

SUPPORTED BY



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
to the Government of India



P R E S E N T S



INCUBATION & SUPPORT BY



NITI Aayog ATAL INNOVATION MISSION



Building Bharat Sampaark - National Civil Engineering Hackathon



Problem Statement : Self Clearing /
Self Cleaning Drain Inlet System



Theme : Public Infrastructure

INITIATIVE PARTNERS



SUSTAINABILITY PARTNER



INNOVATION PARTNERS

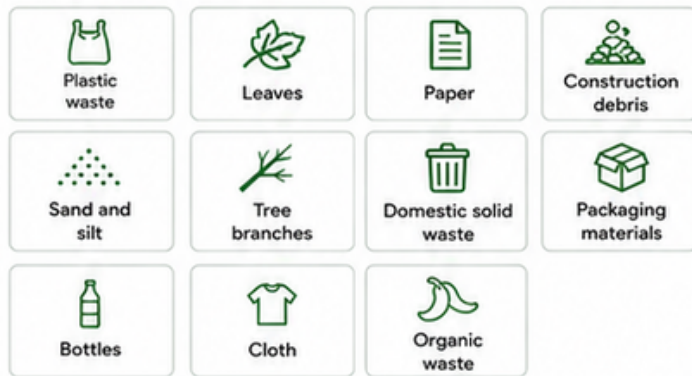




1. BACKGROUND

Urban flooding has become one of the most significant infrastructure challenges facing Indian cities. Rapid urbanization, increased impervious surfaces, climate change-induced extreme rainfall events, and inadequate maintenance of stormwater drainage systems frequently result in waterlogging, traffic disruption, infrastructure damage, public health risks, and economic losses.

One of the primary causes of urban flooding is blockage of stormwater drain inlets (gully pits, catch basins, kerb inlets, and grated drain inlets) by:



Most municipal authorities rely on manual cleaning, which is:

-  Labour-intensive
-  Unsafe
-  Time-consuming
-  Reactive rather than preventive
-  Expensive to maintain
-  Difficult during heavy rainfall
-  Limited by manpower availability

Blocked drain inlets reduce hydraulic capacity, causing stormwater to accumulate on roads and public spaces, resulting in flooding even when the downstream drainage network has sufficient carrying capacity.



The Indian construction and urban infrastructure industry requires an innovative self-clearing or self-cleaning drain inlet system capable of automatically preventing or removing debris accumulation while maintaining uninterrupted stormwater flow with minimal maintenance.



The solution should be suitable for Indian urban conditions, where debris loads, sediment deposition, traffic loading, vandalism, and varying rainfall intensities present unique operational challenges.

2. INDUSTRY PROBLEM STATEMENT



Design an innovative self-clearing or self-cleaning drain inlet system that minimizes clogging, reduces manual cleaning, improves hydraulic performance, and enhances the resilience of urban stormwater drainage systems.

The solution may consist of:

- ▶ Mechanical systems
- ▶ Hydraulic systems
- ▶ Passive engineering designs
- ▶ Smart sensors
- ▶ IoT-enabled monitoring
- ▶ AI-enabled predictive maintenance
- ▶ Robotics
- ▶ Hybrid hardware-software solutions



Minimizes clogging



Reduces manual cleaning



Improves hydraulic performance



Enhances urban drainage resilience



Cost-effective, durable & easy to maintain



The proposed system should operate effectively under real Indian road and drainage conditions while remaining affordable, durable, and easy to maintain.



3. CHALLENGE OBJECTIVE

Students are expected to develop a solution that:



Prevents drain inlet blockage



Automatically removes or diverts debris



Maintains uninterrupted stormwater flow



Reduces flooding caused by clogged inlets



Minimizes manual maintenance



Improves worker safety



Reduces lifecycle maintenance costs



Enables predictive maintenance



Increases drainage efficiency



Supports smart city infrastructure

4. REAL-TIME INDUSTRY NEED

Across Indian cities, thousands of drain inlets become blocked during monsoon seasons due to accumulated debris.

Current industry challenges include:



OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

- ▶ Frequent inlet clogging
- ▶ Slow manual cleaning
- ▶ Limited municipal manpower
- ▶ Delayed maintenance
- ▶ Traffic disruption during cleaning
- ▶ Poor accessibility
- ▶ Inconsistent maintenance schedules



HYDRAULIC CHALLENGES

- ▶ Reduced inlet capacity
- ▶ Surface flooding
- ▶ Overflow onto roads
- ▶ Localized flooding
- ▶ Reduced drainage efficiency
- ▶ Sediment accumulation



SAFETY CHALLENGES

- ▶ Manual entry into confined spaces
- ▶ Exposure to contaminated water
- ▶ Risk during heavy rainfall
- ▶ Roadside maintenance hazards



ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

- ▶ High maintenance costs
- ▶ Flood-related infrastructure damage
- ▶ Traffic delays
- ▶ Emergency response expenses
- ▶ Frequent replacement of damaged components



5. SCOPE OF THE CHALLENGE

Students may develop solutions for:



Roadside kerb inlets



Gully traps



Catch basins



Surface drain grates



Highway drainage systems



Bridge deck drainage



Parking areas



Smart city infrastructure



Industrial drainage



Airport drainage



Metro station drainage



Residential stormwater systems

SUPPORTED BY

INCUBATION & SUPPORT BY

Problem Statement

National Civil Engineering Hackathon

Theme: Materials and Structures



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
to the Government of India



Manthan
Skill and Implementation through
Science, Technology and Innovation



NITI Aayog



AITM
ATAL INNOVATION MISSION



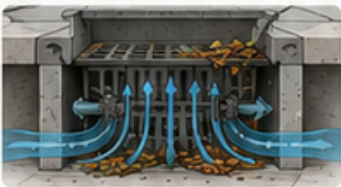
6. EXPECTED SOLUTION AREAS

Students may choose one or more engineering approaches.

A. PASSIVE SELF-CLEANING DRAIN INLET

Develop a system using innovative hydraulic or mechanical principles such as:

- ▶ Optimized grate geometry
- ▶ Self-cleaning grill profiles
- ▶ Debris deflection mechanisms
- ▶ Inclined inlet designs
- ▶ Rotating grates powered by water flow
- ▶ Floating debris separators
- ▶ Sediment traps with automatic flushing
- ▶ Vortex-assisted cleaning
- ▶ Flow-induced cleaning mechanisms



The design should minimize clogging without requiring external power wherever possible.

B. SMART MECHANICAL CLEANING SYSTEM

Develop a compact mechanical solution capable of:

- ▶ Detecting accumulated debris
- ▶ Automatically removing blockages
- ▶ Depositing debris into a collection chamber
- ▶ Preventing downstream blockage
- ▶ Operating autonomously during rainfall

Possible mechanisms include:

- Rotary brushes
- Chain scrapers
- Conveyor systems
- Rotating screens
- Automatic rakes
- Pneumatic cleaning systems



C. AI & IoT MONITORING PLATFORM

Develop an intelligent monitoring system capable of:

- ▶ Detecting blockage levels
- ▶ Measuring water levels
- ▶ Measuring flow velocity
- ▶ Detecting sediment accumulation
- ▶ Sending maintenance alerts
- ▶ Predicting future blockage
- ▶ Prioritizing maintenance locations

Possible technologies:

- Ultrasonic Sensors
- Water Level Sensors
- Flow Sensors
- Cameras
- Computer Vision
- AI Analytics
- GSM/L0RaWAN Communication



D. COMPUTER VISION-BASED DEBRIS DETECTION

Develop an AI solution capable of identifying:

- ▶ Plastic waste
- ▶ Leaves
- ▶ Sand accumulation
- ▶ Floating debris
- ▶ Waterlogging
- ▶ Sediment deposition



The system should generate automated maintenance recommendations.

E. DIGITAL MAINTENANCE PLATFORM

Develop a mobile or web application enabling:

- ▶ GIS mapping of drain inlets
- ▶ QR-code asset identification
- ▶ Inspection scheduling
- ▶ Maintenance history
- ▶ Live blockage monitoring
- ▶ Performance dashboards
- ▶ Work-order management



F. SMART DEBRIS COLLECTION CHAMBER

Develop an integrated debris collection unit that:

- ▶ Captures solid waste
- ▶ Allows uninterrupted water flow
- ▶ Is easily removable
- ▶ Reduces manual handling
- ▶ Indicates when cleaning is required



G. PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE ENGINE

Use Artificial Intelligence to predict:

- ▶ Probability of blockage
- ▶ Cleaning frequency
- ▶ High-risk locations
- ▶ Rainfall impact
- ▶ Sediment accumulation trends
- ▶ Asset performance degradation



7. INNOVATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are encouraged to integrate:



Sustainable materials



Energy harvesting technologies
(e.g., micro-hydraulic or solar-assisted systems)



The emphasis should be on creating robust, low-maintenance, and field-deployable solutions.



8. TECHNICAL EXPECTATIONS

The proposed solution should demonstrate sound engineering design.

HARDWARE	SOFTWARE	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	CLOUD	INTEGRATION
- Arduino - ESP32 - Raspberry Pi - PLC Controllers - Ultrasonic Sensors - Water Level Sensors - Flow Meters - Cameras - Load Sensors - Motors and Actuators - Solar Power Modules (optional)	Frontend - Flutter - React Native - Angular Backend - Node.js - Django - Spring Boot Database - PostgreSQL - MongoDB - Firebase	- OpenCV - TensorFlow - PyTorch - YOLO - Image Segmentation - Object Detection - Predictive Analytics	- AWS - Azure - Google Cloud	Teams are encouraged to integrate with: - Smart City Command Centres - Municipal Asset Management Systems - GIS Platforms - SCADA Systems - Stormwater Network Digital Twins - Public Works Department maintenance systems

9. PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS



The proposed solution should demonstrate measurable improvements in one or more Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), such as:

 Reduction in drain inlet blockage frequency	 Increase in hydraulic efficiency	 Reduction in manual cleaning operations
 Reduction in flood incidents caused by inlet blockage	 Reduction in maintenance costs	 Reduction in response time for maintenance
 Debris capture efficiency (%)	 Water flow continuity during storm events	 Reliability under high-intensity rainfall
 Energy efficiency (if powered)	 Ease of maintenance and replacement	



Teams should support their performance claims using hydraulic calculations, prototype testing, laboratory demonstrations, CFD simulations, or field-scale validation.



12. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

Each participating team should submit:

A. INDUSTRY PROBLEM ANALYSIS

- ▶ Existing drainage challenges
- ▶ Causes of inlet blockage
- ▶ Stakeholder analysis
- ▶ Benchmarking with global best practices



B. PROPOSED SOLUTION

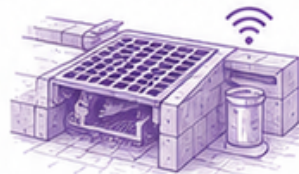
- ▶ Engineering concept
- ▶ Working principle
- ▶ Innovation
- ▶ Hydraulic design
- ▶ Expected benefits



C. PROTOTYPE

A working prototype demonstrating:

- ▶ Mechanical system
- ▶ Hydraulic mechanism
- ▶ Sensor integration
- ▶ Digital platform
- ▶ AI model (if applicable)



D. TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Include:

- ▶ Mechanical design
- ▶ Hydraulic calculations
- ▶ Structural design
- ▶ System architecture
- ▶ Electrical design (if applicable)
- ▶ Software architecture
- ▶ AI model description
- ▶ Scalability strategy
- ▶ Safety considerations



E. VALIDATION STRATEGY

Teams should provide one or more of the following:

- ▶ Hydraulic laboratory testing
- ▶ CFD simulations
- ▶ Rainfall simulations
- ▶ Prototype testing
- ▶ Comparative analysis with conventional drain inlets
- ▶ Lifecycle cost analysis



F. BUSINESS MODEL

Describe:

- ▶ Target customers
- ▶ Manufacturing strategy
- ▶ Commercialization plan
- ▶ Installation cost
- ▶ Maintenance model
- ▶ Return on Investment (ROI)
- ▶ Scalability for municipalities and infrastructure agencies



G. DEMONSTRATION VIDEO

A 5-7 minute video including:

- ▶ Industry challenge
- ▶ Solution overview
- ▶ Prototype demonstration
- ▶ Performance evaluation
- ▶ Expected impact



H. PITCH PRESENTATION

Maximum 10 slides covering:

1. Industry Challenge
2. Existing Problems
3. Proposed Innovation
4. Engineering Design
5. Technical Architecture
6. Prototype Demonstration
7. Validation Results
8. Business Model
9. Industry Impact
10. Future Roadmap



13. EVALUATION PARAMETER

1



UNDERSTANDING
OF INDUSTRY
PROBLEM

2



INNOVATION
AND
ORIGINALITY

3



ENGINEERING
AND TECHNICAL
FEASIBILITY

4



QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT
AND STRUCTURAL
SAFETY IMPACT

5



SCALABILITY
AND INDUSTRY
READINESS

6



BUSINESS
VIABILITY

7



PRESENTATION
AND
DEMONSTRATION



14. EXPECTED INDUSTRY IMPACT

A successful solution should:



- Significantly reduce urban flooding caused by blocked drain inlets



- Improve the hydraulic efficiency of stormwater drainage systems



- Reduce dependence on manual drain cleaning and associated safety risks



- Lower lifecycle maintenance costs for municipalities and infrastructure operators



- Improve the resilience of urban drainage networks during extreme rainfall events



- Support smart city initiatives through real-time monitoring and predictive maintenance



- Reduce environmental pollution by enabling efficient collection of floating debris before it enters drainage networks and natural water bodies



- Provide retrofit-friendly solutions suitable for India's existing drainage infrastructure



- Improve public safety, mobility, and urban resilience during the monsoon season



- Contribute to sustainable urban infrastructure development in support of the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047



15. STRETCH GOALS (BONUS)

Teams seeking advanced recognition may incorporate:



- Digital Twin integration for city-wide stormwater network monitoring and simulation



- AI-driven optimization of maintenance schedules using rainfall forecasts, historical blockage patterns, and sensor data



- Energy-autonomous operation using solar panels or micro-hydraulic energy harvesting



- Integration with weather forecasting APIs for pre-monsoon and real-time operational preparedness



- Robotic inspection modules for underground drainage systems



- Carbon footprint and lifecycle assessment of the proposed solution compared with conventional maintenance practices



- Open APIs enabling integration with municipal GIS platforms, SCADA systems, Smart City Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs), and asset management software



Solutions that demonstrate superior hydraulic performance, innovative engineering, affordability, ease of retrofit, durability under Indian field conditions, and measurable reductions in maintenance requirements and flood risk will receive the highest consideration.

SUPPORTED BY



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
to the Government of India



PRESENTS



INCUBATION & SUPPORT BY



Thank You!

TO ALL PARTICIPANTS,
MENTORS & PARTNERS

“
Desh ko banana hai। कुछ कर के दिखाना है।
”

**JOURNEY TO
BUILDING BHARAT**
has begun...



ABOUT US



www.bbsampaark.in



priya@bbsampaark.in

Write to Us

INITIATIVE PARTNERS



SUSTAINABILITY PARTNER



INNOVATION PARTNERS

