

Institutional Development Plan (IDP)

Background

Azim Premji University was established in 2010, through the Karnataka State 'Azim Premji University Act'. Set up by Azim Premji Foundation to contribute to the social sector in India through teaching and research.

The teaching programmes focus on domains of human development, e.g., Education, Development, Public Health, Sustainability and Climate Change – broad-based undergraduate education is also integrated with fields of human development.

Students come from across 28 states with varied socio-economic backgrounds – admission processes, financial support, academic support enable a large proportion of students from disadvantaged communities to be part of the programmes. Over 3800 students graduated from the University so far – over 90% of post-graduate alumni work in the social sector

The rest of the document gives an overview of the University's plan for the coming years.

Teaching programmes

The Teaching programmes at the University are aligned with the purpose of the Foundation.

- All postgraduate programmes are designed to prepare students for the social sector.
- All undergraduate programmes have mandatory work-readiness components aligned to social concerns.
- University will offer a large number of short programmes for government officials and civil society organizations.

Campus expansion

The University has outlined a strategic Institutional Development Plan (IDP) to guide its growth and expansion. By 2030, the University aims to operate from four campuses: the existing locations in Bangalore and Bhopal, a new campus in Ranchi scheduled for 2026, and a fourth campus in the North-East region, with the specific location to be determined.

Our campuses will continue to proactively engage with surrounding communities/panchayats through direct work on areas of need - this provides our students with community service opportunities and helps each campus become integral to the local community.

Growth in student and faculty numbers

The student body is expected to expand significantly, with projected enrollment reaching 3,200 by June 2025 and increasing to approximately 7,000 by 2030. Faculty strength will also grow with numbers expected to rise to 600 by 2030.

Research focus

The University will maintain a strong focus on research in areas aligned with the Foundation's goals - Allied to our social purpose and focused on the Indian context, view to contribute to 'Here and Now'.

Research is enabled through high quality internal processes that rigorously process proposals, approvals, ethics frameworks and dissemination.

One notable initiative is the biannual 'State of Working India' report, which offers in-depth analysis of employment trends in the country. Published in 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2023, the report has gained recognition in both academic and policy circles, with its findings being incorporated into university curricula and public policy discussions.

Climate Change and Sustainability - Climate Report Series: The first report will focus on providing a detailed local-scale climate forecast of changes to expect between 2020-2040 across the country. This will help governments to prepare for and adapt to climate change in their regions – with a focus on heat stress, floods, and drought.

Centre for the Study of the Indian Economy will gather, study and analyze data using advanced research methods to address critical questions on Indian economic well-being.

Areas of study will include Growth and distribution, education and human development, livelihoods and employment, justice and equity, ecological sustainability, social inclusion, and health.

Future academic programmes

University is continuously looking at opportunities to expand the programme offerings. This will be finalized based on the basic programme choice principles of

- alignment with Foundation's social purpose
- possibility of good career options
- ability to hire good faculty and offer high-quality experience to students

University will decide on two possible new Undergraduate programs for launch in July 2026 based on student interest and potential placement opportunities.

Four new Certificates are being designed for launch in the coming Academic Year: a) Education Leadership, b) Textbook Development, c) Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Interventions, and d) Public Health Policy and Governance. Another Certificate is being planned for launch in 2026 on Livelihood Perspectives and Policy

Focus on continuing education

University will continue to support the public education system in all eight states of the North-East and continue to respond to requests for support from Tamil Nadu, Kashmir, Telangana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha.

The ongoing work with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) will continue as well as with other examination boards. Support includes capacity building of senior educational functionaries through short programmes, and material development (e.g., textbooks, teacher support material, test papers).

The implementation of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) is a key thrust area in the states of the north-east in the coming year – University will support that through capacity building and material development.