**Curtain Raiser Press Release

30 Startups, 6 Mentors and Startup Coaches, 12 Speakers**

**STARTUP FEST IN KOTA TOMORROW**

Jaipur, 28 July, 2016: A one-day Startup Fest is being organized at Kota on Friday (29 February). The event is being organized by Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) along with Rajasthan’s leading incubation center, Startup Oasis as a co-organizer. The Centre of Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) of IIM Ahmedabad will be the Knowledge Partner. To be held at the UIT Auditorium (UCCI), the Fest will have founders, mentors and investors joining hands to support entrepreneurship in the city.

The Chief Operating Officer (COO), Startup Oasis, Mr. Chintan Bakshi said that this national level Startup event will provide a platform for the vibrant start up ecosystem. It will bring more than 30 startups, 6 mentors and startup coaches, 12 speakers together on a single platform.

Kota Startup Fest has been organised on the lines of Rajasthan Startup Fest held last year in Jaipur. As per the Startup Policy launched last year, apart from the Rajasthan Startup Fest there were also to be two mini Startup Fests to be organised in the State. Kota Startup Fest is one of the two mini Fest that is being organized in State. Udaipur Mini Start up fest was organized in February this year.

The event will include pitches by new startups batch of Startup Oasis, sessions and panel discussions on ‘Startup and funding scenario’, Startup to Scaleup, an investors perspective, Building the startup ecosystem in Rajasthan and experience sharing sessions by renowned startups.

As a part of the event, ‘Startup booster’ a one - day business program which will help the applicants to convert their idea into a business is also being organized today. Through this programme the aspiring startup entrepreneurs will work with mentors to develop their idea into a business modal. The top team selected under this programme will receive a prize money of Rs 25000.

Simultaneously, ‘The Pitch – Kota’ a pitching program is also being organized as a part of the event. The shortlisted teams will be taken through a mentoring program during the Bootcamp today. The top 3 teams selected will receive incubation support from Startup Oasis. The winners will be announced during the Valedictory Session of the event.

The speakers includes: General Manager, Business Promotion, RIICO, Mr. RK Gupta, Founder, Career Point, Mr. Pramod Maheshwari; Mr. Jagdeep Gambhir of Karma Healthcare; Mr. Ashish Dhawan of Rail Rider; Mr. Pankaj Sharma of Mr. Hot Foods; Mr. Sharad Bansal of SRJNA; Mr. Satyam Mishra of Urban Dhobi; Mr. Amit Kumar of KhanaGaDi; Mr. Shammi Nanda of Jaipur Mera Shehar; Ms. Mamta Singh of Thalagiri; Mr. Rachit Patni of 95 FM and Mr. Aditya Nath of Ecocentric Technologies.

The event also witness a ‘Startup Expo’ where over 15 Rajasthan-based Startups will showcase their services and products.