

Round 1 report

tcs HackQuest Season 10

Contest Date: - 13th December 2025

CT ID	
Name	Tharun K M
College/University	Srinivasa Ramanujan Institute of Technology (SRIT)
City	Anantapur
Challenges solved & the total score	800
Anything else that you want us to know	

(Copy & paste the table x times if you solved x challenges and fill in the steps)

Challenge Title: Area 64**Flag: HQX{70c5d525cad6ff9e0fa93a49bf4ccf8}****Approach (Step by Step):**

1. Selected the text present in the text file
2. Then converted it by using base64 decoder
3. Finally submitted the flag

Challenge Title: Hidden Layers**Flag: HQX{24c0ce09e03006db5dc66d439d1d48f0}****Approach (Step by Step):**

1. Searched for image decoders, stenographer
2. Used a stenography to and obtained the flag
3. Submitted to flag obtained

Challenge Title: Paper Scripts**Flag: HQX{2e05d5c636621952b32a508f266cfb0c}****Approach (Step by Step):**

1. Extensively searched in the meta data of the pdf
2. Also tried to analyze images in pdf
3. Finally saw the java code
4. Extracted the flag using the java code hidden in the pdf

Challenge Title: Address Abyss
Flag: HQX{e1f63411d0b479f6b427aabb0860d9f4}
Approach (Step by Step): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. I filtered the log file to keep only valid IPs in the formats 92.7.X.Y and 2510:a1:X::Y.2. From each valid entry, I extracted X as the index and Y as a single character, ignoring all noise.3. I then sorted the characters by their indices and concatenated them in order.4. Finally, I wrapped the result in the required HQX{} format to obtain the flag.