



## The World's Biggest Nation-Building Digital Initiative has been launched; India's tech talent invited to develop digital solutions to make 'Smart India'

*AICTE, Persistent Systems and i4c will now reach out to 6500+ technology institutions from across India to spark students' creativity and encourage them to develop innovative technology solutions for good governance and improving quality of life.*

**City name, xx November 2016:** Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister for HRD, Government of India inaugurated the world's largest digital national building initiative "[Smart India Hackathon 2017](#)" on Wednesday, Nov 9, 2016 and handed over a torch to technology students from all parts of India. Smart India Hackathon 2017 aims to challenge over 30 lakh students to offer innovative solutions to some of the daunting problems faced by our nation. It will also harness their creativity & technical expertise to build a funnel for 'Startup India, Standup India' campaign. The Hackathon poses 500+ problem statements, all of which have been published on [innovate.mygov.in](#).

**Dr. Dileep Malkhede, Advisor, AICTE said,** "The Smart India Hackathon 2017 is born out of our commitment to make India 'Smart India' We also hope to use international and domestic expertise to bring a transformation in India's IT sector and to bridge the tech gaps in the country through domain based expertise."

**Says Dr Abhay Jere, Secretary, Organizing Committee, Smart India Hackathon 2017,** "India's talented youth have made a significant mark in the global IT industry by creating innovative solutions for solving complex problems. It's now time to harness the talent of these youth at a massive scale to add velocity to India's development. Not only are we inviting India's top IITs and NITs but also the technology institutes in the remotest parts of the country to participate in the Smart India Hackathon. The Smart India Hackathon 2017 will set an example for the world on how youth power can help find digital solutions to legacy problems within a matter of hours!"

**Says Dr. Manpreet Manna, Director, AICTE,** "The Digital Pune Hackathon organized by i4C had 20,000+ students from nearly 70 colleges participating in it. And the ideas it generated were phenomenal. This time around, AICTE along with Ministry of HRD, i4C, Persistent Systems is committed to take this novel approach to each and every tech institute in urban and rural parts of the country so we can tap into creativity of tech students for making India stronger. For the first time 25+ govt. depts. are posing their problems to students and seeking innovative yet sustainable solutions."

Dr Abhay Jere along with Dr Manpreet Manna and Dr Dileep Malkhede, Advisor, AICTE will be traveling to several cities across India to spark their interest in taking up the Smart India Hackathon challenge and to encourage them to use their creativity to develop innovative technology solutions for India. This includes special planned on Nov 19, 2016 at Trivandrum, followed by similar talks on <date> at <city>, on <date> at <city> and on <date> at <city>.

**To read more about Smart India Hackathon 2017,** click [www.i4c.co.in/smartIndiaHackathon2017](http://www.i4c.co.in/smartIndiaHackathon2017)

**To participate in Smart India Hackathon 2017,** click [www.innovate.mygov.in](http://www.innovate.mygov.in)

### **About Smart India Hackathon 2017**

The 'Smart India Hackathon 2017' is a pan-India 36-hour nonstop digital programming competition which will take place in more than 20 centres simultaneously. Each participating college can nominate up to three teams, each having six team members, which can belong to different courses or semesters within the same college. Each team will need to have at least one female team member, to encourage women coders. Each team will



also have the option of choosing up to two mentors, who can be faculty, alumni or any other expert in their circles. Each of the participating 25+ ministries and government departments will give away prizes to top three teams, so 75 teams will stand a chance to win cash rewards as well as a chance to work with those ministries and departments for up to six months to execute their winning solution. For every ministry and department, the first prize will be of Rs.100, 000, second prize of Rs.75, 000 and third prize of Rs.50, 000. Some of the ministries and departments participating in the Hackathon include Railways, External Affairs, Defence, Civil Aviation, Indian Space Research Organization, Department of Atomic Energy, etc.

The Smart India Hackathon 2017 will aim to find digital solutions to problems in the areas of power, education, health, water, finance, agriculture, energy, urban & rural development, aviation & shipping, transport, sanitation, sports, law & justice, skill development & entrepreneurship, defence, textiles, tourism, etc. The initiative will help institutionalize a model for harnessing the creativity and skills of youth for nation-building. Some of the problem statements made public today include developing a dynamic HealthMap that can tap into online data sources to ensure rapid response to disease outbreaks such as H1N1, dengue and chikungunya through faster information flow between public health systems; a digitized platform to monitor the migration of children from one village, cluster, block, district or state to another to introduce interventions to minimize school dropouts in the middle of an academic year; a digital diagnostic tool to measure the learning abilities of students in various classes and subjects; a cost effective solution of quick disbursement of railway tickets to save time for passengers as well as plug revenue leakages in unreserved ticketing; developing efficient security algorithms, analytics tools and integrated video solutions to enhance video surveillance through voice enabled activation, switching views, alarm verification, onsite monitoring and risk management to reduce crime rates; an imaging technology to identify medicinal plants based on morphology and trace their geographical location to help practitioners of AYUSH system; and, a web-based application to pool data on all drug manufacturing units to validate their authentic GMP, ISO and other certifications, quality of drugs manufactured, inventory and rate of preparation of classical and patent-proprietary medicines. The full list of problem statements is available online on Smart Hackathon 2017 website.