



INDO-GERMAN AI HACKATHON · APPLY

HackPune 2026

160 Indian builders. 8 German company challenges. 24 hours in Pune to ship an AI or agentic prototype - and meet mentors, judges and recruiters.

DATES	LOCATION	SEATS	APPLY
3–4 Oct 2026	Pune, India	160 hackers	terns.tech/hackpune/apply

Where the world builders take flight.

For students · professionals · open-category builders



Real German company challenges - not toy tasks.

2.55M

STEM graduates a year in India - a deep builder pool, but standing out takes **demonstrable** work.

1.25M+

projected AI talent demand in India by 2026–27. Proof-of-work portfolios matter more than passive certificates.

38–42%

AI/data talent gap reported across GCCs; GenAI, MLOps and LLM skills are especially scarce.

8

real German company problems to prove yourself on
- with mentors and recruiters in the room.



WHAT MAKES HACKPUNE DIFFERENT

8 German-owned tracks, 24h AI-native sprint, curated 160 builders, portfolio-grade outputs.

- **8 German challenges - not Indian companies.** An Indo-German talent bridge: real problems from German startups & firms.
- **160 curated builders, not a mass event.** Selected by review - students, professionals and open-category builders.
- 24 hours, direct access. German mentors, judges and recruiters in the room. Free food, workspace and community.
- Modern AI stack. Agents, RAG, MCP-style workflows, Cursor, Claude/OpenAI and cloud/tool credits (potential sponsors, TBD).



Small refundable deposit on acceptance (amount TBD). Community continues after the event.



WHO GETS IN · 160 INDIAN HACKERS

Three ways in. One bar: you build.

40% OF SEATS

Students

~64 seats

COEP, VIT Pune, PICT, SPPU, IIT Bombay,
BITS Pilani Goa. Selected on GitHub / portfolio
+ a challenge-preference statement.

40% OF SEATS

Professionals

~64 seats

AI/ML engineers, full-stack developers, data
scientists, product managers - with
demonstrable AI project experience.

20% OF SEATS

Anyone

~32 seats

Founders, designers, strategists, indie builders,
career-switchers. Show us what you build - not
just your job title.



HOW YOU'RE SELECTED

A curated review panel scores every application.

40%

GitHub activity & project quality - shipped apps, agents, RAG demos, ML systems or strong open-source work.

30%

Challenge-fit statement - which German challenge excites you and why (150 words).

20%

AI/ML relevance of your past work to the kind of production-minded building HackPune demands.

10%

Diversity & mix balance across the 160 seats - including a 30% women target.

Required: full name, email, city, category, GitHub/portfolio URL, challenge-fit statement, experience level.



One weekend, brief to awards.

DAY 1 · SAT 3 OCT

09:00	WELCOME! Opening + keynote (partner, TBD).
09:30	All 8 German partners pitch challenges . (Breakfast time!)
11:00	Hack begins - 24h countdown.
12:00	Mentor check-ins on every track.(Lunch time!)
14:00	Speed-dating - 3-min partner rotations.
16:00	Women in AI coffee session.
22:00	All Night coding (Dinner time!)

DAY 2 · SUN 4 OCT

11:00	Code freeze - GitHub + 3-min demo + 4-slide deck.
12:00	Live pitches - 4 min + 3 min Q&A.(Lunch time!)
13:00	Awards - 8 winners (prizes TBD).
14:30	Networking & teardown. (With drinks and snacks)



THE TERNS TEAM · CONNECT

Indo-German founding team. Advisors and collaborations remain in progress until confirmed by MoU.



Omkar Kondhalkar

Head of Management



Elias Tilmes

Head of Finance



Sebastian Steltzer

PMO & Investor Relations



Luna Cathrine Schreiner

Policy & Government Relations



Yash Pawar

Head of Operations



Antje Ute Bauer

Advisor · Consulting & Community

Connect: hello@terns.tech | +49 176 43380383 | Elias Tilmes