




## India Plastic Challenge – Hackathon 2021

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 [sanskritiias.com/pt-cards/india-plastic-challenge-hackathon-2021-14](https://sanskritiias.com/pt-cards/india-plastic-challenge-hackathon-2021-14)

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change announced the 'India Plastic Challenge- Hackathon 2021' to spur innovation and entrepreneurship in area of tackling plastic waste pollution and elimination of single use plastic.
- **It is a unique competition calling upon start-ups, entrepreneurs and students of Higher Education Institutions to develop innovative solutions to mitigate plastic pollution and develop alternatives to single use plastics.**
- Government of India has taken effective measures to manage plastic waste government has already banned import of plastic waste in the country. Considering the adverse impacts of littered single use plastic items on both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems **Prime Minister gave a clarion call to phase out single use plastics by 2022.**
- **Ministry of Environment brought out Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, for handling plastic waste in an environmentally sound manner. Under the rules plastic carry bags below 50 microns have been banned.** Further, the Ministry has issued a draft notification in March 2021 for amending the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, with respect to prohibiting identified 12 single use plastic items such as disposable plastic cutlery etc.

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