

FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2026

Excellence in Research and Innovation

Category	Category Definition
Excellence in Research and Innovation	<i>This award category honors institutions that have demonstrated exceptional commitment to advancing knowledge through cutting-edge research and innovation. These institutions foster a research-driven ecosystem, support high-impact projects, and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration. By translating research into real-world applications, they contribute meaningfully to societal progress, technological advancement, and policy innovation.</i>

Section 1 – Basic information*

Institution name				
Institution address		City:	State:	Zone: Choose an item.
Date of incorporation	Click here to enter a date.			
Type of institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Institution		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Institution	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of Eminence	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of Eminence
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of National Importance	<input type="checkbox"/> State Government Institution	<input type="checkbox"/> Institute of National Importance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Deemed to be University	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: (Please specify) _____
Level of education provided	<input type="checkbox"/> Under-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D./Doctorate <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma/Certificate	
Website				

Section 2 – Contact Details *

Name of Vice Chancellor or Director or Registrar or another equivalent person	
Designation	
E-mail ID	
Contact Number	

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Name of the SPOC for the Awards (Same as above)	
Designation	
E-mail ID	

Section 3 – Operational Matrix*		
Parameters	FY 2024- 2025	FY 2025-2026
Total external research funding received (INR)	<input type="checkbox"/> < 10 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 25 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 1 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> > 1 Crore	<input type="checkbox"/> < 10 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 25 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 1 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> > 1 Crore
Publications per full-time faculty in recognized peer-reviewed journals <i>Note:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognized journals include those indexed in global databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, or equivalent indexing platforms. 2. Calculated as total publications divided by total full-time faculty. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <0.5 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.5–1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–1.5 <input type="checkbox"/> 1.5–2 <input type="checkbox"/> >2	<input type="checkbox"/> <0.5 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.5–1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–1.5 <input type="checkbox"/> 1.5–2 <input type="checkbox"/> >2
Average citations per publication	<input type="checkbox"/> <1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2–4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4–8 <input type="checkbox"/> >8	<input type="checkbox"/> <1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2–4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4–8 <input type="checkbox"/> >8
Number of patents granted (faculty + students)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6–15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16–40 <input type="checkbox"/> >40	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6–15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16–40 <input type="checkbox"/> >40
Number of research outputs deployed in real-world applications <i>(Validated use by industry, government, or community)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8–15 <input type="checkbox"/> >15	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1–2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3–7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8–15 <input type="checkbox"/> >15
Revenue generated from research commercialization/IPR (INR)	<input type="checkbox"/> < 10 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 25 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 1 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> > 1 Crore	<input type="checkbox"/> < 10 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 25 lakhs <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 1 Crore <input type="checkbox"/> > 1 Crore

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<p>% of research projects involving external collaboration <i>(Industry / international / government partnerships)</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <10% <input type="checkbox"/> 10–25% <input type="checkbox"/> 26–50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51–75% <input type="checkbox"/> >75%</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <10% <input type="checkbox"/> 10–25% <input type="checkbox"/> 26–50% <input type="checkbox"/> 51–75% <input type="checkbox"/> >75%</p>
<p><i>(Please note that the numbers provided here will be validated at later stage hence it should be backed up with sufficient and relevant supporting documents)</i></p>		

Section 4 – Case Study*

Note:

- **The below case study must pertain to ONLY one initiative/project implemented in relevance to this category. Please fill a different application form if you wish to apply with another initiative/s**
- **This section should reflect the strategic vision and institutional priorities of the institution. It must be completed or reviewed by a member of the academic or leadership team (e.g., Director, Vice Chancellor, Dean, or Registrar). Inputs collected or compiled by administrative staff must be validated before final submission.**

Initiative Start Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)

Initiative End Date: (DD/MM/YYYY) / Ongoing

Name of Initiative/ Project

Click here to enter a date / Ongoing

1. Describe a major research or innovation initiative undertaken by your institution that demonstrates its commitment to advancing knowledge and real-world impact. Outline the objective, collaborators (if any), key challenges encountered, how they were addressed, and key milestones achieved during implementation.

(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)

Note: You may describe either a single flagship initiative or a cluster of interrelated projects, provided they collectively reflect a cohesive institutional strategy and measurable impact.

- Problem or research gap addressed
- Area/domain of research
- Scale and scope of initiative
- Key collaborators (academic / industry / government)
- Structure of research or innovation model
- Approach to execution and coordination
- Interdisciplinary elements (if applicable)
- Distinctive or innovative aspects

2. What measurable outcomes has the initiative achieved?
Include specific quantitative metrics and relevant qualitative outcomes

(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)

Your response should clearly cover:

- Nature of research outcomes generated
- Type of impact (academic / technological / societal / policy)
- Evidence of advancement or breakthrough

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption or usage of outputs • Continuity and progression of outcomes • Specific examples demonstrating effectiveness
<p>3. Why should your institution be recognized for Excellence in Research & Innovation? Highlight what makes your initiative distinctive in terms of real-world impact, interdisciplinary collaboration, scalability, and long-term contribution to knowledge or society.</p> <p>(Max 200 words, preferably in bullets)</p>	<p>Your response should clearly cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What differentiates the institutional research approach • Strength of research-to-impact translation • Depth of collaboration ecosystem • Contribution to knowledge and innovation • Replicability or scalability • Long-term value created • Engagement with national research bodies or funding mechanisms such as the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), if applicable

Section 5 – Supporting Documents*

Certificate of Incorporation/Registration certificate *	<u>Attach file</u>
Grant sanction letters / funding proof*	<u>Attach file</u>
Scopus/Web of Science or equivalent publication reports	<u>Attach file</u>
Patent certificates*	<u>Attach file</u>
Commercialization / licensing agreements*	<u>Attach file</u>
Deployment / adoption evidence*	<u>Attach file</u>
<p>AI Report covering: *</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI tool used • % of content generated or paraphrased • % Plagiarism <p>(Max 20% AI-generated content allowed)</p>	<u>Attach file</u>
<p>Why should your institution win this award? (Max 2 pages)</p> <p>Please note : This document must be completed or reviewed by a senior member of the academic or leadership team.</p>	<u>Attach file</u>

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Any other collaterals (awards/ articles/certificates, etc.)

Attach file

Section 6 – Declaration*

As a matter of record, I/we hereby declare that the information provided in the application form and the supporting documents submitted for the FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2026 is, to the best of my/our knowledge and belief, true, correct, and complete. I/we understand that in the event any information is found to be false, untrue, misleading, or misrepresented, I/we shall be held liable and responsible for the same.

I/we declare that below is true:

- Initiative/ project is completely executed and fully implemented in the period April 01, 2024, to March 31, 2026
- The impact demonstrated and results showcased by initiative/ project is in the period April 01, 2025, to March 31, 2026

I/we, on behalf of my/our organization, <name of organization>, authorise FICCI to use the content submitted as part of my/our nomination, in whole or in part and use and display such entry, which shall include trade publications, press releases, electronic posting to the awards website, electronic hyperlinks to the website of the participant, and any display format selected by FICCI during the awards ceremony or at a later point in time, for a period of five years.

I/we further agree that the information provided has been approved by the Registrar or equivalent personnel of my/ our institution.

Participant Name: _____

Designation: _____

Date: _____

