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To

Vice Chancellors / Directors / Principals
Universities and Higher Education Institutions

Subject: Planning for the semester exams in December 2025 for the upcoming Smart India Hackathon 2025 -reg.

Greetings from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

The Smart India Hackathon (SIH) is a nationwide initiative of the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), AICTE, launched in 2017. It is the world's largest open innovation model, designed to provide students from Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) with a platform to solve real-life challenges faced by ministries, departments, industries, and non-governmental organizations.

Over the years, SIH has emerged as a flagship program that not only fosters entrepreneurial spirit among students but also strengthens the collaboration between academia, industry, and government.

This year, the tentative dates for the **Smart India Hackathon (SIH 2025)** are tentatively scheduled to be held from **8th to 12th December 2025** across multiple nodal centres in the country, and the students from the HEI's are expected to travel across these nodal center for the Grand Finale of the SIH 2025.

In this regard, it has been observed in the earlier editions that certain universities/colleges/institutions scheduled their end-of-semester examinations during the period of the SIH Grand Finale, resulting in some students being unable to participate in the event. As a large number of finalist teams are required to travel and attend the Finale, such overlaps have caused academic challenges for the students who have worked with dedication to qualify for this stage.

In the interest of the students of your esteemed institution, it is requested that no examinations to be scheduled during the period from **8th to 12th December 2025**. As the participating teams may be required to travel 1-2 days prior to the commencement of the event, the examination calendar of your institution may kindly be planned keeping in view the dates of the Grand Finale of SIH 2025. This would ensure that the shortlisted student teams are able to participate in the Finale without any academic hindrance.

Your kind cooperation in this regard will not only support the aspirations of young innovators but will also contribute significantly towards strengthening the national innovation ecosystem.

With regards.



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(Prof. T.G. Sitharam) 29/8