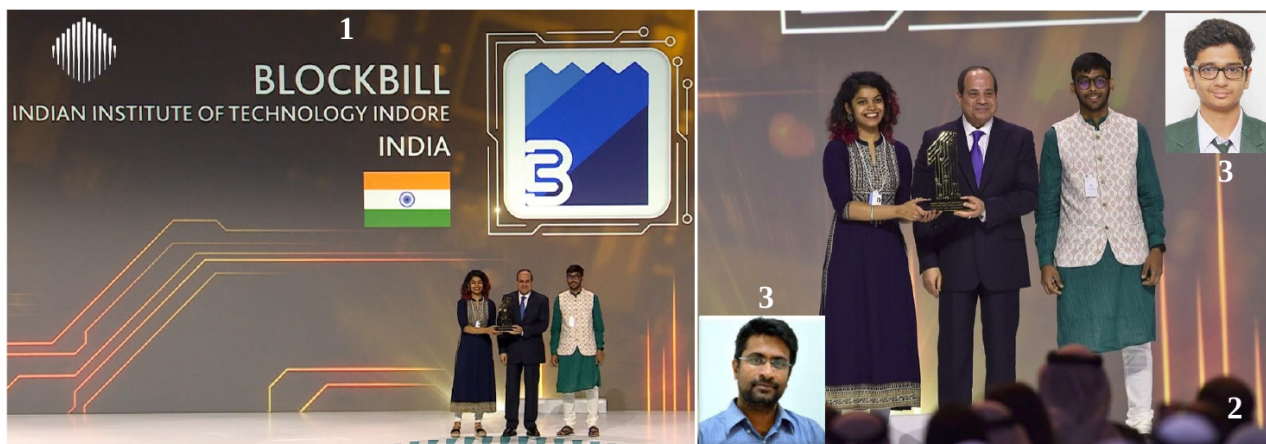


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IIT Indore's 'BlockBill' wins a Gold Award in Dubai at the Global Best M-Gov Awards 2023



1. Egyptian President awarding the 1st Prize to the IITI Team, in the backdrop are the name of the product, the product logo along with the institute name.

2. L-R: Ms. Niyati Totala, Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisiin and Mr. Neel Parikh with the 1st position Gold Award.

3. Seen in in-set are pictures of Bhoomil Gohel and Dr. Gourinath Banda, who could not travel to Dubai.

[Indore, Madhya Pradesh: 16 Feb 2023] – BTech final year student team from IIT Indore led by its faculty have been awarded the prestigious "Global Best M-Gov Gold Award" at the World Government Summit 2023, which was held in Dubai from 13 – 15 Feb 2023. The team competed against more than 1000 teams from around the world to earn this honor. The digital transformation product is called 'BlockBill', a Blockchain-based innovation offered as an Android-app, which the team claims as one of its kind as of today, that fetched them the Gold Award for IIT Indore.

The award recognizes the team's innovative solution for addressing several practical concerns associated with the existing paper-print billing systems prevalent across FMCG and other B2C and B2B transactions, and also the additional value proposition due to inherent digital transformation related benefits. IITI's application at the summit was met with resounding praise from the panel members and audience alike. The team's solution, which is now in patenting process, was commended for its practicality, and potential for real-world impact, particularly, from environmental inclusiveness and delivering benefits associated with Blockchain-based digital transformation. This digital-transformation enabling product spawned as the brainchild of Dr. Gourinath Banda that was later pursued by his group's BTech students - Bhoomil Gohel, Neel Parikh and Niyati Totala - in their Bachelor's dissertation project. Ms. Niyati is in Civil Engineering, while the other two students are from Computer Science and Engineering departments. Their dissertation work furthered into the Android-app "BlockBill" and submitted to "the Best Global Mobile-enabling governance awards" (Global Best M-gov Awards) at the World Government Summit 2023 organised by the Government of United Arab Emirates. The students worked collaboratively with their mentor to develop the complete system from scratch and wrapped it into a Mobile-app for this competition.

Prof. Suhas Joshi, the director of IITI, congratulated the mentor and the students for a commendable effort that brought this Gold Award to IIT Indore. The BoG Chairman Prof. Phatak also conveyed his hearty congratulations to them. "We are thrilled to have won this award, it's a testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire team, and we are grateful for the support of Dr. Gourinath Banda, through a systematic knowledge-transfer, and the opportunity to participate in this competition." said Bhoomil, Neel and Niyati. Niyati and Neel travelled to Dubai and received the award from the Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisiin in the presence of the President of United Arab Emirates Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

This international award is a significant achievement for IIT Indore and is a testament to their commitment to excellence in research and development. The winning team is eager to launching their enterprise and witness the impact of their innovative solution in the years to come and also generate the much needed employment opportunities in the region and the country.

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Published Media references: (as accessed on 16 Feb 2023, 2PM IST)

1. News Media: <https://gulfnnews.com/uae/government/meet-the-indian-students-who-won-dh1-million-award-at-world-government-summit-2023-in-dubai-1.93826431>

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