



Atal Innovation Mission 2.0

[Source: PIB](#)

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the [Atal Innovation Mission \(AIM\)](#) under [NITI Aayog \(National Institution for Transforming India\)](#) with an enhanced budget of Rs. 2,750 crore, marking the launch of **AIM 2.0** to strengthen India's innovation ecosystem until 2028.

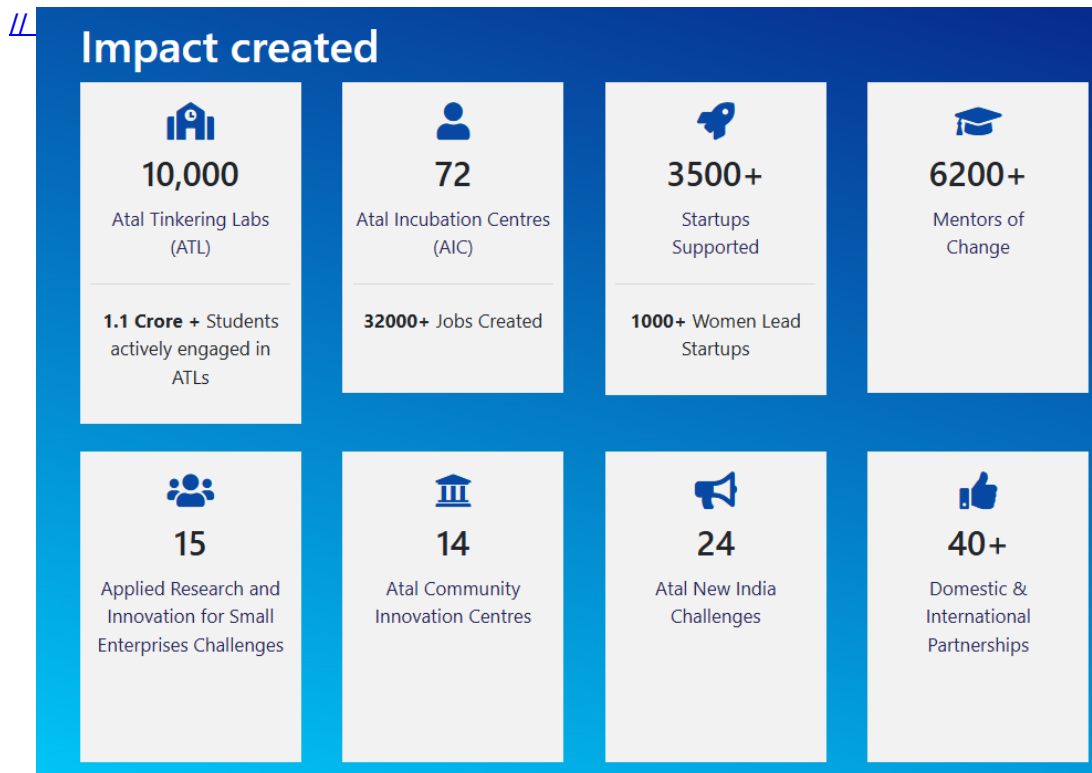
What is the AIM 2.0?

- **AIM 2.0:** Building on AIM success, such as [Atal Tinkering Labs \(ATLs\)](#) and [Atal Incubation Centers \(AICs\)](#). AIM 2.0 seeks to scale and pilot new initiatives.
 - It aims to expand and deepen India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.
 - India ranks [39th on the Global Innovation Index](#) and is home to the world's **third-largest [start-up ecosystem](#)**.
- **Key Programs Under AIM 2.0:**
 - **Language Inclusive Program of Innovation (LIPI):** Establish vernacular innovation centers in [22 scheduled languages](#) to support non-English-speaking innovators.
 - **Frontier Program:** Create 2500 new ATLs in underserved regions like Jammu and Kashmir, North Eastern states, and Aspirational Districts.
 - **Programs Targeting Improving Ecosystem:** Trains professionals (managers, teachers, trainers) for the innovation ecosystem.
 - Create a research sandbox for commercialising deep tech startups requiring longer investment.
 - Strengthen state-level innovation ecosystems through **NITI Aayog's State Support Mission**.
 - Expands India's innovation ecosystem globally through engagements with advanced nations, **Global Tinkering Olympiad**, and partnerships with [United Nations World Intellectual Property Organization \(WIPO\)](#) and [G20](#).
 - **Programs Targeting Improved Output Quality:** The **Industrial Accelerator Program** aims to scale up advanced startups by creating 10 accelerators in critical sectors through [Public-Private Partnerships \(PPP\)](#).
 - The **Atal Sectoral Innovation Launchpads (ASIL)** program will establish **10 iDEX-like platforms** across central ministries to integrate and procure from startups in key industry sectors.

Atal Innovation Mission

- **About:** Launched by NITI Aayog in 2016, AIM promotes innovation and entrepreneurship by fostering a problem-solving mindset in students and strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem in universities and research institutions.
- **Key Programs under AIM:**
 - **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs):** Set up in schools to foster innovation in students (grades 6-12) using tools like [3D printing](#).
 - **Atal Incubation Centres (AICs):** Business incubators promoting startups with mentorship, funding, and technical support.

- **Atal Community Innovation Centres (ACICs)**: Focused on underserved regions, promoting innovation in Tier 2/3 cities, tribal areas, etc.
- **Atal New India Challenges (ANIC)**: Supports technology-based innovations addressing national challenges, providing funding and mentorship.
- **Mentor India**: Engages 6,200+ mentors across sectors to guide entrepreneurs and innovators under AIM's programs.



UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. Atal Innovation Mission is set up under the (2019)

- (a) Department of Science and Technology
- (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ans: (c)

