



HQ/CS/CL.24B/16648
December 17, 2018

Sir,

Sub: Press Release - IIT Bhubaneswar's IoT solution to analyse LPG consumption, declared winner of Tata Communications and CII's first edition of 'Grand India IoT Innovation Challenge'

Please find attached herewith the press release on the captioned subject being issued today.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
For Tata Communications Limited

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Manish Sansi', written over a horizontal line.

Manish Sansi
Company Secretary &
General Counsel (India)

To:

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For immediate release

Media Alert

IIT Bhubaneswar’s IoT solution to analyse LPG consumption, declared winner of Tata Communications and CII’s first edition of ‘Grand India IoT Innovation Challenge’

*Dominators from Army Institute of Technology, Sanrakshak from VIT Chennai, and Short Circuits from BITS Pilani declared as second and third winners respectively
757 applicants from 27 select colleges across India compete for the coveted award*

Mumbai - December 17, 2018 - [Tata Communications](#), a leading digital infrastructure provider, today announced the winners of ‘[The Grand India IoT Innovation Challenge](#),’ (#giiotic); a 4-month long contest organised in partnership with [Confederation of Indian Industry \(CII\)](#). Riding on the theme, ‘Solutions that create a better society,’ engineering students from select colleges across India were invited to build prototypes of IoT enabled solutions by leveraging Tata Communications’ IoT infrastructure and expertise.

While the ideas received were diverse, majority of them were underpinned by the need for efficient civic administration and public safety - demonstrating that transformation is not just about digitisation of processes, but creating value for citizens and businesses, based on smarter systems that enable smarter use of data.

The first winner **Prajjawala** from **IIT Bhubaneswar** designed an IoT-based solution to measure, track, transmit, store and analyse consumers’ LPG consumption. Prajjawala received a cash prize of INR 5 lacs. The second winner **Dominators** from **Army Institute of Technology** designed an IoT device that can be plugged to a streetlight, creating a heat map of mosquitoes for the municipal authorities to assess and plan mosquito control.

Third prize was jointly awarded to - **Sanrakshak** from **VIT Chennai** who created affordable sensors to provide real-time data on the occurrence of faults on the railway lines, ensuring safe and secure journey for travellers and **Short Circuits** from **BITS Pilani** which addressed power deficiency issues by accessing the energy stored in electric vehicles, when not in use. The second winner was given cash prize worth INR 3 lacs and the third place secured INR 1.5 lacs each.

Tata Communications will look to extend its support to the winning teams in scaling the idea to an operational business model.

The first edition of *The Grand India IoT Innovation Challenge* witnessed 757 applications from a closed contest (open to only 27 engineering colleges and universities) across India. Of these only 10 teams made the cut to the finale. The jury comprised of VS Shridhar, Senior Vice President and Head of Internet of Things (IoT) at Tata Communications; Rohit Srivastwa, Senior Director at Quick Heal Technologies Ltd. as a representative of CII; Arvind Tiwary, Chair-IoT Forum at TiE Bengaluru; Anita Rajan, Chief Operating Office, Tata Strive and Rajendra Shende, Chairman of TERRE Policy Center.

Brief on 6 other shortlisted ideas

1. **Del13x** - Providing real-time data on passenger count in a bus, enabling smarter planning
2. **Jeevan** - Sensors to detect and notify garbage accumulation to individuals/municipality
3. **SanCago** - Solution to prevent rollback of distribution data entries in remote area(s) of low internet connectivity
4. **Transformers** - IoT device to analyse the efficiency and life-expectancy of electrical equipment ensuring safe, free and undisturbed power supply
5. **Helium** - Tracking and monitoring the amount of garbage generated and disposed by trucks and containers across the city
6. **Ammo** -IoT and deep learning to aid navigation for the visually impaired

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For four-months, shortlisted teams were given exclusive access to Tata Communications' dedicated LoRaWAN™ IoT network, Raspberry Pi™ kits along with expert mentorship from Tata Communications' IoT Product & Solutions team to build their ideas into prototypes that demonstrates engineering expertise, has an innovation quotient, market relevance and commercial viability.

“There is a need to build a holistic IoT ecosystem that will enable the use of technology to solve India specific problems. We firmly believe that this technology can contribute to improving quality of living and making our cities engines of economic growth and prosperity,” said **VS Shridhar, Senior Vice President & Head, Internet of Things, Tata Communications**. “Through our LoRaWAN™ based LPWAN and cloud-based IoT platform we have been successfully catering to experiential and growing needs of the entire spectrum - the Government, large enterprises and start-ups. We now want to encourage young minds, especially the engineering students, to engage meaningfully in this ecosystem. We are confident that their contribution will create large-scale, innovative solutions for public good. The overwhelming participation we have received for this challenge, demonstrates their keenness to participate and make a difference. We see it as a validation of our endeavour to build a strong talent pipeline by offering students a practical experience of ideating, prototyping, building and scaling a solution for the betterment of our society.”

According to a [survey of 774 companies](#) across four industries (conducted by World Economic Forum and Observer Research Foundation), nearly 84% companies will need to re-train their existing employees with new technologies such as IoT, big data, cloud computing and AI to address the skill gap.

Tata Communications and CII identified this missing link and earlier this year, partnered to launch the [CII - Tata Communications Centre for Digital Transformation](#), to help organisations in India unlock the true benefits of digital technologies.

“One of the main challenges that India faces is the professional skill gap, where it has a big talented workforce but very few experienced on the emerging technologies,” said **Anjan Das, Executive Director, CII**. “We are deeply thrilled to strengthen and take forward our partnership with Tata Communications through *The Grand India IoT Innovation Challenge*. This initiative is in line with the objective of the CII - Tata Communications Centre for Digital Transformation, to catalyse digital change for the nation by accelerating adoption of new age technologies and championing the cultivation of new talent to drive innovation forward. Through this challenge, India's students (our future leaders) have demonstrated their inclination towards using IoT to create path-breaking solutions for a better society and the need for right mentorship and IoT infrastructure, which is being addressed by Tata Communications, a leading player in the sector.”

Tata Communications is already laying the foundation for IoT in India with the world's largest LoRaWAN network spanning across 2000 communities and 38 cities in the country to create an end-to-end connected ecosystem. This will give rise to a new civic operating system which will be fuelled by data to enable seamless and secure connectivity between devices to make public services more accessible, reduce environmental impact and empower communities at large.

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About Tata Communications

Tata Communications Limited (CIN no: L64200MH1986PLC039266) along with its subsidiaries (Tata Communications) is a leading global provider of A New World of Communications™. With a leadership position in emerging markets, Tata Communications leverages its advanced solutions capabilities and domain expertise across its global network to deliver managed solutions to multi-national enterprises and communications service providers.

The Tata Communications global network includes one of the most advanced and largest submarine cable networks and a Tier-1 IP network with connectivity to more than 240 countries and territories across 400 PoPs, as well as nearly 1 million square feet of data centre and colocation space worldwide.

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Tata Communications' depth and breadth of reach in emerging markets includes leadership in Indian enterprise data services and leadership in global international voice communications. Tata Communications Limited is listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange of India.

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Forward-looking and cautionary statements

Certain words and statements in this release concerning Tata Communications and its prospects, and other statements, including those relating to Tata Communications' expected financial position, business strategy, the future development of Tata Communications' operations, and the general economy in India, are forward-looking statements. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, including financial, regulatory and environmental, as well as those relating to industry growth and trend projections, which may cause actual results, performance or achievements of Tata Communications, or industry results, to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The important factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from such forward-looking statements include, among others, failure to increase the volume of traffic on Tata Communications' network; failure to develop new products and services that meet customer demands and generate acceptable margins; failure to successfully complete commercial testing of new technology and information systems to support new products and services, including voice transmission services; failure to stabilize or reduce the rate of price compression on certain of the company's communications services; failure to integrate strategic acquisitions and changes in government policies or regulations of India and, in particular, changes relating to the administration of Tata Communications' industry; and, in general, the economic, business and credit conditions in India. Additional factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from such forward-looking statements, many of which are not in Tata Communications' control, include, but are not limited to, those risk factors discussed in Tata Communications' various filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. These filings are available at www.sec.gov. Tata Communications is under no obligation to, and expressly disclaims any obligation to, update or alter its forward-looking statements.
