5th National social enterprise Idea Challenge: Response to COVID 19 crisis

Azim Premji University

The Azim Premji University has an active Social enterprise cell. Every year, many students of the University try to come up with innovative solutions to some of the most complex social problems. This is a platform to share, debate and discuss those ideas and network with individuals and like-minded groups to take those forward. The cell was formed in the year 2015 and organises various guest lectures, mentoring sessions, Alumni talks and workshops for students.

The National level Social Enterprise Idea Challenge is a yearly initiative hosted by the cell where students of schools, Colleges, Universities and Research institutions are invited to submit their ideas that address problems in Education, Livelihood, Public Health, Environment & Sustainability, Public Policy and allied areas. The Idea Challenge event has been organized for last 5 years now, with more than 300 colleges and Universities from across India participating.
The 5th National Social Enterprise Idea Challenge was on “Response to COVID - 19 crisis”. The Cell invited Ideas from students to help institutions, communities and individuals to face and overcome many issues that are coming up with the COVID - 19 crisis and specifically encouraged for solutions that will

- Empower communities (strengthening livelihood, public health, service delivery, local governance, education etc.)
- Support NGOs/Philanthropic organizations/Citizen groups in their pandemic response
- Equip our front-line workers--- ASHA, ANM, ICDS, Nurse, NGO frontline workers, etc;
- Strengthen the monitoring systems at any scale
- Enhance specific measures by Hospitals, municipalities, Gram Panchayats, Block Panchayats, etc.
The cell received 85 submissions from students all over India. The Jury members shortlisted 10 teams for final presentations and selection of winners.

The shortlisted teams are from:
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<tr>
<th>IIM, Bengaluru</th>
<th>IIT Delhi</th>
<th>L'ecole Chempaka International, Thiruvananthapuram</th>
<th>Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, New Delhi</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lady Shri Ram College for Women, New Delhi</td>
<td>Miranda House, New Delhi</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar</td>
<td>Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi</td>
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<td>Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi</td>
<td>University of Calcutta, Kolkata</td>
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More details about each team can be found [here](#).

**Results:**

1. **Winner**
   **Jal Kumbi from University of Calcutta**
   Project Description - Aims to create floating gardens in ponds to cultivate organic vegetables and create employment for the Musahar community which consist mainly of landless labourers.
   Contact: Niwas Kumar +91 87893 11695
   Shivani Kumari +91 93341 05347

2. **1st Runner Up**
   **Enactus JMI from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**
   Project Description - Aims to manufacture biodegradable face masks and sanitary napkins, both of which would be made from abaca fiber, to reduce the accumulation of waste and offer a cheap and effective alternative to disposable masks and sanitary napkins providing livelihood support to domestic violence survivors.
   Contact: Nawaz Ahmed +91 91094 98659
   Marufa Sabir marufasabir71@gmail.com

3. **2nd Runner Up**
   **De-Covify from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.**
   Project Description - Solution for minimising direct and indirect transmission of COVID-19 through two products named ‘Visage’ and ‘Cov-Ring’. Visage consists of a cotton mask and a PET visor attached to it to prevent droplet transmission. Cov-Ring is a hand gear designed to prevent direct skin exposure to surfaces.
   Contact: Sanyam Jain +91 87805 97382
   Prateeksha Punia +91 72299 75377
Few Media Coverage for the 5th National Social Enterprise Idea Challenge

The New Indian Express: University of Calcutta wins APU's social enterprise

The Hans India: University of Calcutta students win APU challenge

India Education Diary: Azim Premji University announced the winners of its 5th Social Enterprise 'Idea' Challenge

BW Education: Azim Premji University announced the winners of its 5th Social Enterprise 'Idea' Challenge

Business world