

# NiT Sparkathon 2025: Official Rules & Regulations

## 1. The Spirit of the Hackathon

Welcome to the NiT Sparkathon! This is an invention marathon. Your goal is to build something innovative, collaborative, and creative. We challenge you to think beyond the obvious and design a project with a unique purpose and feel. Support each other, share what you know, and most importantly, have fun building the future.

## 2. Eligibility

- **Eligibility:** This event is open to all students, founders, and innovators.

## 3. The Challenge

- **Your Mission: Solve a real-world problem with a physical prototype.** Find a challenge that matters and build a tangible hardware solution. You can either choose from one of our 10 curated problem statements or invent your own. The choice is yours.
- **"Fresh Code" Rule:** All development on your project, from writing code to assembling hardware, must happen exclusively within the official hackathon window: **10:00 on October 8th to 18:00 on October 9th, 2025.**
- **Resources:** You are encouraged to use AI platforms, open-source libraries, frameworks, and public APIs. Must provide the reference to the usage in your project.
- **Hardware:** Each team will receive a standard **hardware kit**. Feel free to integrate your own components and materials to bring your vision to life.

## 4. Submission Requirements

- **Deadline:** 14:30 on Thursday, October 9th, 2025.
- **Your submission must include:**
  - **Project Info:** A title and a short description.
  - **Code:** A link to your public GitHub repository, which must be a fork of the official Sparkathon repository.
  - **Video:** A link to a 2-minute (max) video demonstrating your project.
  - **LinkedIn Post:** A link to a public LinkedIn post showcasing your project. The post must include your video and tag the Judges, official NiT, and sponsor accounts with the hashtag #NiTSparkathon.
  - **Live Demo:** Be prepared to present your working prototype live to the judges.

## 5. Judging Criteria 🏆

The winning team will be determined by a cumulative score based on the following five key areas:

- **Innovation & Creativity (35%):** How original and bold is the idea? Does it uniquely solve the problem?
- **Technical Execution (30%):** Does the prototype work reliably? Is the hardware and software implementation skillful and impressive?
- **Design & User Experience (15%):** How does it feel to use? Is the design thoughtful, intuitive, and engaging?
- **Presentation (10%):** How well did the team communicate their vision and demonstrate their project?
- **Community Engagement (10%):** This score is based on the number of likes received on the team's official LinkedIn project post by the submission deadline.

## 6. Prizes 🎁

The grand prize will be awarded to the team with the highest total score across all judging criteria. Specific prize details will be revealed at the opening ceremony.

## 7. Code of Conduct ❤️

- **Respect Always:** We have a zero-tolerance policy for harassment and discrimination. Be inclusive and professional.
- **Collaborate Openly:** Help others and ask for help. This is a community event built on mutual support.
- **Create with Integrity:** All work submitted must be your own, created during the hackathon.
- **Report Concerns:** If you witness any violation of these rules, please report it to the organizers (Shubham or Hong Quan) immediately.

*Good luck, and we can't wait to see what you build!*