

Anveshan

Student Research Convention

Monograph



Research Division

Association of Indian Universities

16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg, New Delhi - 110002

Anveshan: Student Research Convention

Guidelines for the National Convention 2021-22

Preamble

Spirit of inquiry, creativity and innovativeness some of the natural endowments bestowed upon human beings, are the keys to transformation of life. These factors, when manifested in the form of research, open new frontiers of knowledge, which is instrumental for all forms of development. Perhaps, this is the reason for which research is recognized as one of the core functions of the universities/institutions of higher learning. Resource constraints, lacks of facilities, commitment and proper incentives, etc., are affecting the quality of research in our institutions of higher education. However, another factor affecting the quality of research is the absence of adequate training and other capacity building measures restricting students' creativity only to rote memory. With the advent of the Knowledge era, research in general and academic research in particular is expected to play a vital role in creation, dissemination and its application to the society. Therefore, nurturing the potentials of young researchers and equipping them with required research skills is of immense need. The current emphasis on making India a five trillion economy by 2024 has signaled an era of transformation providing ample opportunities for innovative young brains to become trendsetters and role models of a vibrant India.

With a view to inculcating research culture in our higher education institutions, the Research Division of Association of Indian Universities has taken a pioneering initiative to organize Student Research Conventions for the aspiring researchers throughout the country. These Conventions aim at identifying the young and rising talents who would be promoted through proper encouragement and incentives. Also, an attempt shall be made to commercialize their research projects by providing a structure avenue for industrial collaboration. The endeavor may accelerate scientific research and innovation and their application towards community development percolating to the grass root level. **Anveshan: The Student Research Convention** was applauded across the country for providing an innovative platform to students and generating a great zeal of enthusiasm among the young and emerging breed of researchers in the country. Nevertheless, the initiative is an attempt to inculcate and strengthen a culture of research in the universities and other institutions of Higher Learning.

Objectives

- To identify young talents with research aptitude and interest to take up research as career option.
- To encourage students with research aptitude with a view to promote research ecosystems in HEIs.
- To nurture the talent through specialized training and education in some of the nationally and internationally reputed premier institutions of higher learning in the country.

- To augment financial and physical resources through collaboration with different sponsors for supporting education and training of the young researchers.
- To provide proper incentives to enhance the skill of potential students.
- To promote research culture in Higher Education institutions.

Areas/Fields

The areas/fields in which Projects (**Individual and Group Projects***) are invited are: -

- Agriculture Sciences & Allied fields
- Basic Sciences
- Engineering & Technology (Big Data Analysis, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Virtual & Augmented Realities, 3 D Printing, Robotics)
- Health Sciences and Allied Subjects, Pharmacy, Nutrition, etc.
- Social Sciences, Humanities, Commerce and Law (Objective and Result Oriented Projects)

* In case of a **Group project**, only three members [one principal investigator and two major contributors] are allowed to participate in the national convention.

Type of Project

- Projects on the above-mentioned areas must be original and must have undergone some exploration/ ground work in order to show its feasibility and impact.

Structure of the Event

- The duration of the convention will be **two days**.
- The convention will be held in **two phases**.
 - i. In the **First Phase**, all universities in the country will be requested to organize an exhibition of research projects at **university level** in which students from **Affiliated/Constituent Colleges, Research Institutions and University Postgraduate Departments** will be invited to participate. The exhibited projects will be scrutinized by a team of experts of their respective areas.
 - ii. In the **Second Phase**, the exhibition/competition will be held at **National level**. The Association of Indian Universities will call for the successful projects at University Level for National level convention. A total of three projects will be finally selected for award of cash prizes. In addition to the first Second third positions, cash awards will also be given to two Best projects from each zone.

Number of Projects

- Each university is allowed to send a maximum number of **five** projects for the National level Student Research Convention, preferably one from each category.
- In case, any universities/institute do not offer courses/programmes in all five categories/area/fields mentioned they can send total five projects from the areas/fields of their choice in different sub-fields. For example: Agricultural University may send Five projects under different sub-fields of Agriculture category
- The selected projects duly countersigned and forwarded by the Head of the Organization must reach the coordinator of the National Research Convention.
- The projects will be assessed by a panel of experts drawn from various disciplines on the basis of laid down criteria for assessment. The students whose projects will be selected in the final stage at National Level Convention will be promoted though proper incentives for career development in research.

Criteria for Assessment of Projects

All the projects will be assessed on the basis of following criteria. Each criterion is assigned some weightage. The final selection of projects will be based on the cumulative weightage given on all criteria.

Criteria and Weightage

• Scientific Thoughts and Principles	20
• Creativity	20
• Relevance	20
• Scalability	10
• Skill	10
• Cost Effectiveness	10
• Teamwork	10

Apart from the above criteria, **Scope of Commercialization** of the projects will be considered as an **additional merit**. However, there will be no weightage point for this criterion. In case of the projects having scored equal cumulative waightage point, this criterion will be considered for making the final decision.

Eligibility for Participation

Entries of the research projects will be purely **INSTITUTIONAL** and only **BONAFIDE fulltime** Students/Research Scholars from Undergraduate to Doctoral Degree level are eligible to take part in the convention. **Those who are below 30 years of age are only eligible to take part in the Convention.**

Entry/Registration Fee for National level Convention

Entry - Rs. 500/- (per Project)

The entry fee for National Level competition in the form of **Demand Draft** drawn in favor of **Host University** and the **Registration form** should be sent to the coordinator of the **Organizing University under intimation to AIU**.

Board and Lodging

At zonal level, the host university will make the arrangement for Accommodation, Breakfast, Working Lunch, Dinner and Session Tea (twice) for about 100 participants including their escorts **without any charge during the two days of the event.**

Those requiring such facilities may contact the Coordinator of the host university. (The Calendar with **the name and contact details of the National Coordinators will be uploaded on AIU website**).

Responsibility of Organizers

AIU

- Identifying agencies for providing sponsorship to students selected and for conducting national level convention.
- Identifying Universities at National level for organizing the Conventions.
- Signing MoU with sponsoring agencies (except organizing local activities).
- Coordinating the convention and post convention activities.
- Compiling and Bringing out the Compendium of Presented Research Projects.

Host University

- Sending circulars to universities for inviting projects from the students.
- Provide Boarding, lodging (**without any charge during the two days of the event**) and other logistics for participants, observers, Local Coordination in organizing the three-day programme.
- Selection of experts: The panel of experts (preferably retired or serving academicians from the adjoining institutions, personnel from local industries) should have **three experts in each area/ field**, in consultation with AIU.
- TA and token honorarium of **Rs 1000 (per day)** to each expert to be paid by the Host University.

Registration Form for National Level Competition

Name:

Father/Guardian's name:

Date of Birth.....

Name of the College/ Institute where studying:
[Please mention clearly if the candidate is pursuing his/her study from University Department/Faculty]

Name of the University to which the college is affiliated:

Name of the Zone:

Nomenclature of the Degree (For which enrolled):

Discipline: Year:

Permanent Address.....
.....

Address for Communication:.....
.....

Phone: (Off)(Res)..... (Mob).....

Fax..... E-mail:

Title of the Project:

Faculty & Subject Area.....

Date of Commencement & completion of the Project:

Application/ Outcome of the Project (if any). Yes/ No
If Yes, mention briefly about the nature of Application
.....

Whether the project has been sent for some other competition/sponsorship earlier?
Yes/No

If Yes, mention place and date

Accommodation required: Yes / No

Date.....

Signature of Candidate

(Signature with Seal of the Competent Authority)

Guidelines for the Participants

- Projects should be original and based on new/innovative ideas and must have undergone some exploration and ground work to prove its feasibility and show impact.
- The Projects are invited in Five Categories/areas – i) Agriculture Sciences ii) Basic Sciences, iii) Engineering & Technology, iv) Health Sciences and Allied Subjects, Pharmacy, Nutrition, etc. v) Social Sciences, Humanities, Commerce and Law (Objective and Result Oriented Projects).
- In case of a Group project, only **three members** [the principal investigator and two major contributors] are allowed to participate in the national convention. But, only **one member** will be allowed for presentation.
- Entries of the research projects will be purely INSTITUTIONAL and only BONAFIDE fulltime Students/Research Scholars from Undergraduate to Doctoral Degree level are eligible to take part in the convention.
- Entry Fee- Rs. 500/- (per project). The entry fee for National level competition in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favor of **the Host University** and the Registration form should be sent to the coordinator of the Organizing University under intimation to AIU).
- Registration is compulsory for all participants. The entries for projects in the convention will be accepted only if **forwarded through the Head of the Institution**.
- The Projects can be presented in the form of live demonstrations /models / posters/podium (oral) presentation in any aforementioned areas/fields.
- Each university is allowed to send a maximum number of **five projects** for the **national level** Student Research Convention.
- The duration of the convention will not exceed two days, unless the situation so warrants.
- The projects will be presented in **three rounds**. In the **first round** the participants will display their projects in poster presentations (Size of Posters - 1m X 1m) before a panel of judges. If selected in the first round, the project will be allowed for podium and oral presentation before the panel of Judges in the **second round**. In the **third Round** the presentation will be open for question-answer.
- The host university will provide the required infrastructural facilities like Display/Mounting Boards, space for display, LCD/ overhead projector, etc., required for presentation. In case any special assistance is required the participants may request the Coordinator of the host university for the same at least three days before the Convention starts.

- Total time allowed for oral/podium presentation is 10 minutes. **Seven Minutes** for presentation and **Three Minutes** for question-answer.
- The host University will provide accommodation, Breakfast, working lunch and dinner to the participants and their team members (**not more than three**) **free of cost**.
- Certification of Participation and mementoes with endorsement of both AIU and Host University will be issued to all the participants.
- Unless extraordinary circumstance so warrants the results of the competitions will be declared in the last day of the Convention preferably in the valediction.
- Winning Projects will be invited for **National Student Research Conventions** as per the schedule decided by Association of Indian Universities.
- The decision of judges will be final and binding on all participants.
- In case of any dispute relating to selection and assessment of Projects the appellate authority is the Secretary General, AIU.

Award and Incentive

- Winners in the **National Student Research Convention** will be awarded Cash Prizes along with Certificates and Mementos. The amount of Cash Prize for **first position holder is Rs 50,000, second Position Rs. 25,000 and third position Rs 15,000, for each of the five categories/ areas.**
- One best project will be selected across all the five categories which will be awarded a **Gold Medal** along with the cash Prize and certificate.
- For each Zone two best projects will be selected and prize money will be given for each project.
