GUSHKARA MAHAVIDYALAYA

P.O.- GUSHKARA, DIST.- PURBA BARDHAMAN-713128

Date: 16.10.2026

NOTICE

Subject: Participation in Seva First Innovation Challenge 2026 under Seva Sankalp Maha Abhiyan (Eastern Region)
Reference: Govt. of WB Memo No. 62-ACS-HED/2026, dated 14.10.2026

It is hereby notified for all concerned that the Seva First Innovation Challenge 2026-Eastern Region (Official Website: https://sficeast.wb.gov.in/en) is being organized under the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan to encourage innovative ideas for societal development and community service. Eligible participants from Gushkara Mahavidyalaya are invited to participate and showcase their innovative solutions for the real-world challenges.

- **Who can participate:** Students pursuing undergraduate programmes can participate in the Junior Category. Those who have graduated may apply under the Open Category, subject to the official eligibility requirements. Participation is permitted individually or in teams.
- **What kind of Ideas:** Education, Healthcare, Agriculture, Environment, Rural Development, Employment, Women & Child Welfare, Disaster Management, Transport, Energy, and other areas addressing local community challenges.
- **How to participate:** Visit Official Website: https://sficeast.wb.gov.in/en and register under the appropriate category.
- Submit the proposal through the official portal as per guidelines.
- The Registration portal is now live for participation from 19th September, 2026 onwards.
- Last date of Registration: 30th October, 2026.
- In each district of the state 'District Conclave' will be organized on 2nd or 3rd November, 2026. Selected participants will have a chance to showcase their innovations in the conclaves.
- A Zonal Conference is scheduled in the first half of December, 2026, covering West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand. The dates will be notified in due course.
- The creative materials and guidelines for the challenge are available at the following link: https://mullenlowe.egnyte.com/fl/x3m6xVP6t3mg
  Password: 2t3mcJ58xMTT

All HoDs are requested to give wide publicity to this notice and encourage eligible students to participate in the challenge within the stipulated deadline.

Nodal Officer
Seva First Innovation Challenge 2026-Eastern Region
Gushkara Mahavidyalaya

Sd/- Dr S. Chatterjee
Principal
Gushkara Mahavidyalaya

CONCEPT NOTE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Seva First Innovation Challenge 2026

Under Seva Sankalp Abhiyan | Eastern Region

Theme: Innovate Locally. Impact Nationally.

Official website: https://sficeast.wb.gov.in/en

1. What is the Seva First Innovation Challenge?

The Seva First Innovation Challenge (SFIC) 2026 is an initiative of the Department of Science and Technology and Biotechnology, Government of West Bengal, under Seva Sankalp Abhiyan. It invites young people to identify real problems in their surroundings and develop practical, affordable and innovative solutions that can improve people's lives.

The central idea is simple: **observe a problem, think of a solution, explain how it can work, and demonstrate the difference it can make.**

You do not need to be a scientist, an entrepreneur or the founder of a start-up to participate. An innovative idea arising from your classroom, college campus, village, town or community can be a starting point.

2. Who can participate?

The Eastern Region Challenge is open to eligible participants from West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand. Participation is permitted individually or in teams.

- **Junior Category:** School students, ITI students, polytechnic students and undergraduate students.
- **Open Category:** Graduates, young professionals, researchers, early-stage start-ups, independent innovators and community groups.

College students pursuing undergraduate programmes can participate in the Junior Category. Those who have graduated may apply under the Open Category, subject to the official eligibility requirements.

3. What kind of ideas can be submitted?

You may choose a problem that you have personally observed and propose a workable solution. The following are illustrative examples to help you think creatively; they are not prescribed projects.

Area	**Possible innovation ideas**
Education	Low-cost learning aids, peer-learning systems or solutions to improve access to educational resources
Healthcare	Community health awareness, better access to health information or practical support for patients

Agriculture	Reducing crop losses, improving irrigation or helping farmers access markets
Environment	Waste segregation, plastic reduction, water conservation or local pollution control
Rural development	Improving village services, sanitation, local connectivity or access to public information
Employment and livelihoods	Helping local artisans, small businesses and self-help groups reach wider markets
Women and child development	Improving access to services, safety awareness and educational opportunities
Disaster management	Local flood preparedness, emergency communication or community-level response systems
Transport and civic services	Safer mobility, accessible public spaces or solutions to everyday civic problems
Energy and sustainability	Affordable energy-saving measures and sustainable solutions for local communities

These themes are indicative, not restrictive. A meaningful problem outside the listed areas may also be considered if the proposed solution is clear and practical.

4. What makes a good innovation proposal?

An innovation need not be complicated or expensive. A simple solution that addresses a genuine problem may be more valuable than an elaborate idea that cannot be implemented.

A good proposal should answer the following questions:

1. **What is the problem?** Identify the specific problem and where it occurs.
2. **Whom does it affect?** Explain who experiences the problem and why it matters.
3. **What is your proposed solution?** Describe what you want to build, improve, change or introduce.
4. **How will it work?** Explain the technology, method or process involved.
5. **How will it be implemented?** Identify the steps, resources and approximate cost.
6. **What difference will it make?** Explain the expected benefits and beneficiaries.
7. **How long will it take?** Provide a realistic timeline.
8. **Can it be replicated?** Consider whether the solution could be adapted for other communities.

Where available, photographs, survey findings, drawings, models, prototypes or pilot results may strengthen the proposal.

5. Is a working model compulsory?

A working model or prototype is encouraged but is not necessarily compulsory for the Junior Category. A clearly explained and practical idea, supported by a credible implementation plan, can be a suitable starting point.

For the Open Category, a stronger implementation case is expected. A prototype, proof of concept or pilot evidence can add weight to the submission.

Remember: Innovation does not necessarily mean developing a new mobile application, using artificial intelligence or inventing a machine. Improving an existing process or finding a more affordable, accessible and effective way of solving a problem can also be innovative.

6. How can you participate?

The registration and submission process involves the following steps:

1. Visit the official portal: https://sficeast.wb.gov.in/en.
2. Register under the appropriate category using valid contact details.
3. Complete your participant profile.
4. Submit the online Innovation & Implementation Plan, explaining the problem, proposed solution and implementation approach.
5. Upload supporting material, wherever available, and complete the submission.
6. Save the application number generated by the portal for future reference.

Applications are scheduled to close on **30 October 2026**. Students should check the official portal for the latest instructions and complete their submissions within the prescribed period.

7. How will the proposals be evaluated?

The Challenge places importance on the relevance of the problem, originality, practicality, technical feasibility, implementation plan, cost, expected impact, sustainability, scalability and supporting evidence.

As recorded in the coordination meeting of 7 October 2026, the evaluation will have two levels:

- **District Conclave:** Eligible submissions will be screened and evaluated on merit in the Junior and Open categories.
- **Zonal Conclave:** Selected participants will proceed for further evaluation under a single Open category.

For Purba Bardhaman, The University of Burdwan has been identified as the district nodal institute. The district-level programme is scheduled for 2–3 December 2026, subject to the arrangements communicated by the concerned authorities.

8. What opportunities may follow selection?

Promising innovations may receive mentoring, technical guidance, prototype-development support, incubation opportunities and assistance in exploring pilot implementation or wider adoption by institutions, government departments, industry or other implementation partners.

The official programme also provides for recognition and prizes at the district and zonal levels. The applicable categories, awards and conditions should be verified from the official programme information.

Selection does not automatically guarantee funding, commercialisation or implementation; these depend on the programme's evaluation and subsequent arrangements.

9. What should college students do now?

Students are encouraged to:

- Observe everyday problems on campus and in their local communities.
- Discuss possible solutions with classmates, teachers and subject experts.
- Form a team, if appropriate, and divide responsibilities.
- Test whether the proposed solution is practical, affordable and useful.
- Prepare a clear proposal with a realistic implementation plan.
- Register and submit the proposal through the official portal before the deadline i.e. 30.10.2026.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION & GUIDELINES

Seva First Innovation Challenge 2026 - Eastern Region
Under Seva Sankalp Abhiyan

Innovate Locally. Impact Nationally.

A practical registration guide for participants from West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand.

ELIGIBLE STATES	APPLICATION WINDOW	REGIONAL HUB
West Bengal **Bihar** **Jharkhand**	**19 Sep 2026 onwards**	**Kolkata**

Purpose of this guide

This document consolidates the registration-related information currently published on the official challenge website. Participants should check the portal before final submission in case dates, instructions or supporting-document requirements are updated.

Official portal: https://sficeast.wb.gov.in

01 Challenge at a Glance

The Seva First Innovation Challenge invites participants to identify real problems in their communities and develop practical solutions with a credible path toward implementation, prototype development, piloting and wider adoption.

- Eastern Region coverage: West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand.
- Participation format: individuals and teams.
- Regional hub: Kolkata.
- Challenge period published on the website: 17 September - 30 October 2026.
- Solutions should be grounded in an observed problem and explain implementation, cost, timeline, beneficiaries and expected impact.

02 Eligibility

Who can register through the Eastern Region portal

Geographic eligibility

Only participants from West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand are eligible to apply through this portal.

Category	Who can participate	Submission expectation
Junior	School students; ITI students; Polytechnic students; Undergraduate students	Judged mainly on problem understanding, originality and practicality. A working model is encouraged but may not be compulsory.
Open	Graduates; young professionals; researchers; early-stage startups; independent innovators; community groups	A stronger implementation case is expected. Prototype, proof of concept or pilot evidence can strengthen the submission.

03 Registration Process

Complete the online process in sequence

1

Create Registration

Select Junior or Open category and enter your full name, valid 10-digit mobile number and valid email address.

2

Complete Profile

Complete the participant profile with the additional details requested by the portal. Use accurate information because it becomes part of the application record.

3

Submit Proposal

Complete the online Innovation & Implementation Plan and upload supporting material where available.

4

Receive Application Number

After successful submission, the portal generates an application number. Keep it safely for tracking and future communication.

Practical note

Use an email address and mobile number that you can access throughout the challenge. Check all entered details and uploaded files before final submission.

04 Important Dates & Challenge Stages

Stage	Published timing	What happens
Application window	19 Sep 2026 onwards	Registration and online application submission.
Challenge period	19 Sep 2026 onwards	Overall challenge activity period shown on the website.
Proposal submission	19 Sep 2026 onwards	Submit the Innovation & Implementation Plan and supporting material.
Screening & shortlisting	TBD	Eligibility, completeness and technical merit are reviewed.
Regional evaluation	TBD	Shortlisted participants present solution/model/prototype/implementation plan to an expert jury.
Mentoring & prototype support	After shortlisting	Selected innovators may receive guidance and refinement support.
Final evaluation	TBD	Final challenge evaluation and selection for recognition.
Pilot & adoption pathway	After the Challenge	Promising solutions may be connected with institutions, departments, industry or implementation partners.

Date check

The website is actively being updated. Reconfirm the application deadline and event schedule on the official portal before submitting.

05 What You Need to Submit

1

Problem & Location

Clearly state the problem and where you have observed it.

2

Proposed Solution

Explain what you propose to build, change or introduce.

3

Technology or Method

Describe how the solution will work and why the method is suitable.

4

Implementation Plan

Set out who needs to do what, in what order, and the key dependencies.

5

Cost & Funding

Provide a realistic estimate of development and implementation cost.

6

Beneficiaries

Identify who will benefit and approximately how many people could be helped.

7

Timeline

Estimate the time needed to reach a working prototype or pilot.

8

Expected Impact

Explain the social, economic or environmental difference the solution can make.

9

Scalability

Explain whether it can work in another district, state or community and what would need to change.

10

Prototype or Pilot Evidence

If available, include photographs, documents, results or other evidence of a model, prototype or pilot.

06 Themes & Problem Areas

The listed themes are intended to guide participants, not restrict them. A proposal outside these areas may still be submitted if the problem is clear and the solution is practical.

- Village & Panchayat Innovation
- Education & Skill Development
- Urban & Civic Innovation
- Employment, Livelihood & MSMEs
- Disaster Management & Community Safety
- Energy
- Agriculture & Allied Sectors
- Healthcare
- Environment & Sustainability
- Women & Child Development
- Transport & Mobility
- Tourism & Cultural Innovation

07 Submission & Evaluation Guidelines

- Start with a problem you have actually seen in your school, village, town, district, workplace or community.
- Make the problem, proposed solution, implementation route and expected impact easy for the jury to understand.
- Keep the solution practical. A simple, affordable approach that works can be stronger than unnecessary complexity.
- Junior category: a strong idea with a clear implementation plan can be sufficient; a working model is encouraged but may not be compulsory.
- Open category: present a stronger implementation case. Prototype, proof-of-concept or pilot evidence can add weight.
- Supporting evidence can include photographs, documents, results, models, prototypes or pilot information.
- The jury may consider problem relevance, originality, practicality, technical feasibility, cost, implementation feasibility, expected impact, sustainability, scalability and evidence quality.

What strengthens an application

A grounded problem statement, realistic implementation plan, credible cost and timeline, clear beneficiaries, measurable impact and evidence that the solution can be tested or scaled.

08 Intellectual Property & Submission Responsibility

- Submit only content that you own or have the necessary rights to use.
- Participants are responsible for obtaining patent protection for patentable innovations where appropriate under applicable law.
- The challenge does not claim ownership of participant patents or innovations; submitted innovations may be used for evaluation, recognition and promotional purposes.
- Website terms state that submitted user-generated content is licensed to the challenge for use, reproduction, modification and distribution. Review the published IP Policy before submitting commercially sensitive or patentable material.

For potentially patentable ideas
Consider obtaining appropriate professional IP advice before publicly disclosing technical details that could affect patent strategy.

09 After Submission

- Eligible and complete entries proceed to screening and technical review.
- Shortlisted participants may be invited to regional evaluation before an expert jury.
- Selected innovators may receive mentoring, technical guidance, prototype support or incubation connections.
- Promising solutions may be connected to pilot and adoption opportunities with institutions, government departments, industry or implementation partners.

10 Registration Checklist

- ☐ Confirm that you are applying from West Bengal, Bihar or Jharkhand.
- ☐ Select the correct participant category: Junior or Open.
- ☐ Use your correct full name, active mobile number and accessible email address.
- ☐ Complete all profile fields accurately.
- ☐ Write a clear problem statement based on a real, observed issue.
- ☐ Explain the proposed solution in practical terms.
- ☐ Include implementation steps, cost, beneficiaries, timeline, impact and scalability.
- ☐ Attach prototype/pilot/supporting evidence if available.
- ☐ Check ownership/permission for all submitted content and supporting material.
- ☐ Review the full application before final submission and save the generated application number.

11 Contact & Helpdesk

Department	Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology
Address	Vigyan Chetana Bhavan, 26/B, DD Block, Sector I, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700064
Landmark	City Centre I, Behind ILS Hospital
Email	sficeast@gmail.com

Official website
https://sficeast.wb.gov.in
Use the website for registration, current notices, timelines, themes and any updated instructions.