INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)
& Regional Centre, Lucknow
in Collaboration with RC-Varanasi, RC-Aligarh and RC-Dehradun is organizing

Pre-incubation Training Programme for "Inspiration and Motivation for Idea Generation" and Ideathon-2025 (Idea Competition)

Guidelines

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) under the aegis of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) is actively engaged in fostering its students and alumni towards Atmanirbhar Bharat through promoting, supporting and nurturing the innovator students and alumni of IGNOU interested in setting up their own startups. In this context, NCIDE in Collaboration with RC-Delhi-1, RC-Delhi-2, RC-Delhi-3 and RC-Noida is excited to invite its students and alumni to register for a Pre-incubation Training Programme for **"Inspiration and Motivation for Idea Generation" and Ideathon-2025** designed to help them progress on their entrepreneurial journey.

The Pre-incubation Training Programme and Ideathon-2025 will be implemented in Two Rounds:

1. In the first round under the Pre-incubation Training Programme, you will attend sessions/ workshops on "Inspiration and Motivation for Idea Generation".
2. In the second round you will submit your idea for Ideathon-2025.You will have one week to update/finalize and submit your idea.

What is the Pre-incubation Training you will receive before submitting your Idea?

After the last date of Registration for the Pre-incubation Training Programme and Ideathon-2025 you will be notified through email. You will be invited to participate in the training programme that will help you to generate ideas and refine them further. The sessions of the training programme will be taken by experts in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship. You must attend the sessions to enrich your experience and uplift your skills. This Pre-incubation Training Programme is **free of cost**.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

The *bona fide* and registered students of IGNOU including IGNOU alumni, who have come up with an idea for creating an innovative product, process or services for the betterment of the society, are eligible.

Why Should You Participate?

By participating in the Pre-incubation Training Programme and Ideathon-2025 (Idea Competition), you would be able to showcase and test your idea, connect with mentors, challenge yourself to think innovatively, and win recognition. It would help you to enhance your social and emotional learning, while boosting your competitive spirit. In the future you will also receive training in entrepreneurship skills and related hard and soft skills to develop your idea into a business plan. It is a very good opportunity to showcase your ideas at the national level and also there is a possibility of being selected and supported by the Ministry of Education and other organizations at a later stage. So don't miss the opportunity.

If you participate in the Pre-incubation Training Programme, you can look for the benefits like:

✓ Training on ideation methods, problem identification and solving, intellectual property rights and more.

✓ A platform to showcase your idea/venture.

✓ An opportunity to network with fellow innovators and entrepreneurs.

✓ An E-Certificate of Participation (will be issued to the participants who attend all the sessions (online/offline)

✓ Pitch your idea (once selected) in an offline/online (blended mode)

How to Register?

To register for **the Pre-incubation Training Program and Ideathon-2025,** click on the following Link:

Google Form Link: https://forms.gle/q77XZcfX8La7i4QB6

How to Participate in the Ideathon-2025 (Idea Competition)?

The purpose of the Ideathon-2025 (Idea Competition) is to recognize and nurture ideas of the students and alumni. The selected students will be invited to participate and present their ideas in an offline/online (blended mode). This Competition is integrated with a Pre-incubation Training Programme to enhance your ideation skills beforehand. For a competitive edge, after you undergo the training programme, you can submit your ideas.

The Winners of the Ideathon-2025 (Idea Competition) will be awarded e-Certificates.

How to Submit your Idea?

Link to submit your idea will be sent to you in the invitation email. You are advised to undergo the Pre-incubation Training Programme before submitting your idea.

What are the Themes of Ideathon-20205 (Idea Competition)?

The main themes are "Vocal-for-Local", "Swadeshi" and "Samriddh Bharat" for contributing towards Atmanirbhar Bharat mission and Viksit Bharat@2047 with the following categories.

1.	Healthcare and Biomedical Devices	15.	Life Sciences
2.	Agriculture and Rural Development	16.	Smart Education
3.	Smart Vehicles/Electric Vehicle/Electric Vehicle Motor and Battery Technology	17.	Smart Cities
4.	Food Processing/Nutrition/Biotech	18.	Sports and Fitness
5.	Robotics and Drones	19.	Textiles
6.	Waste Management/Waste to Wealth Creation	20.	Sustainable Environment
7.	Clean and Potable Water	21.	Infrastructure
8.	Renewable and Affordable Energy	22.	Manufacturing
9.	IoT Based Technologies (e.g. Security and Surveillance Systems, etc.)	23.	Defence and Security
10.	ICT, Cyber-Physical Systems, Blockchain, Cognitive Computing, Cloud Computing, AI and ML	24.	Mining, Metals, Materials
11.	Software – Mobile App Development	25.	Consumer Goods and Retail
12.	Software – Web App Development	26.	Fashion
13.	Travel and Tourism	27.	Education
14.	Finance	28.	Other Emerging Areas

How to Think of an Idea?

1. **Appropriate Selection of the Problem:** Think of problems or challenges faced by you or the society in any of the above-mentioned theme areas. The right identification of the problem is important.

2. **Adequately Addressing the Problem/Need:** Think of an innovative idea and establish it as the correct solution for the problem. Relevance of the solution is important.

3. **Distinctive Features of the Solution:** Give a detailed description on how your idea will work as a solution to the problem. Elaborate the quality features of the solution.

4. **Uniqueness of the Solution:** Make sure that the idea is your original idea and is new. In case a similar idea already exists, then highlight the novelty of your idea. The intellectual property component of your idea needs to be highlighted.

Important Dates

The Pre-Incubation Training Programme and Ideathon-2025 will be tentatively held during October, 2025 to November, 2025.

Last Date of Registration for the Pre-incubation Training Program and Ideathon-2025: 08th October, 2025.

Last Date of Submission of Ideas: 10th November, 2025

Important to Note

1. **Interested students and alumni will be invited for "Pre-Incubation Training Programme and Ideathon-2025" and "Submission of Ideas" separately through Google Form links.**

2. **The shortlisted students will be required to give presentation of their ideas, in offline/online/ blended mode.**

3. **After declaration of result, the winners will be informed individually as well as through IGNOU (Name of Lead RC) website. No other communication will be done individually with the other applicants.**

4. **University's decision will be final and binding regarding the selection of the students for Ideathon-2025.**

For any Queries contact: ncide@ignou.ac.in

NCIDE, IGNOU