

भारत सरकार
युवा कार्यक्रम एवं खेल मंत्रालय
क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय, रा.से.यो



Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Regional Directorate of NSS

भुवनेश्वर
F. No. 1/23/2026/NSS/ORD/3896-3916 सत्यमेव जयते

Bhubaneswar

Date: 7th October 2026

To

The Dean/Registrar/Head of the Institution of

1. Odisha University of Technology & Research
2. SOA University
3. IIT, Bhubaneswar
4. XIM University
5. KIIT University
6. NIT Rourkela
7. CV Raman Global University
8. Centurion University
9. Birla Global University
10. DRIEMS University

Sub: Promotion of "Innovate for Bharat" Challenges - Design for Bharat, Hack for Social Cause and Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge under Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027 - Reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am writing this to bring to your kind attention to the directive received by this office vide Letter No. A-12041/9/2025-NSS, dated 25th September 2026 from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Department of Youth Affairs, Government of India regarding promotion of "Innovate for Bharat" Challenges - Design for Bharat, Hack for Social Cause and Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge under Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027.

As part of VBYLD 2027, the "Innovate for Bharat" track features three national-level challenges designed to encourage young minds to showcase their ideas, innovations, and technology-driven solutions. Selected participants will also receive an opportunity to present their innovations directly before the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Registration for all three challenges is free of cost and must be completed via the MY Bharat Portal:

- **Design for Bharat (DIB):** National design innovation challenge for youth aged 18-29 years to develop design-led solutions addressing socio-economic, cultural and other real-world challenges. Participants can win prizes up to ₹75,000.
- **Hack for Social Cause (HSC):** National hackathon addressing social challenges for students aged 18-29 years to develop technology-driven and scalable solutions for pressing social challenges. Participants can win prizes up to ₹75,000.
- **Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC):** Start-up challenge for youth/professionals aged 18-35 years to present innovative, scalable and impact-oriented solutions addressing key challenges of Bharat. Participants can win prizes up to ₹1.5 Lakh.

In view of the above, I kindly request you to issue necessary directives to the concerned NSS Programme Officers of the Institutions having NSS units under your jurisdiction to ensure active mobilization and encouragement of students to register and participate in maximum numbers through the MY Bharat Portal. Your timely intervention and official directive will significantly boost participation from Odisha and help our NSS volunteers/students represent the state at the national level.

Encl: Concept Note for DIB, HSC, YEC & Posters

Yours faithfully,

Ajit Kumar
(Ajit Kumar)

Regional Director

Copy to:

1. The Director, Directorate of NSS, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India, New Delhi-110001 for kind information.
2. NSS Programme Coordinators (PCs)/Coordinating Programme Officers (POs) NSS Odisha of the concerned Universities/Institutions for information and necessary action.

३०, इंडस्ट्रियल कॉलनी, यूनिट-३
खारवेलनगर, भुवनेश्वर-७५१००१
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Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027



2027

Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge 2027

A National Start-Up Challenge under VBYLD 2027



Knowledge Partner

SIIC, IIT Kanpur

CHAPTER 1: ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

1.1 About YEC 2027

The **Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC) 2027** is a national innovation and entrepreneurship competition organized by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS)** as part of the **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027**. The Challenge seeks to identify, mentor, and recognize youth-led innovations that address real-world societal challenges through scalable, technology-driven, and sustainable solutions.

The competition is hosted on the **MY Bharat Portal** and is implemented with support from the National Knowledge Partner SIIC, IIT Kanpur, and Regional Nodal Institutes.

1.2 Objectives

YEC 2027 aims to:

- I. Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship among India's youth.
- II. Promote solutions addressing local, regional, and national challenges.
- III. Support scalable innovations with measurable social impact.
- IV. Connect young innovators with mentors, industry experts, and policymakers.
- V. Recognize and showcase outstanding entrepreneurial talent pan India.

1.3 Who Can Participate?

The Challenge is open to **Indian citizens aged 18–35 years** with a registered company under the following categories:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Startup Founders | B. Working Professionals |
|---------------------|--------------------------|

If you see a challenge and believe you can solve it, YEC is for you.

1.4 Competition Journey

The Challenge will be conducted through the following stages:

- 1) Registration & Submission
- 2) Regional Screening
- 3) Regional Jury Evaluation & Pitch
- 4) Selection of National Finalists
- 5) Online Mentorship
- 6) Offline Bootcamp
- 7) National Showcase & Jury Evaluation
- 8) Awards & Recognition

1.5 Competition at a Glance

Organizer: Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

Platform: MY Bharat Portal

National Knowledge Partner: IIT Kanpur

Eligibility: Indian citizens aged 18–35 years

Participation: Individual or Team (up to 3 members)

Submission: Innovation Proposal Pitch Deck, Demonstrative Video or Image and a final report

National Finale: 10 - 12 January 2027, VBYLD 2027

1.6 Important Dates

The competition schedule is provided below. Detailed timelines shall be notified on the MY Bharat Portal.

Stage	Dates
Registrations Open	1 September 2026
Last date for Submission	15 October 2026
Administrative Screening	16 October– 20 October 2026
Regional Screening	20 October – 26 October 2026
Regional Jury Evaluation & Pitch Events	27 October – 8 November 2026
National Finalist Selection & Announcement	9 November – 20 November 2026
Online Mentorship	24 November – 15 December 2026
Offline National Bootcamp	16 – 23 December 2026
Final Preparations & Travel	24 December 2026 – 8 January 2027
National Showcase & Awards	10 – 12 January 2027

CHAPTER 2: ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION

2.1 Eligibility

The Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC) 2027 is open to **Indian citizens aged 18–35 years** in the following categories.

A. Startup Founders

Applicants must:

- i. Be a Founder or Co-founder of a Startup;
- ii. Satisfy the eligibility criteria prescribed under the **Startup India (DPIIT)** framework or be registered as an **MSME**, wherever applicable;

B. Working Professionals

Applicants must:

- i. Be employed in a Government Department, Public Sector Undertaking, Private Organization, or Non-Governmental Organization (NGO);
- ii. Submit an Employer No Objection Certificate (NOC).

2.2 Team Participation

Participants may apply individually or as a team.

Where a team is formed:

- i. A team may consist of up to three (3) members.
- ii. One member shall be designated as the Team Leader.
- iii. Every team member must independently satisfy the eligibility criteria.
- iv. A participant may be associated with only one application.

2.3 Registration

Applications shall be submitted only through the MY Bharat Portal.

To register:

1. Sign in or create an account on the MY Bharat Portal.
2. Select VBYLD 2027 & Click on Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC) 2027.
3. Complete the online Registration form.
4. Upload the required documents and submission materials.
5. Review and submit the application.

Applications may be edited at any time until the submission deadline. Once the submission window closes, no further changes shall be permitted.

2.4 Application Requirements

Every application shall include:

Mandatory Submission

- Innovation Proposal Pitch Deck
- Demonstrative Video or Image
- Final Report: A detailed report describing your proposed solution.

2.5 Submission Specifications

A. Innovation Proposal Pitch Deck

Pitch Deck: Upload a PDF presentation (Maximum file size: **20 MB**) describing your proposed solution. The presentation should include the following:

Slide 1 – Title & Problem Statement: Title of the proposed solution, along with a clear description of the problem being addressed and the existing challenges.

Slide 2 – Solution Overview: Present your proposed solution, highlighting its key features, novelty/innovation, and how it addresses the identified problem.

Slides 3–5 – Technical Details & Validation: Describe the technical approach, implementation methodology, validation undertaken, test results (if available), and any supporting diagrams, flowcharts, or illustrations that help explain your solution.

Slides 6–7 – Expected Impact & Future Potential: Highlight the key objectives, expected outcomes, scalability, implementation potential, and any other information that demonstrates the overall value and impact of your solution.

B. Solution Video or Solution Image: Upload an HD-quality demonstration of your proposed solution. /Upload a high-resolution image representing your proposed solution.

C. Final Report: Upload a detailed report describing your proposed solution.

Technical Specifications:

- **Pitch Deck:** PDF | Maximum file size: **20 MB**
- **Solution Video:** HD | Maximum file size: **100 MB**
- **Solution Image:** **300 DPI** | Maximum file size: **10 MB**
- **Final Report:** PDF | Maximum file size: **20 MB**

2.6 Declaration

By submitting an application, participants confirm that:

- the submission is their original work;
- the information and documents provided are true and accurate;

- the submission does not infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party
- They agree to abide by these Guidelines.
- Consent for display in exhibitions related to the competition on the MY Bharat Portal

Any false declaration, plagiarism, or misrepresentation may result in rejection or disqualification.

2.7 Important Note

Submission of an application does **not** guarantee selection for subsequent stages.

CHAPTER 3: COMPETITION PROCESS

The Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC) 2027 will be conducted through a multi-stage evaluation process culminating in the National Showcase during the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027.

3.1 Competition Journey



3.2 Stage 1 – Registration & Submission

Participants shall submit their applications through the MY Bharat Portal.

Only complete applications meeting the eligibility requirements shall be considered for further evaluation.

- **Outcome:** Eligible applications proceed to Regional Screening.

3.3 Stage 2 – Regional Screening

Applications shall undergo an initial screening to verify:

- eligibility;
- completeness of submission; and
- compliance with the prescribed guidelines.

Eligible applications shall then be evaluated using the approved screening framework.

- **Outcome:** Shortlisted participants will be invited to the Regional Jury Evaluation.

3.4 Stage 3 – Regional Jury Evaluation & Pitch

Shortlisted participants shall present their innovation before a Regional Jury through a pitch and interactive discussion. The Regional Jury will assess each innovation based on the evaluation framework.

- **Outcome:** Top entries from each State/UT shall be recommended for National-level consideration.

3.5 Stage 4 – Selection of National Finalists

Based on the Regional Jury recommendations and the National evaluation process, teams (Top Teams from each State / UT) shall be selected as National Finalists.

- **Outcome:** Selected teams advance to the National Mentorship Program.

3.6 Stage 5 – National Mentorship

National Finalists shall participate in a structured mentorship program comprising:

- Online mentoring sessions;
- Expert feedback and refinement; and
- Preparation for the National Showcase.

Mentorship is intended to strengthen the innovation before the final presentation.

3.7 Stage 6 – Offline Bootcamp

National Finalists shall attend an in-person bootcamp.

The bootcamp will focus on:

- innovation refinement;
- presentation readiness;
- mentoring by domain experts; and
- showcase preparation.

3.8 Stage 7 – National Showcase

National Finalists shall exhibit their innovations during VBYLD 2027 through:

- an innovation showcase;
- a jury presentation; and
- interaction with experts, policymakers, and other stakeholders.

3.9 Stage 8 – Awards & Recognition

Following the final evaluation, the MoYAS shall announce the winners and confer awards during the National Showcase.

3.10 Travel & Participation

The Participants shall receive travel support, in accordance with the applicable norms, as follows:

- Shortlisted teams will be invited for **offline Regional Jury Evaluation and Demonstration** at the designated Regional Nodal Institute; and
- National Finalists** invited to attend the **Offline National Bootcamp** and **National Showcase**.

Detailed travel, accommodation (where applicable), and reimbursement instructions shall be communicated separately to the eligible participants.

3.11 Important Note

Progression to the next stage is **not automatic**. Advancement is based solely on performance in the preceding stage and compliance with the competition guidelines.

The decision of the Jury shall be final and binding.

CHAPTER 4: EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

4.1 Evaluation Process

All eligible applications shall be evaluated through a multi-stage process by independent experts and nominated jury members.

Evaluation at each stage shall be based on the objectives of the Challenge, the quality of the innovation, and its potential to create meaningful impact.

4.2 Evaluation Parameters

Applications may be assessed on one or more of the following parameters:

- Relevance of the problem being addressed
- Innovation and originality
- Feasibility and implementation potential
- Scalability and sustainability
- Social, economic, or environmental impact
- Quality of the proposal and presentation

4.3 Jury Interaction

During the evaluation process, participants will be required to:

- present their innovation;
- demonstrate a prototype, where available;
- respond to questions from the Jury; or
- provide additional information or supporting documents.

Failure to comply with the prescribed timeline may affect the evaluation.

4.4 Decision of the Jury

The Jury shall evaluate each application independently and objectively.

The Jury's decision regarding evaluation, shortlisting, and selection shall be final and binding.

No correspondence regarding evaluation outcomes shall ordinarily be entertained.

CHAPTER 5: MENTORSHIP, NATIONAL SHOWCASE & AWARDS

5.1 National Mentorship Programme

The National Mentorship Program is designed to support National Finalists in refining their innovations before the National Showcase.

The program includes:

- one-to-one mentoring by domain experts;
- group mentoring sessions;
- technical and business guidance;
- pitch refinement; and
- feedback on implementation and scalability.

Participation in the mentorship program is mandatory for National Finalists.

5.2 Offline National Bootcamp

National Finalists shall be invited to attend an Offline National Bootcamp prior to the National Showcase.

The Bootcamp will provide opportunities to:

- interact with mentors and industry experts;
- refine innovations based on expert feedback;
- strengthen presentations and pitches; and
- Prepare for the National Jury evaluation.
- Visit and explore IIT Kanpur

Detailed program schedules shall be communicated separately to the selected teams.

5.3 Participant Support

To facilitate participation in the National Showcase, we seek to provide the following support to eligible participants:

- Online and offline mentoring;
- Team-wise TA/DA for offline events;
- Financial support towards poster printing and prototype enhancement, wherever applicable; and
- Logistical support for participation in the National Showcase.

Detailed instructions shall be communicated directly to the shortlisted teams.

5.4 National Showcase

National Finalists shall present and exhibit their innovations during the National Showcase as part of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027.

The Showcase will provide participants with an opportunity to:

- present before the National Jury;
- demonstrate their innovation;
- interact with policymakers, industry leaders, and experts; and
- showcase their work on a national platform.

5.5 Awards & Recognition

In accordance with the National Jury's recommendations, outstanding innovations shall be recognized during the National Showcase.

Award	Prize
First Prize	₹1,50,000
Second Prize	₹1,00,000
Third Prize	₹75,000
Fourth Prize	₹50,000
Fifth Prize	₹30,000

In addition to the Top 5 National Awards, the following **non-monetary Special Recognition Awards** will be presented to acknowledge exceptional innovations demonstrating excellence in specific areas:

- Best Social Impact Innovation
- Best Women-led Innovation
- Best Rural Innovation
- Best Technology Innovation
- Jury Appreciation Award

5.6 Important Note

Participation in the National Showcase or Mentorship Program does not automatically entitle a participant to an award.

Awards shall be determined solely based on the National Jury's evaluation.



युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS



Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027



Think Global, Hack Local - Technology for Social Transformation



Knowledge Partner

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

(GISE Hub & Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management)

Setting the Context

Overview: Theme and Categories

India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047 requires innovative, technology-enabled solutions that address the real challenges faced by our communities. The complexities of our nation lie in the coexistence of contrasts - urban prosperity alongside rural challenges, digital advancement alongside connectivity gaps, abundance alongside scarcity. Within these dualities lie rich opportunities for young innovators to intervene, create impact, and generate meaningful change.

The overarching vision of Hack for Social Cause under VBYLD 2027 is

"Think Global, Hack Local -Technology for Social Transformation."

The eleven thematic areas are indicative in nature, intended to provide direction while leaving ample room for creativity and localization. Participants are encouraged to adapt and contextualize their ideas, drawing inspiration from state-specific issues and aligning them with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Each theme represents a pressing societal challenge that calls for socially engaged, technology-driven solutions designed to create real and lasting impact:

1. Rural Development & Livelihoods

Develop smart agriculture solutions, rural employment platforms, and tools empowering women entrepreneurs. Create solutions that enhance rural livelihoods, agricultural productivity, and access to essential services. Focus on agri-tech innovations, supply chain optimization, rural entrepreneurship, and leveraging technology to bridge the urban-rural divide.

2. Education & Skill Development

Develop platforms and tools that enhance access to quality education, empower teachers, and provide opportunities for skill development. Address challenges in remote learning, personalized education, vocational training, and bridging the skills gap for employability.

3. Healthcare, Wellbeing & Service Delivery

Develop innovative, technology-driven solutions that improve health outcomes, wellbeing, and access to essential healthcare services, particularly for underserved and vulnerable communities. Address challenges across preventive and primary care, health monitoring, telemedicine, diagnostics, mental health, maternal and child health, public health, health awareness, service discovery, referrals, and last-mile healthcare delivery.

Solutions may leverage emerging technologies to make healthcare more accessible, affordable, timely, inclusive, and citizen-centric.

4. Governance & Civic Technology

Design tools for smarter cities, enhanced civic services, improved urban mobility, and increased citizen engagement. Address challenges in traffic management, public service delivery, waste management, and participatory governance through the effective use of technology.

5. Environment & Sustainability

Create solutions for environmental monitoring, climate resilience, waste management, and resource conservation. Focus on air and water quality, renewable energy adoption, circular economy, and sustainable development practices.

6. Digital Inclusion

Build solutions that ensure technology reaches everyone, including persons with disabilities and marginalized communities. Focus on accessibility, affordable internet access, digital literacy, and inclusive e-governance solutions.

7. AI, GIS & Emerging Technologies

Leverage cutting-edge technologies like AI, Machine Learning, GIS, and data analytics for social cause impact. Create decision support systems, geospatial solutions, predictive models for societal impact, and innovative applications that solve complex societal challenges.

8. Digital Safety & Cyber Fraud Awareness

Build solutions that protect citizens from digital fraud and promote safe digital practices. Focus on scam detection, fraud reporting, phishing awareness, vernacular digital literacy, and online safety.

a. **Citizen Scam Detection & Reporting Assistant:** An app or browser tool that flags suspected UPI, loan, job-offer, and phishing scams and guides citizens in reporting confirmed cases.

b. **Digital Literacy Companion for First-Time Internet Users:** A simple, vernacular platform helping first-time users, especially older adults and rural communities, identify phishing, fake calls, and unsafe links.

9. Elderly Care & Healthy Ageing

Build solutions that improve the safety, independence, health, and well-being of senior citizens. Focus on community support, emergency assistance, health reminders, pensions, and access to welfare schemes.

a. Community Companion App for Senior Citizens: A platform connecting elderly citizens living alone with volunteers for check-ins, companionship, medicine reminders, and emergency support.

b. Digital Pension & Scheme Assistant for Seniors: A large-text, voice-first app helping senior citizens track pensions and access age-related welfare schemes.

10. Assistive Technology & Accessibility

Build solutions that improve accessibility, communication, and independent access to essential services for persons with disabilities. Focus on sign language, screen readers, regional languages, and inclusive digital services.

a. Sign Language to Text/Speech Translator: A mobile app translating Indian Sign Language into text or speech, and vice versa, to support deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens.

b. Screen-Reader Companion for Regional Languages: A lightweight accessibility layer improving screen-reader support for government and banking applications in regional languages.

11. Disaster Mitigation & Resilience

Build solutions that improve crowd safety, emergency response, risk prediction, and resource deployment during large-scale gatherings such as the Kumbh Mela. Focus on GIS-based risk mapping, crowd-density monitoring, emergency routing, incident management, and rapid deployment of essential services.

a. GIS-Based Crowd & Emergency Management System: A geospatial platform to identify crowd-risk zones, support emergency routing, and enable efficient deployment of essential services.

b. Real-Time Crowd Risk & Emergency Response System: A system that monitors crowd conditions, identifies potential risks, generates alerts, and supports authorities in coordinating timely emergency responses.

Who Can Apply

Eligibility

Open to all students enrolled in All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)-registered colleges, universities, or institutions in India who are citizens of India and between 18 and 29 years of age as of August 17, 2026.

Students who were selected as National Level finalists/winners in HSC 2026 are not eligible to participate in the HSC 2027 National Level Competition.

Detailed Criteria

Citizenship: Open only to Indian nationals.

Age: Students aged 18-29 years as of August 17, 2026.

Institution: Currently enrolled in an academic program in an AISHE-registered Indian educational institution (college, university, or polytechnic).

Registration: All team members must register individually on the MY Bharat Portal. Individual registration is a prerequisite for team registration.

Team Name: Team name should be appropriate, respectful, and non-derogatory. It must not be a personal name or contain any offensive, discriminatory, or derogatory reference to the Government of India, its institutions, or any individual or community.

Team Composition: Form a team of up to 3 students. Team members may be from the same institution or from different institutions.

Team Lead: 1 member must be designated as the Team Lead, responsible for submitting the entry and all documents.

Self-Certification: Team should submit a self-certification, signed by all team members, declaring that the submission is original and free from plagiarism, and confirming that the team accepts responsibility for participating in the State-level competition if selected.

Diversity: Interdisciplinary teams are encouraged, with at least one female member and one participant from a non-technology background, preferably social sciences.

What's the Process

If you are eligible, register by clicking on Participate Now on the Hack for a Social Cause page of the MY Bharat Portal.

Hack for a Social Cause is a Four-stage competition:

Register on My Bharat Portal, Complete your Submissions » Advance to State competition » Showcase nationally at VBYLD 2027

Stage - 1: Participating in the Hackathon

- Register on My Bharat Portal (individual)
- Participate in the track “Hack for Social Cause” - Register your team; this can be completed by the Lead member of the team. This step completes the team registration process.
- Team Submits Self Certification signed by all members of the team along with the final submission.
- Upload all required artifacts on the portal **by October 15, 2026**. Participants are advised to regularly check the portal for the latest updates, instructions, and submission requirements.

Stage 2: State-Level Competition

Represent your team, compete for your state

Phase 1 - Screening (October 16-25, 2026)

- State Nodal Institutions (SNI) screen all entries from teams across the state/UT
- Up to 30 teams are shortlisted for the pitch event
- The State Nodal Institution Coordinator will check the supporting documentation before shortlisting the entry.

Phase 2 - Demo / Pitch (October 26 2026 - November 30, 2026)

- Shortlisted teams present their solutions in an online demonstration
- State jury panels evaluate the teams based on standardized criteria
- 3 winners are selected from each State/UT

Stage 3: National Screening

- National Selection (December 1-15, 2026)
- IIT Bombay reviews all state winners
- One team per State/UT (36 teams total) is selected as a National Finalist

Stage 4: National Showcase

Lead your way to Viksit Bharat 2047

- **36 National Finalists** receive exclusive guidance, mentorship (1-2 online sessions) from IIT Bombay faculty and experts, December 16, 2026 - January 9, 2027
- Set up exhibition stalls at VBYLD 2027 on January 10-12, 2027
- Present your solution in a 3-minute pitch to the National Jury
- Top 5 teams receive cash prizes and national recognition

Preparing Your Entry

Submission

All entries must be submitted in digital format through the **My Bharat Portal**. Providing high-quality digital material is mandatory to enable the jury to effectively understand the concept, functionality, and potential of the proposed solution.

Teams may **edit or update their submissions until the specified submission deadline**. Upon closure of the submission window, the **latest version submitted will be treated as final and considered for evaluation**. No further modifications will be permitted after the deadline.

Your submission package must include the following core components:

S.No	Component	Description	Format / Specification	Remarks
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1	Presentation Deck	Concise 6-7 slide proposal covering problem, solution, impact, team & implementation	PPT / PDF, Hackathon format. Size: 10 MB	Follow the standard template
2	Demonstration Video	Show team, problem context, prototype, user interaction, and impact	MP4 / MOV, 3-5 min, min. 720p. Size: 80 MB	Video submission is preferred but not mandatory . Teams may submit a 3–5-minute video showcasing the team, problem context, prototype, user interaction, and expected impact. If submitted, the video must strictly adhere to the prescribed duration and file size limits.
3	Prototype / Code Repository	Complete source code, README, architecture, sample data, license	Public GitHub / GitLab link	Open-source, fully documented
4	Team Self-Certification & ID Proof (Annexure 1)	Upload Team and member details, signed self-certification, and self-attested ID proof for every team member	PDF / Doc Size: 5 MB	Uploaded by the Team Lead on the My Bharat Portal.
5	Naming Convention	Standardized document naming	<State>_<TeamName>_<Document Name>.pdf	Applies to all uploaded documents

Detailed Criteria

1. Proposal/Presentation Deck (6-7 Slides, Hackathon Submission Format)

A concise presentation covering:

- **Slide 1-2: Problem Definition** - State-specific problem statement, target beneficiary identification, current challenges, and gaps
- **Slide 3-4: Solution Overview** - Your innovative approach, technology stack, and architecture, key features, and functionality
- **Slide 5: Impact & Scalability** - Expected social/economic outcomes, measurable impact metrics (KPIs), scalability across regions/languages, sustainability model
- **Slide 6-7: Team & Implementation** - Team member roles and expertise, implementation roadmap, resource requirements
- **PPT/PDF size:** 10 MB

Follow the standard hackathon submission format provided by IIT Bombay.

2. Demonstration Video (3-5 Minutes)

A 3–5 minute video demonstrating the proposed solution, to be uploaded on the MY Bharat Portal as part of the submission. Video submission is preferred but **not mandatory**. The video should include:

- Team introduction
- Problem demonstration with real-world context
- Prototype/solution walkthrough
- User interaction demonstration
- Impact visualization

Technical Specifications:

- Duration: 3-5 minutes (strict)
- Format: MP4/MOV
- Resolution: Minimum 720p
- Size: 80 MB

3. Prototype/Code Repository Link

A public repository (GitHub/GitLab) containing:

- Complete source code (open-source)
- Detailed README with setup instructions
- Architecture documentation
- Sample data/test cases
- License information

4. Team Details, Self-Certification & ID Proof (Annexure 1)

Every team must complete and upload Annexure 1 (provided at the end of this document), consisting of:

- Full details of each team member, including name, institution, course/programme, contact details, and Student ID number.
- A signed self-certification/affidavit from all team members declaring the originality of the work, free from plagiarism, and acceptance of responsibility for participation at subsequent stages.
- A self-attested copy of each team member's Student ID Card, to be uploaded by the Team Lead on the MY Bharat Portal.
- The ID number and details of a government-issued photo ID (Aadhaar / Voter ID / Passport / Driving Licence). Finalists may be contacted for further verification.

Note: Participants should ensure that all materials are complete and accurate before the final submission deadline.

5. Declaration

Participants must submit the Self-Certification in the prescribed format (Annexure 1), confirming the originality of their work and providing consent for its display, exhibition, publication, and use in promotional activities related to the competition.

Quick Checklist

- i. You are a student enrolled in an AISHE-registered institution
- ii. You are an Indian citizen between 18-29 years of age (as of August 17, 2026)
- iii. You are entering as a team of up to 3 members from any AISHE-registered institution

- iv. All team members should be registered on the MY Bharat Portal.
- v. You make the submission through your Team Lead before the deadline
- vi. Your solution addresses a state-specific problem aligned with either one of the 11 themes or one or more UN SDGs.
- vii. You submit a proposal/presentation deck (6-7 slides), demo video (3-5 min), and code repository
- viii. You confirm the work is original and plagiarism-free
- ix. You give consent for the solution to be showcased at VBYLD 2027

Winning Edge

The true reward of Hack for a Social Cause lies in the impact your solutions can create. This hackathon is not only about presenting a concept, it is about using technology as a tool to bring meaningful change in the lives of people and communities across India.

Winners will gain national visibility and recognition, with their projects showcased before leaders, experts, and peers from across the country. Beyond awards, the competition offers mentorship to help refine ideas and transform them into stronger, more actionable proposals. This journey provides young innovators with the edge to grow their technical skills, strengthen their voice, and position themselves as changemakers on India's path to a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

What Winners Gain

Your hack could be the one that transforms communities.

Cash Prizes (Top 5 National Winners)

- 1st Prize: ₹75,000
- 2nd Prize: ₹50,000
- 3rd Prize: ₹25,000
- 4th & 5th Prize: ₹15,000 each

State Level Mentorship

State-level institutions shall provide mentorship and guidance to the teams shortlisted at the state level. This mentorship aims to help participants refine their ideas, strengthen their proposals, and prepare for the subsequent stages of

evaluation.

National Level Mentorship

All 36 shortlisted National Finalists shall receive mentorship from IIT Bombay faculty and experts – limited (1-2 online sessions).

Prototype Development Support

- ₹6,000 grant for all 36 National Finalists to improve prototypes
- Technical guidance for scaling solutions

National Recognition

- Certificates and media coverage
- Networking opportunities with innovators from 36 States/UTs
- Engagement with government officials and potential scaling up/implementation opportunities



युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS



**VIKSIT BHARAT
YOUNG LEADERS
DIALOGUE 2027**
(01st - 12th JANUARY | BHARAT MANDAPAM, NEW DELHI)

DESIGN *for* BHARAT 2027

National Youth Innovation Challenge

(A Vertical of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2027)

Challenge 1 - DfB Open Challenge

Challenge 2 - DfB Graduation Project Challenge



Knowledge Partner



योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, नई दिल्ली
(संसद के अधिनियम के तहत राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान,
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
(An Institution of National Importance under an Act of Parliament,
Ministry of Education, Government of India)

The information contained in this Participant Dossier may be revised or updated from time to time. Participants are advised to refer to the official website and/or the latest version of the Participant Dossier for the most current information.

Objectives

- Inspire youth (18–29 years) to create design innovations aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047.
- Provide a national platform for youth to realise their design innovations through expert mentoring, prototyping and national-level showcases.
- Encourage solutions emerging from India's socio-economic, cultural, environmental and civic challenges.
- Bridge grassroots needs and academic design research with pathways for implementation, industry engagement and public value.
- Promote teamwork, creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving across India.

Program Overview

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS), through the Department of Youth Affairs (DoYA), proposes to organise the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027 under the leadership of the Honourable Prime Minister. As part of this initiative, Design for Bharat 2027 is conceived as a flagship national design and youth innovation competition under the VBYLD Challenge track. In the Design for Bharat (DfB) Track of VBYLD 2027, there are two design challenges:

- Challenge 1: DfB Open Challenge
- Challenge 2: DfB Graduation Project Challenge

Challenge 1 - DfB Open Challenge

Theme and Categories

The true measure of a nation's advancement lies in the dignity, happiness, and prosperity of its people. As India advances toward the centenary of independence, the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 calls for a developed, self-reliant, inclusive and globally respected nation.

This national mission is grounded in Transforming lives, building a stronger India (बदलते जीवन, बढ़ता भारत). Guided by the collective power of youth, the competition seeks to translate technological progress and economic growth into practical, life-improving change for citizens and communities.

Participants shall select one of the following seven categories to design a tangible product, system or solution that directly improves citizens' lives:

1. Smart Agriculture & Agri-Tech (*Krishi*)

Focus: Equipment, tools or smart systems that empower smallholder farmers.

2. Accessible Healthcare & Assistive Tech (*Swasthya*)

Focus: Affordable medical devices, diagnostics, and tools for older individuals and persons with disabilities (*Divyangjan*).

3. Sustainable Clean Energy & Mobility (*Paryavaran*)

Focus: Green energy solutions, eco-friendly transport and off-grid innovations for public or domestic use.

4. Rural Housing & Climate-Resilient Infrastructure (*Vikas*)

Focus: Modular, sustainable and deployable structural products for low-income housing and disaster relief.

5. Waste-to-Wealth & Circular Economy (*Swachh Bharat*)

Focus: Products or micro-industrial machines that process, recycle or upcycle waste at the community level.

6. Next-Gen Handicrafts & Artisanal Tooling (*Vocal for Local*)

Focus: Redesigned production tools, processing machinery and sustainable packaging for rural artisans, weavers and self-help groups.

7. Next-Gen Civic Utilities & Disaster Resilience (*Jan Raksha*)

Focus: Equipment, safety gear and emergency products for municipal workers, community safety and climate-disaster response.

Who Can Apply

Eligibility

- Indian citizens aged 18–29 years, enrolled in a college/ university/ recognised academic institution at the time of application.

Individual/ Team Entries

- Participation can be individual or in teams of a maximum of three members.
- For team submissions, only one representative should register on behalf of the team.
- A participant can submit only one entry for any one of the challenges as an individual or as a member of the team.
- A letter of certification from the institution must be uploaded along with the application.

What's the Process

Design for Bharat Open Challenge is a three-stage competition. If you are eligible, register by clicking on Participate Now on the Design for Bharat page of the My Bharat Portal.

Stage 1: Compete

From your state, for the nation

- Submit your entry through the official portal at <https://mybharat.gov.in/vbyld-2027>
- Entries will be evaluated and shortlisted at State/ Union Territory (UT) level by expert panels
- State winners will be celebrated at the felicitation events at State/UT level
- The top entries from each State/ UT will move to the national stage

Stage 2: Mentorship by Design experts

Strengthen your idea with guidance

- State-level selected entries will be reviewed for innovation, originality usability, feasibility and impact at National Level
- 36 national finalists (individuals/ teams) are selected for national showcase during VBYLD 2027 in New Delhi
- National finalists will receive online mentoring and guidance to refine their projects and prepare the projects for public presentation

Stage 3: National Felicitation & Showcase

Lead your way to Viksit Bharat 2047

- National finalists will be invited to New Delhi for the national showcase
- National finalists will receive mentoring sessions in New Delhi for preparation for the national showcase.
- National finalists will present their designs at the national showcase during VBYLD 2027 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The top five winners will receive awards of Rs. 75,000/-, Rs. 50,000/-, Rs. 25,000/-, Rs. 15,000/- and Rs. 15,000/- respectively.

Preparing your Entry

Submission

All entries must be submitted in digital format through the official competition portal. Providing high-quality digital material is mandatory, as it enables the jury to fully understand the concept, function, and potential of your design. A design proposal including a brief concept note (max 500 words) and supporting visuals (sketches, diagrams, or prototypes) is required for submission. The details of your submission are as follows:

Concept Note (max 500 words)

4

A brief description of your design idea/ project/ innovation outlining the larger concept, vision, impact,

function, and potential of your design.

Poster 1 – Concept

Visuals highlighting the primary function, purpose, or solution the idea addresses.

Poster 2 – Main Visual

Central image/ render/ sketch/ images of the prototype of the design, with a clean layout with minimal text and a hero shot for the concept.

Posters 3–5 – Detailed Description & Process

Detailed description of the design concept/ idea outlining the process undertaken and how the concept fulfils its purpose, e.g., background, user needs, research, ideation, prototyping steps shown visually, flowcharts, benefits, usability, features, etc.

Posters 6–7 – Supplementary Information

Supplementary information about the design concept/ idea, such as focus on sustainability, innovation (materials, energy efficiency, eco-conscious approach), or technology (IoT, AI, system integration, scalability, impact at a larger scale) among others.

Technical Specifications

Digital submission through the official competition portal

Maximum up to 7 posters

File format: jpg/pdf

Resolution: 300dpi

Maximum file size: 20Mb per poster

Declaration

Participants must provide a declaration confirming originality of the work and consent for display in exhibitions/publications related to the competition.

Quick Checklist to Enter

- ☐ You are a student enrolled in a college/ university/ institute
- ☐ You are an Indian citizen between 18–29 years of age
- ☐ You are entering individually or in a team of up to 3 members
- ☐ You have a letter of certification from your institute
- ☐ Your idea connects to the theme and fits one of the seven categories
- ☐ You submit a short concept note (up to 500 words) and a max. of 7 posters
- ☐ You make the submission before the deadline via your State/UT nodal institution
- ☐ You confirm the work is original and give consent for it to be showcase

Challenge 2 - DfB Graduation Project Challenge

About the Challenge

Design for Bharat 2027 introduces the DfB Graduation Project Challenge, a competition to recognise outstanding design thesis/ graduation projects developed by recent design graduates. The challenge will present high-potential academic work to academia, industry leaders, policymakers and the Government of India. The Showcase will identify design thesis/ graduation projects demonstrating originality, social relevance, technical feasibility and implementation potential, thereby bridging academic innovation and national development.

Eligibility focus: Academic thesis/graduation projects completed during academic year 2025 or 2026.

Who Can Apply

- Indian citizens aged 18–29 who completed a bachelor's or master's degree in design or a closely related design discipline during the academic year 2025 or 2026.
- The submitted project must be an academic thesis or graduation project completed during the academic year 2025 or 2026.
- Individual and team thesis projects are eligible, subject to institutional certification.

Design Scope

The submitted project must be a certified academic graduation/ thesis project completed during the academic year 2025 or 2026 in the form of tangible objects, systems, working models, structures, etc. and demonstrate clear real-world utility and implementation potential. Apps, software, and purely digital concepts will not be accepted.

What's the Process

If you are eligible, register by clicking on Participate Now on the Design for Bharat page of the My Bharat Portal.

Stage 1: Submission & Evaluation

- Submit your completed thesis/graduation project through the official portal at

<https://mybharat.gov.in/vbyld-2027>

- Projects are evaluated against the competition criteria by the panel of design experts.

Stage 2: National Selection & Mentoring

- A maximum of 20 projects are shortlisted for national showcase during VBYLD 2027 in New Delhi.
- Shortlisted projects will go through mentoring sessions for exhibition readiness review and national submission verification.

Stage 3: National Jury, Felicitation & Showcase

- 20 shortlisted projects will be invited to New Delhi for the national showcase.
- Shortlisted entries will receive mentoring sessions in New Delhi for preparation for the national showcase.
- Shortlisted participants will present their projects at the national showcase during VBYLD 2027 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The National Grand Design jury will select 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners.

Preparing your Entry

A graduation or thesis project is developed within an academic institution through the student's work, the guidance of appointed supervisors, and the use of institutional learning, facilities and review systems.

Every entry must therefore identify and acknowledge the student designer, institution, department/ programme and guide(s)/ supervisor(s). The project must never be presented as work developed independently of its academic context. All entries must be submitted in digital format through the official competition portal. Providing high-quality digital material is mandatory, as it enables the jury to fully understand the concept, function, and potential of your design. The details of your submission are as follows:

1. Title of the graduation/thesis project:
2. Name of the participant/ team:
3. Name of the guide(s)/ supervisor(s):
4. Name of qualifying degree:
5. Name of the department:
6. Name of the Institution/ University:
7. Name of sponsors/ industry mentors, if applicable:

Submission details

A. Portfolio in PDF format

- a. Sheet size: A3 landscape, 420 x 297 mm
- b. Number of sheets: Maximum 12 sheets

- c. Size: Maximum 50 MB

B. Key Poster

A single concise visual summary for screening and display in an A3 portrait poster, minimum 1920 x 1080 px, maximum 10 MB, 300 dpi, with project title.

C. Presentations

- Digital presentation: 15-25 slides in PDF or digital presentation format
- Video (if available): 60-120 seconds MP4 video in 1920 x 1080 format with a maximum of 500 MB

Submission Guidance

- Submit a thesis/graduation project completed during the academic year 2025 or 2026.
- Clearly identify the contribution of each team member, where applicable.
- Use high-resolution visuals and concise descriptions.
- Provide institutional certification where required.
- All submitted material must be original.
- Exact file formats, limits and naming requirements will follow the official submission portal/docket.

Declaration

Participants must provide a declaration confirming the originality of the work and consent for display in exhibitions/publications related to the competition.

Winning Edge

- National Visibility — present your thesis at a national platform.
- Expert Recognition — reach design, industry and policy stakeholders.
- Design Maturity — demonstrate a rigorous journey from research to a resolved design.
- Impact — show meaningful value for people and communities.
- Implementation Potential — demonstrate feasibility, scalability and future development.
- Awards — compete for the top three national awards. The top three winners will receive awards of 1,00,000/-, 75,000/-, and 50,000/- respectively.

A-12041/9/2025-NSS
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Youth Affairs
MY Bharat Section

GPOA-3, New Delhi
Dated the 25th September, 2026

To,
The Vice-Chancellor/Registrar/Head of Institution

Subject: Promotion of “Innovate for Bharat” Challenges—Design for Bharat, Hack for Social Cause and Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge under Viksit Bharat Young Leaders’ Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027 – reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to state that the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders’ Dialogue (VBYLD) 2027, being organized by the Department of Youth Affairs as part of the National Youth Festival, provides a national platform for young people to showcase their ideas, innovations and solutions. Selected participants will also have an opportunity to present their ideas before the Hon’ble Prime Minister.

2. As part of VBYLD 2027, the “Innovate for Bharat” track has been conceptualised with three dedicated challenges, namely Design for Bharat (DfB), Hack for Social Cause (HSC) and Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC). Participation in these challenges is through the MY Bharat Portal and is free of cost. Brief details of the three challenges are as follows:

(i) Design for Bharat (DfB): A national design innovation challenge aimed at encouraging college and university students in the age group of 18–29 years to develop design-led solutions addressing socio-economic, cultural and other real-world challenges. The School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), New Delhi, is the Knowledge Partner and will provide academic and technical guidance, support the competition framework and mentor shortlisted teams.

(ii) Hack for Social Cause (HSC): A national hackathon aimed at harnessing the creativity and problem-solving capabilities of college and university students in the age group of 18–29 years to develop technology-driven and scalable solutions for pressing social challenges. The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) is the Knowledge Partner and will provide academic and technical guidance, support the competition structure and mentor shortlisted teams.

(iii) Youth Entrepreneurs Challenge (YEC): A national start-up challenge for youth in the age group of 18–35 years, including start-up founders and working professionals, to present innovative, scalable and impact-oriented solutions addressing key challenges of Bharat. The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur) is the Knowledge Partner. The challenge seeks to provide a platform for identifying and showcasing industry-ready solutions and entrepreneurial innovations at the national level.

3. In view of the above it is requested to issue necessary instructions along with the enclosed publicity material for further necessary dissemination and wide publicity to universities, colleges and other institutions regarding all three challenges among eligible students and youth through their institutional communication channels and encourage them to register and participate through the MY Bharat Portal. The information may be disseminated through NSS Unit groups, student networks, notice boards, institutional websites, social media platforms and other suitable channels so as to ensure wide outreach and participation.

4. The publicity material relating to "Innovate for Bharat" 2027 is enclosed for convenient dissemination. Shri Rohit Kalra, Assistant Director (Email: rohit.kalra@gov.in; Mobile: 9467614516), Department of Youth Affairs, shall be the nodal officer for coordination in this regard.

5. The active support of universities, colleges and NSS Units in disseminating information regarding these challenges will facilitate wider participation of youth from across the country and provide them an opportunity to showcase their innovative ideas and solutions on the national platform of VBYLD 2027.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.: As above


(Ramesh Verma)
Director (NSS)

Copy to

1. The Director, Directorate of NSS, Shivaji Stadium
2. US MY Bharat, MoYAS

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