



Since 1983

Dr. Vishwanath Karad

**MIT WORLD PEACE
UNIVERSITY | PUNE**

TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH, SOCIAL INNOVATION & PARTNERSHIPS

BROCHURE

INNOVATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

R.I.D.E.26

RESEARCH

DESIGN

**STARTUP
EXPO 2026**

5th to 8th

AUGUST 2026

#RIDEthewave





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INTRODUCTION TO MIT-WPU

MIT-World Peace University (MIT-WPU), a premier educational institution in Pune, Maharashtra, is deeply rooted in the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda, who emphasised that "The union of Science and Religion alone will bring peace to mankind." **Established in 1983 by Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad**, MIT-WPU stands as a beacon of educational excellence, known for its **architectural grandeur** and **rich legacy** spanning over four decades.

As a leader in **innovation** and **education**, MIT-WPU is dedicated to preparing students to navigate the **complexities** of a rapidly **changing world**. The University's mission to achieve 'World Peace through Education' drives its commitment to **scientific, technological, and spiritual development**.

MIT-WPU fosters an environment where academic rigour meets value-based **education**, ensuring students are well-equipped to tackle future **challenges and advancements**. By integrating industry-relevant **research, state-of-the-art facilities**, and a **focus on ethos, culture, and traditions**, MIT-WPU aims to ignite young minds and cultivate responsible global citizens. The University's **innovative** approach to education is reflected in its **continuous expansion** and its dedication to **fostering** a holistic learning experience that blends the **best of academics, industry exposure, and spiritual growth**.

SEED THOUGHT & CONCEPT NOTE

Innovation is the **catalyst** for progress, driving economic growth and providing solutions to **pressing** societal **issues**.



By harnessing **new technologies**, innovative approaches can mitigate **climate change**, foster **sustainable development**, and **strengthen community bonds**.

Innovation empowers societies to tackle challenges by optimizing **resources**, enhancing **capabilities**, and delivering impactful solutions through **technology**, collaboration, and **grassroots** efforts.



MIT-WPU R.I.D.E 26 is committed to cultivating a culture of **innovation** across all sectors. Our primary objective is to stimulate, **support**, and celebrate innovative **ideas** and **talent** from around the world.

Dr. RAHUL V. KARAD

Managing Trustee & Executive President- MAEER'S
MIT Group of Institutions
Executive President- MIT World Peace University
Chief Initiator- MIT SOG, Pune, Bharat



SEED THOUGHT

At **MIT World Peace University (MIT WPU)**, we are dedicated to fostering the holistic development of our students through **innovative** education. Our aim goes beyond traditional subjects, focusing on cultivating versatile **skills** and values that **transcend career** boundaries.

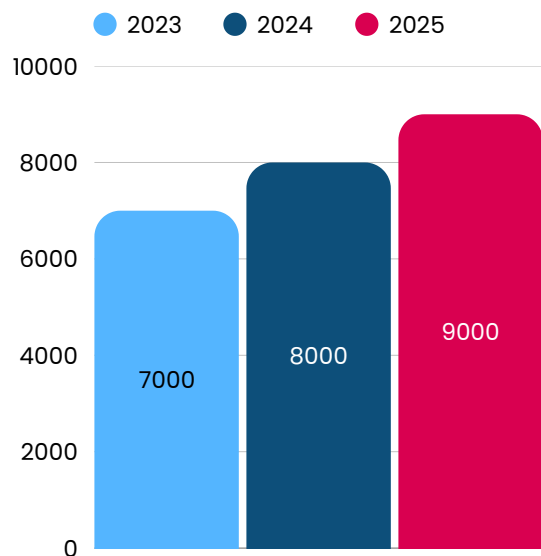
In this era of **rapid information**, we understand that future careers may be unpredictable. To prepare our students for these challenges, we provide essential **skills** and **adaptability**. Our history is a testament to our commitment to evolving education to meet changing needs. We remain **steadfast** in our mission to prepare students for an **ever-evolving** professional world.

A distinctive conclave, **R.I.D.E. (Research, Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship)**, was conceptualized in 2022 with a **vision to transform ideas into meaningful impact**. Over the years, **R.I.D.E.** has evolved into a dynamic platform that empowers students, innovators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders to collaborate, create, and drive change. Building on the **remarkable success** of **R.I.D.E. '22**, followed by the highly impactful editions of **R.I.D.E. '23**, **R.I.D.E. '24**, and **R.I.D.E. '25**, the conclave has continually strengthened its legacy of fostering innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and entrepreneurial excellence.

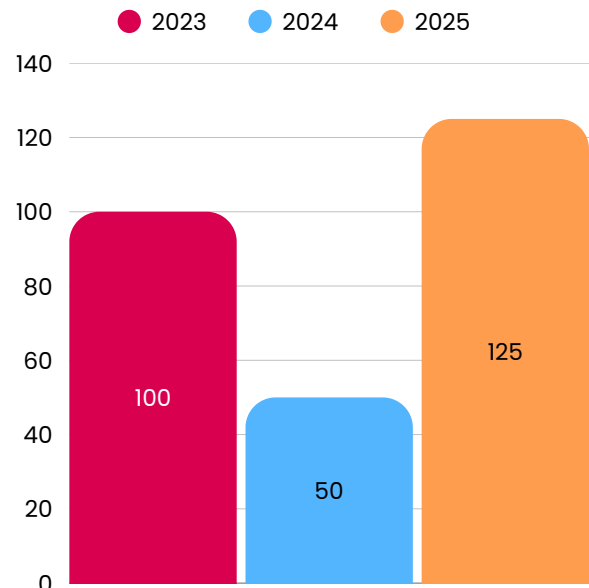
We anticipate that the outlined goals of R.I.D.E 26 will be achieved significantly.

STATISTICS

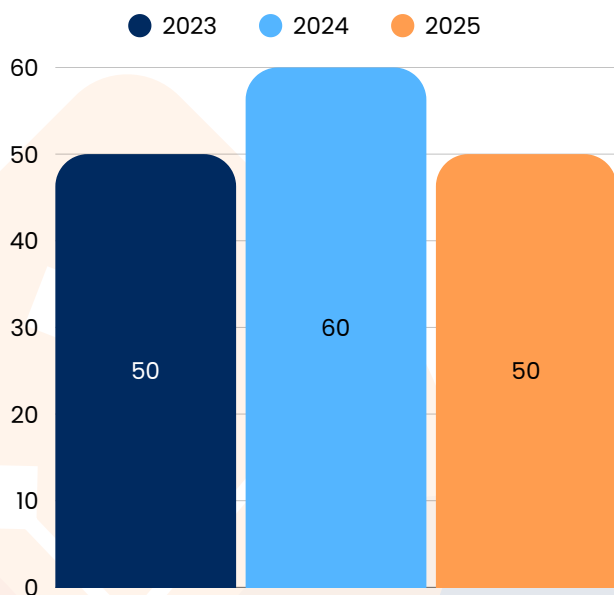
R.I.D.E '23, '24 & '25



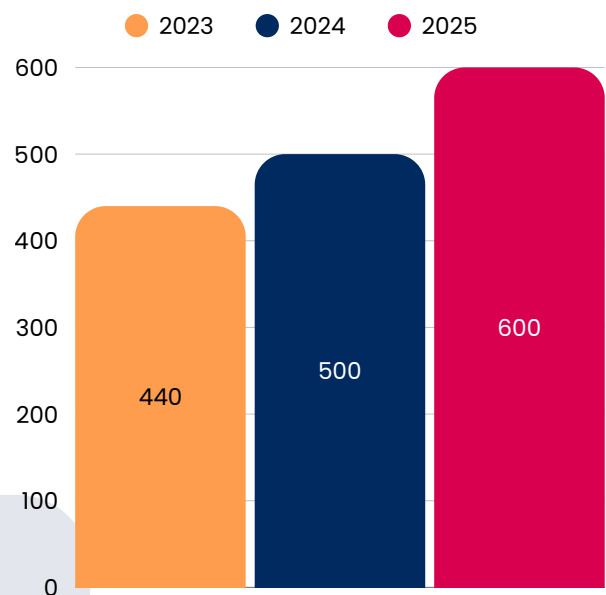
Footfall



Startups



Speakers



Mentors

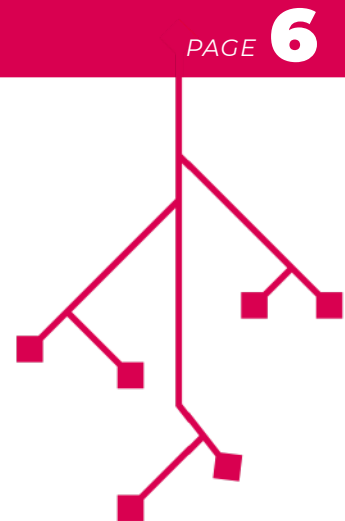
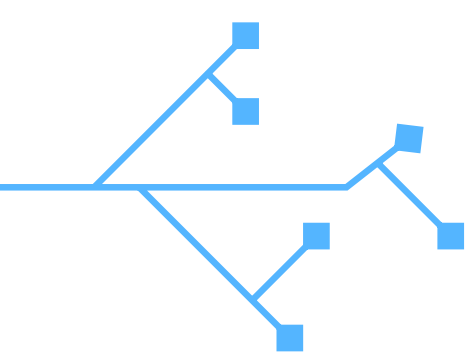
WHAT IS R.I.D.E



R.I.D.E (Research, Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship) is an **intra-university** initiative crafted to **inspire** and **cultivate** entrepreneurial spirit and innovative thinking among students. Building on the success of its previous editions—**R.I.D.E. '23, '24, and '25**—the fifth edition, **R.I.D.E. '26**, continues its mission to push students beyond conventional academic boundaries and into the realm of **transformative** impact.

Spanning four immersive days, the initiative is structured around its **four foundational pillars: Research, Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship**. Each day is dedicated to one of these themes, offering students a dynamic platform to **Explore, Ignite, and Reignite** ideas that address real-world challenges.

Through this holistic approach, **R.I.D.E. '26** seeks to empower students to become **change-makers**—equipped not only with **knowledge**, but with the mindset and tools to **shape a future** defined by **innovation, purpose, and progress**.



WHAT'S NEW WITH

INNOVATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

R.I.D.€26

RESEARCH

DESIGN



THEME OF

INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP
R.I.D.E. 26
RESEARCH DESIGN

STARTUP
EXPO 2026

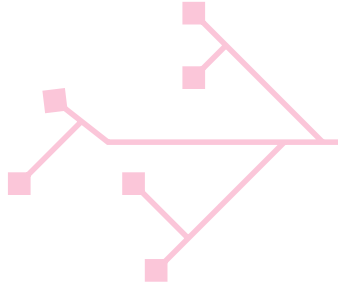
INSIGHT TO IMPACT

REDIFINE IDEAS . DARE TO EXECUTE

R.I.D.E. 2026 is not just about what the future holds, it's about who holds the future. By encouraging students to step up as **changemakers**, this edition aligns with **MIT-WPU's** commitment to developing socially **conscious, innovation-driven** leaders. It is a call to action, a celebration of **self-belief**, and a space where purpose meets **possibility**.

In an era where breakthrough ideas have the potential to solve complex global challenges, this year's theme, "**I2I: Insight to Impact**," emphasizes the journey of transforming knowledge into meaningful action. As **research, technology, design, and entrepreneurship** continue to converge, **R.I.D.E. 2026** encourages **students, innovators, and aspiring entrepreneurs** to move beyond ideation and **create solutions** that generate tangible social, technological, and economic impact.

This edition marks a clear **departure** from the themes of **R.I.D.E. 2024** and **2025**, both of which revolved around **sustainability**, first through the lens of **innovation** for **sustainable development**, and then through the urgent lens of climate action and **responsible resource** use.



THEME OF

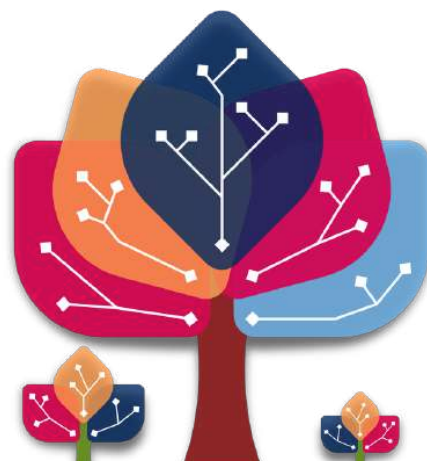
INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP

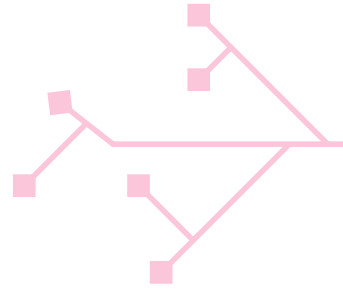
R.I.D.E. 2026

RESEARCH DESIGN

Previous editions succeeded in inspiring ideas, fostering collaboration, and accelerating innovation. But **R.I.D.E. 2026** takes the next leap by transforming valuable insights into measurable impact. This year's focus is purposefully action-driven. It emphasizes execution, collaboration, and the ability to create meaningful change through **innovation, research, design, and entrepreneurship.**

One of the defining milestones from **R.I.D.E. 2025** was the successful accomplishment of a **World Record** with **3000+** Student Ventures, reflecting the collective spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. Building on this remarkable achievement, **R.I.D.E. 2026** inspires participants to identify real-world challenges, validate impactful ideas, and develop sustainable, scalable solutions. **This edition is designed to move beyond ideation toward execution, collaboration, and measurable impact.** Along with attending sessions, participants will embark on an entrepreneurial journey guided by mentors and strengthened by the thriving innovation ecosystem of **MIT-WPU.**





EXPERT TALKS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

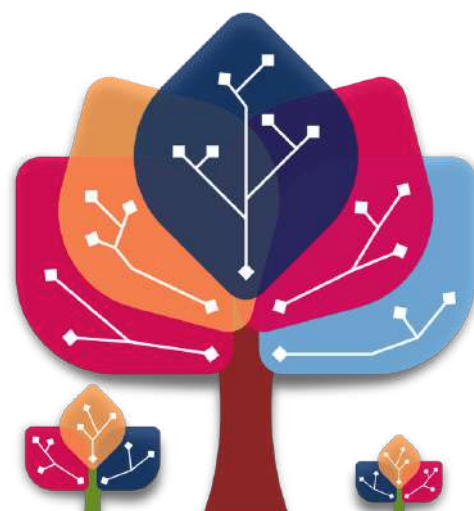
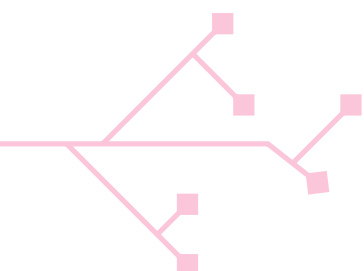
The initiative will showcase keynote speakers who are **eminent industrial leaders** and **influencers** renowned for their achievements in **Research, Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship**. Each day will feature insightful keynote addresses delivered by these luminaries, offering deep dives into their personal journeys and **professional expertise**. Following each keynote, engaging panel discussions will provide students with opportunities to directly **interact** with these **industry icons**, asking questions and gaining firsthand insights into their **success strategies** and **innovative approaches**.

The structure of the initiative is meticulously designed to ensure that every student embarks on a **transformative** learning journey from the outset. They will acquire valuable **knowledge** and practical insights that empower them to apply these **learnings** immediately. By the culmination of the **sessions**, students will be equipped not only to understand but also to **conceptualise** and refine their own **business models**, leveraging their newfound **inspiration** and **understanding** gained throughout the initiative .

The logo for Startup Expo 2026. It features a stylized orange 'S' with a white arrow pointing right, followed by the word 'STARTUP' in blue, 'EXPO' in blue, and '2026' in orange.

The **StartUp Expo**, at **MIT-World Peace University** in Pune, India, is a pioneering initiative that brings together over 150 startups to showcase their **cutting-edge** products and solutions through stalls, creating a vibrant environment for entrepreneurial exchange. With over **20 investors** in attendance, the expo provides a unique opportunity for startups to pitch their ideas and **secure crucial funding**.

One of the most **electrifying** and eagerly awaited highlights of **Startup Expo 2026** are the **Investment Sessions**, where bold ideas meet opportunities. Designed in a **high-stakes**, high-impact format inspired by the iconic “**Shark Tank**” model, this is where game-changing **pitches** unfold and real deals are made. At last year’s expo, **40+ startups** pitched their ideas to **15+ prominent** investors , resulting in **3 startups** receiving direct funding .



WORLD RECORD

From Ideas to 2,000 Ventures

A Historic Milestone by MIT-WPU R.I.D.E. 2025

Innovation is measured not just by ideas conceived, but by ideas transformed into **action**.

In **R.I.D.E. 2025**, **MIT World Peace University** achieved a remarkable milestone by facilitating the creation of **2,000** student-led ventures, establishing a World Record for the Highest Number of Ventures Created Through a **University Innovation Initiative**.

This achievement reflects the collective vision of thousands of students who embraced entrepreneurship, challenged **conventional thinking**, and transformed their **ideas** into viable **business concepts**. Through structured mentoring, expert guidance, industry interaction, and continuous evaluation, every participant embarked on a journey from identifying problems to developing **innovative solutions**.

More than a record, this milestone represents a growing culture of innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurial excellence at **MIT-WPU**. It demonstrates what is possible when students are provided with the right ecosystem, mentorship, and opportunities to **transform their potential into meaningful impact**.

As **R.I.D.E. 2026** moves forward with the theme "Insight to Impact (I2I)," this achievement serves as the foundation for an even bigger mission—to inspire the next generation of innovators to **create solutions** that leave a lasting **impact on society**.

R.I.D.E.26

RESEARCH

DESIGN

PREVIOUS SPEAKERS



Dr. Pavan Soni
Founder & Innovation
Evangelist



Mr. Roheit S Dubepatil
Director of Orah Nutrichem Pvt
Ltd



Dr. Utpal Chakraborty
CTO of IndiqAI



Mr. Charudatta Aradhya
Director R&D and Site Head
Boston Scientific



Dr. Anirvan Chatterjee
Founder & CEO
HaystackAnalytics Pvt Ltd



Dr. Vanita Prasad
Chief Technology Officer
REVY Environmental Solutions Pvt.
Ltd.

INNOVATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

R.I.D.E.26

RESEARCH

DESIGN



Noah Nartins
Co-founder at FITJIT



Prof. Varun Sahini
Professor in International Politics
at Jawaharlal Nehru University



Samir Somaiya
President of the IMC chamber
of commerce and Industry.
Chairman of Godavari
Biorefineries



Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar
Padma Vibhushan, Padma
Bhushan, Padma Shri
Awardee & Former Director of
CSIR



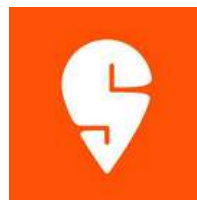
Mansukhbhai Prajapati
Founder Mitticool,
Firstt Refrigerator that runs
without Electricity



Ashutosh Dugal
Head Customer care - Electric
Vehicles at Mahindra Rise

PREVIOUS SPEAKERS

PREVIOUS SPONSORS





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