

Background

The world's conventional resources are shrinking with every passing day. As a result, nations and societies across the globe are in a severe competition for finding new ways and means to support and sustain growth and development. In this competitive environment, innovation is seen as the engine for inclusive prosperity and sustainable growth for humanity as whole.

Innovation today is increasingly going beyond the confines of formal R&D to redefine almost every aspect of human lives. Today innovation goes beyond creation of new products and services to include unique applications of old technologies to provide locally appropriate, cost effective solutions for products and services that help improve overall quality of human life and environment.

In India, as we prepare to move from a resource-based economy to a knowledge-driven prosperous and sustainable society, there is an urgent need to promote and nurture the innovative potential of our youth and imbibe an innovation-centric mindset in our people. Realizing this, the President of India declared the present decade (2010-2020) as the 'decade of innovation' for promoting national competitiveness in the 21st century.

Innovation Hub at BITM

It is against the above background that the Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), the country's first science museum under the NCSM, is launching the new 'Innovation Hub' to provide a platform for our youth to engage in innovative and creative activities.

The underlying idea is to promote critical thinking and problem solving ability through hands-on activities and experiments.



Objectives

- To engage our youth in creative hobbies & activities in science
- To promote their critical thinking and practical problem-solving skills
- To support their innovative ideas to come to fruition
- To recognize, encourage and facilitate local innovations in S&T



Components of the Innovation Hub

Hall of Fame: Inventions and Inventors

Multimedia kiosks telling the stories of major inventors and their inventions in various fields.

Innovation Resource Centre

Broadband internet terminals providing online access to innovation-centric resources, e-journals, books and grass root innovation portals etc.

Innovation Laboratory

Facility for carrying out innovative activities, experiments and projects in a multi-disciplinary set up.

Tech Lab: Robotics & Microprocessor Programming Facility

Facility for creative and innovative projects in robotics and microprocessor programming for practical applications.

Activities at the Innovation Lab

Thod Phod Jod (Break & Remake)

Students learn to do things with their own hands.

Kabad Se Jugad (Build from Scraps)

Students make things from scrap and low-cost materials.

Idea Box

Students generate their own innovative ideas and create an idea bank. The best ideas are chosen for experimentation, model making and project work.

Make your own science models/kits

Students work on an innovative idea and make a working model or kit on it.

Real life problem identification & solution finding

Students identify or are given a real life problem of practical importance and work for a possible technical solution in the form of a product, implement or process.

Investigative projects

Students generate or are given mini research projects and work under the guidance of experts.



Innovation Hub Membership Form

Individual Institutional

Name of the Member & Institution _____

Residential Address _____

Class (for individual members) _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Preferred days _____

Preferred session _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Note: Please tear off this form and submit to the
BITM Reception

For assistance, please contact:
Dr. Rakesh Mazumder, Curator (8884731248)

Necessary membership fee will have to be paid after
the membership application is accepted by BITM.
Fee is non- refundable

Presentation of work

Students will be required to document their daily works and at the completion of each work or project session, present the work before their peers and mentors. Good works/projects will be posted at the institution's website as well as at the various Science Innovation Fairs organized by BITM.

Membership

Facilities of the Innovation Hub will be available on membership basis (for a minimum period of one year) to school and college students as per details given below.

Individual Membership

School students of classes III to XII (Rs. 3,000 yearly).
College students from science & engineering streams (Rs. 4,000 yearly).

Note: Fee waiver is available for deserving students from underprivileged sections on merit basis.

Institutional Membership

Schools/Colleges can become institutional members by paying annual membership fee of Rs.30,000(for schools) and Rs.30,000(for colleges). However, batch size per session at the Innovation Hub will be restricted to 15 heads and 10 heads for schools and colleges respectively.



Membership Benefits

- Access to Innovation Hub facilities throughout the year
- Access to BITM library for reference study
- Free entry to museum galleries
- Invitation to special educational programs and Popular Science Lectures at BITM

Working Hours

Individual Members (Any one session per week)

Saturdays & Sundays (except National Holidays)

Morning Session: 10:30 am – 01:30 pm

Afternoon Session: 02:00 pm – 05:00 pm

Institutional Members (on prior booking only)

Monday to Friday (except National Holidays)

Morning Session: 10:30 am – 01:30 pm

Afternoon Session: 02:00 pm – 05:00 pm



Birla Industrial & Technological Museum

(A unit of NCSM)

National Council of Science Museums

Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India

19A, Gurusaday Road, Kolkata- 700 019

email : bitminnovationhub@gmail.com

Website : www.bitm.gov.in

For assistance, please contact:
Dr. Rakesh Mazumder, Curator (8884731248)

Innovation Hub

A place for doing things differently



Birla Industrial & Technological Museum