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Novartis picks next-gen innovators paving way for healthcare breakthroughs

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An initiative by Novartis to nurture the brightest minds in data science and technology



Novartis India, a focused innovative medicines company, successfully concluded the grand finale of NEST (Nurturing Excellence, Strengthening Talent) – a first-of-its-kind, real-world case-based competition focused on healthcare innovation.

After months of rigorous competition and mentorship, the best minds in data science, artificial intelligence and clinical development came together to present their breakthrough ideas, aimed at reimagining medicine and improving patient care.

Sadhna Joglekar, Head, Development Hub, India, Novartis, reflected on the journey, stating: “NEST reflects our belief that fresh ideas, coupled with cutting-edge technology, and enriched by mentorship, can create transformative solutions to reimagine medicine and improve patient care. These past few months have been exhilarating, experiencing first-hand the energy, passion and ideas that the young, bright minds in India have to offer. I am confident that our winners represent the next generation of entrepreneurs in healthcare innovation in India.”

The four winning teams (Team Echelon, VIIT Pune; Team BITSoM, Mumbai; Team Moneeshb8 from IIM Calcutta; and Team BioLogits from IIT Kharagpur), recognised for their ingenuity, technical excellence, and real-world impact, were awarded from the Rs 8,00,000 prize pool and secured pre-placement interview opportunities with Novartis Development hub in India.

NEST is a dynamic platform designed to empower the next generation of innovators in healthcare by bridging the gap between academia, startups, and industry. By providing a real-world problem-solving experience, expert mentorship, and access to key industry stakeholders, NEST equipped students and young professionals with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities needed to drive impactful change. Through NEST, Novartis is nurturing a talent pipeline that can shape the future of medicine and improve healthcare outcomes on a global scale.