



Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi

Shodhotsav 2025

Research and Development Division

National Inter-University Research Ideation Fest

Urban Futures: Ideating for Viksit Delhi@2047

09 & 15 September 2025

Overview:

Cities have long been envisioned as engines of economic development, concentrating capital, labour, and markets to fuel growth and wealth creation. Delhi, as India's national capital and one of the globe's most rapidly expanding metropolitan regions, strikingly embodies this growth-centric urban vision. Its planned expansions, mega-infrastructure projects, and global city aspirations are often justified in terms of boosting economic productivity and attracting investment. This approach, which fundamentally views the city and its land as instruments for development, is deeply embedded in all of the urban planning of Delhi's past and present, giving systematic privilege to infrastructure and real estate based development over human-centric and ecological sustainability. As a result, prioritising infrastructure over people has led to the displacement of entire communities, eroding traditional livelihoods, deepening socioeconomic inequalities, and contributing to several environmental challenges. The path to Delhi@2047, envisioned as a world-class, equitable, and sustainable metropolis, necessitates a transformative shift; instead of solely leveraging the city and its land for economic expansion, future strategies must intrinsically weave in human-centric development and ecological regeneration to address past imbalances and create a truly inclusive and livable capital.

In this context, the 'Urban Futures: Ideating for Viksit Delhi' research ideation fest is a platform that provides an opportunity for undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD students across all disciplines to pitch and present their research/innovative ideas and actionable propositions in form of a research project, startup, design and product/patent. We seek concepts that directly address Delhi's pressing on-ground challenges or possess the demonstrable potential for significant commercial or social impact, thereby actively contributing to the realization of a 'Viksit Delhi@2047.'

Categories for Research Ideation:

- Research Project
- Startup
- Design
- Product/Patent

The themes for the research project, startup, design, or patent/product should be rooted in and directly relevant to Delhi, drawing upon its diverse historical, cultural, social, economic, and ecological contexts. They may include, but are not limited to:

- History and Heritage
- Society and Culture
- Economy and Livelihoods
- Finance and Management
- Urbanization and Infrastructure
- Smart Cities
- Environment and Ecology
- Agriculture and Rural-Urban Linkages
- Health and Well-being
- Governance and Public Policy
- Sports and City

Event Structure:

The event is proposed to be organized in the following format:

1. **Team Composition:** Students form inter and trans disciplinary teams, with a maximum of five members, including one faculty or mentor.
2. **Preliminary Pitching Round:** Teams will have **five minutes** to present their idea (three minutes for presentation, two for discussion). This can be done using a **five-slide PowerPoint** or a simple presentation format. A screening committee, comprising faculty from Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) or designated members, will evaluate these preliminary pitches.
3. **Final Round:** Teams successfully selected from the preliminary round will be required to submit a project proposal/product/prototype. For the final presentation, each longlisted team will be allotted **ten minutes** to defend their idea using a maximum of **seven slides**. An expert panel, consisting of an external expert and AUD faculty, will assess these presentations to determine the winner and the first and second runners-up.
4. **Proposal Submission:** Winners/Top shortlisted teams will be offered incubation and grant opportunities based on the development stage and innovative value of their ideas.

Participation and Registration Fee:

Students enrolled at UG, PG and PhD level across all disciplines (social sciences, humanities, sciences and engineering) are invited to register and submit their ideas. A registration fee of rupees 500/team will be charged from non-AUD students. There is no registration fee for AUD students.

Eligibility and Team Composition:

Teams can have a maximum of 5 members, including one faculty/mentor. Each team needs a Principal Ideator (PI) and others as co-ideators; faculty/mentor cannot be the PI. All participants must present a valid ID card for verification.

Mode of Organisation and Event Dates:

The event will be held in-person. Please note that the University will not cover travel or accommodation costs for participants.

Timeline:

Call for Ideas Opens	- 06 August
Submission Deadline	- 30 August
Acceptance Notification	- 31 August
Preliminary Pitching Round	- 09 September
Final Round	- 15 September

Register here: Link for Google Form: <https://forms.gle/PeJGFr7XDYxd49Gk9>

Link for Fee Payment: <https://eazypay.icicibank.com/eazypayLink?Pl=bh+fZgZS13CoGmtJpCmCyg==>

Instructions for Payment:

- 1.In enrollment section, fill 'Research Ideation Fest'
- 2.Choose the last drop down in the purpose section i.e. "Not applicable, fill remarks."
- 3.Do not use any special characters.

For any query, please contact us at shekhar@aud.ac.in