

ASYNC'26

Problem Statements

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TOTAL PRIZE POOL	IDEA SUBMISSION	BUILDING PHASE & MENTORING	FINAL BUILD
₹1,00,000 ₹25,000 per track	22 Sept Deck only	22-28 Sept Guided build with mentors	24 Hours On campus, 30 Sept — 1 Oct

Sovereign AI

Build AI that you can actually own.

THE CHALLENGE

As AI becomes deeply embedded into organizations and everyday life, individuals, mission-driven teams and businesses need the ability to run intelligent systems without handing over all of their data, knowledge and operational context to a third party.

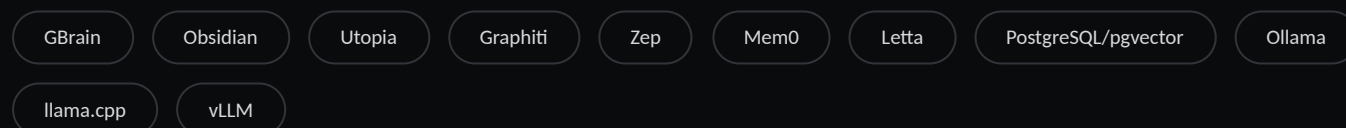
The challenge is to build towards a Sovereign Second Brain — an AI system that can privately understand an individual or organization's knowledge, remember what it learns, reason across that information and safely execute useful tasks.

WHAT COULD YOU BUILD?

Think beyond a chatbot. A strong solution could combine open-weight/local models, a personal knowledge base, long-term memory, semantic retrieval, automatic ingestion, agentic tool execution (MCP), and local-first deployment.

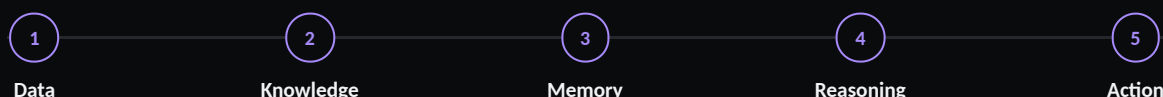
- Open-weight/local models for private inference.
- Persistent long-term memory.
- Automatic ingestion of documents and user-owned data.
- Agentic tool execution through systems such as MCP.
- Local-first or self-hosted deployment.
- A personal or organizational knowledge base.
- Semantic, keyword or graph-based retrieval.
- Connections between people, projects, concepts and decisions.
- Controlled execution where actions can be reviewed and audited.

TECHNOLOGIES TEAMS CAN EXPLORE



EXPECTED DIRECTION

Teams should demonstrate a working system where:



The winning project should feel like the beginning of an AI that an individual or organization could actually own.

IDEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE

22 September

WHAT TO SUBMIT

Idea deck only

Wellness & Lifestyle

With AI doing more of the work, what will you maxxx?

THE CHALLENGE

Wearables and smartphones can already collect enormous amounts of data about sleep, movement, heart rate, recovery, habits and everyday activity.

The harder problem is turning that data into something people understand — and something that actually helps them improve their lives.

Inspired by the quantified-self movement and people such as Bryan Johnson pushing measurement to its limits: what aspect of your life will you maxxx?

WHAT COULD YOU BUILD?

Build systems that turn everyday data into engagement, understanding and improvement — not just another dashboard.

- Sleep and recovery improvement.
- Stress and mindfulness.
- Habit formation.
- Energy and productivity.
- AI wellness companions.
- Correlations between lifestyle choices and wellness signals.
- Movement and exercise consistency.
- Screen-time reduction.
- Nutrition tracking.
- Personalized challenges.
- Health-data visualization.
- Gamified wellness experiences.

EXPECTED DIRECTION

A strong project should ideally demonstrate:



Instead of simply displaying charts, help users understand: What changed? Why might it have changed? What can I do differently today? Did it work?

IDEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE

22 September

WHAT TO SUBMIT

Idea deck only

Cybersecurity & Defense

Defend humans in an AI-powered internet.

THE CHALLENGE

AI is dramatically increasing the speed and scale at which scams, phishing, impersonation, malicious automation and cyberattacks can be created.

At the same time, security increasingly extends beyond purely digital systems. Publicly available signals such as satellite imagery, ADS-B aircraft data, maritime data, radio communication patterns, sensors and other real-world data streams can help build better situational awareness and detect unusual activity.

The challenge is to build systems that help individuals or organizations understand risk, detect threats and respond in real time while protecting privacy and security.

WHAT COULD YOU BUILD?

Build systems focused on defensive security, situational awareness, user protection, resilience and privacy.

- AI-powered phishing and scam detection.
- Network anomaly detection.
- Browser or endpoint security tools.
- Spam and social-engineering detection.
- Tools that explain security risks to everyday users.
- Situational-awareness tools for campuses, infrastructure, organizations or public spaces.
- Malicious-link analysis.
- Privacy and credential exposure monitoring.
- AI-assisted SOC and incident-analysis systems.
- Automated defensive response and containment.
- Systems that correlate satellite, ADS-B, radio, geospatial or sensor data to identify unusual real-world patterns.
- Systems that combine digital and physical signals to detect emerging threats.

EXPECTED DIRECTION

A good project could demonstrate:



The emphasis should be on defensive security, situational awareness, user protection, resilience and privacy.

IDEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE

22 September

WHAT TO SUBMIT

Idea deck only

Open Track

Build something that matters — or build it just because you can.

THE CHALLENGE

Not every great idea fits inside a predefined category. This track is intentionally open.

WHAT COULD YOU BUILD?

Hardware, software, AI, robotics, decentralized systems, developer tools, creative technology and combinations of them are all welcome.

- That solves a problem nobody is paying attention to.
- That helps your campus or community.
- That makes existing technology dramatically easier to use.
- That you have always wanted to build but never had a reason to start.
- That creates positive social impact.
- That explores a new technology.
- That is weird, experimental or ambitious.

HOW IT IS JUDGED

There is no prescribed direction here. Open Track ideas are held to exactly the same bar as every other track — the idea has to be clear, original, technically real and worth building.

Pick this track only if your idea genuinely does not fit one of the three themed tracks. Every track competes for the same prize.

IDEA SUBMISSION DEADLINE

22 September

WHAT TO SUBMIT

Idea deck only

Idea Submission Guidelines

Idea stage only — no prototype, demo or build progress is required.

HOW IT WORKS

01

Register

Registration is compulsory before an idea submission is accepted.

02

Pick a track

Choose exactly one of the four tracks for your idea.

03

Submit the deck

Build on the official template and upload it to the submission form.

WHAT YOUR DECK MUST COVER

01 Project name.**02** Team details (team name and all member names).**03** Selected track.**04** Problem being addressed.**05** Your project idea.**06** Proposed solution and how it works.**07** Basic technical architecture or workflow.**08** Technologies you plan to use.**09** What makes your approach different.

HOW IDEAS ARE EVALUATED

30%

Technical Execution

Architecture & approach

20%

Innovation

Novelty & insight

20%

Impact

Real-world value

15%

Product Experience

Usability & design

15%

Demo & Completeness

Clarity & readiness

GROUND RULES

- Registration must be completed before submitting.
- Exactly one track per idea.
- Keep the deck concise — clarity beats length.
- One idea submission per team.
- Use the official ASYNC'26 PPT template.
- No prototype or build progress required at this stage.

OFFICIAL PPT TEMPLATE

Linked on the website, WhatsApp & Discord

QUESTIONS & UPDATES

Official WhatsApp, Discord and LinkedIn channels