



Ref. No.: AKTU/IH/2026/484-B

Date: 19/01/2026

To,
The Directors of Affiliated Institutes
Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow

Subject: Call for Nominations: AI Startup Showcasing at *AI Manthan 2026* (Selection-Based)

Dear Madam/Sir,

We are pleased to inform you that Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technical University (AKTU) is organizing a prestigious AI-focused flagship program titled *AI Manthan 2026: Challenges and Opportunities in Higher and Technical Education*.

Honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh will be the Chief Guest for this program.

As part of this program, a dedicated AI Startup Showcasing Zone is being created, where 10* selected startups working in the domain of Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be provided an exclusive opportunity to showcase their working products, prototypes, and solutions.

This showcasing will be conducted on a strictly selection basis, ensuring participation of high-potential and innovation-driven startups.

Program Details:

Program Name: AI Manthan 2026: Challenges and Opportunities in Higher and Technical Education

Program Date: 27-28, January 2026

Last date to apply: 24 January 2026 till 6PM

Venue: Vishvesharya Hall, 4th Floor, Administrative Building, AKTU Campus, Lucknow
(Startup stalls & registration: Ground Floor, Administrative Building)

Key Highlights for Selected Startups:

The selected startups will receive the following opportunities:

- ⌚ Live showcasing of AI-based working products/solutions
- ⌚ Certificate by Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh
- ⌚ Opportunity of direct interaction with Hon'ble Governor of UP
- ⌚ Networking with Vice Chancellors, Directors, and University leadership of the state
- ⌚ Interaction with policymakers, administrators, and ecosystem leaders
- ⌚ High-value B2G (Business-to-Government) and institutional networking
- ⌚ State-level and national-level visibility

This platform will act as a powerful launchpad for startups seeking government pilots, institutional deployments, funding visibility, and strategic partnerships.

Selection Criteria (Indicative):

Startups will be shortlisted based on the following:

- ⌚ Relevance of the solution to real-world problems
- ⌚ Use of Artificial Intelligence as a core component
- ⌚ Stage of development (working MVP/prototype preferred)
- ⌚ Innovation and uniqueness of the solution
- ⌚ Social, economic, or governance impact
- ⌚ Scalability and deployment potential
- ⌚ Team capability and clarity of vision

Startup Eligibility:

- ⌚ AI-based startups
- ⌚ Student-founded / alumni-founded / faculty-supported startups
- ⌚ Startups registered under DPIIT
- ⌚ Startups with working prototypes, MVPs, or deployed solutions
- ⌚ Startups addressing domains like education, health, agriculture, governance, smart cities, cybersecurity, fintech, sustainability, etc.

Application Process:

All interested startups must register through the following Google Form or scan the QR:

<https://bit.ly/45hAmhI>

You are kindly requested to **circulate this opportunity among your students, faculty members, incubation centers, and startup cells** and motivate eligible startups to apply.

For any clarification or support, please feel free to contact Mr. Mahip Singh, CEO Innovation Hub UP at ceo.ihubup@aktu.ac.in or call on 9582058878

Regards



(Prof. Jai Prakash Pandey)
Vice-Chancellor



Scan the QR for registration

