

IIT Kharagpur crowned winners of Edison Challenge 2013

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The winners were awarded Rs 10 Lakh, and the runners-up were presented with a cash prize of Rs 5 Lakh.

The winning team, consisting of Dr Debdoot Sheet, Dr Kausik Basak, Dr Sri Phani Krishna Karri, and Dr Tamoghna Ojha, presented their innovation called, '*SinCLAIR*', a mobile app for accurately diagnosing skin cancer and related abnormalities for the resource constrained patient pool and rural population.

The winning team's lead, Dr Debdoot Sheet, Senior Research Fellow, School of Medical Science and Technology, IIT Kharagpur, expressed, "It feels awesome. We were a great team together. A lot of innovation and hardwork has gone into it. For the past one-and-half years, we were working on computational imaging. We weren't even sure if this would work. However, when our idea got through into the final top-five category, we realized that we can do it and we put our best foot forward."

"I attribute this success to all my teachers. Like Albert Einstein, I also want to thank people who said *ho's* to our idea. Our commercial challenge would be targeting hospitals and healthcare services agencies and the regulatory woes in India, which is quite ambiguous," Dr Sheet added further.

Another research scholar from the 4-membered winning team, Dr Sri Phani Krishna Karri from the School of Medical Science and Technology, IIT Kharagpur, said, "I'm relaxed and quite excited as well. We've put a lot of work into this. This is going to act as a seed for our dream projects in the future. The past two days were really difficult, and we even went without getting enough sleep because of all the preparations. But all that has not gone in vain."

The runners-up team saw Mr Sritam Parashar Rout, Mr Himanshu Gangwar, and Mr Aditya Garg, who presented a non-invasive and portable method of detecting malignant (cancerous) tumors.

The external panel of judges consisted of Mr Vijaya Kumar Ivaturi, India Innovation Labs, Prof S Mohan, IIT Madras, Mr Siraj Dhanani, founder & CEO, InnAccel.

From the 200 applications that were received by GE India, the final five institutions, apart from the winners and runners-up, selected were: Knowledge Institute of Technology, Salem; SSN College of Engineering, Chennai; and Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Vellore.