MICROSOFT LEARN STUDENTS' CLUB

Presents

WALCHAND IMAGINE CUP 2K26

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(Ministry of Education Initiative)

MICROSOFT LEARN STUDENTS' CLUB

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Welcome Note

It gives us immense pleasure to welcome you to **Walchand Imagine Cup 2026**, organized by the **Microsoft Learn Students' Club (MLSC)** at Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli.

Bright minds come together to create significant solutions for pressing problems in everyday life at this celebration of innovation, creativity and technology. This program, which draws inspiration from the worldwide Microsoft Imagine Cup, attempts to foster a spirit of problem-solving and provide students the tools they need to turn their concepts into real inventions.

Welcome to Walchand Imagine Cup 2026

Our Inspiration

At Walchand Imagine Cup 2026 (WIC 26), our inspiration comes from the belief that technology has the power to solve everyday problems and transform lives.
Our goal was to establish a platform that would inspire students to not only think creatively but also to transform their ideas into practical solutions that have a significant impact.

The global Microsoft Imagine Cup, a platform where creativity and purpose collide, serves as the model for WIC 26. Our goal is to give students the experience of the complete innovation journey, from identifying challenges to building solutions and presenting them to experts.

We hope that this event will stimulate curiosity, encourage teamwork and enable young innovators to push boundaries, try out new technologies and discover uncharted territory. Every idea, in our opinion, has the capacity to bring about change and WIC 26 is there to nurture that potential.

About WCE

Established in 1947, Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli (WCE), is among the most reputed engineering institutions in India. The college upholds strong academic standards, encourages research and actively contributes to the advancement of technical education.

WCE, spread across 90 acres, is an autonomous institution under Shivaji University, approved by AICTE and accredited with an 'A' grade by NAAC. It offers undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programs in various engineering disciplines, emphasizing practical learning and innovation.

Over the years, WCE has developed a vibrant culture of technical excellence through its active student clubs, hackathons and research initiatives. Its alumni hold key positions in leading organizations such as Microsoft, Google and Amazon, reflecting the institution's long-standing commitment to quality and innovation.

About MLSC

The Microsoft Learn Students' Club (MLSC) at Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli was founded on July 30, 2024. It is a student community that focuses on learning and applying Microsoft technologies through hands-on projects and teamwork.

The club helps students build technical skills, think creatively and gain practical experience. Through workshops and projects, MLSC supports students in areas such as Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence and Software Development.

Our Vision is to inspire students to learn, build and lead using Microsoft technologies while creating a supportive community of learners and future technology professionals.

About Walchand Imagine cup

- Walchand Imagine Cup 2026, organized by the Microsoft Learn Students' Club (MLSC) at Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli, is an innovation-driven challenge inspired by the global Microsoft Imagine Cup. The event offers students from all colleges a platform to ideate, create, and pitch technology-based solutions to everyday problems.

- Participants experience the complete innovation journey, from identifying a problem and developing a solution to building a prototype and presenting their ideas before industry experts and potential investors. As they compete for exciting prizes, internships and possible funding opportunities, students participate in this program to gain practical experience, improve their teamwork abilities, and show off their creativity to professionals.

Eligibility & Team formation

- Open to students from all colleges across India
- Each team must have 2 to 4 members
- Interdisciplinary teams are encouraged
- One member must be designated as the team leader for all official
- Participants will be divided into two categories:
  - Novice Track: First Year and Second Year Students
  - Expert Track: Third Year and Final Year Students

Event Structure :

Round 1: Ideation Round

- This round will be conducted online.

- This will be an elimination round, where only the top-performing teams will be selected to advance to the next stage.

- Teams will choose a domain such as Health-Tech, FinTech, Agri-Tech, Governance, Audio-Video Technology or an Open Innovation Project.

- Each team must identify a specific and impactful problem statement and propose a creative, technology-driven solution in PPT format.

- The PPT should include a problem statement, proposed solution, implementation plan, impact and feasibility.

- The problem statement ought to be precise, unambiguous and relevant to everyday life.

- The ideas submitted should be fair and hold real business potential.

- The ideation round will primarily focus on clarity and understanding of the problem statement.

- Participants must include a short video explaining their problem statement and proposed solution.

- Teams may also mention how they plan to incorporate AI into their solution (not compulsory but recommended)

Round 2: Minimal Viable Product Development Phase

- This round will be conducted online.

- No elimination will take place in this round; all shortlisted teams will continue to the next stage.

- Shortlisted teams will turn their ideas into working minimal viable product and prepare a business canvas for their problem statement.

- A seminar will be conducted on building startups, creating business canvases, and pitching ideas.

- If teams want individualized advice, they are encouraged to speak with industry mentors on their own terms.

- During this phase, the organizing team(WCE MLSC) will attempt to set up technical sessions and general mentorship to support all participants, even though specific mentors will not be assigned.

Final Round: Investor Pitch Days

- This final round will be conducted offline.

- A panel of entrepreneurs, investors, and business representatives will hear presentations from the finalist teams regarding their business models and minimal viable products.

- Each team's creativity, execution, and presenting abilities will be put to the test during the presentations.

- To simulate real startup challenges, teams will receive last-minute problem modifications or situational changes 12 hours before the final pitch.

- The overall winners will be decided in this round, and the best teams will receive prizes, recognition, and chances for funding or incubation.

Prize Money

Expert Track

Rank	Prizes
Winner	Rs. 40,000/-
1st Runner Up	Rs. 25,000/-
2nd Runner Up	Rs. 12,000/-

Novice Track

Rank	Prizes
Winner	Rs. 10,000/-
1st Runner Up	Rs. 8,000/-
2nd Runner Up	Rs. 5,000/-

Domains include (but not limited to):

- Health-Tech
- FinTech
- Agri-Tech
- E - Governance
- Audio-Video Technology
- Open Innovation

Event Timeline :

Participants can refer to the following timeline for key dates .

Phase	Tentative Dates	Notes
Round 1: Ideation PPT Submission	**Jan 20 – Feb 10, 2026**	**Teams submit PPTs with ideas & problem statement**
Shortlist Announcement	**Feb 15, 2026**	**Selected teams announced**
Team Confirmation Phase	**Feb 15 - Feb 16, 2026**	**Confirmation forms sent and waiting list teams added if needed.**
Mentorship & Prototype Building Phase	**Feb 17 – Mar 19, 2026**	**Teams develop prototype & business canvas**
Final Pitch Days	**Mar 20 – Mar 21, 2026**	**Grand finale with investors & companies**

Judging Criteria :

Evaluation will be carried out as per the criteria mentioned below.

Criteria	Description
Innovation	Uniqueness and creativity of the idea
Feasibility	Practicality and potential for implementation
Impact	Social, economic or environmental benefit
Technical Depth	Level of technology and implementation quality
Business Viability	Market potential and scalability
Adaptability	Response to last-minute challenges

Rewards & Opportunities :

• Exciting cash prizes and potential internship opportunities.

• Investors may choose to fund innovative ideas.

• Companies can offer Pre-Placement Interviews (PPIs).

• Certificates for all participants.

Rules & Regulations:

• All submissions must be original and created by the team.

• The ideas submitted should be ethical, relevant, and business-feasible.

• Plagiarism or copied ideas will result in disqualification.

• Teams must adhere to deadlines and maintain professionalism.

• Respect mentors, judges, and fellow participants.

• All decisions made by the judges regarding scores, rankings, and winners will be final and binding.

Let your ideas shape the future, Innovate, Build, and Pitch with Walchand Imagine Cup 2026!

Code Of Conduct:

1. Professional Behavior

- Maintain respect, professionalism, and courtesy toward all participants, organizers, mentors, and guests.

- Treat all ideas, opinions, and presentations with respect, even if they differ from your own.

- Use appropriate language and avoid any form of harassment, bullying, or discrimination.

2. Fair Play

- All submissions, presentations, and solutions must be original and created by the participating team.

- Plagiarism, copying, or misrepresentation of work will not be tolerated.

- Teams should avoid any unfair advantage or tampering with other teams' work.

3. Participation Rules

- Participants must adhere to deadlines, schedules, and instructions provided by the organizing team.

- All technical and non-technical submissions must comply with the specified formats and guidelines.

4. Use of Technology

- Participants must ensure their devices, software, and accounts used for the event are secure and do not compromise the integrity of the competition.

- Unauthorized access to other teams' work, event platforms, or resources is strictly prohibited.

5. Online Etiquette

- During online rounds, participants should maintain professionalism in video calls, chats, and collaborative platforms.
- Recording or sharing sessions without permission is not allowed.

6. Disciplinary Actions

The organizing committee reserves the right to take action in case of misconduct or violation of rules:

- **Warning**: Minor infractions such as inappropriate language or minor deadline violations may result in a formal warning.
- **Disqualification**: Major violations like plagiarism, harassment, tampering with submissions, or unethical behavior may result in immediate disqualification from the event.
- **Reporting to Authorities**: In extreme cases involving legal or safety issues, the matter may be escalated to the relevant authorities.
- **Revocation of Awards/Privileges**: Any participant found violating the code after winning may have their awards, recognition, or funding opportunities revoked.

7. Commitment

By participating in the event, all participants agree to follow this Code of Conduct and cooperate fully with organizers to maintain a positive and professional environment.

Other Events By MLSC

Flagship Event:

- **Walchand Imagine Cup 2026 (WIC 2k26):** A technology-driven challenge where students ideate, develop and pitch solutions to everyday problems, gaining hands-on experience and professional exposure.

Mega Events:

- **AzureXplore:** Explore cloud computing, AI and development tools.
- **AI Nexus:** Build, train and deploy your own chatbot through hands-on challenges.

Club Services:

- **Level Up Bootcamp (Cybersecurity + Cloud Workshop):** Workshops, hands-on challenges and mentorship in ethical hacking and security.
- **.NET Workshop:** Skill-building sessions and project guidance using Microsoft technologies.

Special Initiatives:

- **The Transcend Buzz Show:** MLSC's podcast sharing tech trends, inspiring stories and interviews.
- **AR VR Workshop (in collaboration with C-DAC):** Interactive sessions to explore augmented and virtual reality projects.

Sponsors and Collaborators

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