

CTIER

SEMINAR SERIES



DATE

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TIME

5.00-6.00 p.m.



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Innovation Funding in India: A Multi-Level Analysis of Public Schemes, Philanthropic Capital, and Grassroots Enterprises

Abstract: India's innovation ecosystem has expanded rapidly over the past decade, yet funding remains uneven across stages, sectors, and scales. This study offers a holistic analysis of India's innovation funding landscape by synthesising secondary evidence on public schemes, private capital flows, and national R&D allocations. Drawing on confidential practitioner insights from leading philanthropic and development foundations, it examines how mission-driven funders evaluate proposals and prioritise scalability, social impact, governance feasibility, and climate resilience—often diverging from public or commercial logics. To assess on-ground implications, the paper analyses primary data from over 150 grassroots, innovation-led enterprises in West Bengal. Findings reveal persistent gaps in patient capital, contextual technical support, and market linkages, reinforcing a bifurcated innovation economy. The study calls for a more inclusive, problem-driven funding architecture aligned with enterprise needs.