

1. What is a hackathon?

A hackathon is an event where people come together to collaborate and create solutions to a specific problem or challenge. Participants work in teams to develop a prototype or solution within a set time frame.

2. How do I participate in this challenge?

To participate in this hackathon, do the following:

- Register yourself or your team with Aadhaar and idea
- Please keep an eye on the announcement on the TNPCB website
- Once your idea is shortlisted, you start working on the detailed project/prototype/model/proposal
- Link for application- <https://forms.gle/3dQQZKDSwQ8nHuJ76>

3. What are all the requirements to be submitted during the registration of the hackathon?

A copy of participant's Aadhaar card and a short note on the selected themes are to be submitted to participate in the hackathon

4. What should be the size of the idea note?

There is no set template, ideally your concept note must be between 100-150 words & should provide a clear and concise explanation of the problem needs to be solved

5. What are all the themes available?

The following two themes are available, i. Water Saved, ii. Single Use Plastic Reduced

6. What is meant by the theme "Water Saved"?

Theme focuses on creating technical or technological solutions to address water conservation related issues like using water efficiently to reduce unnecessary water usage & wastage, smart irrigation, rainwater harvesting, water reuse technologies, ground water recharge, advanced technologies for water storage & hydro phoenix

7. What is meant by the theme "Single Use Plastics Reduced"?

Theme focuses on creating technical or technological solutions to reduce the usage of single-use plastics, cost-effective production methods, supply chain innovation, recycling/upcycling/disposable methods of plastic waste, sustainable plastic waste management, sustainable packaging interventions & promotion of sustainable alternatives

8. Who can participate in this hackathon?

Applicants should have a graduate degree or currently pursuing it, regardless of the stream and experience. Hackathon is open to college students, researchers,

professionals, NGOs, industries, government/public sector agencies and members of the public who are interested in sustainability and innovation.

9. What types of solutions can be developed in the hackathon?

Solutions developed in this upcoming hackathon can range from technological innovations to policy level innovations. Examples of solutions include water minimization technologies, leakage reduction programs, water supply, smart irrigation, circular economy solutions, sustainable packaging interventions, production of cost-effective alternatives to Single Use Plastics

10. How long does a hackathon last?

The participants will be provided 7 days from the date of announcing the problem statement to submit their final applications. The shortlisted applicants have to present their ideas to the expert committee.

11. What are the benefits of participating in this hackathon?

Participating in this hackathon can provide numerous benefits, including the opportunity to collaborate with like-minded individuals, develop new skills and knowledge, and create innovative solutions to sustainability challenges. Additionally, hackathons can be a great networking opportunity and can lead to new career opportunities.

12. How can I get involved in this hackathon?

To get involved in this hackathon, you can register yourself/team/company by using the Google Forms Link. You can also reach out to the hackathontnpcb23@gmail.com for any queries.

13. How are winners determined in this hackathon?

The criteria for determining winners can vary depending on the event. However, factors such as the originality, relevance, innovation, scalability, affordability, replicability, practicability & feasibility and sustainability are often taken into consideration.

14. What resources are typically provided to participants in this hackathon?

Resources provided to participants can vary depending on the event. However, common resources include access to mentors and experts in sustainability, access to data and research, and access to technology and equipment needed for prototyping and development.

15. What happens to the solutions developed in this hackathon after the event?

The solutions developed in a sustainability-related hackathon can be used in a variety of ways after the event. Some solutions may be developed further and brought to market, while others may be used to inform policy decisions or inspire further research and development.

16. How can I prepare for hackathon?

To prepare for the hackathon, it can be helpful to research the topic or challenge ahead of time and familiarize yourself with the latest trends and developments in sustainability. It can also be helpful to practice working under pressure and in a collaborative environment, as hackathons often involve working with a team to develop a solution within a limited time frame.

17. Will this hackathon be organized physically or digitally?

The hackathon will be organized physically in the TNPCB head office

18. I am individual working in a private company. Can I submit the proposal or problem statement as an individual?

No, you are not allowed to submit the proposal as an individual unless it is routed through the company.

19. When & where is the final hackathon event going to happen?

Hackathon event is going to be held in the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board's head office located in Anna Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032 on 25th May for "Water Saved" theme & 26th May for "Single Use Plastic Reduced" theme.

20. What does it cost?

It's free to attend. Please ensure to register before the deadline

21. How are the challenge solutions judged?

The solutions will be judged in 8 categories: Originality, Relevance, Innovation, Scalability, Affordability, Replicability, Practicability & Feasibility and Sustainability. More details of exactly how solutions will be judged will be made available after the proposal submission deadline is over.

22. Are there any logistics arrangements to reach the hackathon venue?

No, there is no arrangement from TNPCB side. Transportation at participant's scope.

23. What is the application process?

There are two streams of application process.

- i. Students and Scholars shall submit concept level implementable innovation
- ii. MSMEs and Startups shall showcase real time implementable solutions with minimum proof of concept addressing the respective problem statements.

24. How do I get to know if my idea is shortlisted?

The shortlisted applicants will be intimated over email and also posted on the TNPCB website

25. How can I stay informed about the event?

To stay informed about other events, you can follow Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board's official website and social media accounts. You can also write to hackathonnpcb23@gmail.com for any of your queries.

26. What is prize money of winning team?

There shall be 3 categories,

- 1st Prize – Rs. 3 Lakhs
- 2nd Prize - Rs. 2 Lakhs
- 3rd Prize (3 nos) - Rs 1 Lakh each

27. What is the timeline of the Hackathon?

| S. No. | Task | Timeline |
|--------|---|--|
| | Opening of registration (Registration form to be filled from the TNPCB website) | 27 th April 2023 (Thursday) |
| | Last date of registration | 14 th May 2023 (Sunday) |
| | Communication of problem statement via email | 17 th May 2023 (Wednesday) |
| | Last date for receiving applications | 23 rd May 2023 (Tuesday) |
| | Intimation of shortlisted applicants via email | 27 th May 2023 (Saturday) |
| | Presentation of shortlisted ideas to the expert committee | 30 th & 31 st May 2023 (Tuesday & Wednesday) |
| | Announcement of results on TNPCB website and communication over email | 1 st June 2023 (Thursday) |
| | Award ceremony on World Environment Day | 5 th June 2023 (Monday) |