

## IEEE Kerala Section Events

### Sanitation Design Challenge

*“Everyone must be his own scavengers”~ M.K Gandhi*

To throw light to this very quote of M.K Gandhi, IEEE Kochi hub in association with Paytm build for India, Kerala Suchitwa Mission and Kerala Startup Mission conducted Sanitation Design Challenge, the finals of which was conducted on 1st December 2018 at Kerala Startup Mission, Kochi.

The event was meant to build solutions to the below mentioned problem statements: Railway toilets, Sanitation during natural disasters. Safe drinking water, Sewage and garbage disposal, Toilets in long distance buses, More number of public toilets, Proper toilet facilities during big events.

The design challenge was widely accepted by the IEEEians and received quite a good amount of entries from all over India.

After the abstract filtration and IEEE paper submission, 22 teams were selected to the finals with the total count of participants being 102. For the smooth conduction of the finals, 10 enthusiastic volunteers were also on board!



The event was graced by the presence of IEEE Kerala Section Chairman Dr. S.M. Sameer, IEEE Kerala Section Secretary, Mr. Shahim Baker and the Executive Director of Kerala Suchitwa Mission, Dr. Ajay Kumar Varma.



The event was judged by a panel comprising of Mr. Saurabh Jain, Vice President, Paytm, Dr. Nirmala Padmanabhan, Professor of Economics, St. Teresas and Mr. Siju Thomas, District Coordinator, Suchitwa Mission, Kochi.

First prize of INR.25,000 was bagged by the team AHCSR comprising of E. Harikrishnan, V. Lavanya, and T.R. Haritha of NSS College of Engineering, Palakkad for their project Advanced Hygienic Cleaning System for Railways.

The second prize of INR 15,000 was bagged by the team Mechatrons comprising of Keerthi Vasan, Pirabu Kannan, Selva Kumar, Nishanth, and Suriya Prakash from Kongu College of Engineering, Erode for their project Autonomous oil spills removing robot.

The third prize of INR 10,000 was bagged by the team GT Labs comprising of Geo Jose, George Phili Puthiyote, Prabhav Rajeev, and Sayooj Surendran from Government Engineering College, Thrissur for their project Incinerating toilet.

IIT Hyderabad to launch India's first BTech course in AI : IIT Hyderabad is launching a full-fledged BTech program in Artificial Intelligence (AI) from the coming academic year 2019-20. The institute claims it has become India's first educational institution to do so, and likely the third globally besides Carnegie Mellon University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The course will enrol around 20 students through the JEE-Advanced exam.

The government has reportedly asked drone manufacturers to install safety chips for switching off drones remotely to avoid mishaps.



The mini Panel of Conference Organizers workshop sponsored by IEEE Region 10 was conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at NIT Calicut. Prof. Sivaji Chakravorti, Chairman, IEEE India Council inaugurated the event. Dr. S.M. Sameer, Chairman, IEEE Kerala Section, Dr. K.P. Mohandas, Senior IEEE Life Member, Dr. S.D. Madhu Kumar, Vice Chair, IEEE Malabar Sub Section and Mr. R. Nandaa Kumar, Convenor, Conference Activities Board, Kerala Section spoke on the occasion. Dr. S.D Madhu Kumar, was the convenor of the workshop.

Building the Conference - Starting to Finish, IEEE Timelines, Strategic Planning of IEEE Conferences, Managing CFPs, TPC Formation & Management, Quality Reviews, Challenges in Peer Review, Technical Program Preparation, Budget Planning and Financial Management of a Conference, Demo on YepDesk, a sample payment gateway, Conference Management Systems - EDAS and Easy Chair - Demo, Plagiarism Checking Tools & Publishing Proceedings in IEEE Explore - Demo, Role of Publication Chair, Guidelines towards applying for Co-Sponsorship of IEEE Kerala Section and India Council, were some of the topics covered in the workshop.

The speakers included: Mr. Harish Mysore from IEEE India office, Dr. Lilly Kutty Jacob, Professor, NIT Calicut, Dr. S.M. Sameer, Professor, NIT Calicut, Dr. G. Santhosh Kumar, Professor, CUSAT, Dr. Bijuna Kunju, Professor, TKM Engineering College, Kollam and Mr. R. Nandakumar, NIELIT, Calicut. The workshop ended with an open forum moderated by Dr. K.P Mohandas.

The workshop was well attended with 64 registered participants including two nominees from IEEE Kolkata Section. Potential conference organizers deputed from more than 25 engineering colleges in Kerala attended the workshop. Dr. S.M. Sameer, Chairman IEEE Kerala Section and Dr. S.D Madhu Kumar, Convenor of the workshop distributed the certificates.

Web page of the event: <https://sites.google.com/nitc.ac.in/minipoco2018/>

**Shashi Tharoor introduces bill to regulate online gaming: Congress leader Shashi Tharoor introduced a private member's bill in the Lok Sabha that seeks to regulate online gaming. The bill aims to legitimise online games of skill and allow online gaming websites to apply for licenses to earn revenue.**

Cybersecurity researchers have discovered a fake Google Chrome extension which steals credit card data via web forms on visited websites. The extension, by the title 'Reader Flash', is spread by means of JavaScript injection attacks, which display warnings like "You don't have Flash installed, use this Chrome extension instead". The extension had been reportedly available since February 2018.

**The picture of an egg has become the most liked photo on Instagram with over 20 million likes (at the time of reporting), beating the previous record of 18 million held by Kylie Jenner's picture of her daughter Stormi.**

German auto parts manufacturer Continental unveiled a concept delivery system at CES 2019 in Las Vegas. In the demo, a four-legged robotic dog hopped out of a driverless delivery van, crossed an obstacle, climbed stairs, and rang a doorbell with one of its limbs to deliver the package. Continental partnered with Swiss robotics company ANYbotics for the dog named 'ANYmal'.