

KIIT Student Dilushi Herath Wins National IET India Scholarship Award 2024 for Sustainable Energy Innovation in Healthcare

Category: Business

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The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) announced Dilushi Herath, a student of KIIT University, as the national winner of the IET India Scholarship Award 2024. Out of 65,000 applicants, Dilushi was selected and awarded for her innovative solution focusing on affordable and clean energy in healthcare. Her project, which utilises portable biogas digesters enhanced with nanotechnology, seeks to improve energy efficiency in primary healthcare centres using sustainable energy sources, making her the standout choice among the finalists.

The [awards ceremony took place during the IET Future Tech Congress 2024](#), where Dilushi was felicitated by Mr. Ed Almond, Chief Executive and Secretary of the IET, and Dr Gopichand Katragadda, President of the IET and CEO of Myelin Foundry. She will also [receive the scholarship award](#) of 3 Lakhs and a complimentary IET Membership. Naman Mehrotra from IIT Kanpur and U Gnaneshwar from VIT were awarded the First Runner up and Second Runner up. In total, the programme disburses 10 Lakhs [worth of scholarship](#) prize money.

Dr Gopichand Katragadda, President of the IET, said, “As India continues to lead the charge in [technological](#) advancements, the role of young innovators has never been more crucial. The IET [India](#) Scholarship Award reaffirms our dedication to

empowering the next generation of engineers. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to this year's national winner and finalists for their extraordinary achievements. Their success is a testament to the limitless potential that lies within them, and I am confident they will [inspire](#) future engineering leaders.

The winning [project focuses on transforming food waste into a sustainable](#) energy source for healthcare centres, using nanotechnology to optimise the digestion process, increase energy output, and improve biogas quality. The solution aims to support [healthcare](#) facilities' energy requirements sustainably, while also addressing waste reduction.

Prof Abhijit Chakrabarti, Chair of the IET India Scholarship Advisory Committee, noted, “At this pivotal moment in India's technological journey, nurturing young engineering talent is crucial to driving [innovation and growth](#). The IET [India Scholarship Award](#) continues to fulfill its mission of celebrating leadership and creativity among the next generation of engineers. This year's winner and finalists have shown exceptional promise, and their achievements reflect the bright [future of Indian](#) engineering. I congratulate them wholeheartedly and look forward to their contributions in shaping [India's future as global](#) leaders in technology.

The IET [India](#) Scholarship Award, now in its 8th edition, is one of the most prestigious scholarship programmes for undergraduate engineering students in India. Instituted in 2013 to [celebrate](#) young engineering talent, the 4-phased, rigorous selection process recognises those who excel in academics, display a strong commitment to societal impact, and demonstrate leadership potential. The winners of this Award have moved on to positions in Apple, Google, NASA, and many more [industry leaders](#). This [year's award](#) saw unprecedented participation, with over 65,000 applicants from across the country. The next [edition of the award](#) is slated to open for applications in April 2025.

About The Institution of Engineering and [Technology](#) (IET)

The IET is one of the [world's largest engineering](#) institutions with over 168,000 members in 150 countries. It is also the most multidisciplinary – to [reflect](#) the increasingly diverse nature of engineering in the 21st century. The IET is working to engineer a better [world](#) by inspiring, informing and influencing its members, engineers and technicians and all those who are touched by or touch the work of engineers.

About IET [India](#)

The India chapter of IET started [operations](#) in India in 2006, from Bangalore. Today, the organization has over 13,000 members and the largest membership base for the IET outside of the U.K. Given the increasing [global importance of India](#) as an engineering hub, its aim is to make an impact that has relevance both locally and internationally. Its strategy is to bring a telling difference to the overall competency and skill levels within the Indian engineering [community and play an influencing](#) role with Industry in relation to technology innovation and solving problems of public importance. The organization plans to do this through working in partnership with Industry, academia and the Government, focusing on the application of practical skills within both learning and career life cycles, and driving innovation and thought [leadership through high impact sectors](#).

