Organisers

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय
Ministry of Earth Sciences

Vibha विज्ञान भारती

Innovation. Atmanirbharta. India for Global Good

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL

19 - 22 DEC 2026

VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT





19 to 22
December 2026
Pune, Maharashtra

"I can foresee that India will march ahead phenomenally in this decade which is hailed as the techade for humanity"



Co-Organisers

Department of BioTechnology, Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

CSIR-INDIA
भारत का नवाचार इंजन
The Innovation Engine of India

Department of Science & Technology, Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

अंतरिक्ष विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
सत्यमेव जयते

परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग
DAE
ATOMS IN THE SERVICE OF THE NATION

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology

IISER PUNE

महाराष्ट्र शासन

Venue
Pune, Maharashtra

Coordinating Institute
Department of Biotechnology, Government of India

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
19 - 22 DEC 2026
VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Science Led Growth For A Self Reliant India

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

The mission of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2026 is to celebrate and advance the spirit of science led growth for a self reliant and prosperous India.

Rooted in the vision of "Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India for Global Good", IISF 2026 aims to bring together scientists, innovators, educators, students, industry leaders, science communicators and policymakers on one platform to promote collaboration, creativity and knowledge exchange.

Through exhibitions, conferences, workshops and outreach programmes, IISF 2026 seeks to:

1. **Scientific Excellence**
   Showcase India's scientific achievements and innovations contributing to sustainable development.
2. **Young Innovators**
   Inspire young minds to pursue careers in science, technology and innovation.
3. **Entrepreneurship**
   Encourage science based entrepreneurship and innovation driven economic growth.
4. **Tradition And Research**
   Strengthen the connection between traditional knowledge systems and modern research.
5. **Global Partnerships**
   Foster global partnerships for addressing shared challenges through science and technology.

"Vigyan Se Samruddhi: for Aatmanirbhar Bharat" embodies the belief that true prosperity arises from the application of scientific knowledge, transforming ideas into innovations, discoveries into development, and science into societal well being.

Venue

Pune, Maharashtra



Renowned for its glorious cultural heritage and distinguished intellectual legacy, Pune takes pride in hosting IISF 2026. A prominent centre of education, research and innovation, the city brings together academic excellence, scientific advancement and technological progress. Its vibrant intellectual ecosystem, anchored by leading educational and research institutions, has fostered significant growth in emerging technologies, healthcare, information technology and the automobile sector.

Beyond its scientific and industrial strengths, Pune is distinguished by its historical landmarks, rich cultural traditions and warm hospitality. The city's unique blend of heritage and modernity, complemented by its pleasant climate, makes it an inspiring destination for IISF 2026 – a celebration of science, innovation and the sharing of knowledge with the wider community.

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
19 - 22 DEC 2026
VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

24 Programmes Across Science, Technology, Innovation And Education

1 
Science–Technology–Defence–Space Exhibition – IISF 2026 Expo
19 to 22 Dec · NCL Cricket Ground

2 
Student–Scientist Interaction Program
19 to 22 Dec · NCL Football Ground

3 
Science Diplomacy Conclave And Industry Meet
20 Dec · External hotel

4 
Rivers Of The Country – Focus On The Western Ghats
19 Dec · IISER LHC Classroom 103

5 
Energy Transition
20 to 22 Dec · IISER LHC Classroom 103

6 
International Olympiad Student Meet
20 Dec · IISER LHC Classroom 101

7 
Innovation, Technology And Entrepreneurship
21 to 22 Dec · IISER Frisbee Ground

8 
Waste To Wealth
21 to 22 Dec · IISER LHC Classroom 101

9 
Shiv Durg Competition And Laser Show
21 to 22 Dec · NCL Open Amphitheatre

10 
Global Summit On Biomanufacturing
21 Dec · NCCS Gargi Auditorium

11 
Students S&T Village – The New Nalanda
19 to 22 Dec · NCL Colony Football Ground

12 
Nari Shakti
20 to 21 Dec · NCL Second-floor Lecture Hall

13 
Ideas For Viksit Bharat – S&T Hackathon
19 to 21 Dec · COEP

14 
Empowering The Youth – Young Scientists Conclave
19 to 22 Dec · NCL Main Auditorium A2

15 
Thought Leaders Round Table
19 Dec · IISER Frisbee Ground

16 
Vision Sansad – Science Institutional Leaders Meet
20 Dec · IISER Frisbee Ground

17 
Educators And Teachers Workshop – The Gurukula
19 to 22 Dec · IISER C.V. Raman Auditorium A1

18 
New Age Technologies – Reimagining Bharat
20 Dec · NCCS Gargi Auditorium

19 
Global S&T Alliance – Science Beyond Borders
22 Dec · NCCS Gargi Auditorium

20 
Vigyanika – Science Literature Festival
20 to 21 Dec · NCL Biochemical A-4

21 
S&T Media And Communicators Conclave
20 to 21 Dec · NCL SSB A-5

22 
National Social Organisations And Institutions Meet – NSOIM
19 to 22 Dec · IITM Meghdoot A3

23 
Science Through Games And Adventures – Science Safari
19 to 22 Dec · IISER Balan Building

24 
Outreach And Curtain Raisers
To be finalised

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
19 - 22 DEC 2026
VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Four Days At A Glance

19 December 2026 Saturday

08:30 to 10:00	**Registration**
10:00 to 12:00	**Inauguration and Prize Distribution**
12:00 to 13:00	**Popular Talk by Nobel Laureate Professor Tim Hunt**
12:30 to 13:30	**Ribbon Cutting of the Exhibition and S&T Village by Hon. Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, and VVIP Visit**
13:30 to 14:30	Lunch
14:30 to 18:00	Parallel sessions
18:00 to 18:30	Tea

Sessions Running

- 1 IISF 2026 Expo
- 2 Student–Scientist Interaction
- 4 Rivers of the Country
- 11 Students S&T Village
- 13 S&T Hackathon
- 14 Young Scientists Conclave
- 15 Thought Leaders Round Table
- 17 The Gurukula
- 22 NSOIM
- 23 Science Safari
- + Clinicians Academia Interaction Conclave

20 December 2026 Sunday

10:00 to 11:30	Parallel sessions
11:30 to 12:00	Tea
12:00 to 13:30	Parallel sessions
13:30 to 14:30	Lunch
14:30 to 16:00	Parallel sessions
16:00 to 16:30	Tea
16:30 to 18:00	Parallel sessions

Sessions Running

- 1 IISF 2026 Expo
- 2 Student–Scientist Interaction
- 3 Science Diplomacy and Industry Meet
- 5 Energy Transition
- 6 Olympiad Student Meet
- 11 Students S&T Village
- 12 Nari Shakti
- 13 S&T Hackathon
- 14 Young Scientists Conclave
- 16 Vision Sansad
- 17 The Gurukula
- 18 New Age Technologies
- 20 Vigyanika
- 21 Media Conclave
- 22 NSOIM
- 23 Science Safari

21 December 2026 Monday

10:00 to 11:30	Parallel sessions
11:30 to 12:00	Tea
12:00 to 13:30	Parallel sessions
13:30 to 14:30	Lunch
14:30 to 16:00	Parallel sessions
16:00 to 16:30	Tea
16:30 to 18:00	Parallel sessions

Sessions Running

- 1 IISF 2026 Expo
- 2 Student–Scientist Interaction
- 5 Energy Transition
- 7 Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship
- 8 Waste to Wealth
- 9 Shiv Durg and Laser Show
- 10 Summit on Biomanufacturing
- 11 Students S&T Village
- 12 Nari Shakti
- 13 S&T Hackathon
- 14 Young Scientists Conclave
- 17 The Gurukula
- 20 Vigyanika
- 21 Media Conclave
- 22 NSOIM
- 23 Science Safari

22 December 2026 Tuesday

10:00 to 11:30	Parallel sessions
11:30 to 12:00	Tea
12:00 to 13:30	Parallel sessions
13:30 to 14:30	Lunch
14:30 to 16:00	Parallel sessions
16:00 to 16:30	Tea
16:30 to 18:00	**Closing and Valedictory Ceremony, NCL Football Ground**

Sessions Running

- 1 IISF 2026 Expo
- 2 Student–Scientist Interaction
- 5 Energy Transition
- 7 Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship
- 8 Waste to Wealth
- 9 Shiv Durg and Laser Show
- 11 Students S&T Village
- 14 Young Scientists Conclave
- 17 The Gurukula
- 19 Global S&T Alliance
- 22 NSOIM
- 23 Science Safari

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
19 - 22 DEC 2026
VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Programme By Date And Venue

	19 Dec Saturday	20 Dec Sunday	21 Dec Monday	22 Dec Tuesday
NCL Cricket Ground / Exhibition Ground	1 IISF 2026 Expo			
NCL Football Ground	2 Student–Scientist Interaction			
NCL Colony Football Ground	11 Students S&T Village			
NCL Main Auditorium A2	14 Young Scientists Conclave			
NCL Second-floor Lecture Hall		12 Nari Shakti		
NCL Biochemical A-4		20 Vigyanika		
NCL SSB A-5		21 Media Conclave		
NCL Open Amphitheatre			9 Shiv Durg and Laser Show	
IISER LHC Classroom 103	4 Rivers of the Country	5 Energy Transition		
IISER LHC Classroom 101		6 Olympiad Student Meet	8 Waste to Wealth	
IISER Frisbee Ground	15 Thought Leaders Round Table	16 Vision Sansad	7 Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship	
IISER C.V. Raman Auditorium A1	17 The Gurukula			
IISER Balan Building	23 Science Safari			
NCCS Gargi Auditorium	+ Clinicians Academia Conclave	18 New Age Technologies	10 Summit on Biomanufacturing	19 Global S&T Alliance
COEP COEP	13 S&T Hackathon			
IITM Meghdoot A3	22 NSOIM			
Off campus External hotel		3 Science Diplomacy and Industry Meet		

Ceremonies At NCL Football Ground: Inauguration and Prize Distribution, 19 December, 10:00 to 12:00. Closing and Valedictory Ceremony, 22 December, 16:30 to 18:00. Numbers refer to the thematic events on the pages that follow.



INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
19 - 22 DEC 2026
VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Science Technology Defence Space Exhibition

IISF 2026 Expo

The India International Science Festival (IISF) 2026 will host a grand Science Technology Defence Space Exhibition, showcasing India's pathbreaking achievements, innovations and success stories across diverse sectors. The Expo highlights national progress in science, technology, space research, defence and innovation while fostering scientific temperament, hands-on learning and societal awareness among citizens.

Leading scientific institutions, R&D organisations, PSUs, universities, start-ups, entrepreneurs and grassroots innovators will present cutting-edge technologies and research on the exhibition ground. Exhibits include Science on a Sphere, a modular reactor (DAE), smart agriculture, brain mapping (NBRC), smart manufacturing and automotive, biomanufacturing and integrated medicine. ISRO will present a space exhibition and, subject to space at the venue, the Space on Wheels mobile exhibition bus.

Highlights

- Showcasing India's achievements in science and technology
- ISRO space exhibition and Space on Wheels
- Talks by women scientists on space science and technology
- DAE exhibition and lectures
- Flagship national missions and programmes
- Interactive forum for scientists, artists and innovators
- Fostering industrial collaboration and growth

Expected Participants

Open to all. Ministries and departments, research councils, PSUs, industries, grassroots innovators, start-ups, educational institutions and universities will exhibit; students, families, researchers and the public are welcome on all four days.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
NCL Cricket Ground / Exhibition Ground

Participation
Open to all

Organised By
VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Student Scientist Interaction Program

Face To Face With New Frontiers In S&T

The Student Scientist Interaction Program aims to inspire and empower India's youth to become future leaders in science and technology. Connecting students with eminent scientists and innovators, the event explores transformative fields like AI, robotics, renewable energy, medicine, nanotechnology and environmental science, fostering mentorship and curiosity for a sustainable and innovative future.

The programme includes cross-talk with global students, Nobel laureates and regional scientific leaders.

Face-To-Face Dialogue Topics

- Himalayas in a Changing Climate
- Blue Economy
- Clean Energy
- Startup Journeys
- Circular Economy
- Nari Shakti
- AI and AGI
- Bio Economy
- New Space Technology
- Quantum Technology
- Gene Editing
- Emerging Telecommunications
- Semiconductor Technologies
- UAVs

Expected Participants

Students, scientists, entrepreneurs and innovators.

Expected Outcomes

The program will spark curiosity and passion for science among students, offering exposure to diverse careers and real-world innovations. Through interactions with scientists, students will gain inspiration, critical thinking skills and motivation to contribute to India's progress, emerging as ambassadors of scientific inquiry in their communities.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
NCL Football Ground

Participation
1,000 participants

Organised By
CSIR-NCL, BRIC-NCCS and VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-NCL, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Science Diplomacy Conclave And Industry Meet

The Science Diplomacy Conclave and Industry Meet is part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by DBT at an off-campus venue in Pune. The Conclave runs from 10:30 to 11:30 and the Industry Meet from 12:00 to 13:00 on 20 December. Full programme details will be announced soon.

Expected Participants

100 participants.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
20 December 2026
Conclave 10:30 to 11:30
Industry Meet 12:00 to 13:00

Venue
External hotel

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
DBT

Coordinating Organisations
DBT, DBT-BIRAC, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Rivers Of The Country

Focus On The Western Ghats

Rivers of the Country: Focus on the Western Ghats is part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by VIBHA at IISER Pune. Full programme details will be announced soon.

Expected Participants

150 participants.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
19 December 2026, 14:30 to 18:00

Venue
IISER LHC Classroom 103

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



05

Energy Transition

Towards A Resilient And Sustainable Energy Future

Energy Transition is envisioned as a dynamic platform to educate, engage and inspire dialogue on the transformative potential of clean energy technologies in India's journey toward energy independence, sustainability and climate resilience. It brings together diverse stakeholders to explore innovations across renewables, nuclear, hydrogen, bioenergy, energy storage and smart grids.

The conclave will showcase cutting-edge research, scalable solutions and emerging business opportunities. By addressing public perceptions, policy frameworks and technological advancements, it aims to foster trust, collaboration and actionable strategies for accelerating clean energy adoption.

At A Glance

Dates
20 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IISER LHC Classroom 103

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
CSIR-NCL, CSIR-CECRI and CSIR-IIP

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-NCL, CSIR-CECRI, CSIR-IIP, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune

Key Focus Areas

- Solar and wind energy
- Green hydrogen
- Nuclear energy
- Bioenergy and waste-to-energy
- Energy storage and smart grids
- Clean energy for agriculture and industry
- Policy, finance and public engagement

Event Highlights

- Interactive sessions
- Keynotes by eminent experts
- Tech talks
- Expert panel discussions

Expected Participants

Graduate, post-graduate and Ph.D. students and faculty in science and engineering, from disciplines including physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, geology, environmental science and all branches of engineering.

Expected Outcomes

Enhanced public understanding of clean energy, stronger cross-sector partnerships, accelerated progress toward India's net-zero and energy security goals, and empowered communities and youth leading the transition.



International Olympiad Student Meet

The Science, Maths and Earth Science International Olympiad Students Meet at IISF 2026 brings together India's top young minds to celebrate achievement and inspire future innovation. It supports the IISF 2026 theme "Vigyan Se Samruddhi: for Aatmanirbhar Bharat", highlighting the role of Olympiad scholars, Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan winners and national awardees in advancing India's scientific mission and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Participants engage in interactive workshops, research-based competitions, expert mentorship, problem-solving debates, collaborative projects and satellite live-tracking demos, fostering deep understanding and enthusiasm for STEM disciplines.

Highlights

- Inaugural address by eminent scientists and science policy leaders
- Interaction with scientists
- Problem-solving debates, STEM quizzes and hands-on workshops
- ISS and satellite live-tracking demos
- Networking and mentorship corners

Expected Outcomes

- Improved STEM problem-solving and critical thinking
- Deeper understanding of mathematics and earth science
- Exposure to interdisciplinary research
- Stronger collaboration and peer learning

Expected Participants

National and zonal winners and participants in the Science, Mathematics and Earth Science Olympiads (VVM, NSO, IMO, IESO, IAAC); winners of SPC and the National Children's Science Congress from GCC countries; and school students (grades 8–12) interested in competitive STEM platforms.

At A Glance

Dates
20 December 2026, 10:00 to 18:00

Venue
IISER LHC Classroom 101

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
MoES

Coordinating Organisations
MoES, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Innovation, Technology And Entrepreneurship

Mission Start-Up

Mission Start-up at IISF 2026 is a dynamic platform designed to spotlight the spirit of entrepreneurship and the transformative journeys of India's emerging and deep-tech startups. It brings together entrepreneurs, investors, mentors, industry leaders and ecosystem enablers to share experiences, forge partnerships and accelerate innovation.

Through a curated blend of interactive sessions, pitch opportunities, mentorship programmes and showcases, the event will illuminate the challenges, breakthroughs and milestones that define the startup landscape, nurturing an environment where ideas flourish, collaborations thrive and ventures scale.

Event Highlights

- Workshops and masterclasses
- Startup pitch sessions
- Networking with mentors and industry leaders
- Fireside chats and showcases
- Case studies and best practices
- Investor roundtables

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced visibility for emerging startups
- Strategic partnerships with investors and industry
- Access to funding and mentorship
- A stronger startup ecosystem

Expected Participants

Entrepreneurs, startup founders, investors, industry experts, mentors, incubators, accelerators and startup enthusiasts.

At A Glance

Dates
21 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IISER Frisbee Ground

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
DBT-BIRAC, NITI Aayog-Atal Innovation Mission and DST

Coordinating Organisations
NITI Aayog-AIM, DBT-BIRAC, DST, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Waste To Wealth

Recycle, Reuse, Reduce

Waste to Wealth demonstrates how science, technology and innovation drive sustainable waste management, adopting traditional Bhartiya practices of resource management and recycling. Anchored in the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle, the event promotes circular economy practices that close the loop on resource use, minimise environmental impact and unlock new avenues for economic growth.

It showcases technologies, startup solutions and community-led models, including rare-earth extraction and pathways to Net Zero. Nothing is waste; everything is a resource. The programme contrasts the 3Rs with use-and-throw habits and shows how to develop a zero-waste lifestyle in line with the Prime Minister's Mission LiFE.

Event Highlights

- Circular economy showcase
- Solid waste and plastic recycling
- E-waste management solutions
- Sustainable packaging
- Industrial by-product utilisation
- Renewable energy from waste
- Start-up and grassroots innovations
- Youth and community engagement

Expected Participants

Scientists, researchers, start-ups, innovators, policymakers, industry leaders, educators, students, NGOs and media engaged in sustainable waste and circular economy initiatives.

Expected Outcomes

Inspire sustainable practices, spark innovation in recycling and reuse, empower youth and entrepreneurs, foster collaborations, and transform waste challenges into economic and environmental opportunities.

At A Glance

Dates
21 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IISER LHC Classroom 101

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
CSIR-CLRI and MoES

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-CLRI, MoES, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Shiv Durg Competition And Laser Show

The Shiv Durg Competition and Laser Show is part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by VIBHA at the NCL Open Amphitheatre. Full programme details will be announced soon.

Expected Participants

100 participants.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
21 to 22 December 2026

Venue
NCL Open Amphitheatre

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Global Summit On Biomanufacturing

From Vaccines To Beyond: Make In India, Make For The World

The Global Summit on Biomanufacturing is part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by DBT-BIRAC, BRIC-NCCS and BRIC-THSTI at the NCCS Gargi Auditorium. Full programme details will be announced soon.

Clinicians Academia Interaction Conclave

Held on 19 December 2026, 14:30 to 16:00, at the NCCS Gargi Auditorium. Coordinated by BRIC-NCCS.

Expected Participants

150 participants.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
21 December 2026, 10:00 to 18:00

Venue
NCCS Gargi Auditorium

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
DBT-BIRAC, BRIC-NCCS and BRIC-THSTI

Coordinating Organisations
DBT-BIRAC, DBT, BRIC-NCCS, BRIC-THSTI, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Students S&T Village

The New Nalanda

Students Science & Technology Village – The New Nalanda (SSTV) is a flagship initiative of IISF designed to immerse students in the excitement of scientific exploration and innovation. It aims to foster a scientific temper, creativity and critical thinking, while inspiring students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. As a four-day residential programme, SSTV welcomes participants from across the nation.

The Village features scientist interaction, hands-on experiments, telescope making, live demonstrations and thematic workshops that make learning science both fun and meaningful.

Highlights

- Connect with India's leading scientists and innovators
- Interactive, hands-on learning experiences
- Scientific temperament and critical thinking
- Pathways into careers in STEM
- Teamwork, leadership and interpersonal skills
- Future leaders in science and public policy

Expected Outcomes

- Explore the frontiers of science and technology
- Align ambitions with fields of national importance
- Open doors to innovation and research
- Build pride and purpose toward a self-reliant India

Expected Participants

School students from across India.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
NCL Colony Football Ground

Participation
1,500 to 2,000 participants

Organised By
INSA and CSIR-IMMT

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-IMMT, INSA, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Nari Shakti

Women's Development To Women-Led Development In S&T

Nari Shakti at IISF 2026 envisions a transformative shift from women as participants in science and technology programmes to leaders driving innovation, research and entrepreneurship in STEM, addressing gender gaps and empowering women to shape policies and practices in science, technology and innovation.

The programme features leadership summits, CEO interactions, a Women Innovators Conclave, mentorship initiatives and professional networking. It will highlight success stories, cultivate future women leaders in STEM and strengthen networks for sustained impact in India's scientific ecosystem.

Highlights

- Leadership Summit
- Meet the CEOs
- Women Innovators Conclave
- Networking opportunities
- Work-life balance sessions
- Panel discussions

Expected Participants

Women professionals, researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs in STEM; policymakers; academic leaders; mentors; and students aspiring to careers in science, technology and innovation.

Expected Outcomes

Nari Shakti at IISF 2026 will empower women to become leaders in STEM, promoting gender equity, mentorship and leadership opportunities and inspiring them to shape India's scientific and entrepreneurial future.

At A Glance

Dates
20 to 21 December 2026

Venue
NCL Second-floor Lecture Hall

Participation
120 participants

Organised By
BRIC-RGCB, DST and VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-RGCB, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Ideas For Viksit Bharat

S&T Hackathon

The Ideas for Viksit Bharat S&T Hackathon at IISF 2026 is designed to inspire and engage students to develop innovative, practical solutions to pressing scientific and technological challenges, in alignment with the vision of Viksit Bharat Sankalp. Problem statements are curated by Government of India departments.

Each participating institution may nominate one team of three students and a guide, with candidates screened at the state level. A total of 200 finalists will compete in the national finals. The top 10 teams will be awarded, and final ideas will be forwarded to the respective departments for potential implementation, internships or project opportunities.

Highlights

- Problem statements from government ministries
- State-level screening of teams
- 200 national finalists
- Top 10 winners awarded
- Implementation and internship opportunities
- Hands-on innovation and collaboration

Expected Participants

Students from across India, with teams comprising 3 students and 1 guide per institution.

Expected Outcomes

The S&T Hackathon will spark creativity and innovation among youth, fostering technology-driven solutions for Viksit Bharat and connecting participants with government departments for implementation, internships and research opportunities.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 21 December 2026

Venue
COEP

Participation
200 participants

Organised By
NITI Aayog-Atal Innovation Mission

Coordinating Organisations
NITI Aayog-AIM, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Empowering The Youth

Young Scientists Conclave

Empowering the Youth – Young Scientists Conclave (YSC) is a premier national platform dedicated to nurturing the next generation of scientific leadership. It brings together high-achieving postgraduates, research scholars, postdocs, entrepreneurs and academicians under the age of 45 to share accomplishments, exchange ideas and explore frontier research across scientific domains.

The Conclave aligns this intellectual capital with the national vision and the IISF 2026 theme, charting the country's research roadmap towards Viksit Bharat 2047.

Themes

- Science for a Circular Economy
- Resilience and Adaptation: Climate-Smart Living
- From Farm to Future: Precision Agriculture
- Convergence of Sciences: Translational Research
- Digital Sovereignty: AI, Data and Cybersecurity
- Indigenous Manufacturing and Deep-Tech
- Socio-Scientific Interface: Lab to Community
- Integrated Healthcare and Indigenous Therapies
- Bio-resources and Health Autonomy

Expected Participants

Students, doctoral and post-doctoral researchers, scientists, faculty members, professionals, innovators and entrepreneurs.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
NCL Main Auditorium A2

Participation
400 participants

Organised By
RCB and India Alliance

Coordinating Organisations
RCB, India Alliance, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Thought Leaders Round Table

Minister Secretary Councils CEO Conclave

The Thought Leaders Round Table at IISF 2026 will convene Central and State Government Ministers, departmental secretaries, S&T council members and CEOs from leading industries to deliberate on critical issues, share insights and establish collaborations that influence both public and private sectors.

The sessions focus on leveraging science and technology to meet India's developmental goals for 2047, with special attention to bridging gaps between government policies and business needs. By facilitating dialogue between policymakers, business leaders and technology experts, the event aims to identify solutions to economic, regulatory and societal challenges and accelerate India's journey toward becoming a global industrial and technological powerhouse.

Highlights

- Policy and industry alignment
- Strategic partnerships
- Innovation and technology
- Regulatory reforms
- Economic development

Expected Participants

- State ministers
- Central ministers
- Departmental secretaries

At A Glance

Dates
19 December 2026, 16:30 to 18:00

Venue
IISER Frisbee Ground

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
DBT-BIRAC and DBT

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Vision Sansad

Science Institutional Leaders Meet

Vision Sansad provides a rare, concerted platform for leaders from India's scientific institutions to come together and chart the future of research, education and innovation. The event features plenary sessions, panel discussions on R&D priorities and policy challenges, strategy workshops, networking forums and innovation showcases.

By facilitating these focused interactions, Vision Sansad aims to strengthen institutional partnerships, promote inclusive growth and create actionable strategies for advancing science and technology across the country.

Highlights

- Science policy and innovation dialogue
- Addressing R&D and education challenges
- Sharing best practices
- Strengthening collaborations
- Advancing inclusive growth

Expected Participants

- Leaders from NITI Aayog and S&T departments
- Science and Engineering Academies of India
- Officials from UGC, AICTE and other agencies
- Directors from R&D institutions, IITs, IISERs and NITs
- Heads of Central, State and Deemed Universities
- Selected industry and private institutions

At A Glance

Dates
20 December 2026, 10:00 to 18:00

Venue
IISER Frisbee Ground

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
DST

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



The Gurukula

Aspiring Educators And Teachers Workshop

The Aspiring Science Educators and Teachers Workshop – The Gurukula at IISF 2026 is a dedicated platform for the professional development of science teachers and educators, from Class VII to MSc level. It features interactive sessions, hands-on activities, training in innovative teaching methodologies, modern digital tools and classroom strategies.

Participants engage in peer discussions, demonstration lessons and collaborative projects to build a comprehensive toolkit for effective teaching, inspiring educators to cultivate scientific curiosity, creativity and critical thinking among students.

Highlights

- Innovative teaching methods and hands-on training
- Modern digital tools and classroom strategies
- Peer discussions and collaborative projects
- Demonstration lessons and practical activities
- Toolkit for inspiring science education

Expected Participants

Science teachers and educators, along with education experts and mentors.

Expected Outcomes

The Gurukula will equip science educators with innovative teaching methods, digital tools and experiential strategies to create engaging, concept-driven classrooms, and build a network of motivated teachers supporting the vision of Viksit Bharat.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IISER C.V. Raman Auditorium A1

Participation
300 participants

Organised By
VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL
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VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

New Age Technologies

Transformation Through New Age Technologies: Reimagining Bharat

The New Age Technologies segment at IISF 2026 is a visionary platform to showcase the cutting-edge advancements shaping the future of science, industry and society. It brings together thought leaders, researchers, entrepreneurs and students to explore transformative technologies that are redefining how we live, work and interact with the world.

From artificial intelligence to quantum breakthroughs, the event spotlights emerging domains that hold the key to solving global challenges, driving economic growth and positioning India as a leader in technological innovation.

At A Glance

Dates
20 December 2026, 10:00 to 18:00

Venue
NCCS Gargi Auditorium

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
DST

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune

Topics Covered

- AI and Artificial General Intelligence
- Bio Economy
- New Space Technology
- Quantum Technology
- Gene Editing
- Emerging Telecommunications
- Semiconductor Technologies
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)

Highlights

- Interactive demos by startups and government
- B2B lounges for industry engagement
- Sector showcases
- Networking with leaders and investors

Expected Participants

Startups, innovators, entrepreneurs, government officials, industry leaders, investors, academia and researchers from technology-driven sectors.

Expected Outcomes

The segment will drive industry–academia collaborations, boost technology commercialisation and promote indigenous innovations for Viksit Bharat 2047.



Global S&T Alliance

Science Beyond Borders

Global S&T Alliance: Science Beyond Borders is part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by DST at the NCCS Gargi Auditorium. Full programme details will be announced soon.

Expected Participants

150 participants.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
22 December 2026, 10:00 to 16:00

Venue
NCCS Gargi Auditorium

Participation
150 participants

Organised By
DST

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Vigyanika

Science Literature Festival

Vigyanika 2026 is envisioned as a vibrant celebration of the fusion of science and literature, highlighting how scientific ideas and discoveries are expressed, interpreted and shared through diverse literary and artistic forms. The event will promote science literacy, spark creativity in storytelling and inspire dialogues on how traditional wisdom and contemporary science together shape our vision of an Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

It will also explore the future of science communication through new media, digital platforms and creative narratives that connect with people in their native languages, and includes a book exhibition.

At A Glance

Dates
20 to 21 December 2026

Venue
NCL Biochemical A-4

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
CSIR-NIScPR

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-NIScPR, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune

Highlights

- Scientific writing and storytelling
- Science and fiction dialogues
- Communication in Indian languages
- Science drama, arts and competitions
- Science and social media
- AI and digital storytelling
- Citizen science and climate communication
- Honouring scientists who shaped India's journey

Expected Participants

Scientists, researchers, science communicators, authors, educators, students, policymakers, artists, literature enthusiasts and the general public.

Expected Outcomes

Vigyanika 2026 will inspire creative science communication, encourage multilingual storytelling, nurture young science communicators and foster a culture where scientific ideas are accessible and rooted in India's knowledge traditions.



Science & Technology Media And Communicators Conclave

The Media Conclave at IISF 2026 offers a dynamic platform for media professionals, journalists, science communicators and content creators to engage with the latest developments in science, technology and innovation. It features interactive workshops, panel discussions, plenary sessions and hands-on storytelling exercises on communicating complex scientific ideas to diverse audiences.

Special sessions address miscommunication, misinformation and public perception of science, while participants interact with leading scientists, policymakers and educators, strengthening India's journey toward a scientifically informed society.

Highlights

- Interactive workshops and storytelling
- Panels on effective science communication
- Addressing misinformation and media ethics
- Networking with scientists and policymakers
- Strategies for public engagement
- Responsible and engaging science reporting

Expected Participants

Media professionals, journalists, science communicators, editors, content creators, media students and researchers involved in science communication.

Expected Outcomes

The Conclave will enhance the capacity of journalists and communicators to convey complex science accurately and engagingly, foster responsible reporting and bridge the gap between scientists and the public.

At A Glance

Dates
20 to 21 December 2026

Venue
NCL SSB A-5

Participation
100 participants

Organised By
CSIR-NIScPR

Coordinating Organisations
CSIR-NIScPR, DAE, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



National Social Organisations And Institutions Meet

NSOIM

The National Social Organisations and Institutions Meet (NSOIM) at IISF 2026 is a vibrant platform fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among stakeholders committed to societal development. It brings together social organisations, research institutions, policymakers, industry leaders and innovators to share insights, best practices and success stories through presentations, workshops and live demonstrations.

By bridging the gap between scientific advancements and social applications, NSOIM highlights grassroots models that drive livelihood-centric development, promotes scalable innovations for underserved communities and facilitates the commercialisation of technologies for tangible societal impact.

Highlights

- Presentations by social organisations and researchers
- Live demos of impactful technologies
- Collaboration across industry, policy and social sectors
- Livelihood and grassroots development
- Innovation for underserved communities
- Commercialisation of social innovations

Expected Participants

Social organisations, NGOs, research institutions, policymakers, industry leaders, innovators, educators and community development practitioners.

Expected Outcomes

NSOIM will drive science-based solutions for social development, enhance research–social sector collaboration and foster impact on livelihoods, education and community well-being.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IITM Meghdoot A3

Participation
200 participants

Organised By
DST and NITI Aayog-Atal Innovation Mission

Coordinating Organisations
NITI Aayog-AIM, BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



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Science Safari

Science Through Games And Adventures

Science Safari at IISF 2026 is designed to engage students and teachers through interactive learning experiences that combine science, games and adventure. Hands-on workshops, live demonstrations and classroom integration techniques show how traditional and contemporary science-based toys and games can be powerful educational tools.

Students take part in problem-solving challenges, STEM games and adventure-based experiments, while teachers gain insights into activity-based learning. The event also provides a platform for traditional Bhartiya and STEM toy makers to display their work in an exhibition.

Highlights

- Interactive STEM games and adventure activities
- Hands-on workshops for students and teachers
- Exhibition of science kits and learning tools
- Problem-solving and practical STEM skills
- Teacher training for classroom integration
- Fostering curiosity, creativity and innovation

Expected Participants

Students, teachers, educators and STEM enthusiasts; school representatives, educational product developers, toy and kit manufacturers and STEM innovators.

Expected Outcomes

Science Safari will boost student curiosity and problem-solving through hands-on STEM activities, while equipping teachers with innovative tools to make science education more engaging and practical.

At A Glance

Dates
19 to 22 December 2026

Venue
IISER Balan Building

Participation
200 participants

Organised By
VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune



Outreach And Curtain Raisers

Institutional Level

Outreach and Curtain Raisers at the institutional level are part of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, organised by BRIC-NCCS and VIBHA. Full programme details will be announced soon.

IISF 2026 Theme

Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India For Global Good

At A Glance

Dates
To be finalised

Venue
To be finalised

Participation
To be finalised

Organised By
BRIC-NCCS and VIBHA

Coordinating Organisations
BRIC-NCCS, VIBHA

Convener
BRIC-NCCS, Pune

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Shri Devendra Fadnavis
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Prof. Rajeev Singh
Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, University of Delhi



Dr. Mithila Verma
Scientist E, MoES

About Organisers

Ministry Of Earth Sciences (MoES) – Coordinating Ministry

The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**, Government of India, serves as the coordinating ministry for IISF 2026. Mandated to advance research, monitoring and applications in meteorology, oceanography, seismology and climate sciences, MoES plays a pivotal role in shaping India's scientific policies and infrastructure. By fostering collaboration among national institutions, research bodies and industry partners, the ministry ensures the alignment of IISF objectives with India's broader scientific vision, promoting innovation, capacity building and societal impact across Earth and environmental sciences.

Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA)

Vijnana Bharati is India's premier voluntary organisation dedicated to promoting scientific temper, indigenous knowledge and public engagement in science. As a key partner for IISF 2026, VIBHA facilitates outreach, awareness campaigns and community participation across India. Through its extensive network of educators, students and science enthusiasts, Vijnana Bharati bridges formal science institutions with grassroots initiatives, promoting innovation, knowledge sharing and societal applications of science, while fostering national pride in India's scientific achievements and heritage.

DBT, CSIR, DST, ISRO, DAE – Collaborating Agencies

Leading national science and technology agencies, **DBT, CSIR, DST, ISRO and DAE**, play a crucial role in IISF 2026 as collaborating partners. These organisations bring expertise across biotechnology, multidisciplinary research, space technology, energy, atomic sciences and innovation ecosystems. By contributing exhibitions, workshops, demonstrations and research showcases, they facilitate knowledge dissemination and inspire young scientists. Their combined participation highlights India's strengths in cutting-edge technology, research infrastructure and policy-driven innovation, while enabling students, entrepreneurs and the public to engage with real-world scientific challenges across sectors of national and global significance.

About Event Venues

IISF 2026 runs across five of Pune's leading science and education campuses.

1. **CSIR National Chemical Laboratory (NCL)** Festival Hub
   Founded in 1950 as one of the first laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, CSIR-NCL is among India's foremost research institutions in chemistry, chemical engineering and materials science. Its Pashan campus is the main hub of IISF 2026, home to the Science Technology Defence Space Exhibition, the Students S&T Village and the Young Scientists Conclave.

2. **Indian Institute Of Science Education And Research (IISER), Pune** Conferences And Workshops
   Established in 2006, IISER Pune is an autonomous institute of national importance that combines cutting edge research with science education. Its lecture halls, C.V. Raman Auditorium and open grounds host the conclaves, workshops and leadership round tables.

3. **BRIC-National Centre For Cell Science (BRIC-NCCS), Pune** Convener, Summits And Alliances
   The convener of the IISF 2026 thematic programme, BRIC-NCCS is an institute of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council under DBT, on the Savitribai Phule Pune University campus. A national centre for research in cell biology, its Gargi Auditorium hosts a different summit each day.

4. **Indian Institute Of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune** Partner Campus
   An autonomous institute of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, IITM is India's national centre for research on the monsoon, weather and climate. Its Meghdoot venue hosts the National Social Organisations and Institutions Meet.

5. **COEP Technological University** S&T Hackathon
   Founded in 1854, the College of Engineering Pune is the third oldest engineering institute in India and became a unitary public technological university in 2022. Its heritage campus beside the Mula river in Shivajinagar hosts Ideas for Viksit Bharat, the S&T Hackathon.

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VIGYAN SE SAMRUDDHI: FOR AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Organisers

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय
Ministry of Earth Sciences

Department of BioTechnology, Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

vibha
विज्ञान भारती

सीएसआईआर
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The Innovation Engine of India

Department of Science & Technology, Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

अंतरिक्ष विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्र की सेवा में परमाणु
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भारतीय उष्णदेशीय मौसम विज्ञान संस्थान पुणे
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IISER PUNE

महाराष्ट्र शासन

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