

Atal Innovation Mission unveils National Winners of the ATL Tinkering Marathon 2019

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NITI Aayog declared the results of its flagship national annual innovation Marathon challenge ATL Tinkering Marathon 2019 held over 5000+ Atal Tinkering Labs across the country and announced 150 winners of the Marathon. This year, the challenge was executed by AIM in partnership with MyGOV on MyGov's Innovate Platform.

With the central theme as “Research, Ideate, Innovate, Implement – Mindful Innovation for the greater good”, this year’s marathon was uniquely designed by the students themselves. Phase-I of the challenge included crowdsourcing of the problems faced by students in the communities surrounding them.

Key Highlights

- Phase-I saw about 4300+ entries. Phase-II included voting on the shortlisted problem statements. About 5000+ votes were garnered as the students chose the problems that resonated with them the most. The Marathon, this year had a strong focus on Research preceding the Innovations.
- Four different problem areas were shortlisted on the basis of Phase I and Phase II – Enabling a Sustainable Environment and Justice, Enabling Outcome Driven Quality Education, Enhancing Health and Hygiene, Ensuring Inclusivity and Equality. The students identified community problems of their choice in one or more of the above four problem areas and developed innovative solutions in the form of working prototypes or minimum viable product (MVP).

- The final phase of solution development received over 1191 entries from students across 29 States and UTs of the country. After a robust evaluation process, top 150 teams were selected. 42% of the winning teams are from rural areas and 57% are from government schools. About 45% of the winning team students are girl students.
- The winning teams have been offered several awards to help them take their innovative solutions to the next level, and present those at various national level platforms.
- The announcement of the top 150 teams was done in an innovative virtual event sparkling with the presence of distinguished set of panelists consisting of AIM's partners from the government and private sector.
- The winning teams will be awarded a mix of opportunities to hone their prototypes in collaboration with AIM's partners. These include a Student Innovator Program with Atal Incubation Centers, Student Internship Programs with IBM, and Digital Internship Program with Adobe. Further, the top all-girl teams will get an exclusive chance to refine their ideas under the guidance of Dell Technologies.

SOURCE: *The Indian Express*