Press Release

iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad and WIN Foundation, US selects two candidates to develop tech for Child Growth and Health Monitoring

Highlights:

- *iTIC Incubator and WIN Foundation, US conducted Win Challenge along with network partner - Telangana Social Startup Network*
- *Focus areas for the WIN challenge were Child Growth and Health Monitoring*
- *Winners get pre-incubation support at iTIC incubator and opportunity to test the solutions by WIN Foundation*

Hyderabad, July 05, 2021: iTIC Incubator at IIT Hyderabad and WIN Foundation, US organized WIN Challenge utilizing the network of TSSN, with a motive to provide innovative solutions to the problems around Child growth and Health Monitoring. Participants were asked to solve the problem in any of the 3 topic solutions. The challenges given to the participant were - From a picture or set of pictures, estimate the height, weight & unlikely health issue in the body of a child. This challenge focused on finding solutions for the problems by using the photographs of subjects using computer vision, AI/ML, and other deep technologies.

WIN Challenge was launched virtually in the Second week of June and received a very good response from students, researchers, academia, and entrepreneurs from across the nation with solutions. After the preliminary round of screening, top participants were called for a virtual interview and 2 winners were selected based on their technical understanding to solve these problems.

The winners of the Challenge are:
1. **Romita Ghosh, Winner**
2. **Pankaj Saini, Runner-up**

Paresh Vora, Director - India Operations, WIN Foundation said, *"Child nutrition is a major focus area of WIN Foundation. IIT Hyderabad has excellent startup support systems and infrastructure, and our partnership with them for WIN Challenge aims to identify and support startups, to measure infant child growth from their photographs through AI/ML technology. This has the potential to address a major challenge of Child Nutrition programs, to measure the growth of large numbers of infants in urban slums, rural and tribal areas, and thereby enable quick suggestions for corrective measures in malnutrition cases."*

Prof. S. Suryakumar, Faculty-in-Charge, Innovation, Incubation & Startups at IIT Hyderabad shared, *"The winners will be supported by the iTIC incubator by providing access to grants, pre-incubation support, mentorship, co-working space, and network for building successful prototypes. The winners will also be able to test their prototypes in collaboration with WIN Foundation. Among successful testing, WIN Foundation would also support winners in getting the customer pilots."*

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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 WIN Foundation

WIN Foundation is a non-profit organization, established in the US, and with main operations in India. WIN Foundation funds, supports and facilitates innovation in the areas of (i) Water and Sanitation and (ii) Maternal and Child Health, primarily in India and applies it in empowering and improving the lives of underprivileged sections in a sustainable manner. WIN Foundation also supports startups with solutions in these and related domains through funding, market access, and market validation.

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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** institutes 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** percent 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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