MANAV AHUJA

Founder, StartupBase • Creator & Influencer, @ahuja.builds

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Open to Bengaluru / International / Remote • Available immediately

SUMMARY

Founder and growth operator with a BBA+LLB (Hons.) from Jindal Global Law School. Bootstrapped StartupBase to **1,300+ customers** as a solo, AI-native builder; grew a business and AI content brand to **1.4M+ monthly reel views**; won **1st place** at OpenAI's Codex Community Hackathon, Mumbai. Combines distribution, product execution, and commercial judgment across founder's office, growth, and GTM roles.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPERIENCE

Founder | **StartupBase** · AI-native startup ideas and business OS *Dec 2025 – Present*

- Built and launched an AI-powered startup ideas platform and daily newsletter for Indian founders; scaled to **1,300+ paying customers** solo across product, growth, content, and operations.
- Shipped the full product with no technical co-founder using AI-native tooling (Claude Code, Cursor, Lovable, Bolt); iterated to a multi-tier subscription model with consistent premium conversion. [live product]
- Drove acquisition entirely through organic content and newsletter growth loops (DM automation, cross-promotions, referrals) with **zero paid spend**.

Creator & Influencer | **@ahuja.builds** · Business and AI content *2025 – Present*

- Grew to **1.4M reel views and 1.1M accounts reached in 30 days** (10K+ followers); 58K saves and shares in the same window, reaching a high-intent audience of Indian founders and professionals aged 18 to 34.
- Closed paid brand collaborations (Batch06, MP Epoxy, InhaleNow, PashuVaani) covering concept, scripting, AI production, and posting; built a rate-card media kit with INR and USD tiers.

Founder | **Autozen AI** · AI creative agency (wound down to focus on StartupBase) *2024 – 2025*

- Delivered **10+ client projects** spanning AI-generated video ads, websites, and business automations; owned sales, scoping, production, and delivery end to end.

Founder | **Elevar Media** · Influencer marketing agency *2021 – 2022*

- Acquired CoinDCX, Upstox, and 8+ SME clients; generated **₹15L+ revenue** with 100% client retention through data-driven campaign execution.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Business Strategy & Operations Consultant | Freelance *2022 – 2024*

- Advised 5+ ventures across fintech, edtech, and media on scaling strategy, contract negotiation, and market research.

Legal & Commercial Internships | 10+ internships incl. J. Sagar Associates (Tier-1) and ITW Consulting *2021 – Dec 2024*

- Contract negotiation and due-diligence support for media and telecom brands (ITW); regulatory research and drafting across corporate, competition, and technology law (JSA and others).

ACHIEVEMENTS & LEADERSHIP

- **1st Place, OpenAI Codex Community Hackathon, Mumbai**: built and shipped a working product within the event window.
- Savitri Jindal Studentship (Top 1% LSAT India 2020) and Merit Scholarship, JGLS.
- Panelist, Mumbai AI meetup (distribution as career defensibility, AI-native GTM as whitespace); Core Committee, JGU Start-Up Expo (500+ participants, 15+ sponsors); Head, Jindal Finance Club; Teaching Assistant, Standard Essential Patents & Competition Law.

EDUCATION

Jindal Global Law School | Integrated BBA + LLB (Hons.), CGPA 7.51/8.0 *2020 – 2025*

Narsee Monjee College, Mumbai | 12th (Commerce) 91.67% • 10th 94.67% *2018 – 2020*

SKILLS

- **AI-native building:** Claude Code, Cursor, Lovable, Bolt, workflow automation; ships products and content pipelines without engineers.
- **Growth & distribution:** short-form content strategy, newsletter growth (Beehiiv), influencer marketing, community, cold outreach (Apollo).
- **Business & legal:** client acquisition, partnerships, contract drafting and negotiation, market research.