

Budding technocrats bag NRDC award

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BHUBANESHWAR: Prajjawala, a team of students of IIT Bhubaneswar, led by Rahul Kumar (CSE, 3rd Year), Rahul Mahanot (ECE, 3rd Year), Rishwanth K (ME, 3rd Year) and Deepak K (ME, 3rd Year) has won the prestigious **NRDC National Budding Innovators Award – 2018**.

The team has bagged the award for their invention '*Internet of Things and Data Analytics based Price Fragmentation, Pay-As-You-Use and Supply Chain Automation and Optimization in LPG Distribution System*'.

This is the second consecutive time IIT Bhubaneswar has won the National Award under the valuable guidance of Prof. R.V. Raja Kumar, Honorable Director, IIT Bhubaneswar and mentoring by their experienced faculty. The award is likely to be presented May 11, 2019 on the occasion of National Technology Day at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi by NRDC.

Speaking on the happy occasion, RV Raja Kumar said, "*It's a matter of great pride for all of us at IIT Bhubaneswar to have won the NRDC National Budding Innovators Award for the second time in a row. I would take this opportunity specially to congratulate these budding technocrats of tomorrow for this incredible feat. I am sure this is just the beginning and there is more to follow.*"

He added, "Under this project, the students have developed IOT sensory attachment to gas cylinder which can intimate about the gas status in a cylinder online so that the gas filling can be made well organised. So this attachment can help ambitious govt. schemes like *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana* to be very effective, especially in rural areas. The impact of this solution on the energy and utilities sector will be significant since this is a new realm of data that gives flexibility and transparency to measure their usage and plan their consumption."

Team Prajjawala and the project have already been registered as Project Prajjawala under **Design Innovation Centre (DIC), IIT Bhubaneswar** and continuously supported with facilities to develop the Proof of Concept (PoC) along with mentoring and guidance as and when required.

Previous year, Nitheesh Kumar P (B.Tech, ME, Final Year) and Vikas Sharma (M. Tech, ME (MSD), and Alumni had won the prestigious **NRDC National Budding Innovators Award – 2017** for their invention '*Development of FRP Repair Methodologies for rehabilitation of Corroded and Leaking Oil and Gas Pipelines.*'