Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Programme (IEDP) is the flagship programme of EDII to create entrepreneurship orientation among college students and EDII-TN has taken many initiatives under IEDP in a hub and spoke model, to promote Innovation & Entrepreneurial culture in Higher Educational Institutions in the State.

Currently, EDII-TN is embarking on a novel idea of reaching out to a million beneficiaries under the banner 'Project One Million Ideas'. Since the current student population provides the pipeline of innovators and entrepreneurs in the years to come, it is proposed to target the youngsters in academic institutions by providing them awareness and motivation to kindle their minds, bringing out the best of ideas from them, handhold them and convert their ideas into prototypes and businesses, and extend the support of various schemes of the Government to eligible candidates.

EDII-IEDP is planning to create a spark of Innovation and Entrepreneurship among 8 lakh students from 1500 higher educational institutions to identify innovative ideas that can be converted into enterprises through program conducted in different stages where the students would be motivated, educated and mentored to develop innovative business ideas.

Tamil Nadu Student Innovators (TNSI) is the annual innovation challenge for college students organized at state level in all five regions. To select the top innovators and reward the top 25 teams with a prize of INR 1 lakh and its innovation. The event is creating entrepreneurs by scaling up the student ideas into minimum viable product and so far it has been conducted last four years.

Tamil Nadu Student Innovator Award (TNSI 2021):

The Fifth edition of Tamil Nadu Student Innovator Award for the year of 2021 is planning to organize all over the state in 5 regions (Chennai, Trichy, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli & Madurai regions).

TNSI 2021 in

(i)Chennai region will be coordinated by Anna University, Guindy Campus, Chennai,

(ii)Trichy region by Anna University Regional Campus, Trichy

(iii)Coimbatore region by Anna University Regional Campus, Coimbatore,

(iv)Tirunelveli region by Anna University Regional Campus, Tirunelveli

(v)Madurai region by Thiagaraja College of Engineering, Madurai.

Programme includes the following stages:

1. Entrepreneurship Awareness programmes
2. Ideation (IDEA) Camp- (Design Thinking, Business plan preparation)
3. Boot Camp
4. State Level Pitch
5. Fellowship/Prototyping

Due to COVID 19 situation ,EDII   TN has planned to organize TNSI 2021 Awareness programmes and Ideation stages has Digitalized through EDII portal.

Awareness Creation:

The Entrepreneurship awareness program has been digitalized and Each & every hub will be coordinated with spoke colleges for the enrollment and completion of the program modules through Online. The program consists of seven modules and it will be implemented through online by igniting young minds through brief inspirational stories, by defining entrepreneurship, introducing entrepreneurship support system available, motivational student startup testimonials etc.,

The objective is to acquaint the students on the entrepreneurship community, government efforts & initiatives, the stakeholders, the journey from an aspirant to an entrepreneur, startup steps. A website has been

developed inhouse for registration of Ideas. From the ideas registered in the website, 50-60 ideas from each region will be selected and the student teams will be requested to attend the Idea camp to shape up their ideas. It will be organized in all hubs.

Ideation Stage:

The shortlisted good ideas taken into the second stage of the contest and their ideas catalyze by organizing Design Thinking workshops and Business Plan preparation. It aims to validate ideas to make them better by breaking thought patterns, understanding customer needs, the process of generating ideas for products & services in various situations & environment, and also challenging them to resolve real-time problems. Each and every IEDP Hubs will organize the programmes to train the selected teams. From these ideas, 25 teams will be selected for participation in the Boot Camp to be organized by the Zonal Hub.

Boot camps :

The 3-day boot camp (Each zone will have a boot camp) promises the aspirants to lead them in the right direction. The boot camp is expected to have 25 teams in a region (approx. 60 participants) who will have the first-hand experience from domain experts. The participants will be exposed and coached in the areas of problem-opportunity analysis, elevator pitch, business model canvas and identifying MVP criteria. Selected start-up ideas will be given an opportunity to pitch in front of mentors. The boot camp is designed to provide the expertise needed by the participants to launch and scale their innovative business ideas. The boot camp will motivate the participants' vision in launching and scaling a business as well as the ability to inspire investors.

The selected teams for the boot camp have to register in the respective regional hub with a registration fee of Rs.350/- per head who are need accommodation. Each team may have at most 3 members.

The process will be repeated in all five zones. Each zone will shortlist and nominate 8 teams for the state-Level Pitch to be held at Chennai.

State level Pitch:

The teams selected from the 5 regions will participate in the State-Level Pitch to be organized by EDII at Chennai.

The top 2- 5 teams from each region will be awarded Re. 1 lakh as fellowship award to convert their idea into a prototype. The teams can choose the registered incubator of their choice which has the capacity to mentor them in building their prototype.

The TNSI 2020 Grant may be given in two installments, The first installment of Rs.50,000/- released upfront for the TNSI winners and the second installment of Rs.50,000/- may be released in a period of three to six months after first installment upon satisfying at least three to four of the following criteria:

- Selected teams may submit detailed project report
- Selected teams may showcase a Minimum Viable Product/Prototype.
- Selected teams may submit Validation through accreditation Lab
- Selected teams may get Certification through accredited or registered institutions.
- Selected teams may set up the company as a startup
- Selected teams may complete registration in GEM portal
- Selected teams may apply patent for their innovation

Districts included in each region:

The districts of Tamil Nadu will be allotted to the five regions for smoothly organizing the TNSI programme. The regional hubs will coordinate with the following districts and the hubs will coordinate the spoke institutions of the districts.

District to be clubbed with regions for TNSI-2019.

Chennai Region	Coimbatore Region	Madurai Region	Trichy Region	Tirunelveli Region
Chennai	Dharmapuri	Dindigul	Ariyalur	Kanyakumari
Cuddalore	Coimbatore	Madurai	Perambalur	Thoothukudi
Kanchipuram	Erode	Ramanathapuram	Karur	Tirunelveli
Tiruvallur	Krishnagiri	Sivagangai	Nagapattinam	Nagercoil
Vellore	Namakkal	Theni	Thanjavur	Thenkasi
Tiruvannamalai	The Nilgiris	Virudhunagar	Tiruchirappalli	
Viluppuram	Salem	Pudukkottai	Tiruvarur	
Chengalpattu	Tiruppur		Mayiladuthurai	
Ranipet	Tirupathur			