

Institutional Innovation Council (IIC)



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A MHRD- India Initiative

For more information visit <https://mic.gov.in/institute/html/Activities1.html>

IIC Introduction

About IIC

Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India has established 'MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC)' to systematically foster the culture of Innovation among all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The primary mandate of MIC is to encourage, inspire and nurture young students by supporting them to work with new ideas and transform them into prototypes while they are informative years.

MIC has envisioned encouraging creation of 'Institution's Innovation Council (IICs) across selected HEIs. A network of IICs are established to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the Institution through multitudinous modes leading to an innovation promotion ecosystem in the campuses. A network of more than 950 IICs were established on 21st November 2018.

IIC 2.0

About IIC 2.0

Currently, more than 950 IICs have been established in HEIs across India. IICs is a faculty-experts-student council which takes on multiple activities to promote Innovation and Entrepreneurship round the year. IIC's objective is to prepare the students with skills like critical thinking, Design Thinking, Innovative thought process and Entrepreneurial mindset.

IIC 2.0 is an upgraded version of IIC 1.0 which was inaugurated on 21st November 2018. Many features regarding monitoring & submission of reports, assessment criteria, star scheme, type of activities etc. has been added on IIC portal. IIC 2.0 is more comprehensive and will be able to establish a strong ecosystem of innovation, IPR and entrepreneurship in HEIs.

- Introduction of Semester Based Approach for Preparing and Advising Annual Calendar Plan for IICs.
- Development and Prescribe Learning Modules for the Activities along with the Annual Calendar Plan.
- Accommodate Self Driven and MIC Driven Activities and Differential Weightage as Measure of Performance.
- Capturing IICs Activities on Monthly Basis and Report Generation on Quarterly Basis.
- Introduction of New Scoring Mechanism for Rating & Quarterly Rating - Incentive System.

Features

IIC is a unique initiative of MHRD Innovation Cell and is different from other existing models, It aims at streamlining and strengthening the Innovation and startup ecosystem in HEIs campuses in the following ways:

- **Breaking isolation and enhancing coherence and synergy** among departments, centers, units, student bodies at the institute. It derives experts and resources from different departments and ecosystem enablers from outside the institute in a planned manner to promote and support innovation and startup programs on campus. IIC being a faculty-expert-student council, also comprises of representatives from institute, industry, alumni, financial institutes, incubation unit and intend **to give guidance and directional support** to council and student team to achieve the desired result by **deriving support and expertise from member organizations and facilitating resource mobilization**.
- IIC ensures **to overcome seasonality nature of functioning of EDC and other centers and ensures round the year activities in the campus** to give exposure & multiple opportunities for students and faculties to take part and understand the importance of Innovation, inculcating entrepreneurship skill and mindset and encouraging taking startup as an alternative career option.
- To engage **key stakeholders (Student, Faculty, and Institute) in an effective manner and developing healthy competition among IICs to carry out round the year activities** in synchronization with other similar bodies such as incubation units and pre-incubation centers –start-up cell and IEDC units, etc. IIC portal is built with monitoring, evaluation and reward system by capturing the efforts being carried out at IIC/institute level.

IIC 2.0 Features:

Based on our experience and suggestions from various IICs in IIC 1.0 following changes are being incorporated in IIC 2.0 **Bringing homogeneity and addressing the challenge of non-synchronization of academic calendar** in higher educational institutes spread across the country, because of non-homogenous academic timings many IICs either miss calendar activities or fail to conduct activities in time. To overcome this challenge, an annual calendar plan with more flexibility is being introduced as part of IIC2.0. Therefore, **Introduction of a Semester based approach for preparing and advising annual calendar plan for IICs.** MIC recommends IICs to develop/adopt learning modules with suggestive pointers as learning objectives for the prescribed annual calendar activities. Learning module will bring more standardization and quality improvement in the activities delivered by IICs

Accommodating of activities related to innovation and entrepreneurship promotion being carried out by Institute in their campuses. Therefore, we are introducing new ways allocating scores and Star (*) to IICs by devising a differential weightage system based on the categorization of activities into three major types. IICs now have the option to undertake activities/events of their choice and based on their capabilities and resource availability. These categories are;

- **MIC Prescribed Annual Calendar Plan activities/Programs** – IICs have the option to select and organize a certain minimum number of activities in a quarter as prescribed in annual calendar plan from the pool of activities in the calendar. Institutes are encouraged to do a greater number of activities from calendar beyond the prescribed minimum. It is expected that institutes which are in the *emerging phase* of the innovation ecosystem-will follow the calendar plan vividly. IICs are now allowed to upload the reports for these activities in the portal and will be eligible to get score on quarterly basis. Completing the minimum number of prescribed activities in the calendar can earn maximum of 50% weightage.
- **Self-Directed Activities/Programs:** IICs are encouraged to plan their own activities apart from IIC calendar for promoting entrepreneurship and innovation in their campuses. They may have collaborations with different agencies, departments, and Industries for organizing seminars, competitions, workshops, training sessions relevant to entrepreneurship and innovation.
- **MIC Directed Activities/Events:** MIC is going to launch and bring various programs for IICs from time to time to enhance the skill and mentoring capacity of IIC members on ideation, innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup.

Monthly Report Submission, Quarterly Score allocation, and report generation: IICs will have to submit the report of activities at the end of every month, the scores will be allotted to IICs on a quarterly basis.

Approach to Increase Portfolio of activities-IIC may adopt approach of following “3C” principle in the process of devising short-term and quarterly action plan development.

- **Convergence:** Keeping in mind that, there are many programs/schemes already being implementation by various central govt and state govt. agencies as major ecosystem enabler focusing on higher educational institutes. IIC are advised to align the activities of various centers and departments within the institute and also to explore and adopt convergence approach to devise short term assignments to direct these programs and pass benefits to students and faculties of IIC-institute.
- **Collaboration:** IICs are also advised to devise new programs by collaborating with govt, non-govt, and private players where ultimate beneficiaries will be students and faculties of IIC-institute.
- **Connect/Refer:** This mode may be adopted to channelize the benefits of programs by various agencies. IIC can network with other IICs to carry out programs related to Innovation and entrepreneurship.