Report on Students' Idea Contest on 18th - 19th August, 2025

The "Nurturing Innovation", a flagship initiative of the Basic Science and Humanities (BSH) Department, is designed to immerse first-year B.Tech. students in the world of creativity and innovation right from the outset of their academic journey. Since its inception, the programme has grown into a comprehensive platform that identifies and nurtures the innovative potential of students from the very beginning, fostering original thinking and instilling a problem-solving mindset.

The third phase of this initiative culminated with the Students' Idea Contest held on 18th and 19th August 2025, marking an important milestone in the journey of innovation that begins in the first semester and continues through the third semester. The contest aimed to provide students with opportunities to channel their creativity into practical, impactful solutions addressing contemporary societal challenges. This year, more than 130 innovative ideas were submitted by student groups, of which 54 were shortlisted for the presentation round before an internal panel of the BSH Department. After a two-week-long evaluation process, 29 teams succeeded in reaching the final stage of the competition.

The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Arun Kumar Jalan, Dean (Student Affairs), whose presence underscored the significance of innovation in student life. This was followed by an encouraging address from Dr. Dipankar Ghosh, Head of the BSH Department, which inspired enthusiasm among the participants and set a motivating tone for the competition. The final evaluation was conducted by a distinguished panel of judges comprising Dr. Tamal Roy (EE Department), Mr. Ajoy Ghosal (ECE Department), Mr. Sumit Majumdar (CSE Department), and Dr. Tanmoy Roy Choudhury (BSH Department), whose valuable insights and expert guidance played a key role in evaluating the student presentations.

The presentations, delivered in front of judges and audience, were a testament to the students' dedication and enthusiasm. The participants showcased an innovative mindset, which was highly appreciated by the audience present at the event. The students' ability to think creatively and present their ideas effectively was commendable. The final presentations this year encompassed a wide range of innovations across healthcare, safety, mobility, energy, agriculture, and community development. In the domain of healthcare and well-being, students put forward solutions such as a Mother and Child Immunization Tracker to ensure timely vaccinations, Vitamend for efficient medicine sharing within communities, Phio Guide to promote safe fitness practices, and GharSe, a homestyle food delivery service designed to address nutritional needs with a personal touch. These innovations underscored the students' sensitivity toward issues of health, wellness, and access to essential services.

In the sphere of agriculture and sustainability, the students' ingenuity was evident in projects like i-CropWat, an automated irrigation system that leverages technology for water conservation, and PriceXact, a platform that directly connects farmers with consumers to ensure fair pricing and transparency. These ideas highlighted the students' commitment to improving livelihoods and promoting sustainable practices.
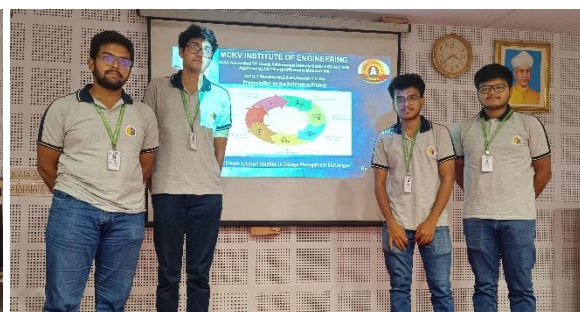
Equally compelling were the projects focused on safety and security, a theme that drew widespread attention from the evaluators. Students designed a women's safety–enabled power-bank equipped with shock protection, alongside Footprints, a crowdsourced safer navigation platform. Other innovations included the IRHD system with automatic speed control, Auto-Sensor Railway Crossing Gates, and advanced alert systems for LPG and kitchen gas leakages. Additionally, creative solutions like portable biosafe storage devices, an Ultimate USB killer protection system, and deepfake detection software reflected the students' foresight in tackling both physical and digital threats to everyday safety.

The area of smart mobility and energy brought forward projects that emphasized efficiency and sustainability. Notable contributions included an all-in-one ride fare comparison application to simplify daily commuting, an integrated All-in-One MCKVIAN app with technology-based attendance system for campus use, an optimal shift-timing indicator for two-wheelers aimed at enhancing road safety, and a mild-hybrid retrofit device designed to upgrade conventional vehicles for reduced emissions and better fuel economy.

Finally, the community development projects showcased strong collaborative and socio-economic dimensions. SkillSwap, a digital skill-exchange platform, aimed to encourage peer-to-peer learning, while Mechanifinder sought to bridge the gap between vehicle owners and local mechanics. An AI-driven hybrid credit scoring model was also proposed to enhance financial inclusivity by providing fairer access to credit.

Collectively, these projects highlighted students' ability to blend technological creativity with social responsibility, addressing real-life problems with practical and innovative solutions. The contest not only demonstrated the breadth of student ingenuity but also their commitment to making a difference. The event succeeded in nurturing a vibrant culture of innovation, providing students with a platform to articulate their ideas, receive constructive feedback, and refine their concepts into actionable solutions. This experience enhanced their confidence, presentation skills, and ability to translate creative thinking into real-world applications. To celebrate and acknowledge their achievements, the winners will be awarded prizes and certificates during the upcoming Induction Programme, a recognition expected to further inspire them and encourage the wider student community to actively engage in innovative activities.

Mr. Milan Chakrabortty	Dr. Abhijit Pramanik	Dr. Dipankar Ghosh
Event Coordinator	Convener	HOD, BSH