



## A Look Back at the Inaugural Pune AI Collective Meetup

You know, there's always something special about a "first." First day of school, first job, first time meeting a new friend. They're all about taking that initial step, and that's exactly what the first Pune AI Collective meetup felt like on **Sep 7, 2025**. It was the beginning of something big, a crucial step in building a community with a shared vision of making Pune a global AI hub.

The energy in the room at the Red Hat Office was just amazing. It was more than just a bunch of people showing up for a talk; it was about bringing together passionate individuals to connect, share ideas, and kickstart a collaborative environment. We wanted this to be the start of a real community, and you could feel that in the air.

## What We Talked About

The agenda was packed with some really compelling topics. Abhishek Kumar and Anuj Singla kicked things off with their talk on "Llama Stack", which is all about making AI development easier. They walked us through how it helps developers tackle common challenges like managing infrastructure, using different tools for things like RAG and monitoring, and having more flexibility with provider integrations.

Then, Renu Jhamtani gave us a great session on **Context Engineering with PRP**, breaking down the basics and showing us a demo. And to round things out, Deep Gandhi dove into **MCP Security 101**. He covered some of the biggest risks in the field, using real-world examples to help us think about how to approach mcp security.

Of course, it wasn't all talks and presentations. We made sure to build in plenty of time for networking, with a welcome coffee and cookies session and a quick snack break in between and finally we cut the cake celebrating successful completion of our first meetup. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet other AI enthusiasts and connect with experts in the field.

## So, How Did It Go?

The feedback we got was overwhelmingly positive. Out of 27 attendees who gave feedback, a whopping 25 rated the event as a 4 or 5. Only two people rated it a 3, which tells us we're on the right track.

But even with such positive feedback, there's always room to grow. A few people mentioned they wanted more interactive sessions and a deeper dive into the foundational concepts of AI. That's something we're definitely taking to heart as we plan for the future.

We also learned what topics are at the top of everyone's mind for future meetups. The community is interested in everything from **AI and Security** to **RAG** and **AI Agents**. There was also huge interest in **hands-on sessions** and a desire to learn more about the basics of AI, from development to enterprise applications. People are also keen on topics like AI evaluation and model training.

## What's Next?

This first meetup was just the beginning. The feedback has been compiled into a report that will help us shape our future events. We're excited to take this community forward and can't wait to see what we can achieve together.

To keep things moving, we've already got some action items. We'll be adding more hands-on sessions and workshops. We also plan to move our event management to [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) or luma to make things smoother for everyone.

This is a really exciting time for the Pune AI community, and we can't wait to continue building it with all of you.