



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

bharat  
INNOVATES 2026



# Bharat Innovates 2026

Showcasing India's Robust DeepTech Ecosystem

Nice, France | 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 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

# Conclave Highlights

**120+**

**India's Leading  
DeepTech Startups  
Participating**

**20+**

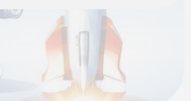
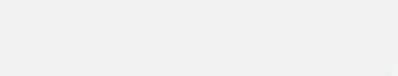
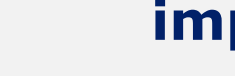
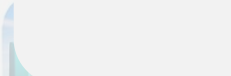
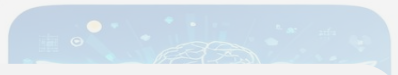
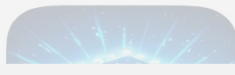
**Premier Indian  
Institutions showcasing  
Innovations**

**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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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 session 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 technical talent.

## AI Momentum:

**India is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### Ecosystem Enablers

From the **foundational level itself**, India has placed a strong emphasis on nurturing innovation among students.

#### ATAL Tinkering Labs

10,000+ Labs fostering curiosity, creativity, and a problem-solving mindset among schoolchildren nationwide

#### School Innovation Councils

Promoting out-of-the-box thinking through innovation-led projects for students

As students **transition to Higher Education**, the focus on research, innovation, and entrepreneurship aligned learning deepens.

### Research Parks in Premier Institutions

09 national level parks fostering research and innovation catering to real-world problems

### Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)

A \$5 Billion fund for funding high quality research

### Centers of Excellence in AI

Enabling co-development of impactful AI solutions through Industry partnerships

### National Missions

Driving transformation across AI, quantum, semiconductors, and critical minerals

## Operationalizing the Ecosystem for Last Mile Impact

India, through targeted initiatives, transforms its strategic vision into transformative action.

- 1 Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme** – A nearly **\$10 Billion fund** to de-risk private sector R&D and accelerate breakthroughs in sunrise sectors.
- 2 One Nation One Subscription Scheme** – Ensuring equitable access to global knowledge resources to Indian students. Catering nearly **10 million students**, the platform has witnessed more than **133 million downloads**.
- 3 Startup India Initiative** – Fostering a vibrant innovation ecosystem by enabling **startup creation, access to funding, and ease of doing business**.
- 4 Innovation Councils in Technical Institutions** - Creating a **culture of innovation** through activities for idea generation, validation, mentorship & IP awareness.
- 5 Sector-Focused Innovation Platforms (iDEX, BIRAC, IN-SPACE)** - Catalysing **deep-tech innovation** across defence, biotechnology, and space by enabling startups to real-world deployment and commercialization

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 is likely to be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and the President of France in Nice, France. The conclave will highlight 120+ leading Indian deep-tech startups across 13 critical technology themes, alongside premier institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institute of Science.

Curated as a conversion-focused platform, it will enable global stakeholders to engage across the value chain, unlocking collaborations and investments across the following themes:



The programme will enable global stakeholders including corporates, investors, universities, incubators, governments, and alumni to engage with deep-tech ventures and 20+ premier higher education institutions, fostering collaborations across research, innovation, commercialization, and global market access.

The maiden edition is being hosted in France in alignment with the celebration of India-France Year of Innovation 2026, 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:

- 1 Investor-grade deal flow**  
**Early access to IP-backed ventures** built to scale globally, backed by India's capital
- 2 Fast-track partnerships**  
**Partnerships with market-ready ventures** for pilots, procurement, co-development
- 3 Research Access**  
**Access to a continuous pipeline** of industry specific development to India's R&I ecosystem
- 4 Problem-to-Solution Bridge**  
**Access to India's high-impact geographies** for answers to toughest market challenges
- 5 Global Soft-landing Routes**  
**Support in co-incubation and cross-border scaling up** of products and solutions
- 6 R&D Pipeline**  
**A steady stream of R&D opportunities for labs and tech providers:** testing, validation, prototyping and product development

# Programme Schedule

## Dates:

### June 2026

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

**14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

## Venue:



**Palais de  
Expositions**  
Nice, France

# Programme Structure

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

## Inaugural Ceremony:

The conclave is likely to be inaugurated by **Sh. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Sh. Emmanuel Macron, Hon'ble President of France on the first day, i.e., 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Panel Discussions and Leadership Talks:

Pre-arranged B2B, B2G, and G2G meetings to facilitate strategic dialogue and Leadership Series from top global investors and thought leaders on emerging trends and opportunities.

## Thematic Spotlight Sessions:

Curated thematic discussions and on-the-spot validations through structured discussions with innovators and global investors.

## Cultural Programmes:

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

Bharat Innovates 2026 aims to **deepen India–France cooperation** across higher education, research, innovation ecosystems, startup integration, and talent mobility within the broader strategic partnership.

Aligned with the **India–France Year of Innovation 2026**, it emphasizes **institutionalization, co-funding, and long-term programmatic collaboration** to deliver sustained outcomes beyond the conclave