

Press Note

Title: Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar, is set to organise Innovation Festival-2026 to foster an Innovation Ecosystem under the theme “Global Science for Global Wellbeing

Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with National Innovation Foundation-India, is organising Innovation Festival 2026 on the occasion of National Science Day to commemorate the historic discovery of the ‘Raman Effect’ by Sir C. V. Raman in 1928. The Innovation Festival 2026 is themed around “Global Science for Global Wellbeing,” and aims to celebrate grassroots ingenuity, promote startup culture, encourage scientific temperament, and strengthen the innovation ecosystem of Odisha through collaborative engagement between institutions, innovators, incubators, startups, students and the community at large.

The event is co-partnered with Startup Odisha and Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster Foundation (BCKIC), which will bring together more than 100 innovative projects from across Odisha, representing schools, universities, colleges, startups, incubation centres, institutions and independent grassroots innovators. The Festival has been structured into four major categories to ensure inclusive participation and structured recognition. The Individual Category is open to School Students from Classes VIII to XII, as well as University and College students from Engineering, Diploma, Science and other academic disciplines who will present working models, prototypes, research-driven concepts and socially relevant technological solutions. The Incubators Category will feature recognised startups and incubation centres showcasing scalable models, emerging technologies and entrepreneurial solutions. The Innovators Category is specially designed to highlight the grassroots innovators who have developed practical, community-based solutions addressing real-life challenges. The Institutional Category will provide a platform for educational and research institutions to present collaborative projects, technology transfers and innovation-driven initiatives.

The Festival will not only be an exhibition of ideas but a vibrant knowledge-sharing platform. A series of interactive sessions and workshops will be conducted on “How to Establish an Innovative Startup,” guidance on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), patent awareness, funding opportunities, mentorship support and market linkage strategies. Visitors of all age groups will have the opportunity to participate in science quiz competitions, innovation-based games, live demonstrations, hands-on learning modules and idea-pitching activities designed to foster curiosity and creativity. The event will also witness the presence of numerous distinguished awardees and eminent personalities who have received recognition at national and international levels for their contributions in science, technology, entrepreneurship and grassroots innovation. Their interaction with participants is expected to inspire and motivate young innovators to transform ideas into impactful ventures.

The inaugural ceremony will be graced by Shri Manas Ranjan Panda, Director, Software Technology Parks of India(STPI), Bhubaneswar, along with eminent entrepreneurs, industry leaders and academic representatives. A special award ceremony will recognise outstanding contributions across all four categories, celebrating excellence in innovation, social impact, sustainability and entrepreneurial potential. A dedicated Media Facilitation Booth will be

established for media houses, journalists and digital platforms to ensure seamless coverage. In addition, an open interactive booth will allow visitors, participants and media representatives to share their innovative ideas, entrepreneurial aspirations and startup concepts, creating a participatory and inclusive environment.

The student members of the Innovation Hub set up by the Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar, will receive a unique opportunity to engage in dialogue with experts, guests and mentors, thereby enriching their perspectives on emerging technologies, policy frameworks and global innovation trends. Innovation Festival 2026 is envisioned as a fostering platform for cultivating a Culture of Innovation, strengthening community engagement, and building a sustainable and collaborative innovation ecosystem across Odisha. We cordially invite the media houses to cover the event and amplify the stories of grassroots innovators and startups contributing towards global well-being.