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**भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय संघ**

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**Association of Indian Universities**  
AIU House, 16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg  
(Kotla Marg) New Delhi- 110002

No. AIU/YA/ 2026-27/  
April 23, 2026

**Subject: Invitation for Proposals to Host AIU's 40<sup>th</sup> UNIFESTs 2026-27 and Youth Affairs Programs**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The **Association of Indian Universities (AIU)** has, for nearly four decades, been at the forefront of nurturing student talent and fostering national integration through its **AIU's 40<sup>th</sup> Inter-University Youth Festivals (UNIFESTs)**. These festivals have evolved into one of the largest cultural and intellectual platforms for university students in India, encouraging creativity, leadership, and cross-cultural understanding. They embody the spirit of youth empowerment and provide opportunities for students to engage in meaningful dialogue, artistic expression, and collaborative learning.

As we prepare for the **AIU's 40<sup>th</sup> UNIFESTs (2026-27)**, AIU invites proposals from its esteemed member universities to host the following prestigious programs:

- **AIU Eight Zonal Youth Festivals** – Regional platforms to showcase diverse talent and select participants for the national stage in the **dance, music, fine arts, theatre, and literary events** categories.
- **AIU National Youth Festival** – The flagship cultural and intellectual event of the Association of Indian Universities. Organized annually, it brings together the finest student talent from across the country, selected through the Eight Zonal Youth Festivals.
- **AIU National Women Student Parliament** – A unique initiative to empower women students and encourage leadership in democratic processes.
- **AIU National Moot Court Competition** – A platform to nurture legal acumen and advocacy skills among law students.
- **AIU National Qawwali Competition** – Preserving and promoting India's rich musical heritage through spirited student performances.

We invite all interested member universities to submit their proposals online by **May 23, 2026**. To ensure a smooth process, please refer to the enclosed submission manual (**Annexure I**).

E-mail: [youthaffairs@aiu.ac.in](mailto:youthaffairs@aiu.ac.in)  
Phone: (011) 23230059, 23231097, 23232429, 23232435, 23232305

Please note the following important instructions:

- Proposals must be submitted **only through the AIU online portal:** <https://university.aiu.ac.in/University>.
- Submissions should be made **after obtaining prior approval from the office of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor** of the concerned university.
- Universities may indicate their preference for hosting one or more of the above programs, along with details of infrastructure, facilities, and organizational capacity.
- Universities are requested to kindly ensure that their AIU's annual subscription has been duly paid and is up to date up to the financial year 2026-27, prior to applying for hosting any Youth Festival
- Timely submission will ensure smooth planning and allocation of events across regions.
- Please note that the average participation in the Zonal Youth Festivals is approximately 1000–1600 students, while the National Youth Festival typically hosts around 3000 participants. Member universities are therefore requested to kindly ensure that they have adequate accommodation and related facilities to host such numbers before submitting their proposal

We strongly encourage your university to participate in this process and contribute to the success of these landmark programs. Hosting an AIU UNIFEST or youth affairs initiative is not only a matter of prestige but also an opportunity to showcase your institution's commitment to student development, cultural enrichment, and national integration.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to working together in making the **AIU's 40<sup>th</sup> UNIFESTs 2026-27 and Youth Affairs Programs** a memorable celebration of youth, creativity, and unity.

Yours faithfully,



**(Dr. Alok Kumar Mishra)**

Encl: **Annexure I** – Online Submission Manual.

**The Vice Chancellors/Directors all AIU member universities/Institutes.**

*PS: Kindly request you to instruct the concerned officials of your university to update the details of your University's DSW/Cultural Coordinator on the AIU Online Portal, if this has not already been completed.*