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## Silicon Valley's Asha Jadeja Motwani launches exchange programme for faculty; zooms focus on India

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*Silicon Valley-based investor Asha Jadeja Motwani announces renewed interest in Indian startups, launches exchange programme*

Prominent Silicon Valley-based investor Asha Jadeja Motwani exhorted Indian-origin startups in the Valley to go back to their roots.

In her keynote address at the third edition of the TiE Global Summit in New Delhi, Asha spoke about her renewed focus on investing in Indian startups.



Asha Jadeja Motwani speaking at the TiE summit

Asha likened Indian startups as rocket ships having immense potential. She also expressed her renewed interest in Indian startups.

*YourStory* caught up with Asha to know more about her plans for India.

### Size of investments

Asha revealed that 90 percent of her investments in India will focus on Information Technology startups.

The investments will be distributed across three tiers, Tier 1 being low-risk startups, followed by Tier 2 and Tier 3.

Tier 2 are clone companies that have worked elsewhere. "For instance, when a company works in a market that is saturated in the US, we can help them enter the Indian market and will allow them to make mistakes," said Asha.

### Who is Asha Motwani?

Born and raised in India, Asha is the wife of late Stanford Professor Rajeev Motwani, a prominent Silicon Valley and South Asia expert.

### Key exchange in academic fields

Asha also announced the launch of MITLI (Motwani Institute of Thought Leadership and Innovation).

"A total of \$ 30 million has been invested as an endowment to set the institute in place," she said.

As part of this exchange, faculty from Indian universities will be able to spend a year in Silicon Valley.

The first batch of the exchange programme will have 20 people.

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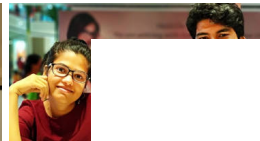
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