April 17, 2024

Dr. D. A. S. Atukorale
Director
University of Colombo School of Computing
UCSC/DIR
UCSC Building Complex,
35 ,Reid Avenue,
Colombo 7.

Dear Dr. D. A. S. Atukorale,

Invitation to Participate in International Hackathon on GPT for Singlish Language hosted by Commercial Bank

It is with great pleasure that I extend an invitation to University of Colombo School of Computing to participate in an upcoming and pioneering event—an International Hackathon organized by Commercial Bank of Ceylon.

The proposed Hackathon is a part of the bank's commitment to nurturing talent and fostering innovation in the fields of AI and data science. This inaugural event will focus on developing a GPT model for identifying Singlish Language, a colloquial form of language widely used in Sri Lanka. We believe that this endeavor holds significant promise in advancing AI technology in local language development. Recognizing the pivotal role that University of Colombo School of Computing plays in shaping the next generation of AI experts, we warmly invite your institution to partner with us on this transformative initiative.

The Hackathon aims to address the unique challenges posed by Sinhala, a language with limited digital resources, by leveraging the creativity and skills of university students to provide tangible solutions and gain practical knowledge exposure.

Details about the Hackathon:

- Theme: Customer Engagement Singlish Chatbots
  Develop a chatbot which is enabled by GPT model that understands and responds in Singlish to enhance customer support and engagement.
- Target Audience: Local and International university students
- Hackathon Period: May- July 2024
    - Calling for Registration: 1st week of May
    - Prototype Creation: 5 weeks starting from 3rd week of May to 3rd week of June 2024
    - Shortlisting Submissions: 2nd week of July
    - Final Presentations and Awards: 3nd week of July
- The Hackathon will be hosted on the APIX platform (apixplatform.com) and is open to both local and international university students.
- Winners will have the opportunity for real implementation at Commercial Bank's corporate setup, and the top three entries will receive cash rewards.

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Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC (Reg No. PQ 116), Commercial House, No. 21, Sir Razik Fareed Mawatha, P. O. Box 856, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.

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Information Centre : +94 (0) 11 2 353 333, 7 353 333 | Telebanking : +94 (0) 2 336 633 | Web : www.combank.lk | SWIFT Code : CCEYLKLX

Participating in this Hackathon offers numerous benefits to University of Colombo School of Computing:
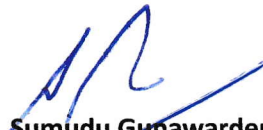
- o Opportunity for students to engage in real-world problem-solving and gain hands-on experience in AI development.
- o Exposure & recognition for University of Colombo School of Computing on the Hackathon platform, enhancing brand visibility within the local community.
- o Networking opportunities with industry professionals and potential future collaborators.
- o Contribution to the advancement of AI technology and making a meaningful impact on the local language ecosystem.

We firmly believe that University of Colombo School of Computing students possess the talent and creativity needed to excel in this Hackathon, and we sincerely hope to have your institution's participation in this groundbreaking event. In addition to the benefits mentioned above, we are eager to feature University of Colombo School of Computing's logo prominently on our Hackathon platform, thereby supporting the branding of the University of Colombo School of Computing within local & international community.

I would appreciate confirmation of University of Colombo School of Computing's interest in partnering with us for Hackathorn on or before 30th April. Your positive response and collaboration are eagerly awaited.

Thank you for considering our invitation. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jayan Madushanka on 0779202769 if you require any further information or clarification.

Thank you

Sumudu Gunawardena
Chief Information Officer