

**Report on  
HACKNOVA 1.0 – AI and Data Science Hackathon 2026**

**organized by  
Department of Mathematics  
School of Basic and Applied Sciences  
Harcourt Butler Technical University, Kanpur**

**Date:** April 1, 2026

**Time:** 10:30 AM onwards

**Venue:** EC-1, Department of Mathematics, HBTU Main Building, East Campus

**Organizing Bodies:** Department of Mathematics, HBTU Kanpur & N8N Data Science Community

**Objective of the Event:** The event “Hacknova 1.0” was organized to foster innovation, creativity, and problem-solving skills among students in the domains of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science. The hackathon aimed to provide a competitive platform where participants could apply their technical knowledge to real-world challenges, collaborate in teams, and develop impactful solutions. It also sought to encourage interdisciplinary learning and promote a culture of technological advancement and innovation.

**Event Highlights:** Hacknova 1.0 was conducted with great enthusiasm and witnessed active participation from students across various disciplines. The theme “Code the Future. Compete the Present.” set the tone for an energetic and competitive environment.

Participants worked in teams to develop innovative AI and data-driven solutions within a limited timeframe. The hackathon encouraged creativity, critical thinking, and practical implementation of concepts learned in classrooms.

The competition featured exciting rewards, including a total prize pool of ₹16,000, with ₹10,500 for the first prize, ₹3,500 for the second prize, and ₹2,000 for the third prize. In addition to cash prizes, winners and participants received trophies, certificates, and sponsor perks.

The event was supported by various partners, including Devpost as the platform partner and several technology, media, and career partners, which added value and exposure to the participants.

The atmosphere throughout the event was vibrant, with participants brainstorming, coding, and presenting their solutions. The hackathon served as an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their technical skills and innovative ideas.

**Inaugural Remarks and Session Details:** The event commenced with opening remarks by the faculty members of the department, who welcomed all participants and highlighted the importance of hackathons in shaping future innovators. They emphasized the role of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science in solving contemporary global challenges. The Hon'ble VC of the university also visited the venue and motivated participants. He also congratulated the organisers and asked for continuing conduction of these types of events.

Participants were briefed about the rules, evaluation criteria, and problem statements. Mentors and organizers guided teams throughout the event, helping them refine their ideas and approaches.

The evaluation process involved assessing the projects based on innovation, technical implementation, feasibility, and presentation. Teams presented their solutions before the judges, demonstrating their creativity and technical expertise.

**Participation and Engagement:** The hackathon saw enthusiastic participation (around 80 participants) from students who actively engaged in coding, collaboration, and idea generation. The interactive environment encouraged teamwork and knowledge sharing.

Participants gained hands-on experience in applying AI and Data Science concepts, enhancing their problem-solving abilities and technical confidence.

**Vote of Thanks:** The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by the organizing team, expressing gratitude to all participants, mentors, partners, and sponsors for their valuable contributions. Special appreciation was extended to the organizing committee for successfully coordinating the event.

**Conclusion:** Hacknova 1.0 proved to be a highly successful and impactful event. It provided a dynamic platform for students to innovate, compete, and learn. The hackathon not only enhanced technical skills but also encouraged collaboration, creativity, and real-world problem-solving. The event concluded on an inspiring note, motivating participants to continue exploring and contributing to the fields of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science.



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