

NavaNIETi - 2026

RULES & INSTRUCTIONS

1. General Information

- This is a **24-hour National Level Hackathon** conducted in an **offline mode** by the organizers.
- The hackathon will run continuously for 24 hours from the officially announced start time.
- All participants must adhere strictly to the rules and instructions mentioned in this document.

2. Team Formation Rules

- Each team must consist of **a minimum of 3 members and a maximum of 5 members**.
- All team members must be **registered participants** of the hackathon.
- Team composition **cannot be changed** after the registration deadline.
- Each participant is allowed to be part of **only one team**.
- All participants of a team must be from the same college.

3. Problem Statement Selection

- Each team must select **exactly ONE problem statement** from the list provided by the organizers.
- **Multiple teams are allowed to choose the same problem statement.**
- Teams must **strictly adhere** to the selected problem statement throughout the hackathon.
- Any significant deviation from the chosen problem statement may result in **penalty or disqualification**.

4. Development Rules

- Teams are expected to **develop their solution entirely during the hackathon period only.**
- Use of:
 - Open-source libraries
 - Public APIs
 - Open datasets are permitted.
- Use of **pre-built projects, previously developed solutions, or reused competition projects is strictly prohibited.**
- Internet access may be used only for:
 - Component name
 - Quantity
 - Key specifications (ratings, models, part numbers where applicable)
 - Purpose of each component in the solution.
- Plagiarism in any form—code, design, documentation, or idea representation—is strictly prohibited.

5. Bill of Materials (BoM) Submission & Hardware Allocation Policy

- Teams working on hardware-based or hardware–software integrated problem statements are **required to submit a detailed Bill of Materials (BoM)** as part of the shortlisting process.
- The BoM must clearly specify:
 - Component name
 - Quantity
 - Key specifications (ratings, models, part numbers where applicable)
 - Purpose of each component in the solution.
- The submitted BoM will be used by the organizers **for team shortlisting and hardware planning purposes.**
- During the hackathon, the organizing committee will provide **only those hardware components explicitly mentioned in the approved BoM.**
- Requests for additional components **not listed in the submitted BoM will not be entertained** during the hackathon.
- Teams are not permitted to substitute or demand alternate components unless approved in advance by the organizers.
- All hardware components issued by the organizers remain the **property of the organizing committee.**
- Teams must handle all provided components with due care and responsibility.

- At the conclusion of the hackathon, **all issued hardware components must be returned in proper working condition** to the **assigned team mentor or designated organizer**.
- Any loss, damage, or failure to return issued components may result in:
 - Penalty
 - Disqualification
 - Recovery of cost from the team (as applicable)

6. Prototype & Solution Expectations

- Teams should aim to develop a **working prototype**, either:
 - Hardware-based
 - Hardware–software integrated
 Hardware must be included , **pure software based solutions are not accepted**.
- **Partial implementations are acceptable**, provided the core functionality and logic are demonstrated clearly.
- In cases where hardware implementation is not fully feasible:
 - Simulation results
 - Test outputs may be considered at the discretion of the judges.
- Teams must be prepared to **explain the complete working logic** of their solution during evaluation.

7. Attendance & Presence Rules

- Teams must report to the venue **before the official start time**.
- **At least one team member must be present at the assigned desk at all times** during the 24-hour hackathon.
- Teams leaving their desk unattended for extended durations may be penalized.
- Attendance may be verified through random checks by volunteers or organizers.

8. Submission & Demonstration

- Teams must submit their solution **before the specified deadline**.
- Late submissions will **not be accepted under any circumstances**.

- Teams must be ready to:
 - Demonstrate the working prototype
 - Explain the technical approach
 - Answer questions from the judging panel
- Failure to demonstrate core functionality may impact evaluation scores.

9. Participant Responsibilities

- All participants must carry a **valid college/institution ID card**.
- Teams are responsible for bringing:
 - Laptops
 - Chargers
 - Required hardware components apart from components mentioned in BOM.
- The organizers will **not be responsible** for loss or damage of personal belongings.
- Information related to:
 - Food
 - Basic Accommodation (Resting areas , bean bags)
 - Power usage
will be communicated separately.

10. Code of Conduct

- Participants must maintain **professional and ethical behavior** throughout the event.
- Any form of:
 - Misconduct
 - Harassment
 - Unethical behavior
will result in immediate disqualification.
- Participants must comply with instructions given by organizers, mentors, and volunteers at all times.

11. Disqualification Conditions

A team may be **disqualified** if found involved in any of the following:

- Use of pre-built or previously developed solutions
- Plagiarism in any form
- Deviation from the selected problem statement
- Missing submission deadlines
- Unethical or in-disciplined behavior
- Violation of safety or hackathon rules

12. Evaluation & Judging

- Evaluation will be carried out by a panel of judges appointed by the organizers.
- The judging criteria may include:
 - Innovation
 - Technical depth
 - Problem relevance
 - Feasibility
 - Implementation quality
- Judges may ask for:
 - Code explanation
 - Design justification
 - Live demonstration

13. Final Authority

- The **Organizing Committee reserves the right to modify rules, schedules, or evaluation procedures** if required.
- Any such changes will be communicated officially to all participants.
- **All decisions taken by the Organizing Committee and the Judging Panel shall be final and binding.**