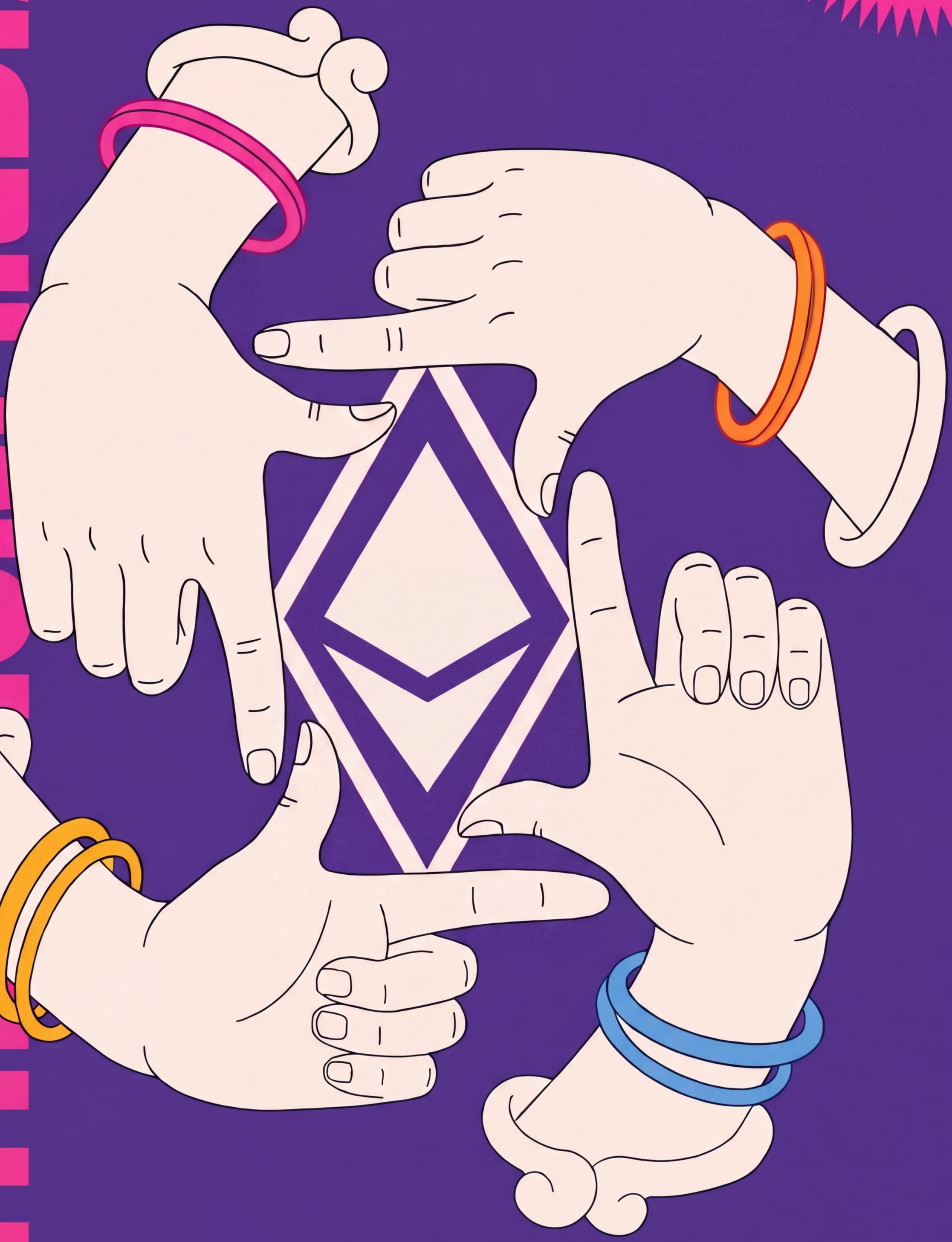
ETHEREUM

Issue #2586



2026

SHAPING ETHEREUM, ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

People, places and experiments that keep the ecosystem moving

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EDITORIAL NOTE

A letter to the Ethereum community

We often tell Ethereum's story through its milestones: the upgrades, the projects, the things that became possible. But how people become part of that story deserves just as much attention. Who helped them get started? Where did they find their collaborators? What made them stay?

Dear reader,

In India, communities have helped answer those questions. They have given people a place to explore an unfamiliar technology, find others who share their curiosity, and build the confidence to contribute. Much of the ecosystem we see today has grown out of those early connections.

Since the first ETHIndia in 2018, we've had the chance to watch this happen. People who arrived to try something new have gone on to build products, contribute to open source, and start communities of their own. A first-time hacker returns as a mentor, helping another team work through its idea.

Across cities, campuses and hacker houses, communities have carried that work forward in their own ways. They've brought Ethereum into classrooms, made technical ideas easier to approach, and opened doors for people far from established centres. Their patient teaching and everyday collaboration have helped more people find a place to belong and a way to contribute.

We wanted to make this magazine because these experiences deserve a lasting record. So much community history lives in chat groups, photo folders, and the memories of those who were there. Behind what a community does today are years of effort that can be easy to miss.

In these pages, communities share their journeys: the beginnings, the friendships, the experiments and the work still ahead. Together with the ideas and cultural references woven through this magazine, their stories offer a glimpse of Ethereum in India as something lived and built together.

This edition is a beginning, not a complete account. We hope it encourages more people to preserve their community's history, share what they've learned, and make connections beyond their own circles.

We're deeply grateful to every community that trusted us with its story, and to the community builders whose work gives these pages meaning. Thank you to Arko Mukharjee and Sushant Mishra for the design, and Varun Krishna & Denver Dsouza for their care and work in making this magazine possible.

Thank you, too, for reading. We hope you find a little of your own journey here and a reason to help someone else begin theirs.

With gratitude,
Veesesh (@vee19twt)
Community at Devfolio

ETHINDIA

A place to start, a reason to keep building

In 2018, we brought people together to build on Ethereum. That gathering became ETHIndia, a hackathon where people could also meet a future co-founder, find their first contributor or speak to someone whose work they had followed.

Across six editions, ETHIndia has welcomed more than 10,000 developers from over 400 cities and 30 countries. Together, they have built more than 2,000 projects spanning DeFi, identity, public goods and L2 scalability. For many participants, it was their first experience of building on Ethereum.

Supporting builders beyond the weekend has been part of that work from early on. We saw promising ideas come out of hackathons, but turning them into something people could use took more time, funding and support. We wanted to help builders keep going.

ETHIndia Grants has provided funding and mentorship to more than 30 projects after the hackathon. Through eight weeks of building with mentors, the ETHIndia Fellowship has also helped hundreds of Web2 developers get started in Ethereum, giving them time to learn and develop their ideas beyond a weekend.

The hackathon itself continued to grow. In 2022, 2,000 builders from 321 cities submitted over 450 projects,





making ETHIndia the largest in-person Ethereum hackathon ever held. The following year brought 1,500 hackers and 480 projects.

Over the years, some projects became startups, secured grants or developed into open-source tools. Builders explored onchain identity, attestations and open-source tooling through Devfolio. Protocol teams met contributors, DAOs found members, and early ideas found people willing to back them.

Those connections have a life of their own. Someone arrives to try a new technology and meets a teammate they'll build with for years. Others return as mentors, judges or organizers, helping people through the same questions they once had. Seeing someone get started, find their footing and come back to help is one of our favourite parts of this work.

We've kept experimenting with how to make those encounters happen: online buildathons, large-scale hackathons, grants, fellowships, a hackathon in a villa and another on a moving train. Each has taught us something about what helps people get started and what makes them stick around.

That brings us to 2026, with ETHIndia taking the form of a conference within Devcon in Mumbai. This time, we're making more room for conversations, questions and thinking through what's worth building next. The aim remains familiar: bring people together and help them take the next step.



Road to DEVCON india





Road to Devcon

Devcon is the annual global event for the movement building free, open, private, and verifiable systems. This year, it comes to Mumbai. Road to Devcon is an initiative by the Devcon team to bring local builders, researchers, contributors and enthusiasts together. Every year, Devcon moves to a new place. The event happens in one city, but the goal is for the whole country, and the wider community around it, to feel part of something larger.

This year, Devcon came to Mumbai and we wanted all of India to feel connected to it. So we went to where people already were: their campuses, their city meetups and even Telegram chats ;)

It all started in Bengaluru, at the Devfolio office back in January 2026. The Devfolio team, who had spent years bringing builders into Ethereum, gave the first Road to Devcon event a home. From there, the road kept going on...

Over the months that followed, Road to Devcon grew to 40+ events across 20+ locations. Devfolio (ETHIndia) led the way. ETHMumbai followed with a series of MIPs on how the local community can be a part of Devcon, Ethereum's latest upgrades and the CROPS (censorship & capture resistance, open source, privacy and security) mandate. Then came the rest of the map: Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Kerala, along with smaller cities like Bikaner, Baroda, Mangalore and Surat and many more!

Campuses were a big part of the journey. IIT Roorkee, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, NSUT, IIT Mandi and other leading institutes joined in. For many students, it was the first time the Ethereum community had shown up on their campus, sat with them and built alongside them.

Our role was to support the people already doing the work. Through the Ecosystem and Academic programmes, communities received some financial support, Devcon tickets, mentorship, visibility across Devcon channels, and help with connections and coordination. We looked for communities that share Ethereum's values, among groups totally remote from blockchain ecosystems: open-source contributors, privacy advocates, digital rights activists and others whose work has long been close to ours. Road to Devcon was as much about bringing them into the room as it was about the Ethereum community itself.

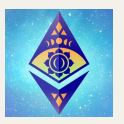
Many of the communities in these pages were part of that road. ETH Kolkata took Devcon to five college campuses. ETH Pune's final meetup drew four times as many registrations as its venue could hold. Loops House ran 11 weekends of Build Battles, and GRYD took the road to 11 cities across the country. The last stretch was, quite literally, on rails: just before Devcon, Edge BlockTrain put around 100 builders on a hackathon train from Goa to Mumbai, hacking all the way into the city. You'll find their stories in the pages ahead.

And the road ended where it began, with ETHIndia. Held during Devcon in Mumbai, it brought builders from across the country together under one roof, a fitting finale to a year on the road. We hope it won't be the last time.

What stayed with us most was the people behind these events. Many of them hosted Road to Devcon in their own time, with their own effort, because they cared. They showed us how much is possible when a community decides to show up for itself.

Thank you to every local community that took part in this movement. A special thanks to Devfolio, and to Denver in particular, for being on the Road to Devcon all year long, and for building something we hope will last well beyond Devcon. Our wish is that it marks a new beginning for the Ethereum community in India, one whose impact will be felt around the world for years to come.

By Nethan (@nethan_eth), Devcon Team



Build from Mumbai, for the World

By Chandresh Jain, lead organiser, ETHMumbai

"Our vision is to build Ethereum experiences that create not just a community but opportunities."

Born out of a simple idea to drive forward Ethereum, from wherever we are and however we can: ETHMumbai is our chance to build from Mumbai, for the world. We are many people located primarily in Mumbai, but across several other cities in India, building experiences together that connect people building on Ethereum. To date, we have hosted 20 meetups with 1000+ attendees and special events like Farcaster Night, 10 Years of Ethereum, Cowork with ETHGlobal, and Road to Devcon.

Being part of the community has already created opportunities for some in terms of jobs, getting early access to apps, and finding people to hack with.

ETHMumbai began with a hackathon hosted in March 2024 for 200+ hackers who submitted 64 projects and took home $30K in prizes. Our core team and contributors went all in on making it one of the best hackathon experiences.

In 2026, ETHMumbai grew fourfold with BEST, its flagship Ethereum hackathon and conference, which brought together 200+ hackers, offered $10K in bounties, and welcomed 700+ attendees and 50 speakers.

Our vision is to build Ethereum experiences that create not just a community but opportunities for people to come together to share ideas, build together, and learn from each other.

ETHMumbai was founded in 2023 in Mumbai.
ethmumbai.in · x.com/ethmumbai · t.me/ethmumbai







Building Ethereum's Grassroots in Lucknow

By Suraj Sharma, lead, Lucknow DAO

"You shouldn't have to live in a major tech hub to find your place in Web3."

लखनऊ

Lucknow DAO

Since 2024 · Lucknow · x.com/Lucknow_DAO

Lucknow DAO began with a simple belief: you shouldn't have to live in a major tech hub to find your place in Web3. In Lucknow, there were developers curious about blockchain, students exploring new technologies, and people who wanted to build but didn't always know where to start. What was missing was a consistent space where these people could meet, learn from one another, discover opportunities and become part of a wider ecosystem.

We wanted to create that space.

Lucknow DAO grew into a community bringing together developers, founders, students, researchers and Web3 enthusiasts. Ethereum has been an important part of that journey because it represents more than a technology stack. Its open-source culture and permissionless nature allow anyone to explore, contribute, experiment and build without needing an invitation.

Our approach has always been hands-on. We organize community meetups, technical workshops, hackathons, and ecosystem events that help people move beyond simply hearing about Web3 to actually engaging with it. We connect local builders with protocols, developer communities and opportunities across the global ecosystem.

Over time, Lucknow DAO has grown to more than 1,000 community members, built relationships with 50+ ecosystem partners, and organized 30+ events. We've collaborated with communities and ecosystems across Ethereum, Solana, Starknet, Avalanche, Monad, Arweave and others. Each collaboration has helped bring new ideas, people, and opportunities to builders in our region.

But the most meaningful impact isn't measured by attendance numbers alone. It's seeing someone attend their first technical workshop, find collaborators for a project, discover a hackathon, or realize that contributing to an open-source ecosystem is within their reach. Those moments are why community building matters. One of our proudest milestones has been bringing the Road to Devcon experience to Lucknow.

For us, it's about making the conversations surrounding Ethereum more accessible and helping local developers feel connected to the people and ideas shaping its future. Global conferences are important, but the communities that prepare people to participate in them are just as important.

Building outside the biggest technology hubs comes with challenges. Awareness takes time to grow. Communities need consistency, not just occasional excitement. And meaningful participation requires more than bringing people into a room. It means creating an environment where they keep showing up, keep learning and eventually start building together.

That's what we're working toward with Lucknow DAO: a community where curiosity can turn into contribution and local connections can lead to global opportunities.

Looking ahead, we want to deepen our involvement in the Ethereum ecosystem, support more developers and open-source contributors, create stronger pathways into hackathons and grants, and connect more builders from across the region with the global Ethereum community.

We believe Ethereum becomes stronger when more people can participate in shaping it. Our role is to help make that participation possible, starting right here in Lucknow.

Lucknow DAO was founded in 2024 in Lucknow.
x.com/Lucknow_DAO · t.me/Lucknow_DAO



Where the Oxford of the East Meets Ethereum

By Akash Kshirsagar, founder, ETH Pune

ETH Pune

"For us, success isn't only about how many people show up. It's about whether someone finds a new interest, meets a future collaborator, discovers a project to contribute to, or feels confident enough to start building."



Pune is often called the Oxford of the East, and it's easy to see why. Every year, thousands of students come here to learn, try new things, and figure out what they want to do next.

We started ETH Pune with that in mind: we wanted to bring Ethereum closer to students and give more people in the city a way to discover what they can learn and build with it.

If you're new to Web3, it's hard to know where to begin. There's a lot to take in, and honestly, the quickest way to understand something is often to talk to people who are already working on it. So we wanted a space where beginners could ask questions, meet builders, swap ideas, and learn about Ethereum without feeling they had to know everything first.

That's what ETH Pune is about. We run community meetups, work with colleges, and create ways for people to learn about Ethereum and the wider Web3 world. We want our events to work for people who are completely new and also for those who are already building and want to meet others with similar interests.

One of our biggest efforts this year was the Road to Devcon meetup series. With Devcon coming to India, it felt like the right moment to introduce more people to the Ethereum community and show them what Devcon is all about. Across the meetups, speakers and community members got together to talk about real-world uses of Ethereum in India, where crypto and AI overlap, CROPS, and how to get involved in the ecosystem.

The final meetup, on October 24, 2026, was a special one for us. We got four times as many registrations as our venue could hold, which made it the most popular event in the series. It was really encouraging to see that much interest from Pune. Alongside the talks, we ran an interactive quiz and a few other activities to keep things fun.

We've also been reaching out to college communities and encouraging students to take their first steps into Ethereum. For us, success isn't only about how many people show up. It's about whether someone finds a new interest, meets a future collaborator, discovers a project to contribute to, or feels confident enough to start building.

What makes ETH Pune special is the city itself. Pune already has a strong learning culture, and we'd love to bring that energy into Ethereum. You don't need to be an experienced developer to be part of this. If you're a student, designer, researcher, developer, or just curious, there's a place for you here.

We're still early in this journey, and there's a lot we want to do next: reach more colleges across Pune, run more hands-on sessions, and help more students find opportunities in the Ethereum ecosystem.

Pune has always been a place people come to learn. With ETH Pune, we want them to have a place to build, collaborate, and contribute to Ethereum's future too.

ETH Pune was founded in 2026 in Pune.
ethpune.com · x.com/EthereumPune · t.me/EthereumPune



কলকাতা

By Sachindra Singh, core team, ETH Kolkata

“The next great Ethereum contributor shouldn’t have to leave Kolkata to find their people. They should be able to find them right here, at home.”

How the City of Joy Geared Up for Ethereum's Biggest Festival

"ETH Kolkata, pretty cool?" we said. "Pretty cool indeed," I thought. It started with a phone call between Agnish, a core developer from Kolkata who had been thinking about starting a local Ethereum community, and me, a builder who had been building on Ethereum since my first days of college.

One phone call, years of pent-up excitement, and ETH Kolkata was born.

Here's the thing about Kolkata. The city has always had incredible talent in Web3. Core developers, builders, designers, founders, you name it. People from this city have been contributing to Ethereum for years, but they've often had to go the extra mile to get noticed. And they did.

But not everyone has the privilege of travelling across cities, attending 100+ events, meeting the right people, and finding opportunities along the way.

That's the gap we wanted ETH Kolkata to fill.

What if opportunities came to you instead? What if Ethereum came to your nearest college campus? No expensive travel, no complicated plans. Just show up, meet people, and start building.

And that's exactly what we tried to do.

We brought students, existing builders, founders, growth hackers, and designers together under one roof to talk about, you guessed it, Ethereum! And of course, Devcon.

Across five events hosted at different college campuses in Kolkata, we saw over 1,500 signups and 600+ attendees. And trust me, Kolkata's weather wasn't making things easy. Heavy rains, transportation problems, and everything in between.

But people showed up. Big time.

They came to learn about Ethereum, listen to speakers, meet fellow builders, and discover opportunities they might never have known existed.

One of my favourite memories was from our main ETHKolkata event. I'd stayed up all night vibecoding a Hi-Lo game and deploying it on Ethereum, which we then played live with the community. And then something hilarious happened.
One guy bet on one side all by himself and ended up winning the ENTIRE prize pot.

You really had to be there. But beyond the events and the fun, what matters most to us is the people. ETHKolkata has always been people-first. We wanted everyone to feel heard, included, and genuinely part of something. We helped raise awareness about Devcon, introduced new developers to Ethereum, and today, over 100 people from Kolkata are heading to Devcon this November.

A special shoutout to all the amazing women from our community joining us! What makes ETH Kolkata special isn't just the events. It's the hunger.

The developers here are hungry to build, contribute, and make their mark. They're not waiting for someone to tell them what to do. They're waiting for the right opportunities, and we're trying to bring those opportunities closer to home.

And we're just getting started.

Next, we're planning dedicated coworking sessions for active contributors who consistently bring value to the ecosystem, alongside builder highlights on X Spaces to showcase the products and teams shipping on Ethereum from Kolkata.

Because for us, ETH Kolkata was never about organising five events and calling it a day.

It's about building a community where the next great Ethereum contributor doesn't have to leave Kolkata to find their people.

They should be able to find them right here, at home.

ETH Kolkata was founded in 2026 in Kolkata.
x.com/eth_kolkata

A City That Refused to Be Left Behind

By Rohan Reddy and Siv Ram Shastri, co-founders of Hyderabad DAO

It all started with a simple question in 2022: Why was Hyderabad missing from the Web3 conversation? Rohan Reddy and Vijay Ankith, two builders from Hyderabad, were attending a Web3 conference in Goa when they noticed something. DAOs and Web3 communities from different cities had shown up, bringing their builders, ideas, and energy with them. But there was barely any representation from Hyderabad.

For a city with so much engineering talent, that didn't quite make sense.

Instead of waiting for someone else to fix it, they created a Twitter handle: @hyderabaddao. After that conference, they crossed paths with Siv Ram Shastri. What began as a conversation soon became a shared mission: to build a home for Hyderabad's Web3 community and make sure the city had a seat at the table.

Our first meetup happened in September 2022. Around 80 people showed up, including students, developers, and curious builders who wanted to understand what was happening in Web3. Out of that gathering, a small group of seven or eight people connected over the same idea and continued the journey on Telegram. There was no grand roadmap or big organisation behind us. Just a handful of people who believed Hyderabad had the talent to build something meaningful.

We started reaching out to blockchain protocols and inviting them to bring their India tours and community meetups to Hyderabad. Within a year, we had organised more than 15 meetups with different protocols. We also signed an MoU with the Government of Telangana's Emerging Technologies Wing to support blockchain awareness through meetups, workshops, and hackathons.

Fast-forward to September 2026, and those early conversations have grown into something much bigger: 100+ meetups, 30+ hackathons, 50+ college workshops and bootcamps, and partnerships with 40+ blockchain protocols.

We've worked with more than 30 colleges and universities to help establish their first blockchain clubs and conducted faculty development programmes to encourage blockchain education in academic curriculum. Across these initiatives, we've reached more than 10,000 people. And we've kept our community initiatives free and non-profit, because access to learning and building opportunities shouldn't depend on someone's ability to pay.

One of the things that makes this journey special is seeing the growth for ourselves. At ETHIndia 2022, only around three or four teams came from Hyderabad. By 2023, that number had grown to 10–15, and by 2024, around 30 teams were participating.

By 2026, we've seen at least 40 teams from Hyderabad participating in ETHGlobal hackathons, with teams from our wider ecosystem going on to win at least 10 ETHGlobal & other Web3 hackathons across different countries each year. Those numbers mean more to us than any event attendance figure. They represent developers who found their people, discovered new possibilities, and went on to build on a global stage.

We've also carried Hyderabad's voice to events like Devcon Bangkok, Devconnect Buenos Aires, and Token2049 in Dubai and Singapore. Our initiatives have been featured in the Global Blockchain Business Council's India Country Spotlight: Telangana's blockchain ecosystem report. And now, we're excited to look ahead to Devcon Mumbai.

But if you ask us what Hyderabad DAO is really about, it's not the numbers, partnerships, or conference appearances. It's the



> “We started because Hyderabad was missing from the conversation. We’re building so the next generation of builders never has to feel that way.”

student attending their first workshop, the developer finding teammates at a meetup, and the local team realising they can compete with builders anywhere in the world.

We started because Hyderabad was missing from the conversation. We’re building so that the next generation of builders never has to feel that way.

A huge part of Hyderabad DAO’s journey belongs to the core contributors who have consistently shown up, taken ownership, and kept the community moving forward. Their time, effort, and belief in our mission have helped us grow and continue building without losing sight of why we started. A heartfelt shoutout to Vishal, Vinay, Chandrabose, Chetana, Rahul, Satyanarayana, Sai Charan, Naveen, Manas, Nikhil, Dusa Praharsh, Dusa Paritosh, Mujahid, Devi, Keerthana, Siri & Sayan. Hyderabad DAO wouldn’t be what it is today without these incredible people standing behind the mission.

The next chapter is about going deeper into universities, creating more opportunities for emerging developers, and helping more homegrown teams take their ideas to the world. Hyderabad has the talent. We’re here to help it find its people, its opportunities, and its place in the Ethereum ecosystem.

Hyderabad DAO was founded in 2022 in Hyderabad.
hyderabaddao.com · x.com/hyderabaddao

MERCH

Every year, we try to do something special with ETHIndia merchandise. And every year, we put an unreasonable amount of thought into it.

It's never just, "Let's put our branding on something and give it away."

We think about whether hackers would actually like it. Would they keep it? Would it become a part of their everyday lives? Would they show it to their friends? Would they be proud to own something that came from ETHIndia?

And then comes the endless back and forth. V0, V1, V2... V9000. We keep experimenting, changing things, throwing ideas away, and starting over until we land on something that feels right.

Why do we go through all this trouble? It's hard to explain, really. We just want ETHIndia to set the bar for what an event can be. Not just in the talks, the hacking, or the people you meet, but in every little detail that makes the experience memorable.

That's the standard we aspire to, and every year, we try to push it a little further.

Sticker Sheet
ETHIndia Villa



Classic 2586 Diary
ETHIndia 2024





Hacker ID Cards
ETHIndia 2023

Welcome
ETHIndia



Hacker ID Cards
ETHIndia 2022



Hacker ID Cards
ETHIndia Villa



Patterned drink coaster
ETHIndia 2024



Welcome Card and Sticker Sheet
ETHIndia 2024











Mini Diary
ETHIndia 2023





The Legendary ₹₹₹₹ Sweatshirt
ETHIndia 2022



The Legendary 2586 Hoodie
ETHIndia 2022

Welcome Card
ETHIndia Villa



Card
Villa





Wristband
ETHIndia 2024



Cold Brew Coffee
ETHIndia 2024



Meal coupon card
ETHIndia 2024

Tote Bag
ETHIndia 2024



Blockchain Society, IITR :

“WE WANTED ONE OPEN SPACE WHERE ANY STUDENT COULD WALK IN CURIOUS AND LEAVE BUILDING.”

By Soham Vijay, member, Blockchain Society IIT Roorkee

Blockchain Society IITR began in 2021 with a handful of developers who believed Web3 deserved a real home at IIT Roorkee. We launched on 31 October, the anniversary of the Bitcoin whitepaper. There was no funding, no roadmap and no playbook. There were just a few people reading protocol specs late into the night, breaking things on testnets, and sharing what they learned with anyone who would listen. That genesis group grew into a community of developers building and exploring distributed systems, blockchain protocols, and the infrastructure underneath them.

It needed to exist because on campus, blockchain was scattered. Curious students were learning alone, with nobody to ask about Solidity, Bitcoin internals or why a transaction failed. We wanted one open space where any student, from any branch and at any level, could walk in curious and leave building.

That openness is who we are. Every year, our Forge Build cohort guides beginners into blockchain and distributed systems, and seniors mentor juniors who soon keep them sharp with fresh questions. Our 36-hour hackathon, Stack Too Deep, is where many of them ship their first real project. The community doesn’t end at graduation, either. At almost every summit or hackathon we attend, in India or abroad, we run into a BlocSoc alum, often without planning it. We work hard and we party harder, and those friendships travel with us across cities and time zones.

What defines us is a culture of shipping projects that run beyond a demo. Our members have nurtured startups like Blockflow, which was acquired, along with Privote and Useaspen. Our open-source work includes Selene, a fast, portable Ethereum light client in Go; Plexus, which turns Ethereum’s block-level access data into dependency graphs for parallel execution; FluxDB, a database that outperforms SQLite under concurrent workloads; Deimos, client-side benchmarking for zkVMs; and Nexus, an MCP server for Hyperliquid.

Our most memorable moments happened on the road. In 2023, BlocSoc made its first international appearance at ETHGlobal Paris and came home with Best Mobile App and Best Use of The Graph. That trip raised the bar for everyone who followed. Since then, our members have built at ETHGlobal Brussels and Singapore, Devcon Bangkok, ETHVietnam, TOKEN2049 Singapore and hacker houses across India.

The wins have followed. In the last two years alone, our teams have taken the PayPal and Alliance tracks at ETHGlobal Delhi, the Arbitrum track at Agentic Ethereum, the Base and Zircuit tracks at ETHVietnam, the AlphaTon track at TOKEN2049, and the Fileverse track at ETHMumbai. We’ve also won Inter IIT Tech Meet silver and hackathons run by Polkadot, Aptos and OpenAI. Our members have been selected for Google Summer of Code, Summer of Bitcoin, the Ethereum Protocol Fellowship, LFX Mentorship and the Protocol Labs Dev Guild. Many alumni now build full-time in Web3.

What makes us different is depth. We don’t just build apps on blockchains. We build the infrastructure underneath them, from light clients and databases to ZK tooling. And we do it in public: every repo is open, and anyone can join.

Next, we want to keep growing blockchain culture on campus and beyond it. That means more first-year students in Forge Build, a bigger Stack Too Deep, more open-source infrastructure, and deeper work. This November we represent IITR at Devcon and ETHGlobal Mumbai, and we plan to bring that energy home.

Blockchain Society IITR was founded in 2021 at IIT Roorkee, Uttarakhand.
blocsoc.iitr.ac.in · x.com/BlocSocIITR

Loops House :

“LOOPS HOUSE DIDN’T START AS A PLATFORM. IT STARTED AS A HOUSE.”

By Rishikesh Kale, founder, Loops House

Loops House didn’t start as a platform. It started as a house. At ETHNewDelhi last year, we ran a hacker house: a space where builders came to ship rather than sit through talks. The energy of people building side by side, at all hours, was the whole idea, and we wanted more of it.

So we took the hacker house on the road. During Devconnect in Buenos Aires and then in Shanghai, we ran it again with builders from very different ecosystems. Each time we saw the same gap. The work in those rooms was real, but when it came time to prove it, everything came down to a three-minute pitch. The best slides won, repos went unread, and strong builders who weren’t strong presenters slipped through.

That’s what we set out to fix. We turned what we learned in those houses into a platform.

Loops House now hosts builder challenges and Build Battles where an AI Judge reads the actual code and shows its reasoning. Every submission gets a permanent public page, and sponsor docs live inside the builder’s editor instead of a tab they forgot to open. The house became infrastructure, so any community can run one.

Back home in Pune, a community lead invited us to run a MetaMask session in July. Instead of a talk, we ran a Build Battle. Thirty builders, most of them new to Web3, had 40 hours to fix real problems for first-time wallet users: approvals nobody understands, transactions that read like machine output, flows with one step too many. Only six points separated the top eight. A week later, 29 more builders took on smart contracts and decentralised storage in our Zero to One series.

Then came Road to Devcon. Ethereum turns 11 this year, so we ran 11 weekends of Build Battles, one for each year, with participation from more than 500 builders. The themes started with Reading Ethereum and Art, Culture & Ethereum in India. They moved through smart accounts, onchain identity, decentralised storage, x402 pay-per-call, AI and Web3, onchain gaming, prediction markets and privacy, and ended with Funding the Commons. The top builder of the final weekend won a ticket to Devcon 8 in Mumbai.

We aim to make Web3 learning paths easier for everyone, starting from day one.

Loops House was founded in 2025 in Pune.
loops.house





“THE INERTIA WAS A CALL FOR COMMUNITY, THE CALL FOR BLOCSOC.”

By Nikhilesh, overall coordinator, Blocsoc, IIT Delhi

Bitcoin and Ethereum were everywhere in online technology circles, but there was still too much inertia in academia, especially in Delhi and North India. That inertia became a call for community: the call for Blocsoc. Founded in 2022, we started with a bang by building deeply researched and novel projects, winning hackathons, publishing articles, hosting events across North India and, of course, partying hard. Since then, Blocsoc has contributed to the blockchain community, especially Ethereum, at IIT Delhi and across Delhi.

Our core team has worked on projects in domains such as zero knowledge, including zkVMs and prototype implementations from scratch; markets and DEXs, including quantum and prediction markets and clobDEX; core cryptography, including RSA, an FHE compiler and other encryption systems; intent-based, encrypted and private swaps; and hardware projects such as wallets and ZK verifiers, including implementations of whitepapers from scratch. We publish deeply researched articles for experts and beginners through the IIT Blockchain Review.

Blocsoc regularly hosts events to onboard beginners into blockchain and Ethereum with our classic BC106 series and workshops on ZK and CROPS. For intermediate and advanced participants, we regularly host hackathons and CTFs with interesting and difficult problems. Every summer, Blocsoc hosts a DeFi or ZK online workshop of roughly five weeks for students all over India with weekly assignments and lecture sessions hosted by Blocsoc members and guest lecturers who are experts or startup founders in those respective domains.

Blocsoc has co-hosted Interfaces, a major blockchain conference at IIT Delhi that brings together founders, researchers, technical leaders and students supporting the Ethereum ecosystem in South Asia, alongside Devfolio through 2025. Interfaces has made history in India, as IIT Delhi was the first university in South Asia to be directly addressed by Vitalik Buterin. We’ve also hosted Ethereum co-founder Gavin Wood for a JAM lecture tour at IIT Delhi in the same year before Interfaces. Hosting Vitalik and Gavin were two of our most memorable events. Workshops on ZK, cryptography, DeFi and AI agents have been conducted in collaboration with the Ethereum Foundation, bringing together students from IIT Delhi and the wider Delhi University circuit.

The Blocsoc team has won prizes at many hackathons, including ETHGlobal Online, ETHGlobal Mumbai, HackMoney, ETHIndia, ETHMumbai and ETHSingapore. Winning projects received grants from L2s and other chains.

Four years after our founding, we remain motivated to contribute as a student-run community and grateful for the opportunity. We’ll continue in the same direction, contributing further to Ethereum and the broader blockchain ecosystem.

Blocsoc was founded in 2022 at IIT Delhi
blocsoc.in · x.com/0xblocsoc



WE BUILD, WE CURATE, WE EDUCATE!

By Shankar Warang, co-founding contributor, GRYD

GRYD (previously known as Edgetributor SubDAO) is a collective of solo contributors originating from Edgeware DAO, the first solochain in the Polkadot ecosystem, now expanded across four different ecosystems, with a wide range of Web3 experience spanning 9+ years.

GRYD opened up a way for proven solo contributors to come together and build tools & products, do business curations and host educational initiatives across web3, setting up a new standard for quality-focused impact.

We bring together students, professionals, teams and projects, thus bridging the gap between them to enable meaningful collaboration.

Whether starting the workshop series at IITs, curating multiple ecosystem onboarding proposals, building several developer tools, executing meetup series across 11 cities, expanding to multiple ecosystems, or hosting full-fledged hackathons, it's very difficult to choose our favourites!

Everything we do flows from our motto. We build grant-funded public goods and independent products like the Universal Hybrid Substrate Faucet, AgentDOT, the Road2DevCon portal on Ethereum, PlugPort on Monad, and Tychee on Stellar. We curate vital open-source infrastructure, most notably guiding Paul Miller's @scure/sr25519 cryptography library through Polkadot OpenGov and coordinating its Oak Security review. And we educate through hands-on workshops, hacker houses, and hackathons across the country.

So far, we've hosted or partnered on 32 events across India at institutions including IIT Roorkee, IIT Bombay, MIT Manipal, and NITK Surathkal, and an 11-city run for Road to Sub0. Along the way, we've reached over 3,000 attendees in aggregate and shipped seven open-source products & tools.

What makes us unique is the process of proving one's worth through contributions to earn a place in GRYD. We also believe that small teams make a greater impact, which we practice by splitting contributors into different sub-collectives to focus on several projects at once.

Our next step would be to scale in order to accommodate more sub-collectives and to nurture continuous parallel contribution pipelines for building, curating, and educating!

Building, curating, and educating is what we do best, and we will continue to stay GRYDy while doing it!

GRYD was founded in 2023 in Mumbai.
x.com/TeamGRYD

"BUILDING, CURATING, AND EDUCATING IS WHAT WE DO BEST, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO STAY GRYDY WHILE DOING IT!"

RISING AGAIN: COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND THE PHOENIX GUILD

By Gnana Lakshmi, co-founder, The Phoenix Guild

In late 2021, a few of us working in tech noticed something uncomfortable about web3. The space promised to rebuild the internet, yet the rooms looked exactly like the old ones. Fewer than one in ten people in blockchain were women, and at hackathons the few women builders often sat alone, looking for a team.

So in January 2022, with an Ocean DAO grant and a lot of conviction, a small group of us started The Phoenix Guild in Bengaluru. We wanted to make web3 easier to walk into for women and non-binary folks, and to make sure nobody had to learn it alone.

We started with the basics: free sessions on NFTs, DAOs, tokenisation and how blockchains actually work. Then came a JavaScript bootcamp and masterclasses and workshops with teams like the Ethereum Foundation, Covalent, Filecoin/IPFS, Biconomy, Ocean Protocol and Arcana Network. Around 1,000 women from more than 10 countries joined those early programs.

One moment we still talk about is ETHIndia 2022, when we set up the TPG Hacker House in Bengaluru, one of the first web3 hacker houses in India built for women. Before it, we hosted a Women in Web3 brunch so builders could meet and form teams before the hackathon started. Watching people walk in as strangers and leave as teammates is a feeling we've held onto.

From the start, we wanted the guild to be decentralised. We never wanted a small group to be the centre of the guild. We wanted every chapter to stand on its own. The core team was there to advise and help whenever a chapter needed it, and the chapters ran everything else. Pune, Jaipur, Bhopal, Chennai and Delhi took that and ran with it: a Build-a-thon in Kochi, zero-knowledge meetups with Aleo in Jaipur, and Road to Devcon across five cities with Nethermind, taking Ethereum to places that rarely make it onto the crypto calendar.

We'll be honest: the last couple of years have been quieter for us. Our own careers and lives got busier, and the guild's pace slowed down with them. The chapters kept going on their own, which is exactly what we had hoped for. Since then, each one has taken its own path. Some have wound down for their own reasons. Others are still active, just in different shapes than before.

What hasn't changed is the people. We are still close to so many of the builders, organisers and friends we met through TPG. We received a lot of love and support from this community, and we hope we gave some back. If someone, somewhere in India, picked up their first web3 skill or found their first team because of the guild, that matters more to us than any number.

Phoenix Guild :
"WE WANT PEOPLE TO WALK AWAY HAVING ACTUALLY LEARNT SOMETHING, FROM SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN WHERE THEY ARE."

Now we're getting ready to reactivate the community. Over the past few months, people have been asking us for sessions on AI, and that's where we're heading next: practical, easy-to-follow learning, taught by people from within our own community. Reach was never the goal. We want people to walk away having actually learnt something, from someone who's been where they are.

Phoenixes are supposed to rise again. This feels like the right time for ours.

The Phoenix Guild was founded in 2022 in Bengaluru.
x.com/PhoenixGuildHQ · linktr.ee/PhoenixGuildHQ





Dev3Pack :

“WE DON’T JUST BUILD A COMMUNITY. WE BUILD THE SPACES, CONNECTIONS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN TO BUILD THE FUTURE TOGETHER.”

By Solene, founder; Naina, India chapter lead; Vishnu and Adrija, organisers. Dev3pack

Dev3pack started with a simple idea: bring more women into Web3 and give them the space, tools, and people they need to build.

We believe talent is everywhere, but opportunities aren’t. Too many women around the world want to get into tech but don’t know where to start, don’t have access to the right network, or end up learning alone. We wanted to change that.

Today, Dev3pack is a global community of women building in AI, Web3, and emerging technologies, with members across 100+ countries. We bring together students, developers, designers, founders, and curious minds from everywhere. Some are writing their first lines of code, others are shipping products, contributing to open source, or launching startups. What connects us is the desire to learn, experiment, build, and help each other grow.

We don’t want people to just join a community. We want them to build something with it.

That’s why we organise bootcamps, hackathons, startup programs, and pop-up cities. We work with ecosystem partners to help our members learn new technologies, meet other builders, contribute to real projects, and access opportunities in the industry.

One of our biggest moments so far was the Dev3pack Global Hackathon, co-hosted with Solana, Vercel, and ElevenLabs. We brought together 682 hackers from 84 countries who built 382 projects. It showed us what happens when you give people the right environment, connect builders from different backgrounds, and let them ship.

We’ve also organised technical schools, university activations, and local build stations, creating opportunities for women to learn together and build their first projects. Through our fellowships and in-person residencies, we’re taking things further: bringing people together offline, helping them find co-founders and teammates, and supporting them as they turn ideas into real products.

What makes Dev3pack different is that we’re not just a community where people come to attend events. We want our members to become builders, contributors, organisers, founders, and leaders. Someone can join as a beginner, learn a new technology, participate in a hackathon, find a team, launch a project, and eventually help someone else do the same.

And we’re building this globally. From university campuses to local chapters, from online hackathons to in-person builder houses, we want people everywhere to have access to the same opportunities, regardless of where they come from.

We’re just getting started.

Our next goal is to help more women go from learning to building, and from building to launching startups. We’re growing our local chapters, expanding our educational programs, creating more opportunities to contribute to open source, and building bridges between talent, founders, and companies.

In the long term, we want Dev3pack to become the place where women come to build their future in tech, whether that means getting their first job, finding their co-founder, launching a startup, or becoming a leader in the ecosystem.

More women building. More startups shipped. More opportunities for everyone.

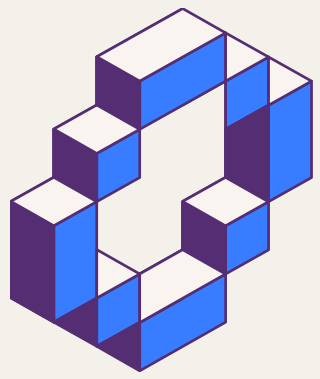
Dev3pack was founded in 2025 in Delaware, US, and has an India chapter.
dev3pack.xyz · x.com/dev3pack

EASTER EGG

Every edition of ETHIndia comes with a whole lot of design work. Websites, posters, merch, badges, welcome kits, and countless other little things. And we put a lot of thought into all of them, from how they look to the stories they tell.

But here's something you might not know. We also spend a surprising amount of time hiding little details in our designs. Some are inside jokes, some are references to the ecosystem, and some are just there because we thought they'd be funny.

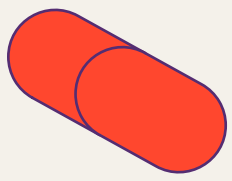
ETHIndia 2023 was full of them. How many did you spot?



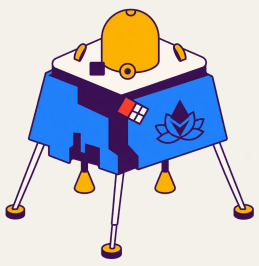




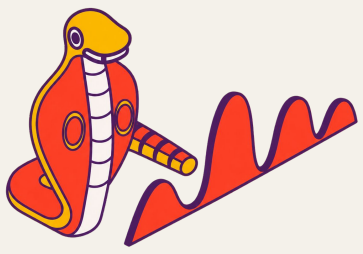
Red pill or blue pill? A little Matrix reference tucked into the artwork. After all, questioning how the world works and imagining something different is pretty much what building on Ethereum is about.



India landed on the Moon in August 2023, and there was no way we weren't celebrating that. So we snuck Chandrayaan-3 into our own little impossible world. Turns out, building the impossible isn't always fiction.



Usually, it's the snake charmer who hypnotizes the snake. Here, it's the price chart doing the job. A little tribute to everyone who's spent hours staring at green and red candles, hoping the next one goes their way.



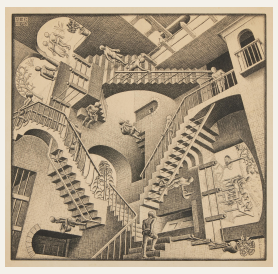
Why is there a bank on fire? Well, DeFi was all about challenging how traditional finance works and building something different. So we took that idea a little too literally and set a bank on fire. Only in the illustration, of course.



2023.ETHINDIA.CO



Flying autos? Why not? When the whole theme is Build the Impossible, we figured even the humble auto-rickshaw deserved an upgrade. No word on what the meter would charge, though.



Ever wondered why the stairs in our 2023 artwork seem to lead everywhere and nowhere? Inspired by M.C. Escher, the stepwells of Chand Baori, and Monument Valley, we wanted to capture the feeling of Never Stop Building. No matter how many stairs you climb or how far you go, there's always something being built around you, by you or by someone else. There's no finish line, and that's the whole point.





Just like A$AP in A$AP Rocky stands for “Always Strive and Prosper,” NSB stands for “Never Stop Building.” You've probably spotted it on our merch, stickers, and even in our URLs, like nsb.dev. Once you notice it, you'll start seeing it everywhere.



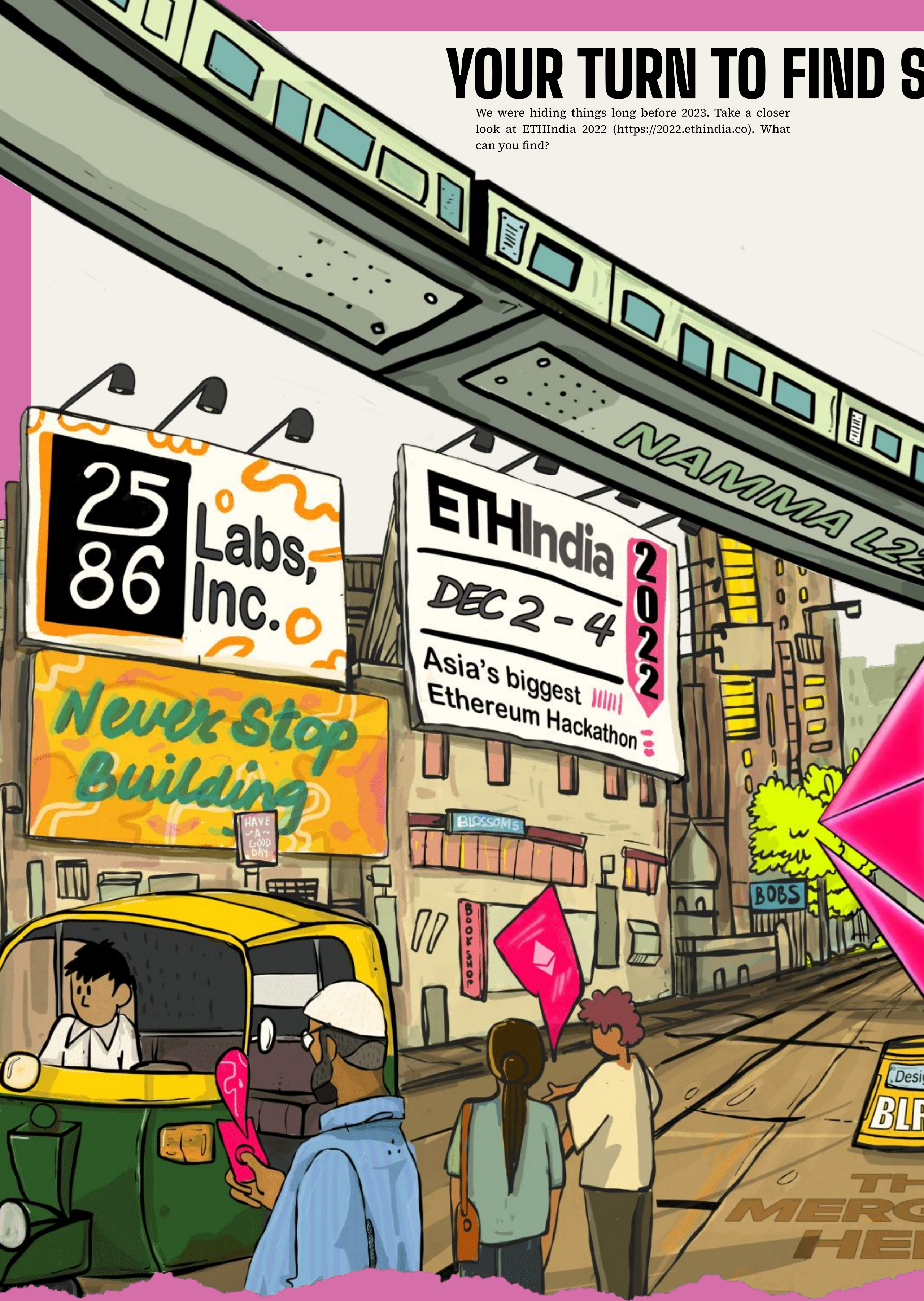
Remember the panda that took over Ethereum Twitter during The Merge in 2022? It became an unofficial mascot for Ethereum's move to Proof of Stake. Naturally, we had to sneak it into our 2023 artwork, iconic goggles and all.

Why is someone cutting down a Merkle tree? Well, back in 2023, Ethereum was exploring Verkle trees as a way to make cryptographic proofs smaller. We thought the most reasonable way to explain that was with a pair of scissors. Very technical, we know.

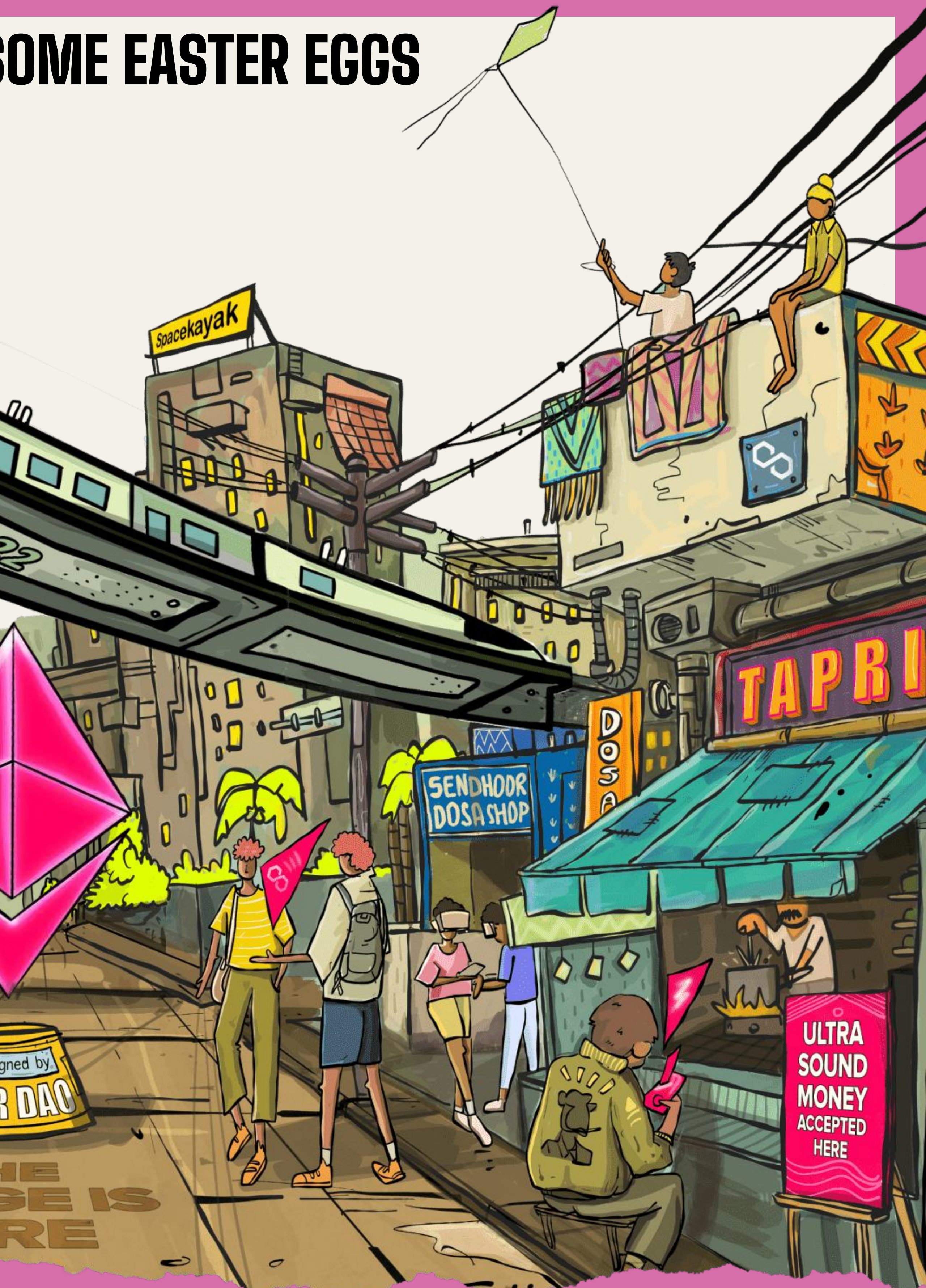


YOUR TURN TO FIND S

We were hiding things long before 2023. Take a closer look at ETHIndia 2022 (https://2022.ethindia.co). What can you find?



SOME EASTER EGGS





By Dr. Arya V N, Ethereum Community Manager and Content Writer at Kerala Blockchain Academy, and organiser of EthKerala to DC8

We began our journey in 2017 in Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram, as India's first blockchain academy in the government sector. The Government of Kerala gave us a simple mission: to make sure that anyone who wants to learn and explore Web3 gets the chance to be part of it. We started in Kerala, but we have always built for the world, one block at a time.

Back then, resources were limited, especially in languages people were comfortable with. We wanted to change that and make blockchain learning more accessible to everyone.

The people

Our community is mostly students, with working professionals, faculty, researchers and policymakers alongside them. More than 50,000 learners from 96 countries have come through our programmes, and 45% are women. Some started as beginners and left as founders, while others emerged as developers, innovators and policymakers. Seven startups have grown out of our classrooms.

What we teach and write

We started with the Certified Ethereum Developer and Blockchain Foundation programmes, and as demand grew, we expanded to over 20 programmes, from developer certifications to open courses for the general public. As part of our mission to expand the Web3 ecosystem, we established the Kerala Blockchain Academy Innovation Club (KBAIC), bringing more than 100 member colleges into the world of Web3, fostering learning, collaboration, and innovation. Our latest initiative, Ethereum for Everyone: Leaving No One Behind, supported by the Ethereum Foundation's ESP, brought developer programmes to students at IIT Kanpur, IIT Goa, and Delhi Technological University, with all course materials open access.

We believe knowledge should be shared in every form, including print. Blockchain Technology: Algorithms and Applications (2023) serves as the primary reference for the blockchain elective in engineering colleges across Kerala under APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University, while Advanced Blockchain Technologies (2025) explores topics from Ethereum smart contracts to decentralised applications.

What we build

Our Distributed Lab builds open-source tools for the Ethereum ecosystem.Supported by the Ethereum Foundation, AetherGuild is a complete Ethereum development suite featuring Cleric (deployment), Druid (blockchain simulation), and Sorcerer (data visualisation).
Apart from AetherGuild, we developed tools including AetherPay and Aethereal, which are accessible in the kerala-blockchain-academy organisation on GitHub.

Blockchain for public good

For us, Ethereum's values of openness, transparency, and trust go beyond technology. Through our work with government and industry, we're exploring how these principles can help solve real-world problems and improve public services.

Our recent endeavours include the Securechain project (2025–26), which brought blockchain to recruitment at the Kerala Public Service Commission, making it the first public service commission in India to adopt the technology and setting a new benchmark for digital governance. The blockchain-powered Digital Revenue Card gives citizens tamper-proof access to land and revenue records. At Kerala University of Health Sciences, graduation certificates are now secure and instantly verifiable, and our CertiChain solution serves universities across Kerala.

Moments we remember

Every December since 2018, BlockHash LIVE has brought global builders, policymakers and students to Kerala. Built around the Ethereum ecosystem, our initiatives bring people together to learn, build, create, and contribute in different ways. In 2024, BlockHack kept hackers working through the night. Our Road to Devcon events, including the Ideathon and the Creators Call, welcomed writers and artists who had never thought Web3 was meant for them. Translatathon 2024: Jnana Edition brought ethereum.org to underrepresented languages, because we believe an idea explained in your mother tongue stays with you. At Devcon SEA in Bangkok, we were proud to represent India among Ethereum's top contributors. In 2025, we joined Ethereum's ten-year celebration with EthGlobetrotters: The Moving Celebration, taking the anniversary out of conference halls and into campuses and communities.

Our vision for the future

As we look ahead, we envision a future where learners, developers, researchers, and innovators from Kerala contribute to shaping the global Ethereum ecosystem. Through our continued engagement with the global Ethereum community, we hope to nurture ideas, tools, and solutions that make decentralised technologies more inclusive and impactful. Rooted in Kerala and connected to the world, we remain committed to helping shape an open, collaborative, and accessible Web3 future.

Kerala Blockckchain Academy :
"WE STARTED IN KERALA, BUT WE HAVE ALWAYS BUILT FOR THE WORLD, ONE BLOCK AT A TIME."

Kerala Blockchain Academy was founded in 2017 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
kba.ai · x.com/kbaiiitmk



By Abhayrajsinh Gohil, founder and CEO, web3events

Web3Events started with a simple idea: there should be one place where people can find out what's happening in Web3 around the world.

Back in 2020–21, there was no dedicated platform consistently covering Web3 events. So we started with an Instagram page called @web3.events, sharing events happening across the ecosystem. But as we grew, we realised there was a bigger problem, especially in India. Most people had barely heard of Web3, let alone had a way to get involved.

That's what led us to create our first event IP, Knock Knock. The idea was simple: knock on the door of Web3 and bring more people inside. We wanted to make the ecosystem accessible to people who were curious but didn't know where to start. Over time, Knock Knock became a place where some of the brightest minds in Indian Web3 could meet, exchange ideas, and build relationships.

Looking back at the Indian Web3 ecosystem today, you'll find plenty of people who started their journey with Web3Events, worked with us at some point, or were introduced to the space through our community. Seeing those people go on to build successful companies, projects, brands, and their own IPs has been one of the most rewarding parts of this journey.

Over the last five to six years, we've helped onboard more than 50,000 people into Web3. We've organised events, campaigns, and community initiatives for companies across the industry. Over the last five to six years, we've helped onboard more than 50,000 people into Web3.

We've organised events, campaigns, and community initiatives for companies across the industry. Almost every company that has seriously explored expanding into India has crossed paths with us at some point. For us, it has never been just about putting an event together. It has always been about getting the right people in the room and creating opportunities for something bigger to happen.

One of my most memorable moments was getting to speak on the Devcon stage. Devcon is one of the biggest platforms in the Ethereum ecosystem, and being able to represent the community there felt like a full-circle moment. What started as an Instagram page had grown into something that could stand on a global stage.

At our core, Web3Events is a people-first community. A lot of our decisions are made through community polls, and the people who contribute to building it are a big part of what makes it work. Our contributors have never been here simply for a paycheck. When we generate revenue, we distribute it among the contributors involved rather than treating the community as a resource to extract value from. We want the people who build this to share in what they help create.

In 2025, we started expanding our network internationally and worked with organisations and teams including Token2049, Consensus, Apex Fusion, Multipli Finance, Pantera Capital, Superteam Balkan, Fourpoint0, Streamflow, Parasol, the Serbian government, and others. These relationships gave us a chance to take what we had built in India beyond our own ecosystem and work with teams across different markets.

This year, during Devcon, we also organised and launched ETH Gujarat, an initiative we hope to grow into an annual event. We want to build something that the local community can take pride in, while giving more people in Gujarat a way to participate in the global Ethereum ecosystem.

Another initiative close to our hearts was a fundraising campaign to help developers who couldn't afford the cost of travelling to Devcon. We raised more than $5,000 to support their transportation and accommodation. The Devcon team also stepped in with an additional $400 and free tickets for everyone we were supporting. It was a reminder of what this ecosystem can do when people come together for the right reasons. Talent is everywhere, but access isn't. We wanted to do our bit to bridge that gap.

Looking ahead, we want Web3Events to become the go-to distribution partner for Web3 companies entering India. We understand the communities, the culture, and the people who make this ecosystem tick. We want to use that understanding to help good projects find their audience, build meaningful relationships, and establish themselves in the market. Eventually, we want to take that same approach to other parts of the world.

Beyond business, we hope to build a long-term relationship with the Ethereum Foundation and contribute to the larger mission of digital freedom. The internet is becoming an increasingly important part of how people live, work, transact, and express themselves. We believe the future of that internet should remain open, accessible, and owned by its users.

We've come a long way from an Instagram page in 2020–21, but in many ways, we're still working towards the same idea: connecting people with opportunities they might never have found on their own.

We want to keep building, keep bringing people in, and stay on the front lines of the fight for a more open and free digital world.

web3events was founded in 2021 in Ahmedabad.
web3events.in · x.com/web3_events



YOUR CIRCLE IS YOUR EDGE

BUILD PRODUCTS, FIND USERS AND RAISE CAPITAL.

By Akhil, Inner Cirle

Inner Circle began in February 2024 as a Telegram group for Indian developers experimenting with Farcaster Frames. Frames had opened up new possibilities for building applications within the social feed, and much of the early experimentation was happening outside India. Saumya Saxena, who had recently closed his previous startup, reached out to Rahul Bhadoriya and other Indian builders active on Farcaster. They called the group Farcaster Builders India, later known as Farcaster Builders International.

A Frames hackathon became its first organised activity. The group soon developed into a community working on consumer crypto products across Farcaster and Base, giving builders a place to find collaborators, share early work and get feedback.

By March, Farcaster Builders International had helped organise more than 20 meetups across India and launched an in-person fellowship in Dharamshala. Bringing developers together for an extended period became an important part of its approach. Members could work alongside one another, test ideas and resolve problems as they came up. Several products developed during this period went on to find users across Base and Farcaster.

The following months brought a more formal structure. Farcaster Builders International began funding hackathons, core contributors took on full-time roles, and the community launched Farcaster Builders International Labs in May. The services arm created a source of commercial revenue alongside its ecosystem programs, reaching approximately $25,000 in monthly recurring revenue. It also incubated ProxySwap, a decentralised exchange in the Degen ecosystem.

During June and July, the Onchain Summer Camp, organised with Proxy Studio, produced more than 20 products. Farcaster Builders International members built four of the top five projects in Base's official buildathon. Wildcard, another community-built product, gained adoption as an alternative Farcaster client.

By the middle of 2024, Farcaster Builders International had grown to more than 2,000 members, supported over 150 builders through buildathons and helped bring more than 25 products to launch.

As the community grew, maintaining the quality of participation became a more deliberate responsibility. Membership remained open, with an expectation that people would contribute through their work, feedback or support for others. Its reach also expanded beyond India, and Farcaster Builders India began using the name Farcaster Builders International.

The network became a source of professional opportunities as well. Saumya joined Coinbase and Base to lead India efforts in 2024. Other members joined ecosystem teams, venture firms and early-stage companies, while some found co-founders or began working on their own ventures. Fellowships, Summer Camps and city programs continued in Hyderabad, Pune, Kochi and elsewhere.

The eventual transition from Farcaster Builders International to Inner Circle reflected a broader scope. The community had begun attracting people working beyond Farcaster and Base, including those building with AI. Today, its network includes more than 10,000 founders, developers, designers, creators and testers.

Its programs now cover several stages of a builder's development. The Academy offers practical learning for people building on Base. Fellowships and cohorts support product development, with pathways into initiatives such as Incubase and Base Batches. First Dollar connects members with paid gigs and bounties. Other programs, including Agentic Summer, bring together participants working across AI, design and storytelling.

In mid-2026, Inner Circle opened a physical headquarters in Indiranagar, Bangalore. The headquarters extends an approach first tested during the Dharamshala fellowship: give people time and space to work together, and allow relationships to develop through that work. A question discussed over a desk can lead to a collaboration; feedback on an early prototype can help a product find its first users.

For Inner Circle, this is also a way to address a practical challenge in India's builder ecosystem. Skilled people are spread across cities, companies and online communities. Sustained access to peers, collaborators and experienced founders is less evenly distributed. From its first Telegram group to its Bangalore headquarters, Inner Circle has worked to bring those people closer together.

LORE CHECK

A warlock gets nerfed. Cats clog the world computer. Socks acquire a market price. Somehow, this is one ecosystem. How much of the lore do you remember?

Fill the numbered entries. Ignore spaces in answers. This is a freeform crossword: every answer crosses another, but not every letter is checked. No knowledge of consensus algorithms required.



ACROSS

4 The World of Warcraft spell whose nerf sent a teenager looking for software no company could change. (6,4)

6 Social network where you don't post, you cast. (9)

8 CryptoPunks' 88 undead. (7)

9 The 2017 cat-breeding game that clogged the network. (13)

11 Dog-coin ticker whose team handed Vitalik half the supply; much of it ended up in India's Covid relief fund. (4)

13 ___ money: "sound" wasn't loud enough. (10)

17 First name of the whitepaper author, patron saint of unicorn T-shirts. (7)

19 The day ETH overtakes BTC. Still pending. (10)

20 One character auctioned every day, forever. Glasses mandatory. (5)

23 The 2016 fund whose hack split the chain in two. (3,3)

24 Engineer laid off by Siemens who built an exchange instead. (6)

28 Exchange with a pink unicorn and no order book. (7)

29 CryptoPunks' 24 primates, years before apes needed a yacht club. (4)

30 "Wen ___?" Answered 15 September 2022. (5)

31 Artist whose 5,000-day collage sold for $69 million. (6)

32 ETHDenver's token: neither spoon nor fork. (5)

DOWN

1 Proof you showed up. Not that you paid attention. (4)

2 The document a DAO raised $47 million to buy, and didn't. (12)

3 Browser fox that asks you to confirm everything. (8)

5 The nine rarest CryptoPunks. (6)

7 ETH/BTC, or the gang that charts it. (5)

10 Crypto___: once free to anyone who paid the gas. (5)

12 ETHDenver's half-buffalo, half-unicorn mascot. (9)

14 Uniswap's horned mascot. (7)

15 Uniswap socks, priced on a bonding curve. (8)

16 Ethereum ___: the chain that kept the pre-fork history. (7)

18 Text-only adventure bags that launched a thousand derivatives. (4)

21 "We the ___": 2-Down's token. (6)

22 The creature in 13-Across's emoji. (3)

25 6-Across's purple-hat tipping token. (5)

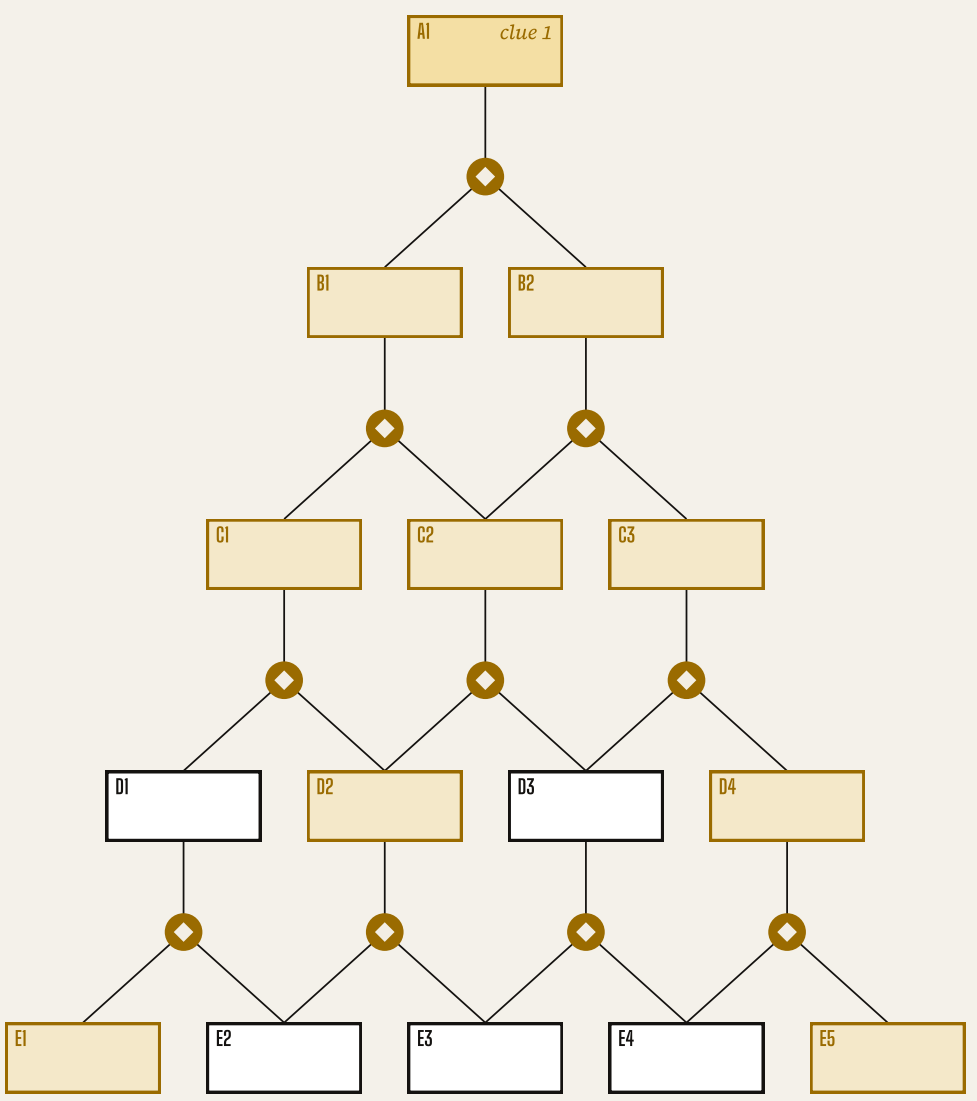
26 Vitalik's class, before 4-Across was nerfed. (7)

27 Floersch, who told a laid-off 24-Across to learn Ethereum. (4)

NUMBER GO UP

A nod to Kakuro, where every number is pinned down by the numbers around it. Here those numbers are Ethereum lore. Someone shuffled the clue cards and stole every operator. Put the chain back together and pick up some trivia along the way.

- Riddle 1 crowns the pyramid. Riddles 2–3 live in row B, 4–6 in C, 7–8 in D, 9–10 in E. The order is yours to find.
- Each ◆ is +, −, × or ÷, joining the two boxes beneath it, left to right.
- The base holds five different digits from 1 to 9. Every box above holds a whole number, never negative.
- Blank boxes are earned, not given.



LORE RIDDLES

1 Days in the year the Beacon Chain went live.

2 Ethereum's July birthday × the Merge's September day.

3 (Ethereum's birthday day − the Merge's month) × the stages from Frontier to Serenity.

4 Letters in the fee-burn fork, the Merge's execution fork and Devcon 0's city, minus the chains the DAO fork left.

5 Letters in the difficulty bomb's winter × letters in the native asset.

6 Letters in proof-of-stake's friendly ghost × the Merge's month.

7 Distinct digits in London's fee-burn EIP.

8 Stack the two DAO-fork tickers and count the letters that don't match.

9 G's in the six names of the November 2022 roadmap.

10 Letters left in the holdout chain's name once "Ethereum" is gone.

credits: @vhawk19

DEVFOLIO: GROWING WITH ETHEREUM AND BEYOND

By Veesesh, Community at Devfolio (X: @vee19twt)

We began as organizers ourselves, and we have been running the InOut hackathon since 2015. Its' fourth edition received more than 4,500 applications from 8 countries in 25 days. The tools we built to manage that response became the foundation for Devfolio. That's how your friendly neighbourhood hackathon platform came to be. We knew what it felt like to be on the organizing side, and we wanted other communities to have an easier time running their own events. Today, more than 1,900 hackathons have used Devfolio. Over 70,000 projects have been built across our initiatives, and more than $4.5 million has gone to builders in bounties. The community has grown to over 1.1 million developers.

When ETHIndia began in 2018, India's Ethereum ecosystem was much smaller. A weekend together could introduce you to your next teammate, help you get an idea working or convince you to keep going when you weren't sure there was much of a community around you. Over the years, our work took us from ETHIndia to ETHDenver, and to communities in Seoul, Prague, Berlin, Brno, Munich, Zürich and beyond. We began supporting fellowships, grants, and programmes such as ETHIndia fellowships & grants and Base Batches, giving builders more ways to continue after a hackathon ended. Some projects became startups, whereas some people found collaborators they would work with for years.

Ethereum also gave us ways to experiment with the product. We introduced Onchain Credentials, built on the Ethereum Attestation Service, so builders could have independently verifiable records of their participation and wins. These Soulbound Tokens (SBTs) were a way to carry a piece of their hackathon history beyond a Devfolio profile. Crypto Cheer let people support projects through stickers carrying an ETH value. Quadratic Voting gave builders a way to express how strongly they supported different projects, with attestations allowing anyone to verify the resulting pool distribution. Both explored something we cared about: giving the community more ways to recognise and support good work.







And somewhere along the way, we started wondering what else a hackathon could look like. Could we make it easier to spend time with a mentor? Could we leave more room for a conversation that was going somewhere? Did everyone need to be in a giant venue?

At ETHIndia Villa, builders shared a villa with past ETHIndia winners, whom we called Super Hackers. At BlockTrain, more than 45 builders spent 36 hours hacking on a train from Bengaluru to New Delhi. At Interfaces, an unconference at IIT Delhi,

contributions from Vitalik Buterin, Austin Griffith and the wider community made room for questions and smaller conversations. These were experiments, and we learned by running them, and we still do.

We've been lucky to host people whose work first brought many of us into Ethereum. We've also watched first-time hackers find teammates, ship their first projects and return to help the next batch get started. Those moments give us plenty of reasons to keep doing this. The credit for those projects belongs to the builders and the communities

supporting them. Our contribution is to make it easier to start, find help and keep going.

Thanks to these hackathons, we've hosted some of the true blue legends in the industry!

Never Stop Building.

(This is our motto, and it's also an advice for your life!)

Devfolio was founded in 2018.
devfolio.co · x.com/devfolio



ETHEREUM INDIA

