



## PRESS RELEASE

### LAST DATE TO APPLY FOR PLAN9'S LAUNCHPAD-10

Lahore, June 19, 2017

The June 20, 2017 is the last date to apply for the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB)'s Plan9 Technology Incubator's 10<sup>th</sup> Launchpad of 6 months of incubation cycle. This time it will be a weeklong event in Lahore that'll kick off with the 2-day segment, Makeathon, on the 17th & 18th of July 2017, followed by 3 days of startup trainings and workshops leading into the pitch competition from 19th - 23rd July 2017. Pitch competition is spread over two days. On Day One, the shortlisted startups deliver their 2 minute elevator pitches to an external panel of judges. On the basis of scores, the shortlisted startups qualify for Day Two of The Launchpad pitch competition. On the second day, the startups pitch their business model once again, this time in an elaborate, 7 minute long pitch followed by 3 minutes of Q & A. The winners get a spot at Plan9 for incubation.

Plan9 is all set for the upcoming 10th episode of its flagship event - The Launchpad. Plan9 is the pioneer of technology incubation in Pakistan operating along the lines of Silicon Valley. To date Plan9 has graduated more than 130 startups since its inception. Its startups are evaluated at more than \$70 million, have raised a gross investment of over and above \$2.5 million and created more than 1000 jobs across Pakistan.

The Launchpad is held twice in a year, consisting of screening, workshops, talks and final presentations replicated in 3 major cities of Pakistan - Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi. The Launchpad is marked by more than 150 selected startups from more than 3000 applicants from all over Pakistan. Plan9 has a number of global players on board. Google, Facebook, Amazon and Microsoft are just the tip of the iceberg. Beginning its journey in the year 2012, Plan9 has come a long way. From just a few applications to receiving more than 3000 applications from all across Pakistan.