IIT Madras launches 'UDYOG' finishing school for biotechnology students

Education · 22 October 2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/10/22



News

On 21 Oct 2026 IIT Madras Director V. Kamakoti inaugurated the 'IITM-Biofoundry Finishing School – UDYOG' (Upskilling and Development for Young Graduates). It is run by SynBioME, the IIT Madras–TICEL Biofoundry; the coordinator is Prof. Guhan Jayaraman of the Department of Biotechnology. Pre-final and final-year B.Tech / M.Tech / M.Sc students of biotechnology and allied streams from any institution in India can join. Three stages: about 3 months of online learning through CODE → evaluation → a 4-week hands-on programme at the IIT Madras Biofoundry → internship opportunities with industry partners. The first batch begins on 18 Jan 2027. Aim: bridge the gap between academics and industry and create a job-ready workforce for biomanufacturing.

Key facts

Name	IITM-Biofoundry Finishing School – UDYOG (Upskilling and Development for Young Graduates)
Launch	21 Oct 2026 – Director V. Kamakoti, IIT Madras campus, Chennai
Run by	SynBioME – IIT Madras–TICEL Biofoundry; online part via CODE (Centre for Outreach and Digital Education)

Eligibility	Pre-final / final-year B.Tech, M.Tech, M.Sc students of biotechnology and allied streams
Structure	~3 months online + 4-week hands-on + industry internship opportunity
First batch	18 Jan 2027; early-bird registration till 15 Dec 2026

Background

- IIT Madras: started in 1959 with West German assistance (1959 Bonn agreement – equipment, German professors). IITs are Institutions of National Importance under the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961. NIRF 2025: No. 1 overall for the 7th year in a row. IIT Madras Research Park is India's first university-based research park.
- Biotech governance: Department of Biotechnology (DBT) – 1986, under the Union Ministry of Science & Technology. BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council) – a not-for-profit Section 8 PSU set up by DBT in 2012 to fund start-ups and industrial research.
- BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) – Union Cabinet approval, Aug 2024. It promotes high-performance biomanufacturing through biomanufacturing hubs, biofoundries and Bio-AI hubs.
- Science: a 'biofoundry' uses synthetic biology and automated lab tools to design, build, test and scale up engineered microbes (design–build–test–learn cycle). Enzymes, vaccines, biofuels and bioplastics are biomanufactured products.

Tamil Nadu link: partner TICEL Bio Park at Taramani, Chennai, was promoted by the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) with technical collaboration from Cornell University (USA); CM J. Jayalalithaa inaugurated it on 10 Nov 2004.

Shanmugam IAS Academy – your next step

- **Courses:** TNPSC Group 1, 2 / 2A (Prelims + Mains), Group 4, UPSC / IAS – Coimbatore · Madurai · Online – https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/fees
- **Books (PDF):** TNPSC PYQ books, UPSC books – https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/study-materials
- **Free quiz + daily PDFs:** https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/free-pdf-download · All news of this day: https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/10/22

Admissions – call / WhatsApp: 99941 46662 · 99944 27714 · www.shanmugamiasacademy.in