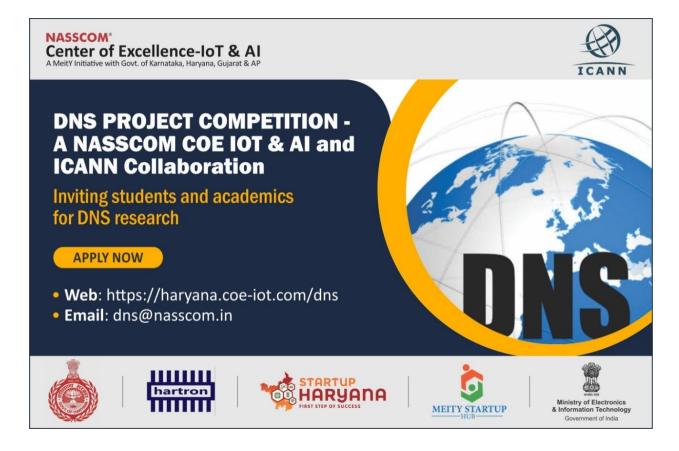**The India DNS Project Competition – A NASSCOM COE IOT & AI and ICANN Collaboration**

Overview:

The Domain Name System (DNS) helps us find our way around the Internet. Every computer directly connected to the Internet has a unique number. This number is a rather complicated string of digits called an "IP address" (IP stands for "Internet Protocol"). IP addresses can be hard to remember so the DNS makes using the Internet easier by allowing a familiar string of letters (the "domain name") to be used instead of the more arcane IP address.

The apparent simplicity of the DNS has helped over 4.4 billion people being able to connect online over the past 25 years. As the Internet continues to grow, how the DNS is used in the future remains an integral part of research of Internet protocols. ICANN is keen to help nurture interest in the use and development of the DNS by students and academia and proposes to co-host a competition with National Association of Software and Services Companies Centre of Excellence for IOT and Artificial Intelligence (NASSCOM COE IOT & AI) in India.

The India DNS Project Competition:

This competition is for students in computer science and other similar programs based in colleges and universities in India. The idea is for the students to develop an interest in the core of Internet Protocol (IP) technologies. **Upto four teams will be funded, each one with Rs. 75000/- per month for a duration of 6 months** to undertake research into the selected challenge.

An outline of the broad steps of the competition:

1. A call for brief proposals will be made to a group of academic institutions.
2. A review committee comprising of NASSCOM and ICANN staff to evaluate these proposals.
3. Seven teams to be shortlisted and invited to present their proposal to the review committee. Media and community members will be invited to join this event.
4. Based on their presentations, the top four teams as identified by NASSCOM and ICANN, will be provided a stipend to develop their project over a six-month term. This duration may be extended if required.
5. NASSCOM will introduce members of the top four teams to COE member companies for possible internships.
6. ICANN may sponsor upto 2 persons for suitable ICANN public meeting.

For more details about challenge, please visit https://haryana.coe-iot.com/dns/. For any queries, please message dns@nasscom.in