

Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge

Background

The "Maharashtra State Innovation Startup Policy 2018" was introduced by the Department of Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation to foster innovative concepts and new entrepreneurs in the state. To effectively implement this policy, the Maharashtra State Innovation Society serves as the nodal agency. Through this initiative, the state aims to develop a thriving startup ecosystem by offering various programs, such as establishing and expanding incubators, providing quality control and financial assistance to startups for intellectual property rights, organizing Grand Challenges and Startup Weeks.

Innovation and creativity have no geographical bounds; they can flourish anywhere. However, to materialize good ideas, proper support, platform, and guidance are essential. The Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge, organized by the department, aims to provide a concrete platform for college students in the state to shape and showcase their innovative ideas, nurturing a new generation of successful entrepreneurs.

Objective

The objective of the Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge is to foster and showcase innovations by college students in the state, empowering them with the necessary support to turn their entrepreneurial dreams into reality.

Eligibility

1. All Students pursuing any degrees (except students at schools and junior colleges) as well as students studying in ITI's can participate in group of maximum 3 students.
2. To apply, the student / group must have an innovative concept.

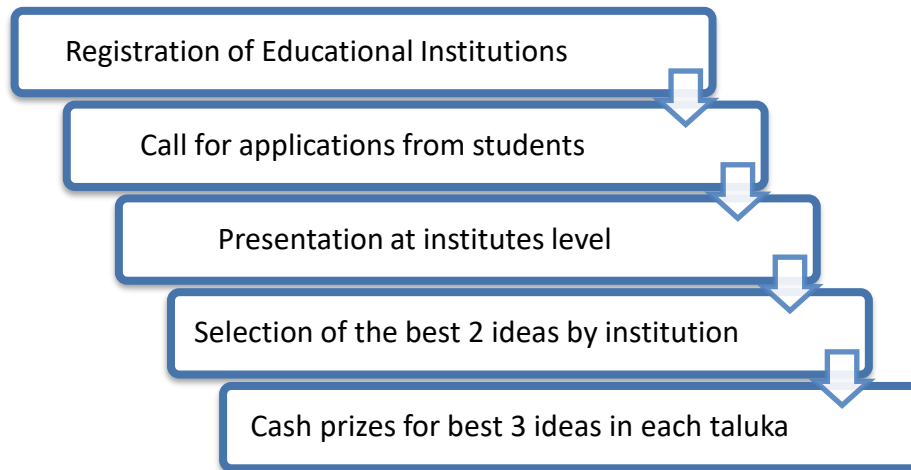
Phases

- Phase 1: Registration of institutions and selection of innovative ideas at the institution level
- Phase 2: District level presentation and selection of ideas
- Phase 3: Special Incubation Program support

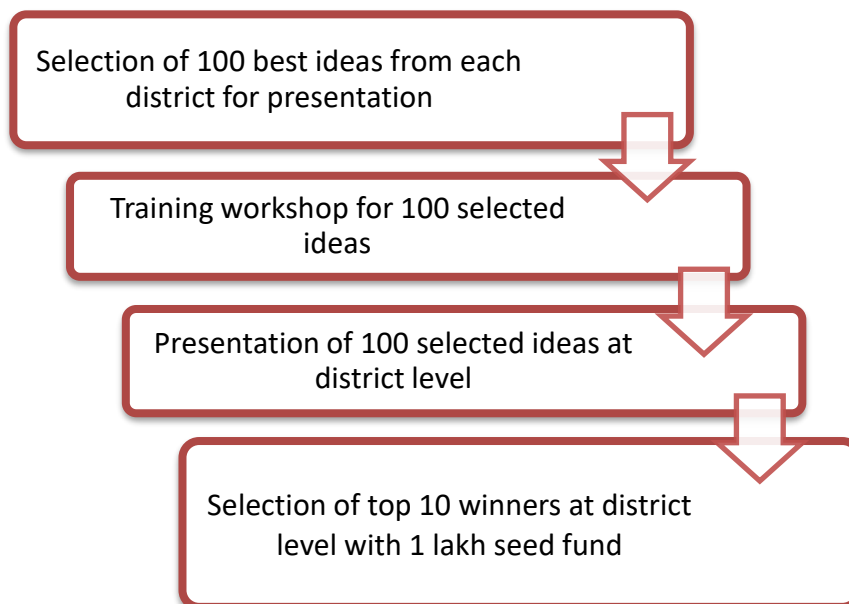
Benefits and Awards

- Cash prizes for top 3 winners at Taluka level
- District level top 10 winners each will get Rs. 1 lakh seed fund
- Top 10 winning startups at state level will get Rs. 5 lakh seed fund.
- Special incubation program
- Benefit of other schemes
- Awards to educational institutions and districts

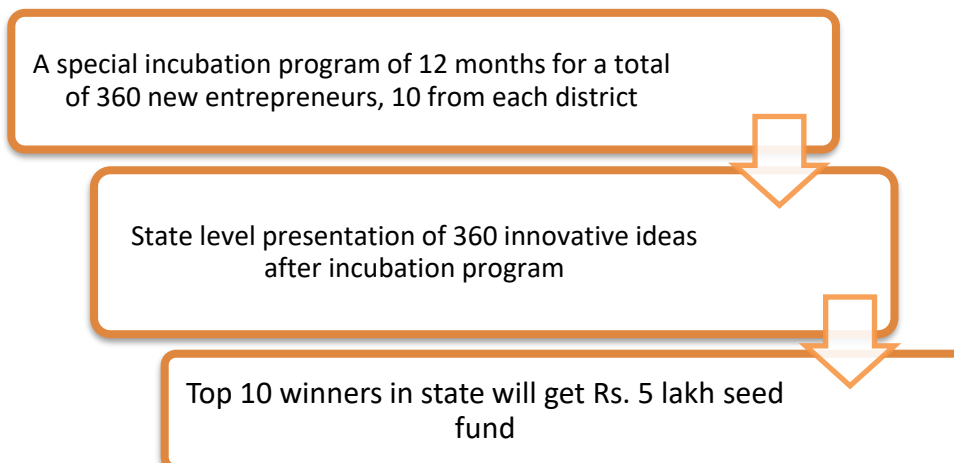
Phase 1: Registration of institutions and selection of innovative ideas at the institution level



Phase 2: District Level Presentation And of concepts selection



Step 3 : special Incubation program



Procedure:

1. Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge and organization of meetings (July 15, 2023)

The Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge was launched on 15 July 2023 by Hon. Minister of Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation. For publicity and successful implementation of the initiative, the district Collector should hold a meeting between 24 July to 28 July 2023 with the Principals and Vice-Chancellors of all ITIs, Colleges, Universities in respective district through VC or in person.

The meeting should be organized by the District Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Committee. The responsibility of the meeting will be on Assistant Commissioner of employment. All the Vice-Chancellors, Principals, and concerned departmental officers of higher and technical education should be invited to the meeting. In the meet, Mahatma Gandhi National Fellow/DSDC should read the guidelines and apprise the participants about all the rules related Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge.

District level publicity about the initiative should be done through the District Information Officer.

2. Colleges and Registration of Industrial Training Institutions (July 15 to August 15, 2023)

To participate in the Student Innovation Challenge, all the colleges and industrial training institutes of the state are required to register on the Student Innovation Challenge portal (<https://schemes.msins.in>) within the prescribed time. A brochure regarding this is being attached herewith.

3. Call for Applications from Students (1st August to 31st August 2023)

Students from all registered institutes can apply through Student Innovation Challenge portal (<https://schemes.msins.in>).

4. Institution Level Presentation and Scrutiny (September 10 to September 20, 2023)

Each educational institution will conduct presentation sessions for participating candidates. In this session, a teacher/professor dealing with entrepreneurship subject in the concerned educational institution or a person directed by the institution will act as jury. The evaluation criteria have been given to the institutes on the portal of Student Innovation Challenge (<https://schemes.msins.in>) and the applications received on the said portal will be evaluated by the educational institute. For this, each educational institution will be provided with log in ID and password by Maharashtra State Innovation Society.

5. Selection of Best 2 ideas at Institution Level (September 23, 2023)

The best 2 concepts from each institution will be selected after the presentation session at the educational institution level. This selection will be done on the basis of the marks obtained by the students.

6. Cash prizes for best 3 ideas in each taluka (24 September 2023)

From the received ideas from all educational institutions in each taluka, the best 3 innovative ideas will be given cash prizes. (1st Rs 3000, 2nd Rs 2000, 3rd Rs 1000)

7. Selection of the best 100 new innovative ideas in each district (25 September 2023)

Out of the best 2 ideas received from all educational institutions of the district, the best 100 innovative ideas will be selected for district level presentation.

8. Training Workshop (27 September to 5 October 2023)

A 1-day physical / virtual workshop will be conducted for the selected 100 budding entrepreneurs, to inform them about the basics of the startup journey and guide them on how to present. Information about this workshop will be given to selected students through SMS or email.

9. Presentation session at district level (6th October to 15th October 2023)

At district level, 100 selected entrepreneurs will be given an opportunity to present their idea. Each district will form various jury panels to evaluate the participants and the same evaluation will be done on Student Innovation Challenge portal (<https://schemes.msins.in>).

10. Selection of Top 10 Winners at District Level (18 October 2023)

10 winners will be selected from each district's presentation session. 30% of these will be women and 50% of the winners will be from industrial training institutes. If out of 10 winners any innovation related to One District One Product (ODOP) 2 winners will be given preference. Each winner will be awarded Rs. 1 lakh as seed fund.

11. Special incubation Program :

A special incubation program of 12 months for a total of 360 new entrepreneurs, 10 from each district.

12. After the special incubation program, 360 ideas will be presented at the state level and the best 10 entrepreneurs will be awarded Rs. 5 lakh seed fund.

Awards to Educational Institutions and Districts

1. The top district in each administrative division which drives the maximum number of applications will be recognized and rewarded with prize money of INR 50,000. Evaluation will be done through the following criteria:

$$= \frac{\text{Total number of applications in a district}}{\text{Total number of eligible educational institutions in the district}}$$

2. The top institution in each administrative division which drives maximum number of applications for the program will be recognized at state level and rewarded with prize money of INR 50,000. The evaluation will be done on following criteria:

$$= \frac{\text{Total number of applications in an Institution}}{\text{Total number of students in educational institutions}}$$

Certificates

All the participants, participating institutions, jury members, and volunteers will get digital certificates.

Proposed Schedule :

Phase I: Registration of institutions and selection of innovative ideas at the institution level	
Registration of Educational Institutions	15 July - 31 August 2023
Call for applications from students	1 August- 15 September
Presentation at institute level	25 September – 10 October
Announcement of Best Innovation by Institution	13 October
Selection of the best 3 ideas in each taluk	16 October
Second Phase	
Announcement of District Level 100 Best Innovations	17 October
Training session	19 October - 30 October
Organising presentation session at district level	1 November – 15 November
Announcement of 10 winners from each district	20 November 2023
Third Phase	
Initiation of incubation program by mapping for incubation support	Incubation support for 12 months
Incubation program	
State level presentation session and announcement of winners	

Jury for District Level Presentation Session Registration process

1. Interested experts should register on Student Innovation Challenge portal (<https://schemes.msins.in>).
2. Among the received applications, Maharashtra State Innovation Society shall review & appoint the appropriate jury by district .
3. Jury panels will be formed at district level for district level presentation sessions.
4. Jury members will be paid Rs. 2000 per day for their contribution to the presentation session.

Responsibilities of various stakeholders

Stakeholders	Responsibility
Maharashtra State Innovation Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of Portal for Student Innovation Challenge • Issuance of guidelines for implementation • Distribution of publicity materials regarding Student Innovation challenge to all relevant government departments and other partners • Seed Fund, jurors' honorarium and other expenses to the district level winners. • Special incubation aid, Providing mentoring sessions from leading organizations and experts in the innovation ecosystem and other benefits like software credits, cloud credits etc.
Collector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessary guidance for successful implementation of Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge at district level • Press Conference, meeting with educational institutions and other partners



Stakeholders	Responsibility
District Skills , Employment , Entrepreneurship and Innovation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointment of Nodal Officer for effective planning and implementation of Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge at district level• Spread information about Student Innovation Challenge to maximum number of educational institutions and students across the district and encourage them to prepare properly.• Separate room, projector and other infrastructure at the proposed colleges and educational institutes for district level presentation sessions.• Publicity and awareness campaign in the district as well as dissemination of information through newspapers and social media about guidance and training camps.• Coordinating with Guardian Ministers , MLAs for district level campaign / publicity and to provide necessary support for successful conduct of Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge.
Assistant Commissioner Employment , Mahatma Gandhi National Fellow , DSDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointing independent officers for effective coordination with Maharashtra State Innovation Society and other stakeholders• Organizing a meeting of all Vice-Chancellors, Principals, concerned departmental officers of higher and technical education under the chairmanship of the Collector with the help of Mahatma Gandhi National Fellows and DSDC .• Dissemination of information through local newspapers and other media for campaigning in the district• Coordinating with Universities, Educational Institutions, Principals, Incubation Centers in the respective districts for publicity and awareness campaigns.• Coordinating with the Collector's Office for the program in the concerned district as well as coordination with other government departments for maximum participation• Registration campaign
Special Incubation Program - Implementation Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will act as a knowledge partner during the implementation of the Maharashtra Student Innovation Challenge.• Special incubation program with online training, masterclasses, and handholding for selected 360 district level winners.• The Implementation Partner will select the respective local Incubation Partner.• Will ensure smooth functioning of incubation support with proper coordination and planning with local incubation center.• Periodic review and reporting of startup progress at local incubation center
Local Incubation Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incubation Center could be the one which is recognized by Maharashtra State Innovation Society or any other incubation center in the State.• Each local incubator will incubate a maximum of 10 startups from the district and work on them over a period of 12 months.• The local incubation partner will work closely with the implementing partner to implement the incubation program• Appointment of experts for evaluation committee before district level presentation• Incubation partner will not hold equity and will not charge any fee from the entrepreneur during the said period



Stakeholders	Responsibility
ITI Colleges, Educational Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create awareness about the program among the students.• Motivating students to fill the application form• Form a panel of judges to evaluate the submissions from the applicants• Conduct presentation sessions at college level and send 2 concepts to district administration
Venue Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Availability of necessary facilities (central auditorium, separate room for presentation, projectors and other infrastructure for presentations) at proposed colleges and educational institutes for district level presentations.• To arrange Water , refreshments and adequate facilities for sanitation.
1) Department of Higher and Technical Education 2) Directorate of Technical Education 3) Department of Agriculture 4) Department of Medical Education and Medicine 5) Directorate of Vocational Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To help the Maharashtra State Innovation Society to initiate communication with all educational institutions under its auspices.