



केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/ACAD/AP&AD(AC)/2026

Date: 12.05.2026

Circular No: Acad-28/2026

All the Heads of Schools affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Engagement of Schools for amplifying the message of Bharat Innovates 2026 event- reg.

Bharat Innovates 2026 is a national initiative of the Department of Higher Education announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during the India-France Year of Innovation on 17th February 2026. The event is Scheduled from 14th to 16th June, 2026 in Nice, France and aims to showcase India's deep-tech innovations, startup ecosystem and emerging technologies before a global audience bringing together innovators, industry leaders, investors and premier Indian institutions presenting pitches across 13 thematic areas in advanced technology and innovation sectors.

Bharat Innovates 2026 is expected to be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and the Hon'ble President of France on **14th June, 2026**.

In order to amplify the message and spirit of innovation among students and teachers, you are requested to organize suitable awareness and engagement activities during May 2026. Schools may undertake activities such as:

1. Seminar on India's evolving innovation landscape
2. Special Class on 'Introduction to Deep Tech'
3. Bharat Quiz- Who Knows India's Innovation?
4. Essay Writing

Schools are also encouraged to:

- Design structured holiday assignments to encourage students to explore themes of innovation during the upcoming summer vacations.
- Organize follow-up in person activities after reopening in June 2026 such as presentations, Competitions, exhibitions etc. to enable students to present their work.
- Encourage students to create short videos/reels showcasing these activities and share them on social media platforms by tagging the official Bharat Innovates handle (@Bharatinnovates2026)

A brief concept Note on Bharat Innovates 2026 is enclosed as **Annexure**.

Further, a brief report of the activities conducted along with the photographs may be submitted on the google link: <https://forms.gle/hisb9P3vu89B6SN99>

केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड एकीकृत कार्यालय परिसर, सेक्टर 23, फेस - I, द्वारका, न्यू दिल्ली -110077

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You are requested to disseminate this information among students and teachers and ensure enthusiastic participation and foster an early culture of innovation among students.

With best wishes!

(Dr. Praggya M. Singh)
Professor & Director (Academics)

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Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organisations and Institutions with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005
6. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
7. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim –737101
9. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar –791111
10. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
11. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil – Ladakh
12. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3rd Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh – 521 456
13. The Director, Jharkhand Education Project Council, Old HEC High School, JSCA Stadium Road, Jagannathpur, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 (Jharkhand)
14. Navy Education Society, Dte of Naval Education, Naval Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, West Block-V, RK Puram, New Delhi-110066
15. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A –Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
16. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
17. DS to Chairperson, CBSE
18. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE
19. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
20. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ PPS/SPS/Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
21. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
22. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
23. In-Charge, Library
24. Record File

Professor & Director (Academics)

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शिक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION

bharat
INNOVATES 2026



Bharat Innovates 2026

Showcasing India's Robust DeepTech Ecosystem

Nice, France | 14th – 16th June 2026

Bharat Innovates 2026

**A Platform for Global Innovation
Partnerships**

**Connecting India's Deep-tech
Startup and Innovation
Ecosystem with Global Markets,
Investors, and Universities**

Event Showcases

120+

**India's Leading
DeepTech Startups
Participating**

20+

**Premier Indian
Institutions showcasing
Innovations**

13

**Emerging Tech
Thematic Areas to be
Covered**

**Leading Global
Investment
Powerhouses Actively
Collaborating**

**Tap into India's startup ecosystem today,
projected to reach \$1.5Tn+ by 2030 and
impact 1.5 billion lives**



Background

India's innovation journey has entered a decisive phase. Over the last decade, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and the wider ecosystem have seen sustained policy focus and public investment to strengthen R&D, innovation and entrepreneurship through tinkering labs, incubation centres, innovation grants and capital pathways, student hackathons, research parks, and deeper industry linkages. As a result, India is emerging not only as a market for technology, but as a source of deployable solutions to global challenges; solutions that are sustainable, scalable and cost-effective.

What is Bharat Innovates?

Bharat Innovates is a national programme of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. It is designed as a global accelerator for innovations from Indian Higher Education Ecosystem (HEIs), thereby, building a long-term collaboration bridge between India's innovation ecosystem (startups, HEIs, labs and research parks) and global stakeholders (corporates, investors, incubators/accelerators, universities, research institutes, governments and overseas alumni).

The maiden edition, Bharat Innovates 2026, takes India's top 120 DeepTech startups to France to catalyse pilots, co-development, investments, research partnerships, manufacturing and market access.

Bharat Innovates 2026 was announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 17th February 2026, at the inauguration of the India-France Year of Innovation, extending an invitation to global leaders, CEOs, investors and universities to collaborate with India's innovation ecosystem. The invitation was graciously accepted by the French President.

Why it Matters Now?

Global stakeholders are increasingly seeking partners who can innovate rapidly and deploy at scale. India's higher education ecosystem offers a unique combination of strengths: world-class talent, a vast test market, growing research depth and innovation infrastructure, and a practical "build for constraints" mindset- delivering high impact at low unit cost in ways that translate well across geographies.

This spirit was captured by the French President at the recent inaugural event in Mumbai marking the India-France Year of Innovation, when he observed that *"the question is no longer if India innovates, but who will innovate with India."*

India's Innovation Journey

Ecosystem Scale:

India is among the world's largest startup ecosystems, with **200 thousand+ DPIIT-recognised startups and 120+ unicorns.**

DeepTech Maturity:

Frontier capability is rising across **healthcare, energy/climate, biotech, space & defence, advanced computing (AI/quantum), semiconductors, agritech, materials and mobility and many more.**

Strong Talent Pool:

Over **1.5 million engineers graduate annually**, making India one of the largest pools of STEM talent.

AI Momentum:

India is ranked 3rd globally in AI competitiveness as per Stanford University's 2025 Global AI Vibrancy Tool.

This progress is powered by an enabling stack - policy momentum, catalytic capital, corporate pull, leveraging an education ecosystem increasingly aligned to global innovation and industry needs.

The Enabling Engine: How India is Strengthening its Innovation Ecosystem

Bharat Innovates builds on over a decade of ecosystem building and a deliberate national push to build an innovation-first talent pipeline of faculty and students in the Indian education ecosystem by emphasizing strong research-to-market linkages at various levels.

- **Atal Incubation Centres** have established venture support centres in over 100 institutes.
- **KAPILA** through which IP creation in universities has been mainstreamed with over 2,000 IP registrations annually.
- **Smart India Hackathon** through which annually over 8 Lakh students, mentored by faculty members, participate in technology intensive solution building to real time problems.
- **Atal Tinkering Labs** which have expanded to 10,000 schools and engages more than 11 million students, making prototyping and problem-solving part of mainstream learning.

Key Enablers:

- **Startup India Initiative**, launched in 2016, with the objective of building a robust startup ecosystem; and Invest India, National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency setup in 2009; and pro-innovation reforms that reduced friction to start, scale and formalise ventures.
- Catalytic capital pathways including the recent **Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0** (Rs. 100 billion; approx. Euro 940 million) to mobilise long-term domestic capital and strengthen the VC ecosystem.
- Mission-mode technology investments such as the **IndiaAI Mission** to strengthen compute, datasets, skilling and responsible AI.
- A strengthened national research architecture through **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)** to expand R&D culture and research-to-market translation across institutions.
- Sector pathways that seed and scale DeepTech: **iDEX (defence), BIRAC (biotech), IN-SPACe (space) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) programmes (incubation/entrepreneurship).**
- The **Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme/Fund** (Rs. 1 trillion; approx. Euro 9.4 billion) to de-risk private-sector R&D and accelerate breakthroughs in emerging and sunrise sectors.
- **GIFT City** that has strengthened India's global finance bridge enabling cross-border fund structures and global investor access for startups scaling internationally.

Together, these create a pipeline where ideas in the university ecosystem can move from lab to market, and from local deployment to global adoption.

Bharat Innovates 2026: What will happen in France

France as the Stage

Bharat Innovates 2026 will be jointly inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and French President in Nice, France. The event will showcase India's top 100 DeepTech startups across 13 critical technology themes, and 15 of India's premier educational institutions (Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore) which are enabling IP backed venture creation. The programme is curated for conversion so global partners can engage with and invest in various parts of the value chain of India's frontier innovation engines which are creating global solutions in the following themes:



A range of collaborations and investments will be enabled for corporates, investors, universities, incubators, government bodies and alumni with the 100 deep-tech ventures, and the 15 higher education institutions which are enabling such venture creation through fundamental research, education and translation processes.

France is the chosen global stage for the maiden edition because 2026 is being celebrated as the India-France Year of Innovation, a natural platform to deepen partnership in frontier technologies. France brings world-class research, strong technology transfer capacity, globally connected accelerators and innovation-driven industry making it an ideal partner and launchpad for Indian Universities and their DeepTech innovations to reach Europe and the wider world.

What Participation enables

A privileged gateway to the Indian innovation ecosystem

Bharat Innovates is designed as an ongoing collaboration framework. Participation enables global stakeholders to build sustained engagement with India's innovation ecosystem, including:

- **Investor-grade deal flow:** early access to IP-backed ventures built to scale globally, backed by India's capital pathways.
- **Fast-track partnerships with market-ready ventures:** pilots, procurement and co-development.
- **Research Access:** A privileged access to a continuous pipeline of industry specific development through India's Research Parks and technology labs at top institutions.
- **Problem-to-solution access:** opportunity to tap India's open-innovation engine for answers to toughest challenges of industry and society at large.
- **Global soft-landing routes via incubators/accelerators:** co-incubation, exchanges and cross-border scale-up support.
- **R&D Pipeline:** A steady stream of R&D opportunities for labs and tech providers: testing, validation, prototyping and product development.

Event Schedule

Event Dates:

June 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

14th – 16th June 2026

Event Venue:



Palais de Expositions
Nice, France

Event Structure

The **three-day event** is designed as a dynamic and immersive experience to promote meaningful connections and showcase Indian ingenuity. The program will include:

Inaugural Ceremony:

Inaugural ceremony will be jointly led by **Sh. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Sh. Emmanuel Macron, Hon'ble President of France on the first day of the event, i.e., 14th June 2026** followed by interaction with leaders.

Bilateral Meetings:

To express shared commitments on mutual interest and strategic priorities in areas, including higher education and research.

Pitching Sessions:

Dedicated sessions where innovators will present their projects to a global audience for seeking market access, partnerships and joint collaborations.

Structured Engagements:

Pre-arranged B2B, B2G, and G2G meetings to facilitate strategic dialogue and partnership formation.

Spotlight Sessions:

Curated talks by top global investors and thought leaders on emerging trends and investment opportunities.

Cultural Showcase:

Evening cultural events to highlight India's rich cultural heritage and soft power.

The bilateral component is aimed at consolidating India–France cooperation in higher education, research, innovation ecosystems, startup integration, and talent mobility within the framework of the broader strategic partnership.

It will also align with and contribute to the objectives of the **India–France Year of Innovation 2026**. The emphasis is on institutionalization, co-funding, and long-term programmatic collaboration that would deliver sustained outcomes beyond the event year.