

The AI Challenge - Innovating for Viksit Bharat

Aligned with the Government of India's initiatives IndiaAI Mission, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Startup India

The NEF Innovation Awards 2025, is a national-level innovation competition that empowers students to transform their academic projects into real-world solutions. Led by **Chief Mentor Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar**, and founded by **Dr. Ganesh Natarajan** and **Dr. Uma Ganesh**, this initiative nurtures innovation, industry readiness, and entrepreneurship through mentorship from leading AI experts and industry professionals.



Calling All Student Innovators!

National-Level Innovation Competition

Participate by Registering your Idea or Project

Participation is free of cost for all institutions and students

Have an innovative idea or a final-year project?

Theme: The AI Challenge - Innovating for Viksit Bharat

This is your chance to showcase your creativity, gain national recognition, and win exciting prizes!



Phase 1 - Registration:

Online Registration: Deadline is 10th Nov. 2025

Scan QR Code or Click on the following link to Register-

https://nesconnect.org/innovation_award/NES_Registration_2025.html



Scan QR Code to Register:



Contest Calendar

- Phase 2 – Top 50 Team Selection (Third week of Dec. 2025)
 - Phase 3 – Business Plan Development Workshop (Third week - Jan. 2026)
 - Phase 4 – Pre-Jury Preparation & Mentoring (Third week - Feb. 2026)
 - Phase 5 – Final Jury Round & Prototype Presentation (First week - Mar. 2026)
 - Phase 6 – National Grand Finale & Awards Ceremony (Last Friday - Mar. 2026)
- *Exact Dates will be announced based on the academic calendar*

Important Dates:

- Last Date to Submit Ideas:
10th November 2025

Why Participate?

For Students:

- ✓ Platform to showcase academic projects & innovation
- ✓ National-level recognition & exposure
- ✓ Mentorship from top industry leaders and experts

For Institutions:

- Recognition as an NES Innovation Hub
- Academic integration with curriculum
- National media visibility & partnerships

Partner with Us -

Invite us for a Pre-Innovation Workshop at your college to help students understand the format of the competition.

For more details or queries, Kindly contact :

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