

TiHAN-IIT Hyderabad and NATRAX collaborate in the areas of Autonomous Drive Testing Facilities

Highlights:

- *TiHAN and NATRAX will collaborate in Research & Development on the verticals of autonomous navigation testing facilities.*
- *Joint offering for collaboration with industry to work in automated driving utilizing the technical expertise and infrastructure.*
- *Training and capacity-building programs.*
- *Imparting advanced skills and mentoring as per the requirement of the Automotive Industry in the field of ADAS.*

Hyderabad, June 08, 2023: National Automotive test tracks (NATRAX) is a world-class automotive proving ground set up under the National Automotive Board (NAB), under the Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) **on June 07, 2023**, with TiHAN, IIT Hyderabad, to collaborate in the areas of autonomous navigation testing facilities. The collaboration aims at upskilling human resources in the field via collaboration with industry to work in automated driving utilizing the technical expertise and infrastructure, Training and capacity-building programs & Imparting advanced skills and mentoring as per the requirement of the Automotive Industry in the field of ADAS.

Expressing delight on occasion, Prof B S Murty, Director, IITH, said, *“Collaboration between TiHAN-IITH and NATRAX is a magnificent event that has started a long-term relationship between the organizations. Inventing and Innovating in Technology for Humanity is the motto of IITH, and TiHAN, which was founded with the goal of fostering initiatives linked to autonomous navigation, is a feather in IITH's crown. The first of its kind in the country, TiHAN Testbed is a cutting-edge facility for testing and certifying various use cases for autonomous vehicles. It will be a game-changer for both TiHAN and NATRAX to grow together and make India ‘Atmavirbhar’.”*

Dr Manish Jaiswal, Director, NATRAX, expressed enthusiasm for this important partnership, stating, *“Our collaboration with TiHAN, IIT Hyderabad marks a significant start, which will eventually bring together vehicle testing expertise of NATRAX and Research and Technology Expertise of IIT Hyderabad to bring innovations and solutions for the industry in all emerging areas of Automotive Technology. The Partnership has certainly opened avenues for endless possibilities to collaborate and create solutions for various existing and upcoming challenges of the automotive industry and the larger mobility ecosystem.”*

Discussing the plan to take collaboration forward, Prof P Rajalakshmi, Project Director, TiHAN-IITH, said, *“TiHAN at IITH is working towards the vision of being the destination of next-generation mobility solutions providing a collaborative research platform for academia, industry, and R&D labs at both national and international levels. Future collaborative works between NATRAX and TiHAN-IITH include webinars, training, and capacity building programs along with joint collaborations for excelling in the development of testing facilities for automated driving systems.”*

About IIT Hyderabad:

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is one of the eight IITs established by the Government of India in 2008. In a short span of 15 years, the institute has become a one of the top ranked institutions in the country and has received global recognition. It has 300+ full-time faculty, ~4,200 students, 18 Departments + 1 Centre for Interdisciplinary Programs, nearly 500+ state-of-the-art Research Facilities, and five research and entrepreneurship centres. The institute has a strong research focus with approx. Rs ~880 crores of sanctioned research funding, with PG+PhD students accounting for about 60% of total student strength. IITH has more than 8100+ research publications with 1,30,000+ Citations, 190+ Published Patents, 2,200+ sponsored/consultancy projects with 500+ running projects, and about 125+ startups that have generated 1000+ jobs and a revenue of Rs. 800+ Cr.

To know more, please visit <https://www.iith.ac.in/>.

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Media Release

About TiHAN-IITH

Department of Science and Technology (DST), under National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), has sanctioned the prestigious Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) in the technology vertical of Autonomous Navigation and Data Acquisition Systems (UAVs, ROVs, etc.). Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation (TiHAN) at IITH is a multi-departmental initiative, including researchers from Electrical Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mathematics, Design, Entrepreneurship at IITH with collaboration and support from reputed institutions and industry. A first-of-its-kind integrated testbed on Autonomous Navigations (Aerial/Terrestrial) on the IITH campus was set up, which has state-of-the-art facilities such as Proving Grounds, Test tracks, Mechanical integration facilities like Hangers, Ground control stations, State of the art Simulation tools (SIL, MIL, HIL, VIL), Test tracks/circuits, Road Infra – Smart Poles, signalized & signalized Intersections, Environment Emulators like Rainfall Simulators, V2X Communications, Drone Runways & Landing area, Control Test centre. TiHAN-IITH is envisaged as the destination for collaborative research for next-generation mobility solutions between academia, industry, and R&D Labs, both national and international.

To know more, please visit: <https://www.tihan.iith.ac.in/>

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About National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX)

National Automotive test tracks (NATRAX) is a world-class automotive proving ground set up under the National Automotive Board (NAB) under the Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India. NATRAX provides a one-stop solution for comprehensive testing, vehicle performance evaluation, and R&D of all types of vehicles. NATRAX is located near the vibrant industrial township of Pithampur (Dist. Dhar), which is 50 km from the commercial capital of Madhya Pradesh, i.e. Indore. The centre was established in approx.—3,000 acres of land. The facility has 14 different types of test tracks for comprehensive testing and evaluation of vehicles in varying terrains and stringency. The core of the facility is the oval 4-lane high-speed track of 11.3 Km designed for a neutral speed of 250 kmph on curves. A large part of the test load on this facility is related to the evaluation of automotive performance, such as max speed, acceleration, brake efficiency, noise, vibration, handling, stability etc. NATRAX is designated as the Centre of Excellence for Vehicle Dynamics. NATRAX has recently added Crash Barrier Testing (the first in India) to help towards larger Road Safety Goals.

To know more, please visit: <https://www.natrax.in/>

You can view all press releases/ notes from IIT Hyderabad at: <https://pr.iith.ac.in/pressrelease.html>

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