**FAQs:**

**Q1. What is Student Start-up NIDHI?**

To provide funding support to student start-ups, the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India has launched a Rs 100 Crore programme called National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI). The programme NIDHI would help the start-ups with initial / ignition funding and hence would be called Start-up-NIDHI. The objectives of the programme are:

1. To take forward student innovations in IEDC / NewGen IEDC to commercialization stage,
2. To promote student start-ups,
3. To accelerate the journey of idea to prototype by providing initial funding assistance.

**Q2. How does The Student Start-up NIDHI work?**

The Student Start-up-NIDHI aims to support maximum 20 student start-ups in each year financially. The start-ups essentially have to be student start-ups of IEDC / NewGen IEDC. Each of the selected student start-ups will be given ignition grant/award of Rs 10.00 lakhs. The Student Start-up NIDHI would undertake the following activities:

1. National Level Competition to select student start-ups amongst NewGen IEDCs;
2. Shortlist maximum 20 best innovative start-up ideas with commercial viability;
3. Fund each start-up maximum up to Rs 10.00 lakhs;
4. Monitor and review their progress

**Q3. Who are the partners in The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

The programme Student Start-up NIDHI is supported by National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development (NSTEDB), Department of Science & Technology (DST), and implemented by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad.

**Q4. What are the eligibility criteria for participating in The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

1. Any project supported by IEDC / NewGen IEDC for its current students as well as alumni;
2. The projects have to be nominated by concerned IEDC / NewGen IEDC;
3. The student start-up should own the IP fully; the host institution should have transferred or foregone their rights on the IP;
4. No student would be a part of more than one team

**Q5. How can I participate in The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

To participate in The Student Start-up NIDHI, visit www.newgeniedc-edii.in and check further details under Announcements section.

**Q6. What is the funding support provided under The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

A National Level Competition would be announced amongst the IEDC/NewGen IEDC hosting institutions. IEDC / NewGen IEDCs would nominate their best team(s) for participation. The National Experts Advisory Committee on Entrepreneurship in Education (NEAC) would recommend maximum 20 student teams for award of 10.00 lakh to each of the winning teams. The host IEDC/NewGen IEDC of the winning team would also be awarded with a cash prize of Rs 2.00 lakhs.

 The funds would be disbursed to the student start-ups as under:
1. On selection – 70%;
2. On achievement of milestones/pre-defined deliverables - 30%.
The IEDC / NewGen IEDC coordinator would supervise the work of the student start-ups on day to day basis and would give the certificate of achievement of milestones with recommendation to release the balance 30%.

**Q7. Can I submit my application and business idea profile by email or post?**

The application and business idea profile can only be submitted online by visiting www.newgeniedc-edii.in

**Q8. Can I edit/modify the information after submitting the application form online?**

Once the application is submitted duly endorsed by IEDC/NewGen IEDC, it cannot be changed.

**Q9. What is the confidentiality of ideas shared by applicants in The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

EDII maintains confidentiality of ideas and the details are discussed only with jury to filter the most promising ideas. However, the applicants are advised to go for IP registration of their business ideas before participating in The Student Start-up NIDHI.

**Q10. What is the schedule of The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

Relevant information will be uploaded on [www.newgeniedc-edii.in](www.newgeniedc-edii.in) from time to time.

**Q11. How will entries be shortlisted?**

IEDCs / NewGen IEDCs would nominate their best team(s) for participation in the National Level Competition. Business Profiles will be short listed by an Evaluation Panel which comprises of entrepreneurs, mentors and investors selected by the EDII along-with experts from NSTEDB, DST. The teams shortlisted for participation in the National Level Competition will be evaluated by the jury.

**Q12. When will I know the final result of The Student Start-up NIDHI?**

After the National Level Competition, results will be displayed on the website under Announcements section. Every year, maximum of 2-3 student teams per IEDC/NewGen IEDC will be selected for award under The Student Start-up NIDHI.

**Q13. What is the mechanism for monitoring and review of selected student teams?**

The performance of the student start-ups would be monitored periodically to ensure the progress and suggest mid-term correction, if any. The student start-ups will submit quarterly progress report to the concerned IEDC / NewGen IEDC which in turn will be duly forwarded to EDII with its recommendations. The student start-ups can also be called for review meeting(s), if required.

The concerned IEDC / NewGen IEDC will review the progress of milestones and recommend the release of balance 30%. On receiving the recommendation of the IEDC / NewGen IEDC, EDII shall release the balance amount of 30%. IEDCs / NewGen IEDCs are expected to continue supporting the student start-ups for successful commercialization.

### Q14. What is the process of applying online to participate in the Student Start-up NIDHI?

Student team interested to participate in the program has to visit www.newgeniedc-edii.in and fill up the online application form. To successfully submit the application, applicant has to obtain Certificate of Nomination (as per the format available in the application) from the IEDC/ NewGen IEDC. This certificate is to be signed and attested by the IEDC/ NewGen IEDC Co-ordinator. The applicant has to scan the certificate and upload it at the final stage of application. Applications received without the Certificate of Nomination will not be eligible to participate in the program.

### Q15. Where can I read more about NSTEDB, DST?

The National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), established in 1982 by the Government of India under the aegis of Department of Science & Technology, is an institutional mechanism to help promote knowledge driven and technology intensive enterprises. The Board, having representations from socio-economic and scientific Ministries/Departments, aims to convert "job-seekers" into "job-generators" through Science & Technology (S&T) interventions.

You can visit www.nstedb.com for more information about NSTEDB.

### Q16. Where can I read more about the Implementing Agency EDII?

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) is a widely acclaimed International Resource Centre promoting entrepreneurship through education, research, training and institution building. Ever since its inception in 1983, the Institute has been spearheading entrepreneurship movement in the country and abroad.

You can visit www.ediindia.org for more information about EDII.