UAE-based LuLu Group International’s LuLu Cyber Tower 2 was inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Infopark, recently. "We have just overcome a huge calamity which caused severe destruction in the State. Along with rebuilding all that we have lost, the focus should be on providing job opportunities. Only then will our dream of a ‘New Kerala’ come true. The opening of Cyber Tower can be seen as a beginning towards that," the Chief Minister said in his speech.

LuLu Group has invested Rs. 400 crore for the project, the second major investment by the Group in the IT sector after LuLu Cyber Tower 1. The Group had acquired the L&T Park at Infopark in 2014 at a cost of Rs. 150 crore. The Park was then renamed as LuLu Cyber Tower 1.

“The new Cyber Tower can be called a fresh phase of growth for Infopark. There must be a joint effort to boost the IT sector to meet world standards. There are a number of Malayali IT professionals holding good positions in various companies across the globe. Many of them travel abroad because of the lack of opportunities here. They must be given the same chance here so that they could stay back. It will strengthen our IT sector," the CM pointed out. He also added that the State Government is encouraging new concepts and start-ups. “The IT Parks in Kerala currently have a combined area of 1.3 crore sq. ft. The objective was to increase it to 2.3 crore sq. ft. through which 2.5 lakh people can be employed. This goal is being met and LuLu Cyber Towers has played a significant role in it. Infopark has a major share in making Kerala a 100 per cent digital State.”

MA Yusuffali, Chairman and Managing Director, LuLu Group said in his welcome address, “We are living in a world where technology drives everything. It is not just the responsibility of the Central and the State governments to provide job opportunities in the IT field. People in every field have this responsibility. The situation where people find jobs elsewhere should change and more number of people should come here for jobs. Outsourcing is the trend today with companies preferring places with a lower cost of living. Compared to places around the world, Kerala’s is also lower than that of Bengaluru’s. Companies across the globe are going to take this into account and look for places with top-notch IT professionals while outsourcing. In short, this is our small contribution to the sector.

The 15 lakh - sq.ft. Tower 2 has 19 floors and a seating capacity of more than 1200 persons per floor. The facility is expected to provide job opportunities to more than 11,000 IT professionals. The building also has multi-level parking facility for about 1500 cars.

MPs K V Thomas and V Muraleedharan; MLAs P T Thomas, Ebrahim Kunju, Eldo Abraham; M T Omana, Thrikkakara Municipal Chairperson and Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks-Kerala, were present.
KERALA CM FLAGS OFF KSUM’S ‘STARTUP YATRA’ FOR ENTREPRENEURS IN TIER 2 & 3 CITIES OF STATE

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan flagged off the statewide ‘Startup Yatra’, being organised by Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) in November with the aim of nurturing aspiring entrepreneurs in Kerala’s tier 2 and 3 cities and helping them realise their startup dreams. A first-of-its-kind roadshow, it will cover over 1,000 km around the State, with stopovers at scores of educational institutions on the way. The campaign that started from the CM's official residence Cliff House in Thiruvananthapuram will travel till Kasargod before concluding in a grand finale at the State capital's Park Centre. Winners stand to gain prizes totalling Rs. 10 lakh and incubation support. M Sivasankar IAS, Secretary, IT and Electronics, Government of Kerala and Dr. Saji Gopinath, CEO, KSUM, were present on the occasion. "Startup Yatra intends to trace aspiring entrepreneurs, encourage their ideas and provide support to nurture their unique ideas," said Sivasankar.

The Yatra is being held in collaboration with Startup India, the Central Government's flagship initiative. Promising entrepreneurs will also be given mentorship from renowned institutions while helping to tide over the lack of resources.

An Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IEDC) Summit was also organised at Amal Jyothi College, Kottayam as part of the Yatra to transform entrepreneurship-related ideas into market-fit products. The Yatra is scheduled to stop at TiEcon Kerala 2018. As part of the Yatra, eight boot camps and 14 van stops have been planned across the State’s 14 districts. The boot camps, to be held at colleges and universities, will hold ideation workshops and idea-pitching sessions for students.

TRANZMEO LAUNCHES AT INFOPARK PHASE II

Tranzmeo IT Solutions has opened their new facility in Infopark Phase II campus. It was inaugurated by Dinesh P Tampi, Vice president & Delivery Centre Head, TCS Kerala. Safil Sunny, CEO, Tranzmeo; Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, Kerala IT Parks; Sanjay Kumar, Chief General Business Development Manager, HPCL; Fr. John Vaniyapuracal and Sujith Unni, Regional Head, Nasscom were present at the function.

DIGITAL REWARDS COMPANY OPENS

Rybbon LLC, a US-based software-as-a-service platform provider that specialises in providing digital incentive management services for marketers and market researchers, launched Rybbon Digital Rewards India at UL Cyberpark in Kozhikode. It was inaugurated by V K C Mammed Koya, MLA. Dr. Raju C K, Professor, Muthoot Institute of Technology & Science; Manoj Jons David, Director, iManage.com and Ravindran Kasthoori, CEO, UL Cyberpark were also present. The platform allows marketers and market researchers to manage global e-gift campaigns using rewards and e-gift cards.

REDTEAM HACKER ORGANISES CYBER SECURITY SUMMIT

RedTeam Hacker Academy, the only company specialised in Cyber Security in Malabar, organised its first Cyber Security Summit in November at Hilite Business Park, Kozhikode. It was inaugurated by S Kaliraj Mahesh Kumar IPS, the City Police Commissioner, Kozhikode. There was a panel discussion by a team, including Dinesh O Bareja, COO, Open Security Alliance; Varun V L, Process Control Domain IT Security Advisor, Shell; Nanda Kumar and Jaizal Ali. The logo of Shell was also launched by Dr. Kala Baskar, Director, Cyber Forensics, University of Madras.
TechVantage Systems, a company that provides analytics, machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based solutions to clients across the world has been ranked 15th by Deloitte Technology Fast 50 India 2018, a ranking of the 50 fastest-growing technology companies in India.

Rankings are based on revenue growth percentage over three years. The award has been attributed to the company’s 300 per cent growth during these years. TechVantage is housed in Amster building at Technopark.

“For enterprises looking for digital transformation, TechVantage has the unique ability to combine the skills in machine learning and software development to provide transformative solutions that can be implemented quickly. Meanwhile, in the last three years, we also applied our skills in building AI-powered industry solutions and showcased them to clients. These products are now starting to bring in continuous revenue,” said Deviprasad Thrivikraman, CTO and Director, TechVantage.

“Making it to the Deloitte Technology Fast 50 India 2018 list is commendable in today’s highly competitive, fast-changing technology industry,” said Rajiv Sundar, Program Director – Technology Fast 50 India 2018 and Partner, Deloitte India. “We congratulate TechVantage on being one of the 50 fastest-growing technology companies in India,” he added.

The Technology Fast 50 India programme, which was launched in 2005, is conducted by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP (DTTILLP), and is part of a truly integrated Asia Pacific programme recognising India’s most dynamic technology businesses.

Technopark was awarded ‘Certificate of Excellence’ – Vajra 2017 for the Park’s overall performance in Labour Relations and Compliance. The award was received by Abhilash D S, Administration Head, Technopark from T P Ramakrishnan, Minister for Labour & Skill Development at an event organised by Department of Labour & Skills, Govt. of Kerala recently.

Travancore Analytics (TA) started functioning out of a new office at Yamuna building on Technopark Phase III campus.

Dr. R Ravikumar, Chairman, Travancore Analytics, former Director of Technical Education, Government of Kerala and former Principal of CET, inaugurated the facility with Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks Kerala. Harikumar P, CEO, Travancore Analytics, delivered the welcome address at the function. The other dignitaries who were present included Philip John, former MD of Accel Frontline; Dr. Renjith Kumar, US-based partner of TA and CEO, Emeritus of Analytical Mechanics Associates (AMA), USA.

Travancore Analytics has an office at Infopark, Kochi as well. Office at Infopark in Kochi.

Testhouse, a firm that specialises in software testing opened has opened its new office at Technopark’s Nila building. The office was jointly inaugurated by Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks Kerala and Rajesh Narayan, CEO, Testhouse – India & Middle East. The 18-year-old company has a seating capacity for around 150 employees in the new building.