

### **Smart India Hackathon, Grand Finale at JECRC**

Our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, envisages a Digital India to bridge the digital divide in our country and further promote digital literacy in order to make development a comprehensive mass movement and put governance within everyone's reach in India. In order to work towards our PM's vision, MHRD, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Inter Institutional Inclusive Innovation Center (i4C), and Persistent Systems organized Smart India Hackathon 2017, a unique initiative to identify new and disruptive digital technology innovations for solving the challenges faced by our country. The initiative was a huge success. To reiterate the efforts towards our PM's vision, all together proposed the 2nd edition of this initiative – Smart India Hackathon 2018. Smart India Hackathon 2018 is being organized and had 2 sub-editions – Software as well as Hardware.

45+ union ministries and departments and 18 state governments had joined this grand initiative, making it much bigger than the previous edition. Smart India Hackathon 2018 is a non-stop digital product development competition, where 340 problems are posed to technology students for innovative solutions. It harnesses creativity & expertise of students, Sparks institute-level hackathons, builds funnel for 'Startup India' campaign, provides opportunity to citizens to give innovative solutions to India's daunting problems.

JECRC was one of the only 28 colleges from all over the country to have been shortlisted as the nodal centre for conducting the Grand Finale of Smart India Hackathon 2018. JECRC, Jaipur was assigned the nodal Centre for Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Over 400 students of 50 teams and 25 subject experts, judges and technical officers from all over the country came to JECRC campus.

For having a smooth conduction of event the JECRC established a coordination committee with the officials from PIB, Jaipur. After rigorous discussions with the nodal officer from Ministry and other officials, all the required preparations were finalized. Working closely with ministry was great experience for all staff and students of JECRC.

There were total 16 problem statements of Ministry of I & B for which 50 teams from all over India participated to provide their real solutions. The teams were accompanied by their mentors from industry. Teams from all over India congratulated JECRC team on such a successful event. They also appreciated the communication which was established with them prior to the main event as all the important information was communicated to them well in time.

The inauguration ceremony of SIH 2018 @ JECRC nodal Centre, Jaipur was graced by the presence of Shri A. P. Mittal, Member Secretary, AICTE, along with the judges and Nodal officer from ministry of I & B. The coding session started as per the schedule.

The AICTE representatives, along with the judges and Nodal Officer, mentored the students for their respective problem statements in various mentoring/training sessions on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>

March. These teams were evaluated by a total of 21 judges from the Ministry as well as renowned software companies.

Hon'able Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi himself spoke to the participating students and organizers at all 28 nodal centres expressing his faith in the long term benefits of this nationwide technological revolution.

The two-day schedule included a lot of recreational activities for the participants as well like Yoga Sessions, Zumba Dance Sessions & Red Bull Hour. These participants were provided lodging facilities within campus the in hostels of JECRC. More than 100 students of JECRC and around 64 faculty members were part of the organizing team that made this event possible. This event witnessed a footfall of many senior government officials and AICTE officials.

The valedictory session which was graced by the presence of Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, State Minister (I & B), Cabinet minister (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Shri R.S. Rathore, Director, AICTE. It was a great and proud moment in the history of JECRC to listen to honorable minister and share experiences with them. While addressing the gathering of students he said that "Life goes on by hard work and will power and if you go with this mantra you will get success in life". He congratulated all the participant teams as well as Nodal Centre for successful organization of SIH 2018.

JECRC got an appreciation letter from Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Mrs. Vasundhara Raje and also from Mrs. Smriti Zubin Irani, Cabinet Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Textile Ministry.

After various evaluation rounds, 10 teams were shortlisted for the power judgment round in which they presented their solutions in front of the panel. 6 teams were finally selected and were awarded trophies winner was Linguistic Panda from Delhi, The Techie Tribes from Tamilnadu was 1st Runner Up, OceanSix from Udaipur was 2nd Runner Up, Local host from Delhi got Persistent Innovation award, Hackers Troops from Chennai got KPIT Inspiration award and Inferno from Odisha got Deloitte Innovation awards in the valedictory session.

Over 100 students and all faculty members of JECRC took the responsibility for the successful execution of this national mega event. JECRC Team worked very hard with full sincerity, dedication, devotion and coordination to make this event successful.

Further, nine teams from JECRC were also shortlisted to participate in SIH 2018 for different ministries at different nodal centres. Also ministries have approached teams from JECRC to have internships with the ministries, for at least one year and develop their solutions into workable models.