

AICTE Launches Research Promotion Scheme 2025: Lab to Market to Accelerate Translational Research

New Delhi, 04 June 2025:

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched the restructured Research Promotion Scheme 2025: Lab to Market, aiming to transform India's research ecosystem by advancing ideas from laboratory prototypes to market-ready products. The scheme was formally launched by AICTE Chairman Prof. T.G. Sitharam, with Vice Chairman Dr. Abhay Jere and Member Secretary Prof. Rajive Kumar also present at the event.

The new scheme focuses on translational research with real-world impact in the emerging areas such as AI, quantum computing, rare earth materials, space technology, disability management etc. AICTE has earmarked a total fund of Rupees 60 crores, including a dedicated Rupees 10 crore allocation for polytechnic institutions. The selected faculty members from AICTE-approved institutions will receive up to Rupees 50 lakhs for projects having scope of Technology Readiness Level (TRL)-6 (lab testing) and TRL-7 (field testing).

Speaking at the launch, Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman of AICTE, said:

“Through this scheme, we aim to nurture a robust culture of innovation and product development in our institutions. From school-level initiatives to faculty-led research, we are building a pipeline of talent that can serve national priorities. Focused domains like rare earths, advanced materials, space and defense are crucial to India's future. This scheme will not only fund transformative ideas but also support patent filings through initiatives like the KAPILA scheme. The selected researchers will undergo bootcamp workshops.”

Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE, highlighted the holistic approach of the Council's recent initiatives:

“This scheme is designed to ensure research doesn't stop at the lab level. It must lead to real-world solutions. This complements our recently launched AICTE Research Internship Scheme for students. While that program engages students early in research, this one empowers faculty to lead high-impact projects. Together, they foster collaboration where students contribute as research assistants, supported with stipends, and faculty drive meaningful outcomes. This dual approach supports our national goal of becoming a knowledge-based economy and contributes to our vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.”

The scheme's online portal for proposal submission will open on June 9, 2025, and remain active until July 31, 2025. In addition to funding, AICTE will offer researchers access to its incubation centers, IDEA Labs, and IPR and technology transfer workshops, enabling smooth transitions from academic research to viable commercial solutions.

The research grant shall be for a period of 2 to 3 years in the following emerging areas:

- 1- Advanced Computing (Supercomputing and Quantum Computing)
- 2- Advanced Manufacturing

- 3- Advanced Materials, Rare-earth & Critical Minerals
- 4- Aggrotech & Food processing
- 5- Artificial Intelligence and Data Science
- 6- Blue/Green Economy
- 7- Cyber Physical Systems and Cyber Security
- 8- Design thinking and Innovation
- 9- Digital Twins
- 10- Disaster Management & Resilient Infrastructure
- 11- Energy, Sustainability & Climate Change
- 12- Health Care & Med Tech
- 13- Hydrogen Energy
- 14- Manufacturing & Industry 4.0
- 15- Next Gen Communications and signal processing
- 16- Semiconductors
- 17- Smart Cities
- 18- Smart Mobility
- 19- Space and Defense
- 20- Any other emerging technology area