

1/10/26
 26/06/26
 D. rector/SPA/Ad
 1/10/26
 Director/SPA

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
 Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
 Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (15th Floor)
 11-72 Lakaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000
 www.sicip.gov.bd

No. PD/SICIP/BIRD/160/2024/1710

Date: 02.06.2026

To
 The Chairman
 University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
 Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

Subject: Request to Circulate the REOI Notice for Bangladesh Industry Research, Development & Innovation (BIRDI) Grants among All Public and Private Universities.

Dear Sir,

With due respect, we request the kind cooperation of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh to circulate the attached Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) notice for Bangladesh Industry Research, Development & Innovation (BIRDI) Grants, among all public and private universities in Bangladesh.

The notice relates to the BIRDI Grants under the Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP) of the Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh, with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank. The grant supports industry-oriented research, development, and innovation through collaboration among universities, research institutions, training institutions, and industries.

UGC is kindly requested to circulate the following information so that eligible academic institutions, faculty members, researchers, student teams, and university-industry collaboration units can participate within the deadline.

Suggested circulation content:

Item	Information to circulate
Programme	Bangladesh Industry Research, Development & Innovation (BIRDI) Grants
Implementing authority	SICIP, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh, with ADB assistance
Purpose	Promote applied, industry-driven R&D and innovation for improved industrial processes, value-added products, technology transfer, higher-skilled employment, green technology, and industry-academia collaboration.
Eligible applicants	Academic entities/training institutions in Bangladesh, faculty-supervised student teams, industry entities in Bangladesh, and individuals from Bangladesh endorsed by local industry, preferably with a locally registered educational/research/training institution.
Submission method	EOI must be submitted online through the official BIRDI portal using the standard EOI template.
Official Link	BIRDI portal: https://birdi.sicip.gov.bd/ Guidelines: https://sicip.gov.bd/resources/birdi/
Deadline	30 June 2026, 11:59 PM, Bangladesh time
Important note	An EOI Demonstration workshop will be arranged. Submission will be activated after the workshop; details will be available in the BIRDI portal after registration.

We would be grateful if UGC could issue/circulate this communication to all Vice-Chancellors, Registrars, Deans, Heads of Departments, Offices of Research, IQACs, and relevant university-industry collaboration units for wide dissemination.

We sincerely appreciate UGC's support in promoting industry-academia collaboration and research-based innovation across higher education institutions in Bangladesh.

Yours sincerely,



Mohammed Walid Hossain
 Additional Secretary &
 Executive Program Director
 Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
 Phone: +880-2-55138753-5 (PABX) Fax: +880-2-55138752
 mwalid@sicip.gov.bd

Attachment: REOI Notice for BIRDI Grants

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Probashi Kalyan Bhaban (15th Floor)
71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000
www.sicip.gov.bd

**Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) for Bangladesh Industry Research
Development & Innovation (BIRDI) Grants**

No. FD/SICIP/BIRDI/149/2024/1676

Date: 24.05.2025

1. The Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh, is implementing the Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP) with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The program aims to develop a skilled workforce through advanced technical and competency-based training across the country. SICIP seeks to establish a robust quality assurance mechanism, enabling effective collaboration between training institutions and industries to foster human resource development in priority industry sectors.
2. Under output-2 of Scheme 1 (Advanced Technical Skills, Managerial Capability, and R&D-Driven Innovation Capacity Development for Priority and Emerging Industries) of SICIP Bangladesh Industry Research Development & Innovation (BIRDI) Grants has been introduced to support industry-oriented research, development, and innovation.
3. The BIRDI Grants are designed to:
 - Promote applied, industry-driven R&D for innovative solutions to create value added products, improved industrial processes and environmentally friendly technologies.
 - Establish industry and academia partnerships for collaborative innovation and advanced skill development.
 - Facilitate technology transfer and inclusion of global best practices in industrial production
 - Support to enhance industry capacity for innovation to increase productivity and global market competitiveness.
 - Increase participation of industries in RDI activities and to accelerate integration of green technology and climate resilient practices for sustainable development.
4. Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must fall under one or more of the following categories:
 - An academic entity or training institutions based in Bangladesh.
 - A student team within any academic entity based in Bangladesh and comprehensively supervised by an academic faculty.
 - An industry entity based in Bangladesh.
 - An individual endorsed by industry and preferably by a registered educational/research/training institutions based within Bangladesh.

Applicants fall under any of the following category shall not be eligible to apply:

- Unregistered business entity or academic institution
- A defense related or aligned institution or industry (including supplies)
- Not compliant with laws of Bangladesh, including required licenses, permits

5. All EOIs must be signed and stamped by a duly authorized representative of the applicant, using the standard EOI template available on the official BIRDI website (<https://biridi.sicp.gov.bd>). Only online submissions via the BIRDI website will be considered for evaluation. Detailed BIRDI guidelines may be viewed from (<https://sicp.gov.bd/resources/birdi/>).

6. EOIs will be shortlisted based on the following key factors:

- Clear definition of the industry problem and the proposed R&D based solution (visual aids optional).
- Description of academic and industry partners, including background and history of collaboration.
- Demonstrated value to industry in terms of efficiency, competitiveness, and economic impact.
- Commitment to ethical practices and sustainable development principles.
- Concrete plans to generate higher-skilled employment within the target sector.
- Anticipated long-term impact on research, academic curricula, and academia-industry collaboration.

7. The deadline for submission of EOIs is 11:59 PM (Bangladesh time), 30 June 2020. It is important to note that there will be a workshop on EOI submission. The details of the workshop will be available upon registering in the BIRDI portal. EOI submission will be activated after the workshop. SICIP will not be responsible for any costs associated with the workshop participation, preparation or submission of EOIs. SICIP reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason.



For further information, please contact:

Mohammed Walid Hossain

Executive Program Director

Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)

Probashi Kalyan Bhaban (15th Floor),

71-72 Old Elephant Road, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000

Phone: +880-2-55138753-5 (PABX)

Fax: +880-2-55138752