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ABOUT CIT

CIT is a Government Aided Autonomous Institution founded in the year 1956. It is affiliated with Anna University, Chennai. The institution has grown from strength to strength is recognised as a center for academic and research excellence in various disciplines in Engineering and Technology. CIT has signed MoU with leading International universities such as Bergen University College (Norway), Texas Tech University Lubbock, (USA), Oklahoma State University, (USA). In addition, CIT has several tie-ups with Multinational hardware and software companies for technical knowledge transfer.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF IT

The Department of Information of Technology was started in 2001 with a vision to provide a place for Innovation, Scientific Discovery and New Technology to evolve as a Centre of Excellence for research and learning, integrating Computer and Information Sciences with Natural Sciences and Basic Engineering. The department has excellent infrastructure and faculty specialized in various areas of IT. Our courses are delivered by a range of experts including the faculty at CIT, guest lecturers from premier institutions, industries and R&D organizations. . The department prepares over 72 graduates (UG) every year to become leaders in diverse fields such as academia, industry and government.



DARK PATTERNS BUSTER HACKATHON (DPBH-2023)

(Nodal Centre for DPBH-2023, Round - 2)

Organized by
Department of Information Technology
Coimbatore Institute of Technology,
(A Govt. Aided Autonomous Institution Affiliated to
Anna University, Chennai)
Coimbatore-641014
Webpage: www.cit.edu.in



Jointly with
Indian Institute of Technology
(Banaras Hindu University),
Varanasi - 221 005 INDIA



Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon (DPBH-2023) is a pioneering initiative aimed at challenging students to ideate strategies and solutions to combat deceptive design practices in the e-commerce digital platforms. The mission behind DPBH-2023 is to foster a culture of ethical innovation and problem-solving, addressing the pressing issues we encounter in our online e-commerce experiences. This hackathon is a joint initiative of Department of Consumer Affairs, *Ministry of Consumer Affairs*, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India and IIT (BHU), Varanasi is the implementation agency for this nationwide event. (Find more at: <https://doca.gov.in/DarkPatternsBusterHackathon/> and <https://dpbh2023.in/>).

The problem statement: Design and prototype innovative app or software-based solutions that can detect the use, type, and scale of dark patterns on e-commerce platforms

Desirable functionality/ features to deliver:

Detect & Flag:

- False Urgency
- Basket sneaking
- Confirm shaming
- Forced action
- Subscription trap
- Interface interference
- Bait and switch
- Drip pricing
- Disguised advertisement Nagging

Desirable technologies and features:

- Generative AI and LLMs for detection of Dark Patterns
- Central or Distributed Repository Management
- Patterns Detection Accuracy
- Data Transparency Compliance
- Data Collection with Privacy Protection
- Cross-Browser Compatibility
- Pattern Versioning
- Crowd sourced Pattern Identification
- Performance Optimization
- Friendly Extensions, Plugins, Mobile apps etc.

Details on the above are available at (<https://dpbh2023.in/problem-statement.html>)

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- During the hackathon, participants must build a comprehensive solution in the forms of browser plugins, extensions, applications, mobile apps etc., to cater to the above desired features and functionalities (but not limited to the above), to deliver efficient and effective turnkey solutions to safeguard consumers by identifying and exposing the dark patterns in e-commerce systems in near real-time.

Important Guidelines for Team Participants:

- For participation, all team leaders must register for Round 1, by submitting their team details along with a one page abstract on the solution being proposed, before the due date. There may be screening after round 1. The shortlisted

Teams shall register for Round 2 by submitting detailed proposals, codes, apps, documentation, demo video, Tutorials etc. about their proposed solution, three days before the date of Round 2 final presentations before the esteemed Jury at the Nodal Centre. Only 2-5 best teams may be nominated by the Nodal Center to participate in Round 3 Grand Finale at IIT (BHU), Varanasi. Certificates of participation, appreciation, excellence will be given to the participants of Round 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

Important Dates:

- **Round 1:** Team Registration* Last Date **Dec.31, 2023**
- **Round 2:** Internal Hackathon at Nodal Centre **Jan.21 – 31, 2024**
- **Round 3:** Grand Finale at IIT (BHU), Varanasi **Feb.17, 2024**

(Latest update on Important Dates: <https://dpbh2023.in/index.html>)

Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/AxemLdv3zotA7Qsz6>

SPOC & Nodal Officer

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