



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
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Government of India



Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
(NITI Aayog)

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“When I see young generation busy in innovation with enthusiasm like this, my resolve for ‘New India’ gets stronger. In the 21st century we will be able to get India the place in the world it deserves.”

- [Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi](#)¹

Overview

[Atal Innovation Mission \(AIM\)](#)², set up in 2016, is Government of India’s flagship initiative to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in schools, colleges and society at large and **promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship** in the country. AIM has taken a holistic approach to ensure creation of a problem-solving innovative mindset in schools and creating an ecosystem of entrepreneurship in universities, research institutions, private and MSME sector. All the initiatives of AIM are currently monitored and managed systematically using real-time MIS systems and dynamic dashboards.

[Initiatives under Atal Innovation Mission](#)³

1. [Atal Tinkering Labs](#)⁴ - school level

- Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) is a state-of-the-art space established in a school with a goal to foster curiosity and innovation in young minds, between grade 6th to 12th across the country through 21st century tools and technologies such as Internet of Things, 3D printing, rapid prototyping tools, robotics, miniaturized electronics, do-it-yourself kits and many more. The aim is to stimulate a problem-solving innovative mindset within the children of the ATL and nearby communities.
- As of December 2021, more than 9500 ATL labs have been established in 722 districts.

¹https://aim.gov.in/AIM_Brochure.pdf

²<https://aim.gov.in/overview.php>

³<https://www.niti.gov.in/index.php/atal-innovation-mission-fostering-innovation-sustainable-development>

⁴<https://aim.gov.in/atl.php>

- 5100+ mentors of change have been engaged for mentoring more than 75 lakh students
- More than 70 per cent of ATLs established are in Govt./ Govt. Aided schools, Girls/Co-Ed Schools
- Over 2.1 lakh innovation projects have been created.

2. Atal Incubation Centres⁵–universities, institutions and corporates among others

- To create an ever-evolving ecosystem of start-ups and entrepreneurs, AIM has been establishing world class incubators called Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) at universities, institutions and corporates among others. These Centres aim to foster and support world class innovation, dynamic entrepreneurs who want to build scalable and sustainable enterprises.
- As of December 2021, AIM has operational zed 68 Atal Incubation Centres with universities / institutions / private players and each of the AIC believes to foster creation and nurturing of about 50 world class Startups every four years.
- AIC provides technical facilities, resource-based support, mentorships, funding support, partnerships and networking, co-working spaces and lab facilities among others.
- Over 2200 operational startups have been supported by these AICs of which 625 startups are women led and have created more than 30,200 jobs in the ecosystem.

3. Atal Community Innovation Centres⁶ – Serves Unserved and Under-Served regions of India

- To promote the benefits of technology-led innovation to the unserved/underserved regions of India including Tier 2, Tier 3 cities, aspirational districts, tribal, hilly and coastal areas, AIM is setting up Atal Community Innovation Centres with a unique partnership driven model wherein AIM would grant up to Rs. 2.50crores to an ACIC subject to a partner proving equal or greater matching funding.
- As of December 2021,over 650 Applications have been received from across the country and 50 AICs will be established in the near future.
- Over 1500 registrations out of which 19 applicants have been shortlisted

4. Atal New India Challenges⁷ - Product and Service Innovations with National Impact

- To create product and service innovations having national socio-economic impact, AIM has launched over 24 Atal New India Challenges (ANICs) in

⁵<https://aim.gov.in/atal-incubation-centres.php>

⁶<https://aim.gov.in/acic.php>

⁷<https://aim.gov.in/atal-new-india-challenge.php>

partnership with five different ministries and departments of central government.

- As of December 2021, 52 applicants were shortlisted for grant-in-aid support and hand holding by Incubators / mentors of AIM out of over 950 applications received for the same.
- The challenge received more than 700 registrations out of which 29 start-ups received grants of over Rs 12 Crore.

5. ARISE ANIC challenges⁸ - To stimulate start-up/ MSME industry innovation

- To promote innovation in a phased manner in the MSME/Start-up sector, AIM has launched 15 ARISE-ANIC challenges along with partner Ministries (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Space Research Organisation, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Food Processing Industries) to improve research capabilities in the start-up and MSME ecosystem.
- The Atmanirbhar Bharat ARISE-ANIC program is in line with the Prime Minister's mandate of "Make in India", "Startup India", "Atmanirbhar Bharat" to fast track the growth of the Indian MSME sector.
- As part of this, deserving ideas will be converted to viable innovative prototypes followed by product development and commercial deployment.
- As of December 2021, more than 160 applicants have been received and 65 MSMEs have been shortlisted for final Evaluation.

6. Mentor of Change (Mentorship and Partnerships - with Public, Private sector, NGOs, Academia, Institutions)

- To enable all the initiatives to succeed, AIM has launched one of the largest mentor engagement and management program "**Mentor India – The Mentors of Change.**"
- As of December 2021, AIM has on boarded more than 5000 mentors out of which 3000 have participated in knowledge Hub Sessions. There are mentors in 479 cities and over 4600 schools.
- Over 30 events and exclusive sessions have been conducted spanning over 5000 hours by Mentors for ATL Students.

⁸<https://aim.gov.in/aatmanirbhar-bharat-arise-anic.php>

Key Developments

- [On February 2022](#), Atal Innovation Mission celebrated 6 years since the launch of the programme. Its initiative aims to promote a culture of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the country as well as encouragement.⁹
- [On 11 February 2022](#), Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog in collaboration with UNDP, India launched the Community Innovator Fellowship (CIF) marking the “International Day of Women & Girls in Science.” The fellowship is developed as a pre-incubation model which will provide youth with an opportunity to establish their social enterprise focusing on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) based solutions for solving community issues. To know more, [click here](#)¹⁰.
- [On 08 February 2022](#) Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a new partnership under the Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare (SAMRIDH) initiative, which will improve access to affordable and quality healthcare for vulnerable populations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, and rural and tribal regions. To know more, [Click here](#)¹¹
- After a successful completion and an overwhelming participation from young innovators across the country, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog declared the results of the ‘ATL Space Challenge 2021’ on 12 January 2022. The Challenge was launched in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). The event coincided with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, also celebrated as the National Youth The ATL Space Challenge witnessed over 2500 submissions from both ATL and Non-ATL students across the country from which 75 top innovators were selected and announced. The Challenge was a one-of-a-kind challenge and the first time that an ATL challenge



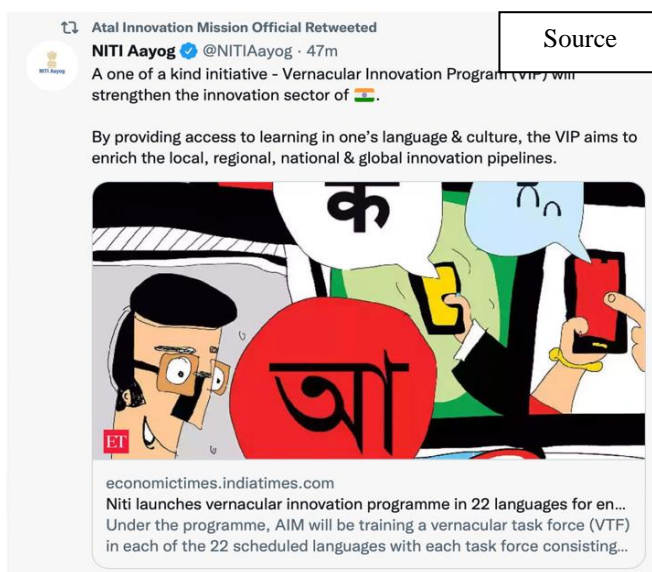
⁹ <https://twitter.com/AIMtoInnovate/status/1496735810728730626?s=20&t=PieBWqS8GlupRGDn-N3jEw>

¹⁰ <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1797605>

¹¹ <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1796600>

open to both ATL and non-ATL students. ATL Space Challenge 2021 witnessed over 6500 students participating in the challenge from 32 States/ UTs. This Challenge also had a heartening participation of over 35% from girl students. To know more, [click here](#).¹²

- Vernacular Innovation Program (VIP) was launched on 22nd December 2021 with the aim of enabling innovators and entrepreneurs in India to have access to the [innovation ecosystem in 22 scheduled languages](#)¹³. To know more, [click here](#)¹⁴.



- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Amazon Web Services (AWS) and the Global EdTech Accelerator - UIIncept have joined hands to organise the [‘All India EdTech Challenge and Master Class Series’](#)¹⁵ for early and advanced stage EdTech founders. This initiative aims to nurture EdTech companies and start-ups who are in pre and post minimum viable product (MVP) stages by identifying potential industry gaps, exploring mergers and acquisitions, talent sourcing and pooling, and decoding venture capital and investor mind-set while exploring industry, academia and government connections. To know more, [click here](#).¹⁶
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in partnership with [‘Dassault Systèmes’](#)¹⁷ is all set to rave up the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem across the country to support various current and future initiatives of AIM programs and AIM beneficiaries. To know more, [click here](#)¹⁸.
- [ATL Marathon 2020](#)¹⁹ witnessed over 1000 Atal Tinkering Labs participating from across the country from which 300 top innovators and top 10 teams from each state that participated in the Marathon were selected. ATL Marathon 2020 witnessed over 7200

¹² <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1789450>

¹³ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1784135>

¹⁴ ibid

¹⁵ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1778079>

¹⁶ ibid

¹⁷ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1755399>

¹⁸ ibid

¹⁹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1737835>

innovations from 32 states and 324 districts. This Marathon also had a heartening participation of over 57% from girl students. To know more, [click here](#)²⁰.

- Atal Innovation Mission announced partnership with [All India Council for Technical Education \(AICTE\)](#)²¹ to adopt Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) and empower, mentor school student innovators across the country through AICTE Institution Innovation councils (IICs). The partnership offers to begin with to connect around 7200 ATL established in schools with 2500 Institution's Innovation Councils (IICs) functioning in higher educational institutions spread across all the states and UTs. To know more, [click here](#).²²
- [295 Atal Tinkering Labs](#)²³ (ATLs) were officially adopted by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) across the country in an ambitious step towards inculcating scientific research and innovation culture among students. To know more, [click here](#).²⁴
- ISRO adopted 100 ATLs across the country for mentorship and promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and [Space Education](#)²⁵. To know more, [click here](#).²⁶

Video Reference

- <https://youtu.be/aNetP3NvGB4>
- <https://youtu.be/AEHDT5Wj-tw>

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- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1004224000439054336?s=20>
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- <https://twitter.com/AIMtoInnovate/status/1496735810728730626?s=20&t=PieBWqS8GlupRGDn-N3jEw>
- [Press release posted by PIB on 22 Dec 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 4 Dec 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 16 Sep 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 22 July 2021](#)

²⁰ibid

²¹<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1711853>

²²ibid

²³<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1710694>

²⁴ibid

²⁵<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1687635>

²⁶ibid

- [Press release posted by PIB on 14 April 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 9 April 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 11 Jan 2021](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 11 Feb 2022](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 08 Feb 2022](#)
- [Press release posted by PIB on 12 Jan 2022](#)

AG/HP/RC/RN/SB