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Jaipur: Covid-19 has thrown open new opportunities for youths looking to kick off their entrepreneurial journey. The fact that Rajasthan has incubated startups like Med Delivery, MedCords, Karma Healthcare, and LifCare which have raised different rounds of funding is encouraging youths to create innovative solutions in the healthcare segment.

"The pandemic has certainly exposed gaps and opportunities we did not foresee earlier.

The youth are now aware that the sector can provide them scale if they develop the right solution," said Mahavir Sharma, president of TiE Global at an event organized by IIHMR University Jaipur. Sharma said the investor appetite in the sector has also increased after the outbreak of the pandemic. "Investors are expecting more ideas in the healthcare sector after the pandemic and good ones will get funding," added Sharma. Sharma was addressing the youths who pitched their innovative ideas at the university's 'Global Health and Innovation Conference.'

Innovation in healthcare is happening but they are catering to a fraction of people in the vast country. Chintan Bakshi, CEO of Startup Oasis, said, "We need more ideas and entrepreneurs who can eliminate gaps and inefficiencies, and reach rural areas where the need is immediate. In Rajasthan, we have the genesis of about four successful startups. The ideas we come across in the state need mentoring but they are maturing."

Shreyans Mehta, Co-Founder at MedCords, which recently raised funding, said, "Personalised healthcare services in the past six years in Rajasthan have seen a big shift. Our effort has been to create a health record for every family member who collaborated with the National Digital Health Mission. Better recording of patient healthcare data can be beneficial for offering personalized patient care." tnn