SIX INDIA TEAMS WIN WALMART'S GLOBAL TECHATHON

Walmart Global Tech hosted its first ever Global Techathon last month. The e-tail giant's employees formed teams to create innovative solutions around one of six themes, in 24 hours. The themes were cashierless stores, cloud & data, food value chain, blockchain, voice & conversational AI, and last mile delivery. 279 teams participated, and teams from the India centre were the winners in all six categories.

HANDLING AGE RESTRICTIONS

Vineet Kumar Chauhan

Shalini Sai Prasad

Amit Ranshinge

Samruddhi Padture

➤ **Team Access Denied won in the cashierless stores category.** They worked on the problem of dealing with customers buying age-restricted items like alcohol from cashierless stores.

➤ The team proposed using **biometric fingerprint verification** to confirm customer eligibility. The solution involved using fingerprint scanners present on smartphones. For those who don't have devices with this feature, the team proposed using in-store fingerprint scanners.

➤ The idea was to **directly integrate the solution with the scan and go app,** which means existing IT infrastructure will be able to handle the load. It will be quick and seamless, without affecting the customer experience.

HANDHOLDING DRIVERS

➤ **Team Binary Babas won in the last mile delivery category.** They worked on Walmart's Spark Driver App, which allows drivers to accept orders for delivery. It was built to help people earn money on their own schedule.

➤ The solution proposed was a feature called More for Less. Here, truck drivers can set personal target earnings, and the feature would **handhold the driver to achieve the target in minimum time** by recommending orders with high profitability scores.

Priyangshu Pal

Deepika Karanji

Mangalam Palod

Shreya Sahay