Dynamic Events Takes Center Stage on Day 2 of Autonomous BAJA SAEINDIA

Pune, 05th October 2024: The second day of Autonomous BAJA SAEINDIA 2024 (aBAJA) delivered a thrilling display of engineering and innovation as the five teams participated in dynamic events designed to test the precision, reliability, and technical sophistication of their autonomous vehicles. Hosted by the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), Kothrud, Pune, the event brought together student teams from across the nation to compete in this inaugural edition of BAJA SAEINDIA, focused on autonomous all-terrain vehicles.

The day's activities commenced with a safety briefing, followed by a series of rigorous technical evaluations, including the Safety Driver Takeover Brake Test. Teams were then put through their paces in various dynamic events, such as the Object Detection, Classification, and Tracking (ODCT) event, which evaluated the vehicles' perception capabilities using input from RADAR and camera systems mounted on the vehicle. The Throttle and Brakes Actuation test, along with the Steering Actuation event, were specifically designed to assess the Drive-by-Wire systems integrated into the autonomous vehicles, ensuring precision and control in real-time scenarios.

Mr. Ramanathan, Managing Director of Automotive Test Systems, commented on the significance of these events, stating, *"Autonomous driving is the future of mobility, and platforms like aBAJA are critical in nurturing the talent and creativity of the next generation of engineers. The dedication and technical ingenuity displayed by these students are truly remarkable and inspiring."*

Alongside the dynamic events, the first round of the iNTELLIMOBILITY Ideathon took place, featuring submissions from over 50 teams nationwide. A selection of innovative ideas was presented on Day 2, each addressing real-world challenges through autonomous mobility solutions. The ideathon will culminate on Day 3 with the final round, where the most promising concepts will be assessed based on their creativity, feasibility, and potential impact on the future of mobility.

aBAJA plays a crucial role in cultivating industry-ready engineers. Through active involvement in the design, development, and testing of autonomous vehicles, the competition provides students with invaluable, hands-on experience in advanced technologies such as RADAR, camera systems, and Drive-by-Wire integration. This practical application of academic knowledge equips participants with the technical expertise, problem-solving skills, and teamwork experience essential for excelling in the fast-evolving automotive industry. Numerous BAJA alumni have already established themselves in various industries, particularly in the automotive sector, contributing to advancements in autonomous mobility and other cutting-edge innovations.

The results of the Business Presentation and Design Evaluation were announced, with **DJS Kronos from Dwarkadas J Sanghvi College of Engineering, Mumbai**, securing first place in the **Business Presentation**, and **Team E- Ziba Racers from Shri Vishnu Engineering College for women, Bhimavaram** claiming top honors in the **Design Evaluation**. These achievements underscore the technical prowess and strategic vision required to design autonomous vehicles capable of navigating challenging terrains, setting the tone for the rest of the competition.

Mr. Shantanu Sonar, Lead Judge, aBAJA SAEINDIA 2024, remarked, *"The level of detail and strategic thought demonstrated by the teams in the static events was exceptional. Their innovative approach to autonomous systems design reflects not only technical expertise but also a deep understanding of industry requirements. Autonomous BAJA SAEINDIA gives these young engineers the opportunity to transform ideas into reality. I'm excited to see how these talented students shape the future of the automotive industry."*

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Participants attending the static and dynamic events during day 2 of aBAJA SAEINDIA 2024.

Day 3 promises to be the pinnacle of the competition, with the much-anticipated Remote Driving System (RDS) event, where teams will put their autonomous vehicles through the ultimate test in a remote-controlled, real-time scenario. The day will conclude with the Valedictory Ceremony, where winners across dynamic and static events, as well as the Ideathon, will be celebrated for their innovation and technical prowess. As the competition draws to a close, Day 3 is set to be the most exhilarating stage of aBAJA SAEINDIA 2024.

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