

Press Release

iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad announced CLEAN-A-THON Winners

Highlights:

- ***Clean-a-Thon is a Hackathon to support Clean India mission***
- ***Winners are supported by iTIC incubator to build successful prototypes***
- ***Clean-a-Thon provide a vital platform to all the students, researchers, innovators and individuals who are working in cleantech sector***

Hyderabad, June 18, 2021: iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad organized Clean-a-Thon, a cleantech hackathon with a motive to provide innovative solutions to the most challenging problems and create a clean environment and contribute to the clean India mission. This hackathon focused on finding solutions for the most challenging problems in the area of water/air/noise pollution, elimination of single use of plastic, water body cleaning, waste disposal, upcycling, circular economy, plastic recycling, plastic alternatives, and other related areas.

Clean-a-Thon was launched virtually in March end and received very good response from students, researchers, academia, and entrepreneurs from across the nation with solutions. Out of all the applications, few made it to the final round of selection. After a round of virtual interviews, the jury selected three prominent winners for the hackathon.

The winners of Clean-a-thon are:

1. Gautami Chati, Winner
2. Khushbu Baid, Runner-up
3. Yalla Omkar Venkata, 2nd Runner-up

Congratulating the winners of Clean-a-thon, Prof. B. S. Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad, said, “From banning the use of single use plastic inside the campus to offering unique MTech programs like E-Waste Resource Engineering and Management, IIT Hyderabad has always been committed to encourage clean and green solutions”.

Further Prof. S. Suryakumar, Faculty-in-Charge, Incubation, Innovation & Startup at IIT Hyderabad shared, “The winners will be supported by the iTIC incubator by grants, access to pre-incubation support, mentorship, co-working space, and network for building successful prototypes. The Deeptech startup ecosystem is witnessing an unprecedented move with a lot of startups trying to disrupt the cleantech business sector. Through clean-a-thon, we are hoping more startups are going to join this league in the future.”

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About iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad

iTIC is a Technology Business Incubator (TBI), under the aegis of Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) and supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. iTIC is a Not-For-Profit Society, which focuses on creating a supportive and nourishing environment for budding entrepreneurs in the field of technology. The focus areas of iTIC incubator are Deep tech sectors such as Healthcare, AI/ML, Quantum Computing, AR/VR, Cybersecurity, Robotics, IOT, Industry 4.0, Blockchain, Electronics, Advanced materials, Drones, Biotechnology, etc. iTIC aims to help entrepreneurs leverage a premier quality research and startup ecosystem with the goal of building a comprehensive platform to practice innovation and entrepreneurship so that these entrepreneurial ideas can be turned into sustainable, scalable profit-making business ventures. iTIC provides support to startups such as Mentoring, Financial Aid, IP Support, Networking, and access to Dedicated office/ Coworking space, Software's, IITH Technological Infrastructure, and Makerlab.

Since its inception in **2015**, iTIC has supported **70+ startups** through Pre-incubation, Incubation and Acceleration programs, and has sanctioned **more than INR 5 crores** to startups directly while supporting the startups in raising **more than INR 50 crores** from external sources. So far, the iTIC startups have generated **more than INR 100 crores** of revenues and created **800+ jobs**.

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About IIT Hyderabad

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is one of the six new Indian Institutes of Technology established by the Government of India in 2008. In a short span of **12** years, the institute built on an imposing **578**-acre campus and has been ranked among the top **10** engineering institutes for four consecutive years in the NIRF released by the Ministry of Education, GoI and 2nd consecutive year in QS World University Ranking being the top **600** institute in the world. IITH was also ranked under Top **#20** in the recent edition ARIIA on indicators related to 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development' among students and faculties. IIT Hyderabad has **237** full-time faculty, **3,397** students of whom **20** per cent are women, nearly **200** state-of-the-art laboratories and five research and entrepreneurship centres. The Institute has a strong research focus with more than Rs. **500** crore of sanctioned research funding while PhD scholars account for about **30%** of total student strength. IITH students and faculty are at the forefront of innovation with more than **5500** research publications and **164** patent disclosures, **300** sponsored/ consultancy projects and **50** industry & academic collaborations.

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