

No. 52-3/2019-Trg  
**Department of Telecommunications**  
**1207, Sanchar Bhawan, 20 Ashok Road**  
**New Delhi- 110001**  
(Training and Capacity Building Division)


Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019

**Subject: Invitation to join Smart India Hackathon 2020 initiative for supporting and promoting innovation ecosystem in India – Calling of ‘Problem Statements’ relevant to this Ministry**

Kindly find attached herewith copies of D. O. letters No. Secy(HE)/MHRD/2019 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct, 2019 and 21<sup>st</sup> Aug, 2019 from the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development on the above mentioned subject.

2. I have been directed to request you to kindly submit ‘Problem Statements’ on governance related challenges / problems faced by stakeholders of this Ministry (or the subordinate / autonomous bodies under the Ministry) which can be solved using digital technologies (software) or hardware solutions. The problem statements may be sent by email to [dirtrg-dot@nic.in](mailto:dirtrg-dot@nic.in) and/or [ddgtrg-dot@nic.in](mailto:ddgtrg-dot@nic.in) by 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2019.

Encl: As above

  
(Devendra Yadav)  
Director (Training-I)  
Tele. No.23036765(O)

Copy to: (i) DG Telecom  
(ii) Administrator USOF  
(iii) Advisor / Sr. DDG NTIPRIT / TEC  
(iv) All LSA Heads  
(v) All DDG DoT HQ

**R. Subrahmanyam, IAS**  
Secretary



Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Department of Higher Education  
Government of India

D.O. No. Secy(HE)/2019  
Dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019

Dear *Shri Anshu Prakash*

This is in continuation of my letter No. Secy(HE)/MHRD/2019 dated 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 requesting for identifying problem statements for the forthcoming Smart India Hackathon, 2020.

As you are aware, this is a prestigious national event that has drawn the best brains of the country to find solutions to the commonly found problems in various sectors. The Ministries will have the advantage of having out-of-the-box solutions for their major problems. Prime Minister has been addressing these Hackathons every year since the last three years.

We are yet to receive any problem statements from your Ministry for the forthcoming Smart India Hackathon. The last date for receipt of problem statements is 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.

I will be grateful if a team is constituted to deliberate on the matters impacting large number of people related to your Ministry and send the same to [cio-mhrd@gov.in](mailto:cio-mhrd@gov.in) at the earliest.

*RSK*

Yours sincerely,

(R. Subrahmanyam)

Shri Anshu Prakash,  
Secretary,  
Department of Telecom  
Sanchar Bhawan  
New Delhi.

**R. Subrahmanyam, IAS**  
**Secretary**



**Ministry of Human Resource Development**  
**Department of Higher Education**  
**Government of India**

D.O. No. Secy(HE)/MHRD/2019  
21<sup>st</sup> August, 2019

Dear Secretary,

**Sub: Invitation to join Smart India Hackathon 2020 initiative for supporting and promoting innovation ecosystem in India.**

Dear Secretary,

Smart India Hackathon (SIH) is an annual National initiative by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India. After the phenomenal success of Smart India Hackathon 2017, 2018 and 2019 editions, Ministry of HRD is happy to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Smart India Hackathon 2020.

SIH 2019 brought together more than 2.5 Lakh students to solve 532 socially relevant problems posted by 17 different ministries of Government of India and 95 industries. The Grand Finale for the software edition of SIH was organized across 48 different centres in India on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2019 during which participants developed innovative digital solutions by working non-stop for 36 hrs. The Hardware edition was organized for 5 days across 19 different centres in India from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

Government is keen on ensuring that all major ministries and State governments join this national initiative by sharing problem statements which can be used to challenge student community for offering innovative solutions. Moreover, every year, Hon'ble PM has been interacting with students about problem statements, to which ministry it belongs and what is the novelty in the solutions these students work on, during the hackathon.

Over the years SIH has been evolved and established as world's biggest open innovation model. The Smart India Hackathon helped India institutionalize the model for harnessing the creativity and technical expertise of our youth in the technical institutions for national development.

To take this initiative forward, MHRD is now announcing the next edition called 'Smart India Hackathon 2020'. This version of hackathon will focus on both Software and Hardware approaches (similar as last 2 years) to develop innovative solutions for problems and challenges from various central ministries, state governments and selected industries.

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I am happy to invite your Ministry/Department to join SIH-2020 initiative by sharing/articulating real 'problems' faced by the people being serviced by your ministry/department/allied organizations or to find ways to better the implementation and/or monitoring of your initiatives and schemes. These problems will be used to challenge student community to build innovative solutions thus solving your problems in very cost-efficient manner.

In this regard, the following may kindly be considered:

- 1) Identify a Joint Secretary level officer to coordinate SIH-2020 on behalf of your ministry/department.
- 2) Identify 3-10 governance-related challenges/problems faced by stakeholders of your ministry (or the subordinate/autonomous bodies under the Ministry). These challenges/problem statements which can be solved using digital technologies (software) or hardware solutions. These problem statements may be uploaded on <https://www.sih.gov.in/> portal on or before 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.
- 3) Nominate mentors and judges for evaluation process during SIH 2020.

For all other details and prize money to be paid to winning teams, Dr. Abhay Jere, Chief Innovation Officer, MHRD (+919657723380 / [cio-mhrd@gov.in](mailto:cio-mhrd@gov.in)) will coordinate from the side of Ministry of HRD, further in this respect.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R. Subrahmanyam)

Secretaries to Govt. of India