

HACKATHON PARTICIPATION & PROJECT REPORT

March - September 2026

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A consolidated record of hackathons, challenges, prototypes, and technical projects attended during 2026.

Overview

Month	Hackathon / Challenge	Project / Outcome
March 2026	Hackanova 5.0	36-hour hackathon in Mumbai; built an AI Research Agent.
May 2026	ABB Hackathon	Built a prototype using ORCA to identify the exact reason for failures in Kubernetes pods.
July 2026	Google Solution Challenge 2026	Submitted a prototype of an Advanced Research Agent.
July 2026	Poonawalla Hackathon (TensorX 2026)	Participated in the hackathon.
August 2026	HackerRank Orchestrate	Built a WhatsApp notification router that classified messages as urgent, not that serious, or spam.
September 2026	Build4U Hackathon	Built a RAG-based return-policy agent.
10 September 2026	SIH 2026 Internal Hackathon (Dr. AIT)	Presented the team's solution to the evaluation panel; selected in the internal hackathon.
September 2026	Amazon ML Challenge 2026	Worked on Business Entity Resolution; reported accuracy of 97.74%.

1. Hackanova 5.0

March 2026

Participated in Hackanova 5.0, a 36-hour hackathon conducted in Mumbai. During the hackathon, we worked on and built an AI Research Agent focused on assisting users with research-oriented tasks. The event provided an opportunity to develop the prototype under a time-constrained hackathon environment while applying AI-based approaches to a practical problem.



Hackanova 5.0 – Certificate of Participation (Thakur College of Engineering and Technology, Mumbai).

2. ABB Hackathon

May 2026

Participated in the ABB hackathon and built a prototype based on ORCA for Kubernetes observability and failure analysis. The prototype was designed to help identify the exact reason for a failure occurring in Kubernetes pods, with the goal of making the diagnosis of pod failures more direct and understandable.

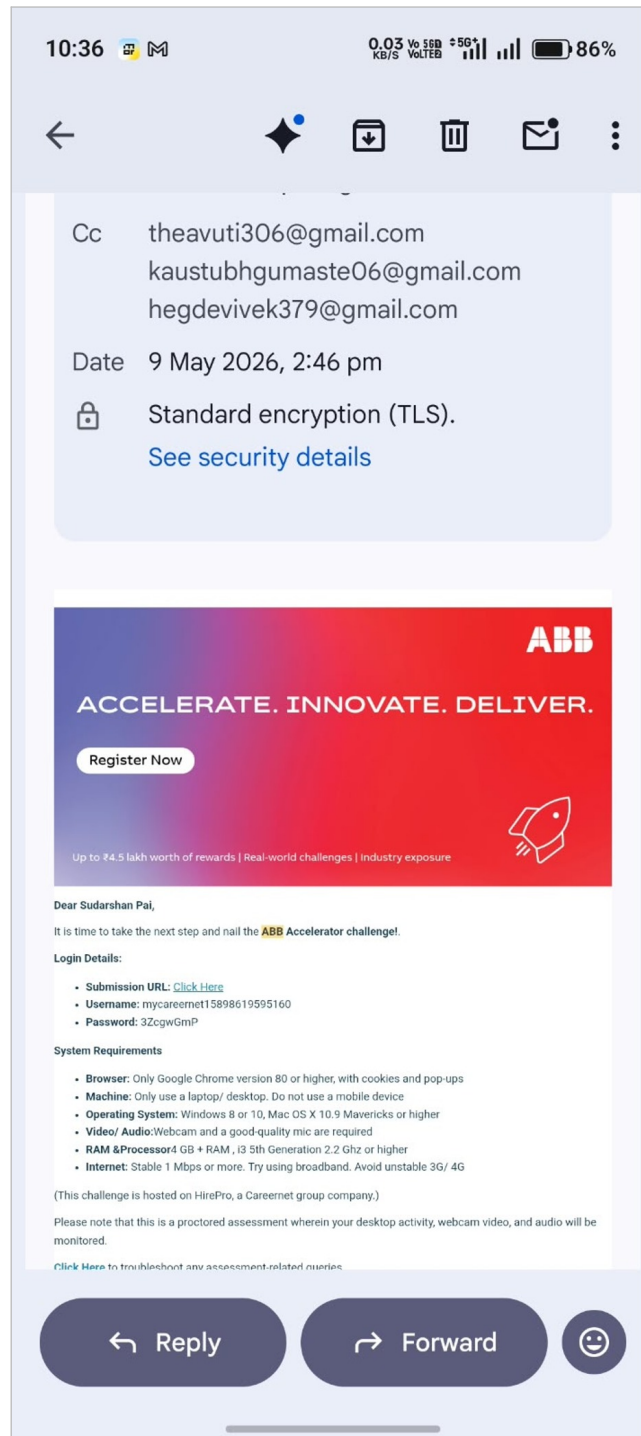
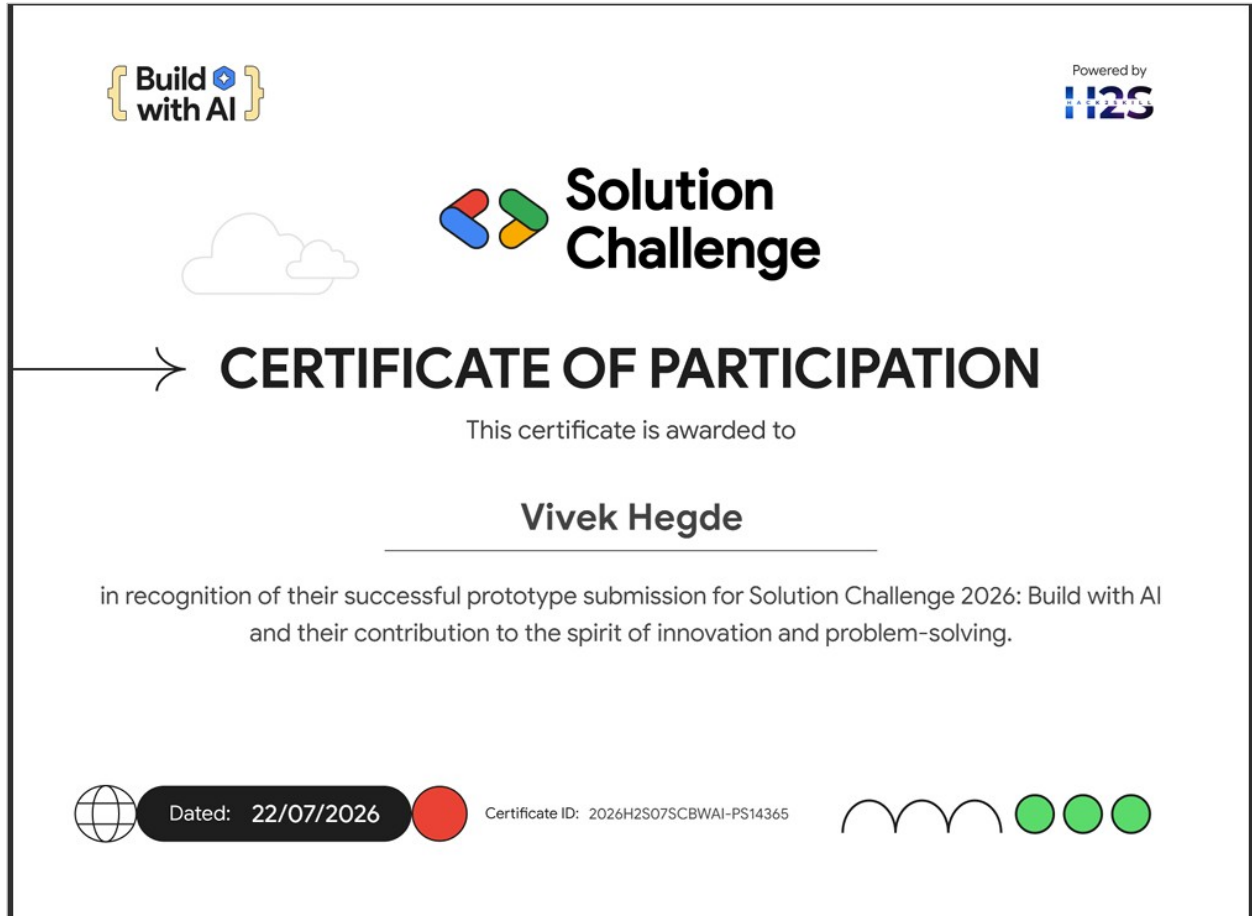


ABB Accelerator challenge – invitation email, 9 May 2026.

3. Google Solution Challenge 2026

July 2026

Participated in the Google Solution Challenge 2026 and submitted a prototype of an Advanced Research Agent. The project focused on building an AI-based research workflow capable of supporting research tasks through an agent-oriented approach. The submitted prototype was formally recognized with a Certificate of Participation dated 22 July 2026.



Google Solution Challenge 2026 – Certificate of Participation dated 22 July 2026.

4. Poonawalla Hackathon

July 2026

Participated in the Poonawalla hackathon (TensorX National AI Hackathon 2026, organized by Poonawalla Fincorp) conducted in July 2026. The event formed part of the team's 2026 hackathon participation and provided an opportunity to work on a technology-focused prototype in a competitive hackathon setting.

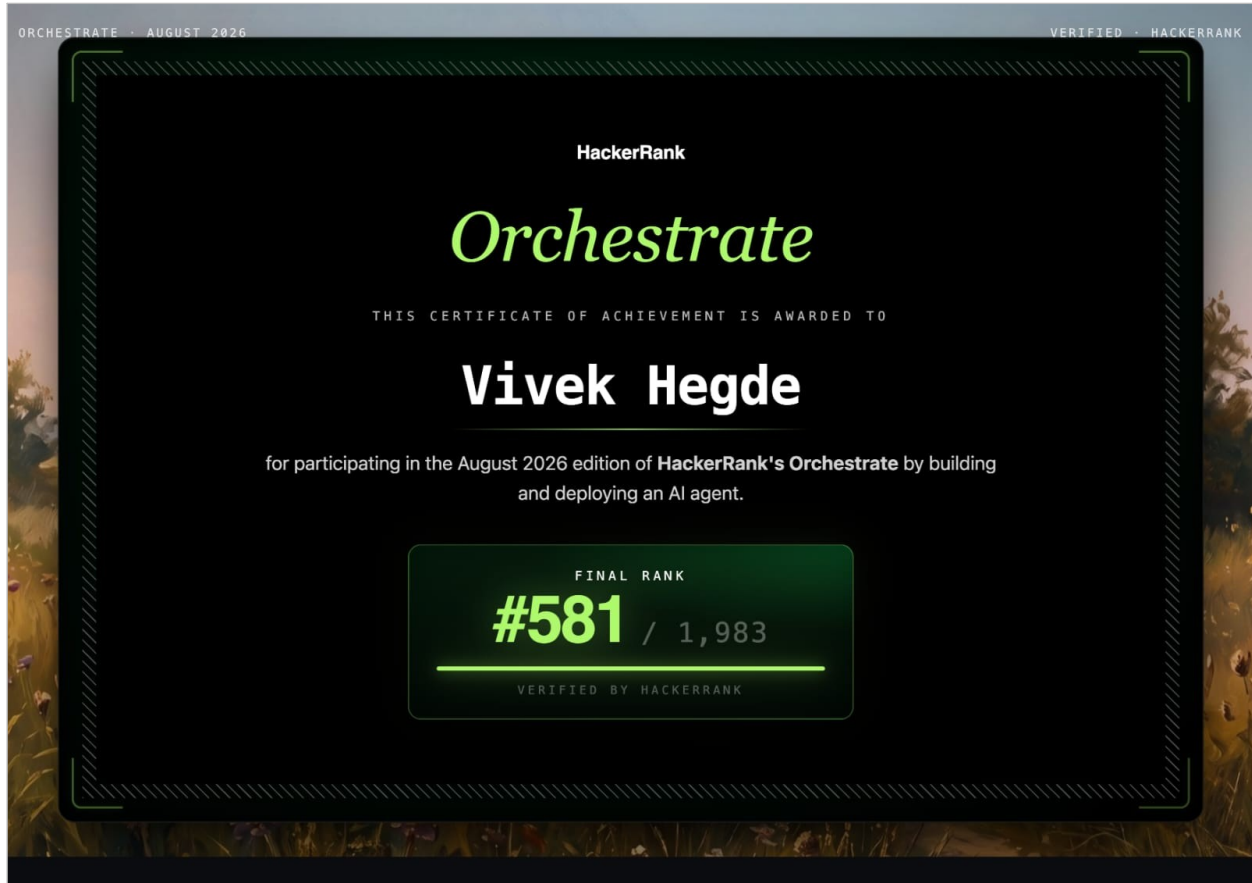


TensorX National AI Hackathon 2026 (Poonawalla Fincorp) – Certificate of Participation.

5. HackerRank Orchestrate

August 2026

Participated in HackerRank Orchestrate in August 2026, where we built a WhatsApp notification router. The system received messages and classified them into three categories: urgent, not that serious, and spam. The project focused on automated message understanding and routing so that notifications could be handled according to their level of importance.



HackerRank Orchestrate - Certificate of Achievement. Final rank #581 out of 1,983 participants.

6. Build4U Hackathon

September 2026

Participated in the Build4U hackathon conducted in September 2026, where we built a RAG-based return-policy agent. The project focused on using Retrieval-Augmented Generation to make return-policy information accessible through an AI agent, allowing policy information to be retrieved and presented in a conversational form.



Build 4 Karnataka Buildathon – Certificate of Participation (ERA Foundation, IIIT-B Innovation Centre).

7. Smart India Hackathon 2026 - Internal Hackathon

10 September 2026

Participated in the internal hackathon for Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2026, conducted at Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Bengaluru on 10 September 2026. The team presented its solution, including the problem statement and technical approach, to the evaluation panel. **The team was selected in the internal hackathon.**

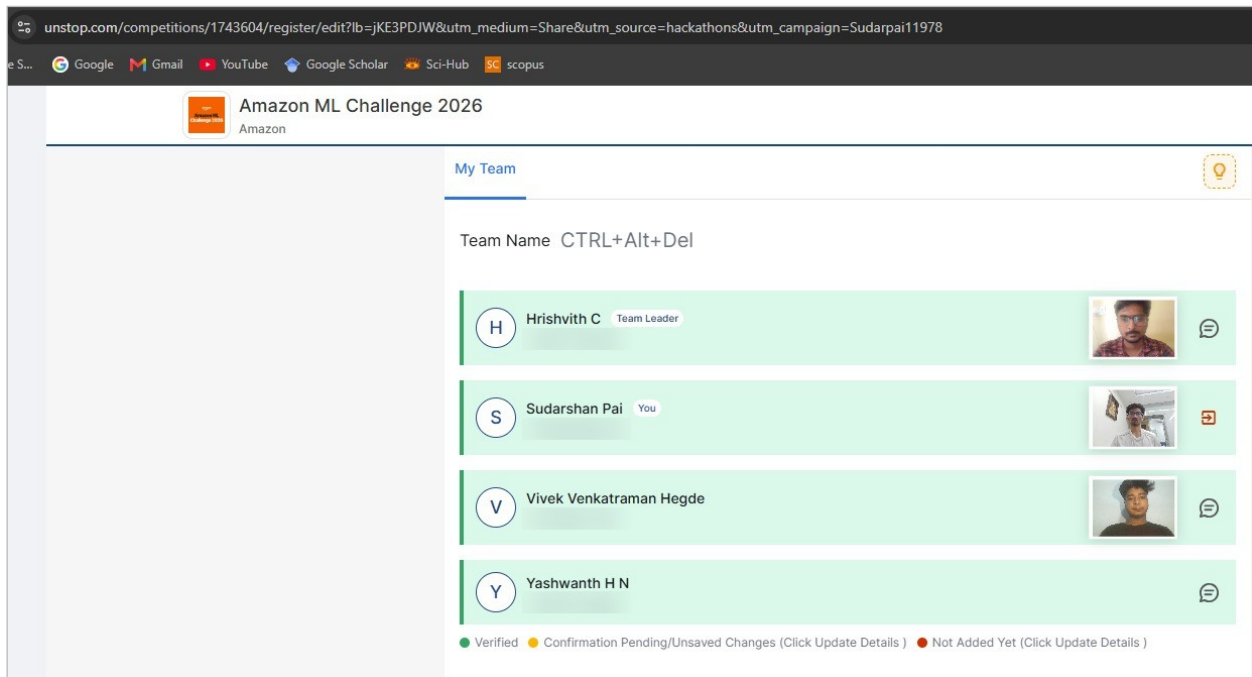


SIH 2026 Internal Hackathon – team presenting to the evaluation panel at Dr. AIT, Bengaluru, 10 September 2026.

8. Amazon ML Challenge 2026

September 2026

Participated in the Amazon ML Challenge 2026 as part of Team CTRL+Alt+Del. The challenge focused on Business Entity Resolution: given business records from three independent sources containing noisy and inconsistent information, the objective was to determine which records referred to the same real-world business entity. The problem statement specifically describes variations in business names and addresses, including abbreviations, legal-suffix differences, typos, transliterations, missing address components, landmark-based references, and component reordering. We worked on an ML-based entity-resolution solution and achieved a reported accuracy of 97.74%.



Amazon ML Challenge 2026 – team page showing Team CTRL+Alt+Del and its members (phone numbers hidden).

Amazon ML Challenge - Problem Statement Reference

Problem setup: The problem statement identifies Source 1 as the deduplicated reference source and requires matching Source 2 and Source 3 records to Source 1 entities. The test set includes France even though the training data covers the US and India, so the pipeline was required to treat country as an open-set string label rather than hard-code the training countries.

Evaluation: The challenge evaluates submissions using macro-averaged $F_{0.5}$, a precision-heavy metric that weights precision more strongly than recall. Two tab-separated output files were required: matching_results.tsv and candidate_pairs.tsv.

Submission constraints: Every Source 1 test entity had to appear in the output; duplicate IDs and invalid matches were prohibited; the final model was restricted to an MIT/Apache 2.0 licensed model of up to 8 billion parameters; and external data lookup or external entity-resolution services were prohibited.

Conclusion

Across March to September 2026, the hackathon participation covered AI research agents, Kubernetes failure analysis, agentic AI, automated message classification, RAG-based policy assistance, and machine-learning-based business entity resolution, along with selection in the SIH 2026 internal hackathon. Together, these activities represent practical exposure to AI agents, machine learning, information retrieval, cloud-native systems, and applied problem solving in competitive development environments.