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**Press Release**

**Grand Finale of Smart India Hackathon comes to an end**

**Bhubaneswar, 13th December 2024:** The Grand Finale of the 7th Edition of Smart India Hackathon has come to an end. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar was the nodal agency for the event and IIT Bhubaneswar Research & Entrepreneurship Park (IITBBS REP) hosted the 2-day Hackathon (Software Edition), which was aimed at nurturing creative mindset and problem-solving ability among students.

During the valedictory ceremony held on 12th December 2024, the top performing teams from different problem areas were provided with a cash prize on Rs. 1 lakh each. Shri Kamaljit Das, Joint Secretary to Govt, CAO Startup Odisha, handed over the awards to the winners, in the presence of Shri Dipan Sahu, Assistant Innovation Director, MoE’s Innovation Cell, & AICTE; Mr. Shivendra Mani Tripathi, Regional Coordinator MoE Innovation Cell and Dr. Soobhankar Pati, CEO, IITBBS REP.

The details of the winning teams are:

1. Refrriranger: Innovating for Sustainability: Driving Smart Resource Conservation
2. Hacktivists\_24: Tackling drug trafficking on Telegram and WhatsApp
3. TRA1LF1NDERS: Identifying the end receiver of cryptocurrency transactions
4. Matrix Infinity: Real-Time Disaster Information Aggregation Software
5. Pratishtha & Mad Astra (Joint Winners): Predicting Aluminium wire rod properties with AI

A total of 180 students in 26 teams participated in the hackathon, tackling real-world problem statements provided and judged by experts from Godrej, NDRF, NCB, NALCO. These organizations sought innovative, implementable solutions to critical challenges they face.

On behalf of IITBBS REP, Shri Sakti Swarup Pati, Incubation & Partnerships Head and Ms. Shabina Khatoon, Programs & Operations Head coordinated the 2-day program.

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