

NITK will host nat'l-level hackathon on April 15

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Mangaluru: The National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal, will host HackVerse 4.0, a 24-hour national-level hackathon organised by budding engineers on April 15. Applications for the event will close on April 8.

HACKVERSE 4.0

This will be the first Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) hackathon hosted by an engineering college in India. Additionally, it will be the first hackathon to incorporate Metaverse Integration into ONDC, making it a unique and exciting opportunity for participants.

Rajveer Singh, lead organiser of the event told **TOI** that along with several other APIs, this year HackVerse will also allow students to develop on ONDC, which is established by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade of Government of India.

Singh said that the event is already generating buzz among the student community in India. HackVerse has become a prominent platform for budding entrepreneurs and innovative minds to brainstorm solutions for challenging issues throughout India. Since its inception in NITK's diamond jubilee year 2019-20, HackVerse has been instrumental in nurturing young talent and

promoting the spirit of innovation. HackVerse 4.0 is all set to take innovation to the next level.

The hackathon has received substantial sponsorship from several companies, including eSamudaay, ONDC, Zolve, and more, said another lead event organiser Achintya Kumar. "The hackathon offers cash prizes of more than Rs 2 lakh to the top-performing teams. In addition to the cash prizes, participants will also be offered exciting goodies, platform credits, and loads of other prizes," Achintya said.

Last year, 173 students from about 50 teams were shortlisted for the online hackathon and this time, it will be offline.