

February 25th - 28th

FUNDA M.E.N.T.A.L

The **Fundas** of **M**ind-blowingly **E**ntertaining **N**onsensical **T**heories **A**bout **L**ife

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

Inspired by BAHFest, held at MIT Cambridge, we at Pragyan present, FundaM.E.N.T.A.L. The objective of the event is to develop a ridiculous yet simple theory and support it using genuine scientific laws and principles, statistic data, graphs, diagrams etc. There is no restriction on choosing the theory, it can be anything. The opportunities are limitless. The mind is your playing field. Look beyond what you see.

WHAT THE EVENT TESTS:

The event tests the following:

- Creativity of the participants-how unexpected or simple the idea is
- Scientific Accuracy of the main theory and its support theories
- Power of rationalization and substantiation
- Presentation skills (to an extent)

FORMAT:

There will be two rounds:

1. Abstract Round:

- Teams will need to submit an abstract of their theory in minimum 500 words.

Graphs and diagrams along with the abstract will be appreciated.

- Ten teams will be shortlisted based on the judging criteria.

Abstract submission deadline: 8th February

Release of list with selected candidates: To be informed later

2. Final Round:

- Every team has to exhibit its theory in the form of a presentation.
- Each team will have 6 minutes on stage for their presentation.
- Audio and video facilities will be provided
- Teams will also have to defend their theory to the judges when asked questions.
- Evaluation will be done based on the judging criteria

RULES:

- Team of maximum 3 members
- No reproduction of previous theories.
- No vulgarity, foul language.

- Discourage anything overly grotesque or horrifying.
- No major changes from abstract will be tolerated.
- Judges' decision will be final.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

As an event inspired by BAHFest, the same selection criteria is followed

Initial selection of teams and our judges will be grading theories on four criteria:

- Force of Science - How much "scientific" information was brought forward (graphs, real citations, "research" etc.)
- Artistry - How unexpected and clever the idea and presentation are, and how well the presentation is delivered.
- Parsimony - The simplest theory that explains the most data
- Strength of Defence - How well the theory is defended in front of the the judges.

F.A.Q.:

1. Do I need three people in my team to participate?

A maximum of three participants, thus, less than that is permitted. If there exists a team with no participants, we shall consider it null and void.

2. Is there a restriction to the randomness of my theory?

If you can phrase it, you can use it. There is no limit to your imagination.

3. What will I be needing for the event?

A theory. And the necessary PowerPoint Presentation you have made, to support the same.

Necessary materials you intend on using while presenting.

Yourself. Plus the friends or foes that may speak with you.

An imagination. With a dash of scientific mumbo jumbo.

4. How long can my PowerPoint Presentation be?

As long as you need. Just ensure that you present it within the allotted time and make it as interactive as possible.

5. Can I use media files in my presentation?

Yes. You are free to do so. All forms are allowed, ensuring you stick to the stage time allotted. Please ensure that all media files are compatible and in working conditions well before presenting on stage.

6. How long do I get to speak on stage?

6 minutes is the maximum time allotted for each team to present their theory. Followed by a

Q&A session by the judges.

7. Can I use humor in what I present?

Yes please.

8. Must my team members be from my college alone?

No such restriction exists. All you need are Pragyan IDs.

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9. Can UG and PG Collaborate?

Yes they can. A team may consist of anyone pursuing their U.G., P.G. or even Ph.D.

10. When will I be informed if I am selected to the next round?

If you are selected for the next round you will receive a mail a month before Pragyan with details of your participation. May the odds be ever in your favour.

PRIZE MONEY:

- First Place: Rs 17,000
- Second Place: Rs 11,000
- Third Place: Rs 7,000

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