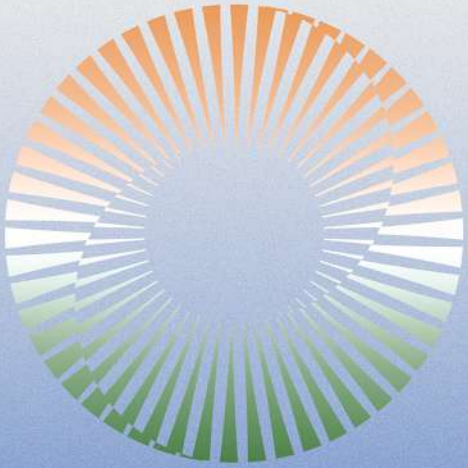
bharat
INNOVATES 2026

GLOBAL ACCELERATOR FOR INDIAN DEEP TECH



100+ START-UPS

13 SECTORS

MADE IN INDIA, BUILD FOR THE WORLD

FINAL SHOWCASE
14-16 June, 2026 | **Nice,** France

Ministry of Education
Government of India

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 2026?

Bharat Innovates is a 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 stake-holders (corporates, investors, incubators/accelerators, universities, research institutes, governments and overseas

The maiden edition, Bharat Innovates 2026, takes India's top 100+ Deep-Tech startups and 15+ institutes to France to catalyse pilots, co-deveopment, 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:

"I invite global leaders, CEOs, investors & institutes to work with India to prepare a future, where technology serves humanity and development is inclusive"

– Prime Minister Narendra Modi

"The question is no longer if India innovates, but who will innovate with India"

– President Emmanuel Macron

India's Innovation Journey

Ecosystem Scale

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

Deep Tech Maturity

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

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 Innovation

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.

1

- Atal Incubation Centres which has established venture support centres in over 100 institutes

2

- KAPILA through which IP creation in universities has been mainstreamed with over 2000 IP registrations annually

3

- Smart India Hackathon through which annually over 8 Lakh students, mentored by faculty members, participate in technology intensive solution building to real time problems

4

- Atal Tinkering Labs which has expanded to 10,000 schools and engages more than 11 million students, making prototyping and problem solving part of mainstream learning.

Key Enablers Include:

- 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 India AI 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.

Focus on

Critical sectors

The Global event will showcase India's top 100 DeepTech startups across 13 critical technology themes, and 15+ of India's premier educational institutions including 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 as the Stage

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.

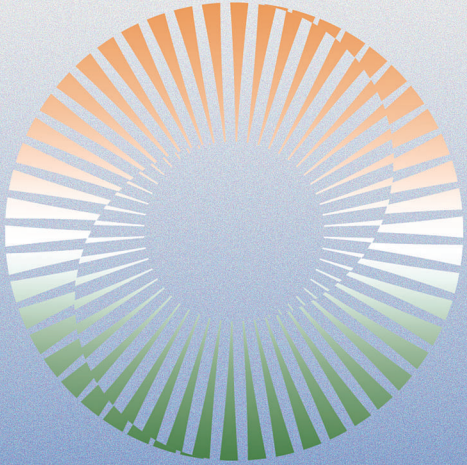
Problem-to-solution access: Opportunity to tap India's open-innovation engine for answers to toughest challenges of industry and society at large.

Fast-track partnerships with market-ready ventures: Pilots, procurement and co- development.

Global soft-landing routes via incubators/accelerators: Co-incubation, exchanges and cross-border scale-up support.

A **privileged access** to a continuous pipeline of industry specific development through India's Research Parks and technology labs at top institutions.

A **steady stream of R&D opportunities** for labs and tech providers: testing, validation, prototyping and product development.



For more information scan

Bharat INNOVATES 2026

Ministry of Education