

“Amrit Grand Challenge –जनCARE”

"Reimagining the Healthcare Delivery - Touching a billion lives"

(Implementation Reference Note)



Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)
A Government of India Enterprise



Grand Challenges India (GCI)-BIRAC

NASSCOM®

National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)

through



IKP Knowledge Park , Hyderabad

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1. About the Challenge

DBT/BIRAC, MeitY, NASSCOM, in collaboration with Grand Challenges India (GCI), and several other partners, announced a nationwide Grand Innovation challenge program “Amrit Grand Challenge-जनCARE”, envisioned to identify 75 Digital Healthtech Innovations in Telemedicine, Digital Health, mHealth with Big Data, AI ML, blockchain and other technologies from Start-ups/Individuals/Companies for strengthening the Healthcare ecosystem in India.

The program is aligned to the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) and will attempt to support the various verticals of managing digital health records and patient compliance standards mandated for Indian citizens.

2. Areas of Focus/Preferred Solutions

The platform is looking for technology interventions that can positively impact healthcare delivery especially the affordability, accessibility and quality of services. The grand challenge is open for below mentioned digital healthcare interventions, but not limited to:

- **Access to primary healthcare in tier-2, tier-3 cities and rural settings:** Low cost/scalable/viable innovations with relevant lifespan, Synergy with physical & Digital/ Hybrid system for primary healthcare
- **Solutions to enhance patient compliance** – Patient tracking systems, Patient health record management, Patient enrolment system, Patient Triaging, Digital identity, Health protection & health promotion/health education, Patient Compliance/ Homecare, Entitlement of patients
- **Health Data Collection, Predictive Analysis and digital learning in medicine** Image-based diagnosis, clinical decision support system, Smart and connected hospitals, Disaster management, Early screening/ Tertiary Prevention/ Disability delay, Decision support system, Self-learning/training solutions, Computation/ Predictive Analysis at local & global level
- **Data Privacy, Storage and Security Solutions** – Federated learning models, Offline-online hybrid healthcare model, self-learning management systems, healthcare financing/insurance, Data Integration solutions, Exchange of Information solutions
- **Solutions for improved community outreach:** Interventions to facilitate to/through Asha workers, Supply chain technologies, logistics, resource allocation tools, Digital bridge for a connected healthcare system
- **Data-driven modeling to enable pharma/biopharma research development and Innovation.**

The solutions aligned with Ayushman Bharat and National Health Digital Mission (NHDM) will be the preference.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Proposals under the above areas from ideation (early-stage) to deployment (late-stage) are invited.

Individuals

- The applicant must be an Indian citizen.
- The primary applicant should be the Project Leader who meets the eligibility requirements mentioned below.
- Suppose the applicant is formally employed (or registered as a student) with a non-profit academic or research organization. In that case, the applicant has to produce a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the head of the organization indicating that the organization has policies in place to allow the applicant to accept the award (if successful) as an individual and has policies in place to enable its employees creation of technology products while in service or while in sabbatical leave or while in EOL.
- If the applicant is formally employed with a for-profit company, the applicant has to provide an No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the head of the organization clearly indicating that the organization has policies in place to allow the applicant to accept the award (if successful) as an individual and has policies in place to allow its employees creation of technology products while in service or while in sabbatical leave or while in EOL. Alternatively, the applicant needs to apply as Company.
- An individual who is a promoter shareholder of any company or one of the partners in any LLP will not be allowed to apply as an individual, irrespective of the percentage of shareholding of the applicant in the company. (In such a case, the application can be submitted through company/LLP route, in case the company/LLP meets the required eligibility criterion as detailed below)

Company/Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)

- The Company or LLP should be registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956/2013 and The Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 respectively.
- A company is considered as 'Owned' by resident Indian citizen if a minimum of 51% of the capital in it is beneficially owned by resident Indian citizens and/or Indian Companies, which are ultimately owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens.
- A Project Leader who meets the eligibility requirements mentioned below must represent the Company/LLP's application.
- An applicant company, in which any promoter holding more than or equal to 20% of the shares, is a co-promoter of another ineligible company or a partner in another ineligible company/LLP then the applicant will be rendered ineligible. If an applicant is an LLP: An applicant LLP, in which any of the partners is also a partner in another ineligible LLP or is a co-promoter in another ineligible company, the applicant will be rendered ineligible.
- Entries can be submitted by existing (applicant) startup that can take the technology to the market either by themselves or in collaboration with another company.

- For the late-stage proposal validation through pilots in test-beds, the product/solution and the team composition should be well thought out and ready by submitting the entry.

Essential Requirement: The Project leader

Every proposal must identify a **Project Leader who will take responsibility for the technical and managerial aspects of the project execution.** The Project Leader must be **technically qualified to undertake the project.** The project leader must have completed a basic graduation degree.

If the proposal is shortlisted for the presentation in front of the Expert Selection Committee, then the same **Project Leader will be required to present the support case.** If the proposal is shortlisted for funding support, then the Project Leader will be required to sign the project agreement.

Academic Institution: Eligible only in Ideation Category

Academia should have **(Public or Private Institute, University, NGO, or Research Foundation)** a well-established support system for research.

For Public or Private Institute, University, NGO, or Research Foundation, submission of proper registration/ accreditation from a government body is mandatory like **UGC affiliation certification AICTE, CSIR /DSIR/SIRO certificate/Bye laws of society/Trust Deed etc whichever is applicable.**

4. Application Process & Timelines

- BIRAC-GCI, NASSCOM, and several program partners launched “Amrit Grand Challenge-अमृतCARE” on **26th JAN 2022** on MyGov/BIRAC online portal.
- The **call for proposal will close on 31ST March 2022** at 5:30 pm.
- The **applicant needs to apply only online to submit their application** by registering and logging on the BIRAC portal: <https://birac.nic.in/>
- Applicants are advised to submit their applications early without waiting for the last date, to avoid any last-minute contingencies. The **system stops accepting applications automatically after 5:30 pm** on the last date of application submission.
- Applicants are advised to **provide sufficient application details to allow for an informed and fair evaluation/review.** Applicants are advised to provide self-contained proposals. The Organizers may not seek missing information and documents if the application is submitted without the required information . This **may hamper the chances of the selection process or may lead to disqualification.**
- **Only one application per individual and company or group of companies is accepted,** and each individual and company is allowed to submit application for only one single innovation/solution. No changes will be accepted once proposals are submitted.
- Providing incorrect information will lead to the rejection of proposals.

- If the Organizer finds out or made to know that the applicant has submitted false information during the selection process or later, they will be disqualified; punitive measures including recovery of investments made can be undertaken.

5. Selection & Evaluation Process

The evaluation process comprises the following steps broadly

- As a first step, applications will be screened for eligibility and appropriateness under the “Amrit Grand Challenge-जनCARE”
- Eligible Applicants will be shortlisted by the selection committee based on the technical assessment, stage of the innovation and relevance to the challenge’s theme.
- Shortlisted applicants will be required to present before the Selection Committee or Grand Jury to identify Winners.

6. Funding Support

- **Ideation and Testing:** Idea to Proof-of- Concept, Testing and standardisation as per product standards and Pilot validation
 - 60 early-stage Innovations to receive funding of INR 10 Lakhs Grant each.
 - Project Duration: up to 8 months
 - Eligibility: Open to individuals (Indian Citizen) and all categories of organizations (with 51% Indian ownership).
- **Pre-commercialisation:** pivotal validation studies and field testing
 - 13 Late-stage innovations to receive funding of up to INR 20 lakhs each.
 - Project Duration: 10 – 12 months
 - Eligibility: Startups & SMEs. There will be an equity component of up to 5% (with 51% Indian ownership).
- **Multi-centric Product Deployment:** Regulatory approvals, User training, Pre-& Post-market studies and product launch
 - 2 Advanced stage innovations to receive funding of INR 50 lakhs each
 - Project Duration: 12 -18 months
 - Eligibility: Startups & SMEs. There will be an equity component of up to 5% % (with 51% Indian ownership).

Winners would also be incentivized through following:

- Connection with state and central government programs
- Field validation opportunity through program partners
- Contact Relationship with corporates, Investors and sector specific subject mentor

- An opportunity for inclusion in the national health programs
- Regulatory facilitation
- Opportunity to compete for follow on funding based on merit.

7. Important Dates

- Last date for submission of applications: 31st March 2022 at 5:30 pm at BIRAC portal
- Technical Assessment of the applications: April 2022
- Jury Presentation Round for the shortlisted applicants: June 2022
- Announcement of the Shortlisted Winners: August 2022

8. General Terms & Conditions

- The contest is open to Indian Citizens.
- BIRAC-GCI & NASSCOM Foundation will be supported by other industry partners in the challenge process.
- The decision of the Panel of Experts will be final and binding concerning selection at all stages.
- By submitting to the contest, all participants warrant and represent that to the best of their knowledge, their submission is original and does not violate or misappropriate any third party trade secret, “know-how,” copyright, patent or other intellectual property rights. Participants also warrant and represent that there are no obligations of any nature, legal or otherwise, which would prohibit, restrict, or interfere with their participation in the Contest or submission of their proposal, and agree to obtain any necessary clearances, authorizations and/or approvals prior to participation.
- The participants agree that Organizers/Implementing partner(s) will share information submitted by the participants to panel of experts, reviewers etc. (under confidentiality and no-conflict undertaking).
- Organizer/implementing partners do not claim ownership over Intellectual Property Right (IPR) for the Innovation sent to us by applying . The IPR shall remain with the applicant at all times.
- Organizers/Implementing Partners reserve the right to publish the grantee’s information with regard to 1. Title of the project, 2. Brief summary, 3. Deliverables 4. Principle Investigator 5. Team and/or any other information that is relevant to the program.
- By entering the Contest, each participant agrees to release BIRAC and implementing partner(s) from and against any losses, damages, rights, claims and actions of any kind arising from (i) an exclusion or disqualification of such participant according to these rules; (ii) late or unsuccessful efforts to notify winners of any prize; (iii) forfeiture of a prize and the selection of an alternate winner; (iv) late, lost, delayed, damaged, misdirected, incomplete, illegible entries; (v) telephone, electronic, hardware or software program, network, Internet, or computer malfunctions, failures or difficulties of any kind; (vi) failed, incomplete, garbled or delayed computer transmissions; (vii) any condition caused by events beyond BIRAC’s and implementing partner(s) control that may cause the Contest to be disrupted or corrupted; and (viii) any injuries, losses or damages of any kind relating to participation in this Contest.

9. Partners

BIRAC will execute necessary arrangements on mutual agreement with the Partners for effective attainment of objectives as proposed herein.

Start-ups, especially in HealthTech space, need extensive support from the Lifesciences, Healthcare and IT Industry, State Govt. Agencies, NGOs, Philanthropic organizations and others design, develop and validate their products and solutions. JnCARE Challenge is happy to garner the explicit interest from several partners to extend their support to the start-ups that fall into their focus areas, subject to their capacity constraints.

JnCARE Challenge is able to attract partners from MedTech Industry, Hospitals, Software Services, Investors, Central & State agencies to support the start-ups at different phases of this challenge. We expect more partners to lend their support as we progress on this challenge.

Partners are willing to provide Mentorship, Incubation, Technical Support, in house implementation opportunities, solution validation support, market access, funding opportunities etc., depending on the suitability of start-up solutions that match their focus areas.

10. Correspondence

- Any correspondence with the participant will be done through an email provided by the participant when filling the application form. Organizers are not liable in case of email delivery failures.
- For any queries, please visit <https://birac.nic.in/>

11.Disclaimer

BIRAC, GCI, NASSCOM, NASSCOM Foundation, and implementation partner(s) reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, suspend this contest and modify the rules, prizes & funding related to the contest without prior notice. In no event shall BIRAC, GCI, NASSCOM & NASSCOM Foundation including the supporting partners and sponsors be liable for any claims, losses, expenses or damages, arising out of or in connection with the foregoing.