, interactive networking, and thought-provoking conversations defined the day, reinforcing the accelerator's mission to foster collaboration and industry growth. With this strong start, we look forward to working with our startups to shape the future of fintech.



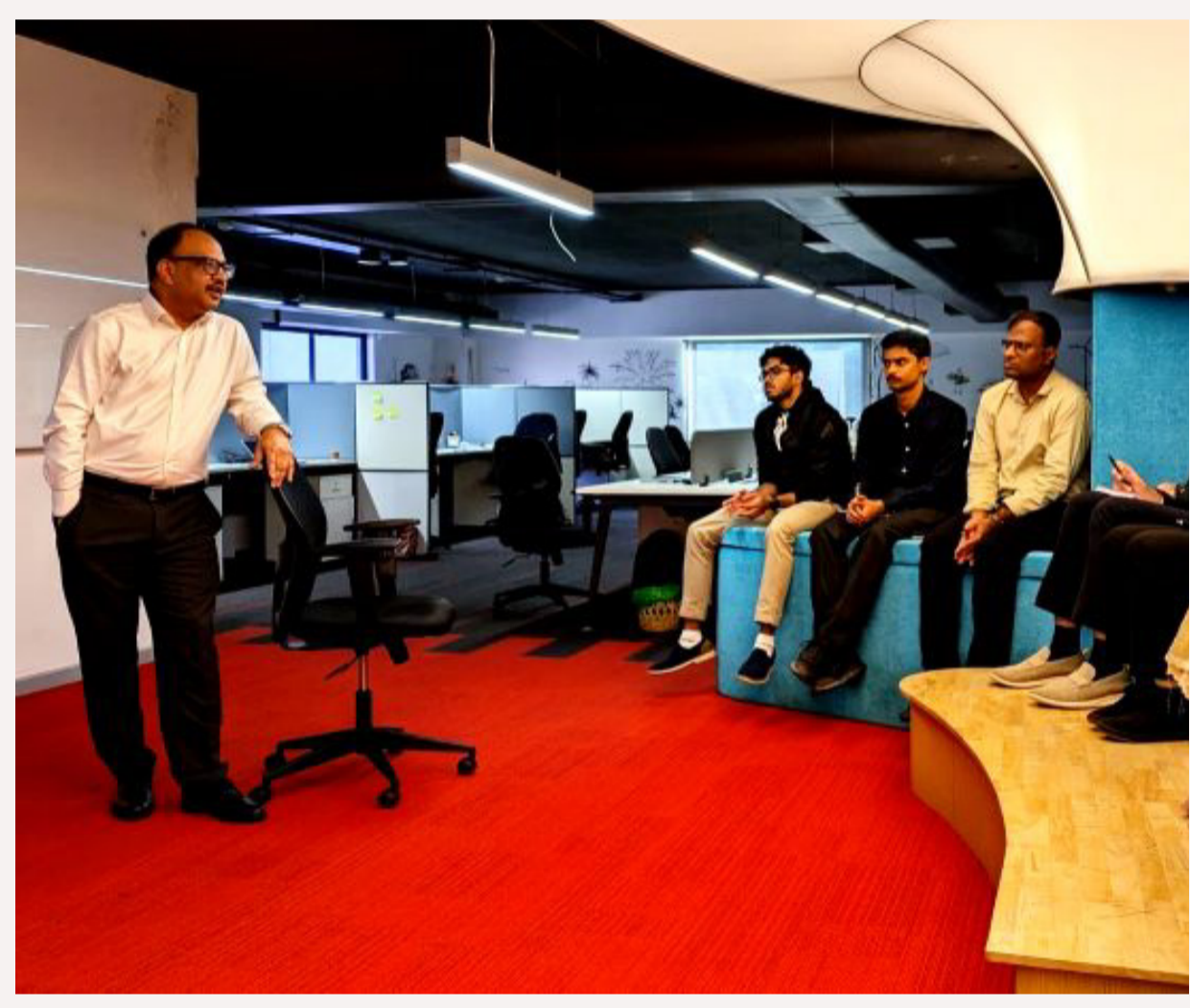
#### Expanding Rural Credit: Fintech Solutions for Smallholder Farmers

Our Head of Products and Digital Solutions, Mr. Arun Seethamraju shared his insights during a panel on 'Rural Credit: Enhancing Credit Access and Financial Solutions for Smallholder Farmers' at India Digital Summit 2025 in New Delhi. Alongside other industry experts, Mr. Seethamraju discussed how fintech innovation is transforming credit access and financial solutions for smallholder farmers. The discussion highlighted the role of digital finance in empowering rural communities, fostering financial inclusion, and driving sustainable growth in India's agrarian economy.

#### From Identity to Inclusion: Building Digital Public Infrastructure

Our CEO, Mr. Rajesh Bansal, who played a pivotal role in establishing Aadhaar, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), eKYC, and AePS delivered a Masterclass on Building Digital Public Infrastructure. Reflecting on his journey with Aadhaar, he shared how, in 2010, he defined his role with a single goal: "If a billion people will have Aadhaar, then a billion people should have a bank account."

Aadhaar has since become the backbone of India's Digital Public Infrastructure, driving financial inclusion, social empowerment, and seamless access to essential services. As we advance our mission at RBIH, we continue to draw inspiration from such transformative initiatives, working towards frictionless finance for a billion Indians.



#### Founders' Club is back!

Our Fintech and Startups team hosted the second edition of Founder's Club in Mumbai. The event was a platform to network with fellow fintech enthusiasts and featured a candid conversation with Mr. Ajay Kaushal, Co-founder of BillDesk who shared insights from his journey of building a fintech unicorn.

### What's in store

#### The Fintech Mixer (TF) goes to Pune

Join us on 28th February 2025 at the Technology Innovation and Collaboration Center (TICC), Pune, for the next edition of TFM. This exciting event features a panel discussion with Mr. Vibhav Hathi, Co-Founder of OneCard, Mr. Ashish Fafadia, Partner, Blume Ventures and Mr. Saurabh Sharma, Head of Innovation Center (TICC) at Bajaj Finserv moderated by Mr. Aakarsh Naidu, Head of Fintech and Startups at RBIH. Be part of an evening filled with engaging conversations, dynamic startup pitches, and valuable networking opportunities. The fintech founders will have the chance to showcase their innovations to banks and enablers while connecting with fintech enthusiasts from across the ecosystem.



#### Building for Billions with Mr. Nandan Nilekani!

Join us for an inspiring session with the architect behind Aadhaar, India Stack, and UPI, as he shares how digital innovation is transforming access to identity, payments, and financial services for 1.4 billion people. Whether you're a founder, innovator, or ecosystem player, this interactive session will offer actionable insights to scale your venture.

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### Recommended Reads

#### RBIH Insights - Her Digital Gateway: Unlocking Financial Inclusion for Women

RBIH released an insightful report titled, 'Her Digital Gateway: How Women in India Access and Use Smartphones'. This report explores the nuanced journey of women smartphone users in India and their adoption of digital financial services. With data from over 3,300 women, the report uncovers critical enablers and barriers, offering actionable recommendations for financial institutions to design gender-intentional products.



Thank you for being a part of our journey. Stay tuned for more exciting updates in our next issue!

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