

Atal Innovation Mission, Objectives, Implementations, Achievements

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The Atal Innovation Mission led by the NITI Aayog was established in 2016 as an opportunity to improve the entrepreneurial and innovative culture of Indian administration. Atal Innovation Mission has been taken up as a multi-pronged strategy that targets problem solving, initiating inventive attitude and developing entrepreneurial ecosystem in universities, research institutes and MSME business. The goal is to create new programmes that would motivate innovation across educational institutes.

Atal Innovation Mission Overview

The Atal Innovation Mission is a program designed to promote innovation and entrepreneurship, recognizing their vital role in shaping a nation's economy. It drives the creation of employment, products, and innovative processes by fostering collaboration, vision, and passion. With India's large population, the government initiated this mission to nurture a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship nationwide.

Objectives of the Atal Innovation Mission

Atal Innovation Mission has the following Objectives:

- Encourage creativity as the foundation for strategic planning across various sectors.
- Facilitating collaboration by providing a platform for diverse stakeholders.
- Serving as a central body to oversee and integrate the nation's technological infrastructure.

Atal Innovation Mission Initiatives

The NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched several key initiatives to foster innovation and entrepreneurship:

Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL)

- Designed to spark creativity and innovation among young minds.
- Provides access to advanced technology for students who are 12 years and above.
- Focus is on teaching concepts of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) using modern tools and equipments.

Atal Incubation Centres (AIC)

- Actively supports innovative entrepreneurs to enhance accessibility, sustainability, and scalability.
- Aims to establish world-class startups and long-term businesses in 110 smart cities and the top five institutions in each state.
- Provides infrastructure, mentorship, and access to funding to help innovators thrive in their fields.

Atal Research and Innovation for Small Businesses (ARISE)

- Aims to enhance the performance of Indian startups and MSMEs by fostering research and technology-driven initiatives.
- Focuses on creating a steady pipeline of innovative products, with initial clients being Central Government Ministries/Departments.
- Spearheaded by ISRO and supported by four key departments:
 - Ministry of Food Processing Industries
 - Department of Housing and Urban Affairs
 - Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
 - Ministry of Defence
- Encourages startups to become scalable, sustainable, and stable.
- Strives to establish long-term businesses and world-class startups in 110 smart cities and top 5 universities in each state.
- Provides infrastructure, startup capital, and mentorship from industry experts to support innovators.

Atal Innovation Mission Achievements

Atal Innovation Mission has attained the following achievements:

- To strengthen the country's technology infrastructure, over 350 partnerships have been established.
- Atal Tinkering Labs now operate in nearly 5,000 locations across India, serving over 2.5 million students in 660 districts.
- More than 10,000 mentors have joined the initiative, with at least half possessing hands-on experience in ATIs and startups.
- The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), in collaboration with AIM, has introduced an Artificial Intelligence-based learning module for school students.
- AIM has also played a key role in founding Tutor India, one of the nation's largest training organisations.
- India's vast human resource potential can be effectively harnessed with the right tools, training, and focus on engineering and innovation. This paves the way for groundbreaking advancements in innovation promotion.
- By ensuring the optimal utilisation of its resources, AIM supports India in transforming into a global hub for technology and innovation.

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