

Details of initiatives launched by HRD Minister in Delhi today:

I. Launch of IIC 2.0

About IIC

MHRD's Innovation Cell has envisioned establishing a strong network of **Institution's Innovation Council** (IICs) in Higher Educational Institutes to promote innovation and start-up in academia through multitudinous modes leading to an innovation promotion eco-system in these campuses. The primary mandate is to encourage, inspire and nurture young students by supporting them to work with new ideas and transform these ideas into innovations of tomorrow while they are in their informative years.

The model of IICs operates in hub and spoke format and ensures round the year activities related to innovation, entrepreneurship and IPR in campus. Through IIC, Institutes are encouraged to design semester wise activity plan, organise and report at IIC portal to obtain scores and star ratings as an incentive. The approach ensures an effective mode of triggering HEIs to put their resources and efforts in right direction to create a vibrant start-up and innovation ecosystem in campus.

IIC 1.0: November 2018 – June 2019.

IIC program was inaugurated on 21st November 2018 at AICTE HQ New Delhi by Minister of HRD and a network of 950+ IICs has been established across country. Through various activities driven by MHRD's Innovation Cell and by IICs at HEIs level has made an impact with reach out to more than 7.5 lakh students and 63,000 faculties to receive exposure on various aspects of Innovation and start-up. Among major activities that were rolled out through IICs, India's First Leadership Talk Series, Intellectual Property Rights workshop, Workshop on Cognitive skills, Design Thinking and Critical Thinking, Idea competition and field visits are the distinct ones.

IIC 2.0: July 2019 – June 2020.

New IIC calendar plan with advance features has been introduced from July 2019 with an addition of 439 new IICs. To enable IICs to participate more effectively following features and provisions have been made in IIC 2.0 Edition.

- Introduction of a flexible Semester based IIC calendar plan for HEIs to plan and organize the activities in the campus.
- Introduction of choice based activity approach and scoring system to encourage healthy competition among HEIs.
- Allocation of weightages for the activities apart from IIC calendar falling under self-driven category.

- Design and introduction of robust portal for quick flow of information, monthly report submission, monitoring, benchmarking and performance measure of IICs.
- Mechanism in place to Incentivize and reward the best performing IICs and the beneficiaries.

Regional orientation and training sessions for IICs.

Total 14 orientation sessions were organised during the period from 19 July to 19 August to make IICs aware about IIC model and approach. Sessions also focused to make familiar about IIC portal system, features and scoring mechanism. In addition to this total 50 best performing IICs have been identified to receive training on “mentorship skill development on innovation and start-up” on 9th and 10th September 2019, at AICTE HQ, New Delhi. Furthermore, top 25 IICs will be awarded for their active participation during November 2019 to June 2019.

Regional mentoring session and National Level bootcamp cum exhibition

MHRD's Innovation Cell and AICTE have floated a Proof of Concept (PoC) contest to 1000 higher education institute during the month of June 2019 to take part. 1700 PoC nominations were received and sensitized to map business value propositions by organizing mentoring sessions along with IICs orientation and training workshops. Out of these 1700 PoCs, 43 teams have been identified along with 20 teams shortlisted from Smart India Hackathon and ChhatraViswakarma Award organized at AICTE to take part in 2 day long National level Bootcamp on Startup at New Delhi on 9th and 10th Sept. 2019. On 11th September, 2019 these teams demonstrated the technology and business models at AICTE HQs, New Delhi and top 5 teams received MHRD Innovation Award 2019.

Creation of Logo for IIC network

A logo contest was floated to students and faculties of all IICs. Around 1000 designs were received and on committee's recommendation, the following logo as designed by Ms. Pooja Jathar, 4th year student at Symbiosis Institute of Design, is selected as logo of IIC network



II. Launch of ARIIA 2020

Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) is an initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India to systematically rank all major educational institutions and universities on indicators related to promotion of “Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development” amongst their students and faculties.

The India innovation ranking aims at

- Setting direction for HEIs towards streamlining and establishing a strong startup ecosystem in campus and region.
- Measuring Innovation & Startup ecosystem based on Input, Process, Output and Outcome based parameters.
- Focusing on both quantity and quality aspects of Startup Eco-System available at Institute.
- Also measure the impact created by these innovations and Startups in society and market.
- Aiming at uplifting India’s Position in the Global Innovation Index from 57th to top 30 in a time period of 5 Years.

ARIIA 2019:

ARIIA was launched on 30th August 2018 by MHRD and being implemented by MHRD’s Innovation Cell and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in technical partnership with INFLIBNET, Gandhinagar. The results were announced by President of India on 8th April 2019 in VigyanBhawan. Top 10 institutes in “Public funded” and top 5 institutions in “Private or self-finance” Categories were declared.

In ARIIA 2019, total 1473 nos of HEIs had registered with representation from 33 states and UTs. Finally, 815 nos of HEIs including institutes of national importance completed the formalities to compete in this national ranking process.

ARIIA 2020

Measurement of Innovation and Start-up Ecosystem: There are 6 parameters with sub-parameters to assess the existing innovation and start-up ecosystem at HEIs. Portal is open for registration for participation in the ARIIA 2020. So far, 900 HEIs registered for participation. HEIs will start submitting the data for ARIIA under different parameters till 30th September 2019.

Time Line:

- Registration & Pre-Qualifier Data Stage: 16th July to 31st August 2019
- Parameter Wise Data Submission: 1st Sept. – 30th Sept. 2019

- Review, Evaluation and Verification: 1st Oct – 31st Dec. 2019
- Ranking and Report Development: 1st Jan – Feb 2020
- Result Announcement: 3rd Week of Feb 2020 (tentative)

Announcement of ARIIA 2020

For ARIIA 2020, ranking list of upto 100 numbers will be prepared under two major categories as: Govt. Funded and Self-financed institutions.

III. Release of guidelines on ‘National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019’ for students and faculty of all higher education institutions in India

The ‘Guidelines on National Student and Faculty Start-up policy 2019’ for Higher Education Institutions envisions a higher educational system oriented towards start-ups and entrepreneurship opportunities for student and faculties. The guidelines provide ways to Indian Higher Education institutions for developing entrepreneurial agenda, managing IPR ownership, technology licensing and equity sharing in Start-ups or enterprises established by faculty and students of these HEIs.

In India, innovation is still not the epicenter of education. In order to achieve the cultural and attitudinal shift and to ensure that ‘Innovation and Start-up’ culture is the primary fulcrum of our higher education system, a policy framework and guidelines are the need of this hour. The guidelines will enable these institutions to actively support their faculty, staff and students for participation in innovation and entrepreneurship related activities, thus encouraging students and faculty to consider start-ups and entrepreneurship as a career option. These recommendations and guiding principles will also help HEIs in creating their own policy framework, if required.

Moreover, this will facilitate Ministry of Human Resource Development in bringing uniformity across HEIs in terms of Intellectual Property Rights ownership management, technology licensing and institutional start-ups policy, thus enabling creation of a robust innovation and Start-up ecosystem across all higher education institutions of India.

IV. Launch of Smart India Hackathon -2020:

Smart India Hackathon or SIH is a flagship program and nationwide initiative by MHRD’s Innovation Cell (MIC) and AICTE to provide students a platform to solve some of the pressing problems we face in our daily lives,

and thus to inculcate a culture of product innovation and to create a mindset to solve problems. Hackathon (SIH) is one of the most successful flagship event of MHRD's Innovation Cell.

Over the years, SIH has been evolved and established as world's biggest open innovation model. SIH is a unique initiative to identify new and disruptive technological innovations for solving the challenges faced by our country. Three hackathons have already been conducted with grand success in the year 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Smart India Hackathon 2017 (SIH 2017) was conducted to help Ministries design digital solutions to the problems shared with students of Higher Education. 29 Ministries and Departments shared 598 problem statements, which received more than 7531 ideas. The Finale was hosted by 26 Nodal Centers. More than 45,000 students participated in the event.

In the year 2018 for the first time Smart India Hackathon 2018 (SIH 2018) was conducted in the form of two editions (Software and Hardware). 27 Ministries and Departments and 17 State Governments shared 408 problem statements, which received more than 16700 ideas. A total of 241 prizes were given away after the Finale, which was hosted by 28 Nodal Centers. More than 1,00,000 students participated in the event.

Smart India Hackathon 2019 (SIH2019) also consisted of both Software and Hardware hackathon. The problem statements were invited from Ministries, Departments and Industries. Total student participation in SIH 2019 crossed 2 lakhs and the number of ideas submitted were more than 57,000 by more than 34,000 teams. Student participations from 2235 institutions to solve problems given by total 167 organizations (including 95 Industries, 17 Ministries, 55 MSMEs) and Student Innovation category was witnessed. A total of 532 problem statements were created for students out of which 334 were software related solutions and 198 for hardware solutions. The Grand Finale for Software Edition was conducted on 2nd and 3rd March 2019 at 48 Nodal Centers and the same for Hardware Edition was conducted from 8th to 12th July, 2019 at 18 Nodal Centers across the country.

Smart India Hackathon 2020 (SIH2020):

The last three editions of SIH were grand success and now MHRD's Innovation Cell, along with AICTE, is going to organize the 4th edition of SIH in the year 2020. In SIH 2020, the students would have the opportunity to work on challenges faced within various Central and State Ministries, Departments, Industries, PSUs and NGOs to create world class solutions for some of pressing problems of our country.

This edition of SIH will also consist both Software and Hardware hackathon. SIH2020 is planned in March, 2020 for Software edition and in July, 2020 for Hardware edition. The problem statements are being invited from Central and State Ministries, Departments, PSUs, NGOs and Industries. Submission of problem statements are open right now and these organizations can submit problem statements till 30th September, 2019 on SIH website. This

time the top 5 student teams will be selected through the intra-campus hackathon from each participating college. The ideas submitted by these shortlisted teams will be evaluated again by the expert panel of evaluators. After multiple layers of evaluation, the finally shortlisted teams will participate during the Grand Finale. During the Grand Finale, the idea selected by the problem statement creator organization will be awarded Rs. 1,00,000 against each problem statement. After the hackathon, the winning ideas with good business potential will be funded and taken forward to develop the products or create start-ups.

V. Launch of Smart India Hackathon Report:

While the 4th edition of Smart India Hackathon has just been launched by the Minister of HRD, the last 3 editions of SIH, starting from the year 2017 to 2019, had been phenomenally successful. Deloitte has helped in measuring the impact of last 3 editions of SIH.

VI. Announcement of new ATAL ACADEMIES

It was felt that Training with latest tools and technologies is vital to keep an institute competitive and more productive. Training is required for increasing the knowledge and skills of students to make them more employable to acquire global competencies. It also transforms them to harmonize with society and most importantly to make them a good citizen of the country.

India is striving to excel in Academia and Research through value based technical education with a global focus and very soon will take a lead in preparing young professionals in nine thrust areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI & ML), 3-D Printing, Big Data Analysis, Blockchain, Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality, Quantum Computing, Internet of Things (IoT), Robotics & Cyber Security.

Simultaneously, there is a need for imparting training to technical teachers and research scholars in these thrust areas and other such important areas in order to further train the students in their institutions/colleges respectively. Faculty of technical institutions will, therefore, make the students aware of these courses and students will be able to benefit from such a rapidly developed technology.

The 1st AICTE Training And Learning (ATAL) Academy in Jaipur was announced by Union Minister, Human Resource Development on 24.9.2018 and in the presence of Prof. Anil D Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE and other dignitaries who graced the occasion with establishment of its other Academies in the country at:

1. ATAL Academy, Jaipur

2. ATALAcademy, Vadodara
3. ATALAcademy, Trivandrum
4. ATALAcademy, Guwahati

The construction of buildings of these four ATAL Academies is in process. A target has been fixed up to organize 200 programmes during the financial year 2019-20 by these four Academies and, thus, each Academy will organize 50 programmes in their region respectively and will train more than 10000 number of faculty, Research Scholars and PG student in the 9 thrust areas throughout the country.

Indeed, it was felt that establishment of four ATAL Academies throughout the country is not sufficient enough to cater the needs of all states in the country and therefore, it is proposed to set up 10 (ten) more AICTE Training And Learning (ATAL) Academies/Centres as mentioned below:

- 1) Dehradun
- 2) Kanpur
- 3) Bhopal
- 4) Chennai
- 5) Murthal
- 6) Patna
- 7) Bangalore
- 8) Srinagar
- 9) Hyderabad
- 10) Kolkata

VII. Launch of Protsahan Mudra: Rewards

Protsahan Mudra is real time rewards Engine to give rewards to Students and teachers daily or as close to the action that qualifies for the reward. The innovative approach rewarding as a recognition and encouragement tool will democratize the process of Protsahan.

The system will also give a rules engine or Yantra to the collegemanagement, teachers, regulators, employers and the sponsor from the marketplace to decide the reason, the scale and quantum of the reward points called Protsahan Mudra in India.

The primary categories for the reason may include

1. Social work
2. Academics
3. Sports
4. Arts

The social work can include the well-known good causes like:

- A) Blood Donation

- B) Swacha Bharat
 - C) Green Revolution
 - D) Jal Shakti
 - E) Rescue in case of natural disaster
 - F) Promote Regional Languages
- Or any other national priority / civic duties.

For students more desirous of getting tangible / product rewards we would connect them to sponsors that may offer free or discounted products.

VIII. Announcement of AICTE – VISHWAKARMA AWARDS’ 2019

Under the various skill initiatives, Council has introduced Vishwakarma Awards from 2017 to encourage and motivate young students and institutions to raise their performance in their specific domains leading to significant contribution towards the growth and development of the nation as a whole. The theme in year 2017 was “**To convert existing institute into smart institute using innovative approaches**”. From amongst 806 applications, finally 16 Teams were suitably awarded for their projects by Dr. Satya Pal Singh, former Minister of State for Human Resource Development on 19th September 2017. The second ChhatraVishwakarma Awards’ 2018 was based on the theme of “**Empowerment of Villages through Technologies**”. A total of 1607 applications were received. Shri. M Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India felicitated 19 teams in the Award ceremony held on 21st January 2019.

With an overall aim to expand the rural economy, the Council has announced the Vishwakarma Award 2019 with the theme of “**How to enhance the income of Village**”. Apart from student participation, the Council has for has also invited nominations from institutions with an aim to promote institutional approach towards rural intervention. Thus the award shall thus be presented in two categories as under:-

- (a) **Category-I.** Chhatra Vishwakarma Awards (CVA) for Outstanding Innovative Team (for Students & Mentor).
- (b) **Category-II.** Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award (USVA) for exemplary Institutional intervention.
