Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards

Why in News

Recently, the Union Minister of Science and Technology has given **Gandhian Young Technological Innovation** (GYTI) **Awards** to encourage technology students to move towards setting up biotechnology and other start-ups.

Key Points

- GYTI awards constitute **two categories** of awards:

  - **Students Innovations for Advancement of Research Explorations-Gandhian Young Technological Innovation** (SITARE-GYTI):

    - **Given To:** Every year to the most promising technologies developed by the students in life sciences, biotechnology, agriculture, **medical devices**, etc.
    - **Given By:** The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a public sector enterprise, set up by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
  - **Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technological Innovations-Gandhian Young Technological Innovation** (SRISTI-GYTI):

    - **Given To:** Every year to students in other engineering disciplines except for the ones covered by SITARE-GYTI.
    - **Given By:** Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technological Innovations (SRISTI), a developmental voluntary organisation.

Initiatives Aimed at Boosting Start-Ups

- **Scientific Social Responsibility Policy:**

  - Currently, the government is working on a **Scientific Social Responsibility Policy** with a focus on how efforts of scientists can benefit all sections of society.
- **Biotechnology Ignition Grant Scheme:**

  - It is the flagship programme of BIRAC, which provides **support to young startups and entrepreneurial individuals.**
  - It is the **largest early-stage biotech funding programme in India** with the funding **grant of up to Rs. 5 million** to best in class innovative ideas to build and refine the idea to proof-of-concept.
  - **Aims:**

    - Foster generation of ideas with commercialisation potential.
    - Upscale and validate proof of concept.
    - Encourage researchers to take technology closer to market through a start-up.
    - Stimulate enterprise formation.
- **Encouraging Youth for Undertaking Innovative Research through Vibrant Acceleration (E-YUVA) Scheme:**

- It will engage a number of universities and technology institutes to serve as mentors, which will help to create a pan-India network to encourage a larger number of student entrepreneurs.
- It aims to **promote a culture of applied research and need-oriented** (societal or industry) entrepreneurial innovation among young students and researchers.
- It is implemented through E-YUVA Centres (EYCs) to inculcate entrepreneurial culture through fellowship, pre-incubation and mentoring support.
- It provides **support for students under the following two categories:**
  - BIRAC's Innovation Fellows (for postgraduates and above).
  - BIRAC's E-Yuva Fellows (for undergraduate students).

- **Biologically-inspired Resilient Autonomic Cloud** (BioRAC) helps more and more students who try to set up start-ups and **help India become** Atmanirbhar (self-reliant).

  - BioRAC employs **biologically inspired techniques and multi-level tunable redundancy techniques to increase attack and exploitation resilience** in **cloud computing**, helping it tolerate and minimise the impact of novel **cyber-attacks.**

Source: PIB

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