

## **IGNOU to Organize a Festival of Ideas**

The Festival of Ideas is being organized by the National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE) under the aegis of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) on 28<sup>th</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 at IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi. The objectives are to recognize, share, nurture and promote the ideas of the students of IGNOU. For this Festival, ideas of the IGNOU students were invited from all over India. The following were the themes in which ideas were invited :

- Food, Agriculture and Rural development
- Clean Energy and Alternate Fuel
- Clean Water and Water Management
- *Swachhata* Initiatives and Waste Management
- Health Care and Hygiene
- Education and Open University System
- Smart Transportation and Traffic Management

One hundred and twenty ideas were received from the students from across India. These ideas were evaluated by a panel of experts and the best twenty ideas were selected. These selected students have been invited to participate in the Festival.

The duration of the Festival will be of two days. It will have two parts. In the first part, an exhibition of ideas will be organized in which an idea competition will be held through posters and oral presentation. Three winners will be selected by a panel of judges and awarded. In the second part, a workshop on Business Plan Development will be held for all the selected students. The workshop is aimed to impart knowledge and skills related to Intellectual Property Rights, Design thinking, and Business Plan Development.

This Festival aims to facilitate the students to show their talent, test their ideas, connect with mentors, challenge themselves to think innovatively, and win exciting prizes. This would help the students to enhance their social and emotional learning, while boosting their competitive spirit. The training workshop on Business Plan Development will facilitate them to convert their ideas into innovative products and services. It is planned that the fully developed business plans created by these twenty students will be submitted to the MHRD Innovation Cell in October 2019.