केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड
(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)
CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

CBSE/ACAD./AP&JD(NB)/SC/2026/ **Date: 13.10.2026**

Circular No.: Acad-67/2026

Heads of All Schools Affiliated to CBSE

SUBJECT: CBSE Science Challenge 2026-27

Science is an integral part of our everyday lives and helps us understand the world around us. With the objective of fostering scientific temper, curiosity, inquiry and problem-solving skills among learners, CBSE organises the **CBSE Science Challenge** for students of Classes VIII to X, as a student enrichment activity that encourages scientific thinking and promotes higher-order thing skills.

Details of the CBSE Science Challenge

- The Science Challenge activity will be conducted through **two rounds** – within school, and inter school.
- There is **no fee** for students participating in either of the two rounds.
- All students of classes VIII to X in CBSE affiliated schools are eligible to participate in Round One (first stage). **School will be required to register students for this round.** Details for registration are at Annexure - 1.
- For Round Two (second stage), each affiliated school registered in the first stage can nominate, the earlier registered 6 students (best 02 students from each participating class).
- The Science Challenge question set will comprise of a variety of stimulants followed by MCQs. The task for participating students would focus both on speed and accuracy.
- All the participants of Round Two will be issued an online participation certificate by the Board. Appreciation Certificate will be given to best performing students.

All schools are requested to encourage students to participate in the CBSE Science Challenge and inspire learners to think critically, question creatively and solve problems scientifically. For any clarifications, please send an email to cbsesciencechallenge@cbseshiksha.in or call on 011-43354916.

With best wishes!

(Dr. Praggya M Singh)
Prof. & Director (Acad.)

Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organisations and Institutions with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005
6. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
7. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim –737101
9. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar –791111
10. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
11. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil – Ladakh
12. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3rd Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh – 521 456
13. The Director, Jharkhand Education Project Council, Old HEC High School, JSCA Stadium Road, Jagannathpur, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 (Jharkhand)
14. Navy Education Society, Dte of Naval Education, Naval Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, West Block-V, RK Puram, New Delhi-110066
15. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A –Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
16. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
17. DS to Chairperson, CBSE
18. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE
19. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
20. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ PPS/SPS/Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
21. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
22. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
23. In-Charge, Library
24. Record File

Annexure – 1

Date	Activity	Details
14th October 2026 – 30th October 2026	Registration by Schools for Round 1	Affiliated schools login on the Science Challenge Portal at https://cbseacadit.nic.in/sc/ using the LOC credentials, and fill up the number of students taking part in Round 1.
02nd November 2026 - 13th November 2026	Conduct of Round 1 at School Level	On 02nd November 2026, a Science Challenge paper with MCQs will be made available to the registered schools along with the scoring criteria on the same portal. Schools will organize the **First Round** of Science Challenge for the registered students between 02nd Nov – 13th Nov 2026**.**
17th November 2026 - 25th November 2026	Registration by Schools for Round 2	Schools will identify 06 students (02 each from Classes VIII to X) on the basis of their performance on the assigned tasks for Round-1, and register the identified students for Round 2 on the CBSE Science Challenge portal**.**
30th November 2026 – 04th December 2026	Conduct of Round 2 (Computer Based)	A computer-based Science Challenge would be conducted by the Board for the registered students, on any one day (to be notified in due course), tentatively between 30th November 2026 – 04th December 2026. Only the schools that have completed the first stage and subsequently registered students for Round 2, shall be eligible for the second stage. *The detailed modalities of conduct of Round 2 shall be communicated to the schools that register students for the second round of the challenge.*

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Instructions for Conduct of CBSE Science Challenge - Round 1

(to be organized in schools between 02nd November 2026-13th November 2026)

- The Science Challenge paper (provided by CBSE) must be presented to students in class. Please ensure that there are sufficient teachers on invigilation duty, for fair conduct of this activity.
- The maximum time limit to complete the task is **60 minutes**. This is a power and speed test – i.e. the students would be evaluated on both, accuracy and the time taken to complete the task.
- The teacher (invigilating) should be prepared to monitor time (take note of starting time; make sure instructions are given to students before-hand; make sure all students start at the same time; make note of students who submit the paper before time).
- There is a likelihood that some students would finish the task earlier than the prescribed time-limit. The invigilator needs to take note of such students.

Evaluation

- After students have finished the task, score them as per scoring key provided The Science Challenge assessment criteria include both speed & accuracy.
- Students who are able to answer all the (maximum) questions accurately should be considered first for selection.
- In case there are more students getting the same marks, the students who are able to get the score in less time should get preference for selection.
- Select 6 students (2 each from classes VIII, IX and X) and register them for Science Challenge Round 2 on the CBSE portal: https://cbseacadit.nic.in/sc/
- **Registration for Round 2 will be open from 17th November 2026 to 25th November 2026.**