



iDEX Scheme

[Source: IE](#)

The **Ministry of Defence** is seeking more funds to continue its **iDEX scheme**, a **central sector scheme** which started in 2021, as 90% of the approved budget for 2021-26 has already been used.

- The iDEX scheme helps **startups, MSMEs**, and innovators create new defence and aerospace technologies, resulting in the development of 37 products so far.
- **iDEX Prime**: **iDEX Prime** raises the grant limit from **Rs. 1.5 crore to Rs. 10 crore** to support more advanced defence systems.
- **ADITI Scheme**: The **ADITI scheme**, launched in 2024, offers **grants of up to Rs 25 crore** for developing 30 key defence technologies **under the iDEX framework**.
 - **ADITI 2.0** introduces **19 new challenges** in areas like **AI, quantum technology, anti-drone systems**, and adaptive camouflage, aiming to strengthen India's defence capabilities further.
- **Defence India Start-up Challenges (DISC)**: To boost the iDEX initiative, DISC was launched with **Atal Innovation Mission** to support start-ups and MSMEs in defence innovation, with **12th edition of DISC** offering **41 challenges in key tech areas** like **Unmanned Aerial Vehicle(UAVs)** and AI, providing **grants up to Rs 1.5 crore**.

Read More: [Innovations for Defence Excellence](#)

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