MEITY

IICG offers up to Rs 25 lakh grants for graphene electronics

IICG Kochi invites proposals on four graphene and 2D materials problems, up to Rs 25 lakh each plus incubation. Proposals are due November 26, 2026.

THE MINISTRY OF Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) posted a call for proposals from the India Innovation Centre for Graphene (IICG), Kochi, in its document repository on November 4, 2026, with an application proforma beside it. The call announces the IICG Innovation Grant for "Graphene/2D Materials for Advanced Electronics and Photonics". It carries no number or date of its own. IICG is an initiative of MeitY and the Government of Kerala, with the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Thrissur (C-MET), Digital University Kerala, Trivandrum, and Tata Steel Limited as implementation agencies, and Maker Village and Kerala Startup Mission as supporting partners. IICG, Kochi is the implementing agency for the grant, and the winners are to be incubated as startups in IICG.

KEY FACTS

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Call for proposals, IICG Innovation Grant, with an application proforma



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MeitY · November 4, 2026

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There are four problem statements. The first asks for 2D transition metal dichalcogenide (TMDC) or graphene image sensors and photodetectors integrated with a basic CMOS readout, at least to Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4, targeting an initial 8 × 8 pixel array or a workable subset. The second asks for 2D material field-effect transistors on scalable substrates, such as 2-inch or 4-inch sapphire or silicon wafers, to TRL 4. The third asks for graphene or 2D material chemiresistive gas sensors for vehicles, at TRL 5, targeting NO2, CO, NH3, H2 and selected VOCs, at sensing temperatures of -20 to 85°C. The fourth asks for a complete handheld electronics module for an underwater transducer with a frequency range of 700 kHz to 1.00 MHz, with C-MET providing the transducers and at least 5 complete modules as deliverables; the proposer should have prior experience designing PCB circuits for underwater transducer applications. Each statement sets its own performance targets, and proposals must give the design, targeted specifications, timeline, TRL, benchmarking and strategies, or they will not be considered. Proposers are asked to work with C-MET/IICG on using materials C-MET/IICG has developed.

Each problem statement carries a maximum of Rs 25 lakh plus free incubation, and the grant runs for at most one year. Applicants may apply for more than one problem statement. The call says all the IP will rest with IICG, while its rules say any IPR generated will be jointly owned by IICG and the contributing team through a separate MoU. The proforma's budget allows manpower, consumables, contingencies, travel and any other head, with no overhead and no capital budget for equipment or software. The authorized signatory must certify that accounts of funds received and spent will be kept as MeitY requires.

The call is open to Indian academic institutes, research institutes, start-ups and entrepreneurs. Previous Innovation Grant winners may not apply until their project is over. Proposals are screened on merit, and shortlisted applicants present for final selection. IICG decides how many teams, if any, are selected, and the Secretary, MeitY, decides any dispute. Selected teams must agree in writing to be incubated in IICG.

Proposals go in the proforma's format to innovationgrant.iicg@gmail.com by November 26, 2026. The proforma asks for the project title, the organization and its legal status, the project lead, objectives, outcomes, duration, a quarter-wise milestone plan, market potential, partner organizations, the budget, and an endorsement by an authorized signatory. The call names graphenecentre.in and cmet.gov.in for more information.

Issued by	India Innovation Centre for Graphene (IICG), Kochi; posted by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Document	Call for proposals, IICG Innovation Grant, with an application proforma
Posted	November 4, 2026 (the call itself is undated)
Broad area	Graphene/2D Materials for Advanced Electronics and Photonics
Run by	MeitY and the Government of Kerala, with C-MET Thrissur, Digital University Kerala and Tata Steel Limited; Maker Village and Kerala Startup Mission supporting
Funding	Up to Rs 25 lakh per problem statement, plus free incubation
Duration	Up to one year
Budget limits	No overhead; no capital budget for equipment, software, etc.
Who may apply	Indian academic institutes, research institutes, start-ups and entrepreneurs; not previous Innovation Grant winners until their project is over
Selection	Screening on merit, then a presentation by shortlisted applicants
Intellectual property	Call: all IP rests with IICG. Rules: IPR jointly owned by IICG and the team through a separate MoU
Submit to	innovationgrant.iicg@gmail.com, in the proforma's format
Last date	November 26, 2026

The four problem statements

No.	Problem statement	Readiness level asked
1	2D TMDC and/or graphene CMOS-compatible image sensors and advanced photodetectors	At least TRL 4
2	Scalable 2D material field-effect transistors (FETs) for post-silicon electronics	TRL 4

3	Graphene/2D material chemiresistive gas sensors for automotive applications	TRL 5
4	Complete electronics module for a 2D array/graphene/piezo underwater transducer	Targeted TRL to be stated in the proposal

The call for proposals (PDF, 275 KB)

Source: MeitY's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on November 7, 2026.

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